Hon. Dominic LeBlanc, P.C., M.P.

President of the Queen’s Privy Council for Canada and Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs

House of Commons

Ottawa, ON

K1A 0A6

Dear Minister:

I recently spoke with my local fire fighters who are members of the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF), which represents over 26,000 professional

full-time fire fighters in Canada. They continue to be concerned with the risk of reductions in fire and emergency medical services due to municipal budget shortfalls as a result of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. This would significantly impact the ability for fire fighters in my riding to safely and effectively respond to any emergency.

I support the IAFF’s recommendation to invest in a multi-year funding model to supplement existing short-term municipal funding initiatives like the Safe Restart Agreement and the Canada Community Building Fund.

As we work towards a path to economic recovery, it is prudent to balance investments between community growth and public safety. The dialogue between our provincial and municipal partners must integrate emergency management considerations when planning investments in infrastructure.

I urge you to continue to work with all levels of government to provide multi-year financial assistance to municipalities to mitigate the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, and prioritize the earmarking a portion of those funds toward the maintenance of vital services, including fire and emergency medical services.

Thank you in advance for your consideration. I kindly request that your response be forwarded to the persons copied on this letter to apprise them of your position on this matter.

Sincerely,

XXXXXXX

c.c. XXXXX, President, Local Name (Local e-mail address)

Scott Marks, IAFF Assistant to the General President for Canadian Operations (smarks@iaff.org)