



May 31, 2018

Honourable Catherine McKenna
Minister of Environment and Climate Change
200 Sacré-Cœur Boulevard
Gatineau, QC K1A 0C3

Dear Minister McKenna, via e-mail: ec.ministre-minister.ec@canada.ca

Re: Conversation on encouraging use of non-lead ammunition & fishing gear

Dear Minister McKenna,

The Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) was pleased to be a signatory to the attached letter from the Canadian Environmental Law Association sent to you this past April on the subject of lead ammunition and fishing gear. The CVMA welcomes the proposed conversation on the matter that you have highlighted in your response (also attached) and strongly encourages the federal government to move forward with action on the matter at the earliest opportunity.

The CVMA opposes the use of lead fishing weights and lead shot because of the direct and indirect toxicity they may induce in wildlife. The CVMA strongly supports the development and use of non-toxic materials for hunting and angling purposes. This formal CVMA evidence-based position was developed and published in 2014 by the animal health and welfare experts on its Animal Welfare Committee (<https://www.canadianveterinarians.net/news-events/news/use-of-lead-fishing-sinkers-and-lead-shot-in-canada>), and is currently being revised and strengthened referencing the latest scientific evidence.

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment. The CVMA looks forward to continuing to contribute to the current conversation and to the timely development of an action plan aimed at phasing out the use of lead in ammunition and fishing gear in collaboration with Indigenous communities, the provinces, non-governmental organisations and commercial interests.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dr. Troye McPherson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'D'.

Dr. Troye McPherson
CVMA President

SR:TMcP/ds

Cc: ec.produits-products.ec@canada.ca