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**IN THE MATTER OF THE SECURITIES ACT
R.S.N.S. 1989, CHAPTER 418, AS AMENDED**

AND

IN THE MATTER OF

Axcan Pharma Inc.

Receipt for an Preliminary Short Form Prospectus dated **May 16, 2001** relating to the securities of the above Issuer is hereby issued pursuant to section 60 of the Act.

DATED at Halifax, this 16th day of May, 2001.

"Donna Gouthro"

J. William Slattery, C.A.
Deputy Director, Corporate Finance
per Donna Gouthro
Corporate Finance Officer (Analyst)

NOTE: The issuance of this receipt is not construed as meaning that the adequacy of the Preliminary Short Form Prospectus and supporting material has been established. These are being reviewed by the Commission staff and initial comments will be furnished to you by letter as soon as practicable.

Project #**356932**