



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
ALBERTA

August 22, 2012

David Swann, MLA
Calgary-Mountain View Constituency

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing both as a physician with longstanding interest in zoonoses and also as an elected representative in the Alberta legislature.

I am in complete support of the proposed, timely production of *No Accident*, a documentary film in production on the topic of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD). Along with Margot McMaster as director, Darrel Rowledge presents a scientific and compelling history of CWD as a major cause for concern for wildlife and humans in North America.

Mr Rowledge's background and credibility on CWD is extraordinary and he has translated much of the emerging prion science with a critically important simplicity. I consider him to be a lay expert on this issue. Mr. Rowledge has always demonstrated high professional and ethical standards in his research and, I believe, this project would be a great contribution to raising awareness on this topic in public, among policy people and even in the scientific community itself as he integrates basic science, economics and agricultural impacts present and future.

The damages and huge costs of game farms far outweigh any benefits to a few people and costs already incurred by all levels of government in Canada. The disease introduced by game-ranching are threatening not only our wildlife but potentially human populations as well.

Not only do I support Mr. Rowledge in the production of this film but I can think of no one who has garnered such expertise and extensive background on this topic

I am encouraged that this film will bring a critical eye to this topic and pleased that Mr. Rowledge continues his tradition of bringing the latest evidence and most credible scientists to this difficult and important topic.

I am completely in support of this documentary.

Kind regards,

David Swann, MD
MLA, Calgary Mountain View