



**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in Canada**  
*In Mission for Others*

***[You may choose to update with your congregation's logo/letterhead]***

***Sample letter to local MPs  
Regarding support to sustain charities***

***Date: May 6, 2020***

Dear ***Mr./Ms./Mrs./Miss [Name of Member of Parliament]***, MP ***[eg.: Dear Ms. Jane Smith, MP]***

As a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC), I am writing to express my support for government assistance to help sustain charities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The bishops and treasurers of the ELCIC's synods and national church have written to The Hon. Ahmed Hussen, Minister of Families, Children, and Social Development encouraging action by the Canadian government and endorsing the Canadian Council of Christian Charities (CCCC) April 21, 2020 proposal to sustain the charitable sector during the COVID-19 pandemic.

I am attaching a copy of both letters from the ELCIC and CCCC for your consideration and I join in endorsing the CCCC's *Matching Donations Distribution Model* proposal.

Congregations and faith communities are engaged in helping those most vulnerable through food banks, counselling, senior's care, shelters, community outreach, as well as welcoming refugees to Canada and more. Some of this service continues during the pandemic; other services will re-emerge as physical-distancing restrictions are reduced. Government assistance now will help ensure that this vital work continues during and after the pandemic.

The restrictions on public gatherings have a huge impact on faith communities by preventing in-person gatherings for worship, weddings and funerals. As a Christian, I fully support the public health restrictions in order to promote the common good. At the same time, the stress on faith communities is real. Charities are vital in living out the call echoed across the country during these unprecedented times that "*we are all in this together*".

I thank you for considering the CCCC's proposal. I continue to pray for you and for all members of parliament as you carry out your responsibilities in these most unusual times.

Yours in Christ,  
***Name of sender***