[Insert date here]

Subject Line: **It’s time for a Canada-wide school food program**

Dear Mr./Mrs./Ms./Miss [Last Name of MP]:

As a constituent in your riding (city), I am writing to you to congratulate on your success in the recent election and to bring forward about an issue I care deeply about, the importance of school food programs in my community and across the country.

Everyone deserves access to nourishing food, yet in Nova Scotia almost [one in four children live in households experiencing poverty, hunger and inadequate access to foods](https://www.policyalternatives.ca/sites/default/files/uploads/publications/Nova%20Scotia%20Office/2020/01/CCPA%202019%20Child%20Poverty%20Report%20Card.pdf) that children and youth need to be healthy and reach their potential in the classroom and in life. School food programs are known to improve students’ overall diets, mental and physical health, school performance, attendance, and social cohesion. **Yet, Canada is the only G7 country without a National School Food Program.**We know that we can do better for our children and youth.

As we deal with the immediate and long-term effects of COVID-19 with an eye to economic recovery, schools are ideal settings for infrastructure stimulus spending projects as they provide geographic equity across Canada and can provide a setting for job creation and industry renewal. An investment in school food that includes local food procurement, infrastructure development and community building would support job growth while helping to strengthen the health and wellbeing of students, their families and communities.

I was thrilled to see the Liberal party [platform commitment](https://liberal.ca/our-platform/school-nutrition-and-healthy-eating/) to **“work with provincial, territorial, municipal, Indigenous partners, and stakeholders to develop a National School Food Policy and work towards a national school nutritious meal program with a $1 billion investment over five years.”** I am hopeful that you, as my member of parliament will work with all parties to ensure a healthier future for our kids by making this commitment a reality.

I, along with thousands of Nova Scotians, [Nourish Nova Scotia](https://www.nourishns.ca/speakup) and the Nova Scotia Advisory of the  [Coalition for Healthy School Food](https://www.healthyschoolfood.ca/) urge you to act now.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]