



End Child & Family Poverty in Canada

[Date]

[Your address]

[MP name and constituency address]

Dear

As a citizen in your riding and a member of the Campaign 2000 network, I am writing to request a meeting with you in your home riding this summer.

Campaign 2000 is a national non-partisan network of over 120 national, provincial, and community partner organizations committed to working together to end child and family poverty in Canada. **As you may know, most recent statistics show that more than 600,000 children in Canada - almost 1 in 10 – still live in poverty.** (Statistics Canada. 2008. *Income in Canada* using LICO after-tax). [could add a sentence about poverty in your riding/province]. We would like to discuss with you federal initiatives which could be put in place to reduce child and family poverty.

We are working with our partners to meet with MPs across the country to highlight the importance of the federal role in poverty reduction. In the past several years, poverty reduction has risen on the public agenda as six provinces and one territory have, or are developing a plan. The federal government needs to enhance its historic role in social policy in Canada if substantial progress is to be made on reducing and eventually eradicating poverty.

Our hope is to initiate discussion about demonstrated strategies that will both prevent and reduce poverty including increased child benefits and investments in child care, affordable housing and post-secondary education.

I will bring to the meeting other members from the Campaign 2000 network who live in your riding. We would like to meet with you at your earliest convenience before the House reconvenes on September 20th. I look forward to hearing from your office regarding a meeting time that suits your schedule. I can be reached at _____ [put your e-mail and tel number]

Yours sincerely,

[Name, title, organization]