For Immediate Release

**2018 Fall Reports of the Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development**

**October 2, 2018, Ottawa, Ontario** - The Canadian Consumer Specialty Products Association (CCSPA) wishes to congratulate Judy Gelfand, Commissioner of Environment and Sustainable Development, and her entire team for the 2018 Fall Reports that were tabled in the House of Commons today.

Shannon Coombs, the CCSPA President, said, “I wish to congratulate Commissioner Gelfand on this comprehensive report and agree with her bottom-line conclusion that while the departments of Health and Environment do a fantastic job, they still need to put more of an emphasis on communicating what they do to Canadians.”

We believe that the Commissioner made a number of excellent and constructive observations in her report identifying areas of improvements for the departments:

- communication channels to target specific populations
- website and social media information for the public
- communication activities on environmental risks

We agree with Commissioner Gelfand that these findings matter “because Canadians are concerned about toxic substances and their effects on human health. According to Health Canada, Canadians want easy-to-find, understandable information about the risks of toxic substances in consumer products and in their immediate environment in order to make informed choices.”

The Chemicals Management Plan is a world-leading, comprehensive approach to substance management. Announced in 2006, the plan has built upon the rigorous, science-based regulatory regime currently in place; and CCSPA says Canadian consumers are well served by the program and its results to date. It is the hope of the CCSPA that the government will act upon this report to elevate and coordinate the communications abilities of both Health Canada and Environment and Climate Change Canada, who are responsible for communicating the risks of toxic substances to the public.

**About Canadian Consumer Specialty Products Association** (www.ccsa.org): CCSPA is a national trade association that represents 35 member companies across Canada, collectively a $20 billion industry directly employing 12,000 people in over 87 facilities. Our companies manufacture, process, package and distribute consumer, industrial and institutional specialty products such as soaps and detergents, pest control products, aerosols, hard surface disinfectants, deodorizers and automotive chemicals.
For more information, or to arrange interviews, please contact: Shannon Coombs, Canadian Consumer Specialty Products Association, (613) 232-6616, ext. 11; (613) 791-2480 (cell)