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**CANADIAN VAPERS DESERVE A VOICE AND A CHOICE
VAPERS SHUT OUT OF SMOKING CESSATION CONFERENCE SPONSORED BY BIG
PHARMA**

Ottawa, Ontario – January 16, 2020 – This week, medical professionals, academics and policy makers are gathered in Ottawa to discuss policies, programs and tools to help smokers quit. However, they are ignoring and even deriding one of [the most effective smoking cessation tools to date: vaping](#).

In fact, the *12th Annual Ottawa Conference: State of the Art Clinical Approaches to Smoking Cessation's* keynote speaker Dr. Glantz takes direct aim at vaping and the conference organizers outright prevented Rights4Vapers, the country's leading vaper rights organization, from hosting a simultaneous event at the same location.

“The Conference’s position on vaping may be related to the threat that it poses to the nicotine replacement market, which is dominated by the Event’s main sponsor Johnson and Johnson, also the producers of Nicorette,” said Sherwin Edwards, advisor to Rights 4 Vapers. “Several of the conference speakers have also listed affiliations with Pfizer, the manufacturers of Nicotrol.”

Adult smokers should be presented with the full range of alternatives when making the move to leave smoking, including vaping. To that end, Rights4Vapers organized a simultaneous press conference to share the evidence on vaping and have their voices heard.

Dr. Mark Tyndall, a Professor of Medicine at UBC, was on hand to counter some of the claims made by Dr. Glantz, the keynote speaker, in the past. “Despite what Dr. Glantz has shared, there is no proof that vaping leads to heart attacks, cancer or respiratory diseases,” said Dr. Tyndall. “Vaping is tobacco harm reduction. If all smokers switched to vaping, we would have a massive impact on one of the most pressing public health challenges of our time.”

The rights of vapers are increasingly being threatened by provincial policy changes and it is important to have an open discourse on the merits and potential drawbacks of vaping. This cannot happen if the public health community relies on special

interest pharmaceutical groups for information on alternatives and bans the inclusion of other points of view.

“Rights 4 Vapers will continue to do the hard work to ensure that the facts see the light of day, whether or not they are included in the conversation, because the lives of millions are at stake,” said Mr. Edwards.

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About Rights4Vapers.com Rights4Vapers.com is an organization of vaping advocates dedicated to the advancement of Canadian based research on vaping. Dr. Chris Lalonde is an academic advisor. Rights 4 Vapers is the voice of Canadian adult vapers, 98 percent of whom are former smokers.

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