[Date]

[Name of Member of Parliament], M.P.

House of Commons

Ottawa, Ontario

K1A 0A6

Firstname.lastname@parl.gc.ca

Dear [name of Member of Parliament],

On behalf of the disability community, we are writing to urge the federal government to immediately restore full funding to support accessible reading materials for those with print disabilities which include vision loss, learning disabilities and physical disabilities.

Without warning or consultation, the 2020 Fall Economic Statement announced cuts of $4 million ($3 million annually to CELA and $1 million annually to NNELS) which will have a devastating impact on their ability to produce and distribute accessible reading materials. We know that access to reading materials directly affects academic and economic success, and social inclusion, particularly for the estimated 3 million people across Canada with print disabilities.

The federal government has promoted its commitment to equity and inclusion for those with disabilities. However, these cuts will reduce access to reading materials, widening the gap for services and resources, and further compounding the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, which is having a disproportionate impact on those with disabilities across Canada.

It is essential that this funding be fully restored immediately. On behalf of our clients, we request that you ask the Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Disability Inclusion, the Hon. Carla Qualtrough, and the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, the Hon. Chrystia Freeland, to restore this funding and commit to ongoing, stable funding so those with reading disabilities across Canada are not left further behind.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Name

Address