[Today's Date]

[Name of Recipient]
[Title]
[Company]
[Address]
[City, Province, Postal Code]

Dear [Name of Recipient]:

I hope that you, your family, and community are doing well during these challenging times. I am [writing/calling] today to express my concern about the current COVID-19 situation. The current rates of transmission and the dangers presented by the new variants is a serious concern.

But there is a way out. We can stop the rolling lockdowns that don't go far enough, and use science-based approaches to make the current lockdown the last one. Any community, region or country can eliminate COVID-19 with an action plan to reduce community spread until there are zero cases. Many Indigenous communities are essentially doing this already, and over two dozen countries and many of Canada's Northern Territories and some Atlantic Provinces already have successfully eliminated, or almost eliminated, community transmission. For them, life is largely back to normal. When COVID stops spreading, people stop dying.

The way COVID-19 is being managed right now is inequitable. Those living on low incomes, those with precarious housing, and so many Indigenous and racialized communities, many of whom are essential workers, are most at risk from serious illness and death from COVID-19.

In order to prevent more tragic & unnecessary illness, death, and economic fallout, we must eliminate community transmission of the disease from Canada.

COVID-19 can be fatal for people of all ages, including children. Even when not fatal, it can cause Long Covid—symptoms that persist for many months, and new research shows an increased risk of heart disease, strokes, and diabetes for COVID-19 patients even after they recover. The long-term health consequences of getting infected with the virus present significant future costs to individuals and society as a whole.

Vaccines save lives, but can't resolve the COVID-19 pandemic on their own. Not enough people have been vaccinated to slow the spread. Even with 70% of Canadians vaccinated, the herd immunity threshold may not be reached. Each time we let this virus transmit to a new person, there is a risk that it will mutate, and each mutation has the potential to evade vaccination efforts. This highlights why a Zero COVID strategy is urgently needed, and each governing body plays an important role.

The WHO and CDC just recently changed their guidelines to acknowledge that COVID-19 is airborne. Airborne viruses require N95 masks or equivalent. Many communities, perhaps yours, have already taken measures that have reduced the spread of COVID-19, closing non-essential indoor activities, moving some activities outdoors, and where indoor activities must continue, maximizing ventilation and air exchange.

There are resources listed below that can be used to help keep your community safe. Please make use of them as you see fit.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]
[Title – if applicable]

RESOURCES:

Canada's Federal COVID-19 Resource Page

https://covid19resources.ca/

Masks, efficacy and where to source them in Canada

https://masks4canada.org/

(this list includes N95 and FN95 masks by the Indigenous-owned PPE

manufacturer, First Nations Procurement Inc. https://fnprocure.ca/)

Updates on Data for every region in Canada

http://COVID19Tracker.ca

Vaccines, how to get one (in Canada): https://vaccinehunters.ca/ **Vaccines, questions answered:** on zoom or phone-in options daily from 8-10pm EST

https://covid19resources.ca/public/discussions/#VaccineQA

MORE INFORMATION ON ZERO COVID:

National: https://zerocovidcanada.org/

Quebec: COVID-STOP

BC Coalition COVID Zero Backgrounder:

https://www.notion.so/COVID-Zero-Backgrounder-9f616de027ba4030

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Alberta: Go4Zero

International: https://www.endcoronavirus.org
International: https://zerocovidalliance.org