

(Insert date here)

Hon. (insert local MP)

(Address)

(city and province)

(postal code)

(Find your MPs contact information and insert it here)

Dear Hon. (MPs name),

I am writing as one of your constituents to express my concerns about the lack of political action on female genital mutilation/cutting (FGM/C) in Canada. Women impacted by FGM/C and the girls at-risk in Canada continue to face the consequences of this harmful practice with limited trauma-informed and culturally appropriate support.

An unofficial review by End FGM Canada Network of the immigration statistics of those from FGM/C-affected countries indicates that there may be **more than 100,000 individuals who have experienced FGM/C in Canada**. And yet little is being done to support survivors or protect girls at risk.

I am writing to you as my elected representative because I want Ottawa to move quickly on a key recommendation from the End FGM Canada Network: **the establishment of a National Action Plan to End FGM/C in Canada**. This National Action Plan would mobilize federal, provincial, and territorial governments, as well as non-governmental organizations, to work collaboratively to address the gaps in FGM/C education and services needed for impacted girls and women across the country.

The Canadian government has shown leadership in prioritizing women and girls through the Feminist International Assistance Policy wherein there is a focus on supporting gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in developing countries. We believe that the work to bring transformative change begins at home. As we move forward, Canada must recognize and meaningfully address the practice of FGM/C in Canada.

Prime Minister Trudeau made a statement, on February 6, 2022, the International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation that; **"Canada firmly and unequivocally denounces female genital mutilation. No woman or girl - anywhere in the world - should ever live in fear of physical or psychological harm."**

Now is the time to put these words into action. That is why I am asking you to write to the Minister of Minister for Women and Gender Equality and Youth to request that they immediately establish a National Action Plan to End FGM/C in Canada.

As the Government of Canada, you must do better; you msdfdust honour and protect the lives of all children and women who live in Canada.

Thank you for taking the time to listen to my concerns, and I look forward to receiving a response from you on this matter.

Sincerely,

(Your name)
(Street address)
(City, Province)
(Postal Code)
(Phone Number)