Dear Minister Philpott, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2017

Someone I care about is struggling with Lyme Disease. It has been very difficult to witness the way this disease has impacted their life. It’s also hard to believe that any Canadian should have to struggle so much to receive the medical care they need, in their own country. I am here to support them as best I can, but I am asking for your support as well.

I know it is very difficult to live with the symptoms of Lyme Disease. It is also challenging for me to understand what they are going through and sometimes to even know how to support them. I try to learn what I can, but it’s very confusing because there is an over simplified image of Lyme Disease that does not reflect the true reality of this disease. This causes so much distress. I am writing this so that you can be aware of the impact this is having on so many Canadians.

There needs to be a major shift in the way Lyme Disease is handled in our country. As I start to research how long this problem has been going on in the US and other countries, I realize that very few advances have been made in the way it is diagnosed and treated here in Canada. I ask myself, how could this be? Why are we not leading the way? This problem is getting bigger every year and yet we don’t have proper treatments even now. There are still so many questions that need to be answered about the diagnosis, treatments, transmission and even the scope and impact of this disease on Canadians.

The person I care about has struggled physically, emotionally and financially with this disease. I am here not only to support them but also to stand up for them when they are unable to. Minister Philpott, I am asking you to stand up with me. Nobody should have to go through what they are going through, in a country where medical advances are being made in so many areas. I am asking you to do your best to address this problem in a way that will improve the lives of those who are suffering.

Sincerely,

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