<<FirstName LastName,>> Member of Parliament for <<Constituency>>

<<Street Address>>

<<City, Province Postal Code>>

April 8, 2021

Dear <<Mr./Ms. Last Name,>>

I am writing today, as your constituent, to urge you to support the creation and implementation of a

guaranteed basic income program for Canada, in collaboration with the provinces, territories, and Indigenous leadership.

Studies and pilot programs have indicated that a guaranteed basic income, along with existing universal social programs, could lift low-income Canadians out of poverty, provide a firm foundation for their physical and mental health, and give them the financial security to pursue educational and career opportunities.

The current pandemic has revealed many of the places in which our existing social welfare nets are insufficient, with income support levels too low, and the patchwork of programs, rules and eligibility requirements difficult and often humiliating to navigate, as well as expensive to administer.

Low-income racialized communities in particular have been hit hard by COVID-19 and its economic impact. A guaranteed livable income would benefit all, especially those in our society who are economically disadvantaged by manifestations of systemic racism. Existing alongside other social supports, including health care, pharmacare, pension, and education supports, it could address the inequities that exist within the present wage and social benefit structures.

The experience of the Canada Emergency Recovery Benefit has shown Canadians that a basic income is possible. The chorus of voices in support of a guaranteed basic income now includes many Canadian senators, leaders of faith groups including the Anglican, Evangelical Lutheran Church, Presbyterian and United Churches of Canada, and many others. In recent months, MP Leah Gazan has submitted Motion M-46 for a Guaranteed Livable Basic Income and MP Julie Dzerowicz has introduced Private Member’s Bill C-273, the National Strategy for a Guaranteed Basic Income Act. This weekend, the federal Liberal and New Democratic Party will be holding their national conventions, and the concept of a basic income will be discussed. The time to act is now.

Every political party in Canada has made promises and commitments to address poverty, education, health care, and social justice. These issues are important to me as a Canadian citizen and as a person of faith. Will you commit to working toward a federal basic income program which represents a concrete step toward fulfilling those commitments?

I urge you to take this opportunity to create a legacy that will better the lives of everyone in this country for generations to come.

Sincerely,

<<Your name>>

<<Your street address>>

<<Your City, Province, Postal Code>>