



Justice Centre for Constitutional Freedoms

May 11, 2020

Dr. Deena Hinshaw
Chief Medical Officer of Health
10025 Jasper Avenue, 24th Floor
Edmonton, AB, T5J 1S6

Dear Dr. Hinshaw,

It is our understanding that you have contacted religious leaders to request or mandate the closing of summer camps for children in Alberta through to the end of August of 2020. If our understanding is incorrect, please let us know, and clarify what your directive (if there is one) entailed.

Assuming that our understanding is correct, what specific medical and scientific evidence did you rely on, in reaching this particular decision to cancel summer camps for Alberta children?

Is it your view that COVID-19 poses a serious health risk to children? If so, on what evidence is that opinion based? If COVID-19 does pose a health risk to some children with serious respiratory conditions or other underlying health conditions, why could this challenge not be addressed by urging the parents of those children to refrain from sending their kids to summer camps?

Have you considered the adverse health impacts, both mental and physical, on children not being able to enjoy hiking, swimming, canoeing, archery and other outdoor activities together, and enjoying camaraderie and fun around a campfire? If yes, what are those adverse health impacts, and how many children will be impacted by them, and to what extent?

What goal or benefits, specifically, are you trying to achieve with this measure to cancel summer camps for children in 2020?

Would you consider reversing your directive(s) and allowing children to attend camps this summer?

I look forward to receiving your specific and detailed answers to the ten questions above.

Yours truly,

John Carpay, B.A., LL.B.
President
Justice Centre for Constitutional Freedoms

cc. Jason Kenney, Premier of Alberta