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## **Cosmetics Alliance Canada's Guidance to Help Determine "Health and/or Hygiene" Products Related to Shutdowns Due to Pandemic**

### **Intent of this Document**

This industry guidance document, prepared solely by Cosmetics Alliance, is intended to assist public health officials and retailers in determining which cosmetics and other personal care products are to be considered "health and/or hygiene" products when deciding what is essential during a pandemic shutdown.

As we have been advised, this determination has been left to the discretion of retailers in some jurisdictions including Quebec or is being considered by various public health authorities including in Manitoba.

### **Cosmetics & Other Personal Care Products**

Cosmetics and other personal care products include a wide range of products such as:

- soap, skin cleansers, toners, exfoliants/scrubs, masks, makeup removers
- moisturizers, skin care treatments, sunscreens
- acne preparations, medicated skin creams, diaper rash creams, lip balms
- shampoo, anti-dandruff products, hair conditioners and treatments
- hair dyes/courants, hair relaxers, hair styling products (e.g. gel, mousse, sprays)
- toothpaste, mouthwash, tooth whitening products
- deodorants, antiperspirants, body powders
- shaving preparations (e.g. shaving cream, after-shave), hair removal creams
- colour cosmetics/makeup including foundation, powder, blush, eye-shadow, mascara, eye and lip liner, lipstick
- nail polish, nail polish removers, cuticle creams
- fragrances, body sprays

### **Health Canada Regulatory Classifications & Definitions - Guidance for Determining "Health and/or Hygiene" Products**

All products which consumers would consider cosmetics or personal care products are governed by Canada's *Food & Drugs Act* and are regulated under one of the following three regulations based on the product's function and source of any "active" or "medicinal" ingredients:

- (a) **Drug Regulations** – are for products which by definition have a therapeutic benefit and can be identified by a Drug Identification Number (DIN) on the package. These products are for health and/or hygiene purposes.



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- (b) **Natural Health Products Regulations** – are for products which by definition must have a therapeutic benefit but differ from “drugs” in that their “active” or “medicinal” ingredient(s) can all be found in nature. They can be identified by a Natural Product Number (NPN) on the label and are as such a health and/or hygiene product.
- (c) **Cosmetics Regulations** – are for products which are defined by the *Food & Drugs Act* that are for use in cleansing, improving or altering the complexion, skin, hair or teeth. Although there is not a specific identifier on the label, any such product that is for “cleansing” or “improving” the skin, hair or teeth are, by definition, a health and/or hygiene product.

Deodorants and antiperspirants are also regulated as “cosmetics” and are essential for personal hygiene and/or health.

Additionally, products which “alter” the complexion, skin, hair or teeth (e.g. makeup, hair colour) may play a significant role in the personal sense of well being of an individual and so be important to their mental health and personal well being.

### **Questions or Inquiries?**

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact:

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