



Synergy

TO → Dennis Shelley,
Operational Manager
HPFBI -WOC
Burnaby Regional Office

FROM Miles Brosseau
Compliance Officer
HPFBI - WOC - Calgary

SECURITY-CLASSIFICATION-DE
OUR FILE - N/RÉFÉRENCE
YOUR FILE - V/RÉFÉRENCE
DATE January 16, 2003

SUBJECT **A Meeting with Truehope/Synergy Directors @HPFBI - WOC**
OBJET **Burnaby, B.C. - January 14, 2003**

In attendance: Anthony F. Stephan - Truehope Director
David L. Hardy - Truehope Director
Lorill Zandberg -Supporter/Customer
Dennis Shelley - WOC - HPFBI, Burnaby
Miles Brosseau - WOC - HPFBI, Calgary.

A fax from Company representatives, dated January 10, 2003 and received by Dennis Shelley, announced the intention of holding a meeting at the HPFBI offices in Burnaby the morning of January 14, 2003. This meeting took place at this suggested date, starting at 0950 in the morning.

Introductions were made and Mr. Anthony Stephan presented his business card which contained the following information:

Anthony F. Stephan, Co-Founder

TRUEHOPE NUTRITIONAL SUPPORT LTD., a non-profit company
P.O. Box 1254, Cardston, Alberta T0K 0K0
Website: www.truehope.com
Office: 1888-TRUEHOPE
Fax: 403-758-6073
Email: astephan@truehope.com

Providing Participant Advocacy, Research, and Support.

Mr. Stephan indicated that they came to Burnaby because they want to be compliant with respect to the sale of the product E.M. Power Plus and hoped to reach a satisfactory agreement at this meeting.

Mr. Stephan and Mr. Hardy in essence represent both Truehope Nutritional Support Ltd. and the Synergy Group of Canada Inc. as

they confirmed that they are directors for both companies. They explained that Synergy was the research group that developed the product, E.M. Power Plus, that Synergy holds the IP (intellectual property), and currently receives money. Truehope on the other hand is said to be Non-Profit and Stephan claims they will, and have, helped patients that cannot afford to pay for the product.

Mr. Stephan noted that "Discovery Health" from the United States came to Canada and videotaped a presentation on this product. A video cassette copy of this session was provided to both Dennis Shelley and Miles Brosseau but has not yet been reviewed.

Both Mr. Stephan and Mr. Hardy expressed anger and frustration, citing that they wrote a letter to HC requesting help to achieve compliance and that there was no reply except for a "Cease and Desist" order that they received approximately 6 months later. They said it had been believed that since there had not been a response to their letter that they must now have been operating in compliance to the law.

Mr. Stephan noted that there had been website changes made in order to obtain compliancane, citing that if we were to check "Whois" on the internet that we would see that the Website account is now registered to a US Company, adding that this company is responsible for the website.

Dennis Shelly asked who was responsible for the content and Mr. Stephan replied that there is communication back and forth in that regard and that he would not apologize for content because of Freedom of Speech and Media.

It was clearly stated by the company representatives that they believe and conclude, after thorough investigation of case law by their lawyer, that they are not "selling" a drug and that they are in compliance with the FDAR.

Mr. Hardy commented that are they are just monitoring and addressing nutritional deficiency with this Vitamin/Mineral product the safety of which has been demonstrated by the use of these substances over the years.

Ms. Zandberg offered some "very emotional" testimony, explaining that she suffered from depression and had been taking "Zoloft". She noted that there was a class action suit in the US against Zoloft and a similar product "Paxil". She said the drugs are highly addictive and that her baby was born with "Floppy Baby Syndrome" because of the addictive nature of Zoloft. She had not received any warnings of this, otherwise she would not have taken this medication. Ms. Zanberg claimed that the withdrawal symptoms experienced with the discontinuation of Zoloft was worse than the depression itself but the use of the product, E.M. Power Plus, made her better. Introduction to the product was through a friend that, suffered from Fibromyalgia and she witnessed this friend get better from taking this product.

The flow of product and money was discussed. Mr. Stephan noted that

the product, E.M. Power Plus, is sold out of the USA and is not distributed by either Synergy or Truehope. Mr. Hardy said the product is shipped by "Pharos DBT" just outside of Salt Lake City, Utah and that the current manufacturer of the product is "Horizon Laboratories" of California. Mr. Stephan confirmed that the money eventually flows to Synergy. Ms. Zandberg said that she paid for the product by a cheque written to Synergy. Mr. Stephan stated that since November 2002, cheques for the product are written to the Synergy Group of Canada.

It was frequently impressed upon the company representatives that the product is considered to be a drug and that without an NOC it is not legal for sale in Canada.

Mr. Stephan commented a few times that they want everything to be legal but that in the attempt to complete research the University of Calgary (i.e. Bonnie Kaplan) has twice been sandbagged on Clinical Trial applications. Mr. Stephan stated that the research by Bonnie Kaplan had been unreasonably held up by Health Canada. Apparently Bonnie Kaplan will be submitted another Clinical Trial Application in the upcoming week.

He remarked that because Health Canada is not keeping its word on the 53 recommendations accepted by Mr. Rock they have been put in a situation where they are breaking the law. This current problem, Mr. Stepan indicated, was created by Health Canada and he added that Sharon Chard, of Health Canada, had told them that they didn't need any approval from Health Canada to sell the product.

Mr. Hardy offered that the Minister should allow an exemption for this product. Anger and frustration was evident when both Mr. Stephan and Mr. Hardy related that they had contacted Health Canada and the Minister's offices many times, proposing to meet with scientists, but they have not received any replies. They indicated that 3 letters sent to the Minister and about 20 telephone calls placed to the Minister's Government and Constituency offices have been ignored.

Mr. Hardy and Mr. Stephan frequently referred to the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms citing that they don't care about the law but they care about the protection and health of the public as guaranteed under this charter. They indicated that about 3000 Canadians relied on this product and that they would hold Health Canada and Dennis Shelley liable for not upholding the charter and would make a court challenge if necessary.

Mr. Hardy remarked that we could report that there is some confused citizenry who thought they were trying to do the right thing by going to the experts and trying to get research done. He further added that if there's a chance of a breakthrough in the treatment of mental illness, why should the law prevent this from happening?

Mr. Hardy and Mr. Stephan provided to Mr. Dennis Shelley approximately 7 or 8 copies of various articles, papers, and abstracts, in support of the medical claims made regarding E.M Power Plus. They made reference to these documents a few times in

their belief that the science is there to support their product claims. They questioned why the only resistance towards the sale of this product is coming from Health Canada.

It is their contention that E.M. Power Plus is nothing more than a Vitamin/Mineral combination product and that similar products could be picked up in pharmacies and health food stores. They were reminded that Vitamin/Mineral products were drug products and needed a NOC and DIN.

Mr. Stephan said they were prepared to comply with the law and with what is Constitutionally right. Dennis Shelley stated that the right thing to do is to obey the law and to make the product legally available before sale. Mr. Stephan said he wanted to get a DIN for the product and asked how this was done. A brief description was provided to him by Dennis Shelley. An offer was made to email Mr. Stephan some names of possible Consultants to assist in this endeavor, to which he agreed.

A specific commitment to comply with the legislation and stop the sale of the product could not be obtained. A few suggestions were tossed around such as applying for a DIN on the basis of the product being a Vitamin/Mineral supplement with the possibility of approved research being undertaken after that, that the company could move all of it's operations to the United States with Truehope offering "emotional support" from it's office in Lethbridge, and that all promotion and advertising and sale of the product cease in Canada. It was emphasized that there would have to be a completed separation of involvement between any operations in the United States and Canada and a complete separation of the product's association with mental health disorders.

Mr. Stephan asked for another 7 to 10 days in order to prepare and submit a plan of action to which Dennis Shelley agreed. The meeting was concluded at 1305 pm.