

**MGSC03, UTSC. Professor Sandford Borins
Crisis Management Exercise, March 15, 2016**

May 5, 2017, 7 p.m.

“ Hello Minister Philpott, this is Krista Outhwaite, President of the Public Health Agency of Canada. I’m sorry to call you at home but this is a matter of the utmost urgency and significance.

The National Microbiology Laboratory as well as researchers at Brock University have both confirmed that the Zika Virus has spread from *Aedes albopictus*, a species of mosquito found in New Jersey and New York, to three species of mosquito found in southern Ontario: *anopheles crucians*, *culex erraticus*, and *culex salinarius*. The implication of this is that pregnant women living in Southern Ontario may contract the Zika Virus either by being bitten by these mosquitos or by having unprotected sex with men who have been bitten and are carrying the virus. As has been demonstrated in Brazil, a pregnant woman who has contracted the Zika Virus is at considerable risk of giving birth to a child with microcephaly, a syndrome characterized by an abnormally small skull and permanent brain damage.”

Thank you, Krista. I would like you to have a memo on my desk at 9 a.m. tomorrow outlining what the Public Health Agency should do about this threat. I will also contact the Deputy Minister and my Chief of Staff to think about what I, as Minister, should be doing. And I think it is important for the Prime Minister to be in the loop, so I will contact Michael Wernick, the Secretary to Cabinet.

The class will divide into three groups, one to discuss the problem from the point of view of the Public Health agency, a second from the point of view of the Minister of Health, and a third from the point of view of the Secretary to Cabinet.

Each group should discuss issues and risks and suggest a course of action. You will have 20 minutes for your discussion and one of the three members of the class leading this exercise (Eileen, Tony, Xuehan) will chair and report for each group.