



June 23, 2021

His Worship Patrick Brown  
Mayor of the City of Brampton  
[Gary.Collins@brampton.ca](mailto:Gary.Collins@brampton.ca)

Dear Mr. Mayor:

The office of Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has forwarded to me your correspondence of May 11, 2021, regarding the COVID-19 crisis in India.

Like you, the Government of Canada is closely following the evolving health situation in India. Canada continues to stand with the people of India as they face a severe second wave of COVID-19. Canada recognizes that international cooperation is necessary to save lives and control the spread of COVID-19, which continues to threaten public health globally. Since the beginning of the pandemic, Canada and India have closely cooperated to ensure mutual access to essential medical supplies and vaccines.

As you have noted, Canada acted quickly to provide support bilaterally and through international partners. On April 27, 2021, Canada provided \$10 million in funding for humanitarian assistance to the Canadian Red Cross Society, which is supporting the Indian Red Cross Society's procurement of essential supplies and medicines. Between May 5 and 13, 2021, Canada delivered 25,000 vials of the antiviral medicine Remdesivir and 350 ventilators from Canada's National Emergency Strategic Stockpile through Canadian Armed Forces airlift support. Canada is also supporting the urgent provision of 1,450 oxygen concentrators to India through a \$230 million contribution to the UNICEF's Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator Supplies Financing Facility, which was announced in December 2020.

This support complements Canada's work with its international partners to respond to needs arising from the pandemic. Since February 11, 2020, the Government of Canada has committed more than \$2 billion to the global response to COVID-19. Canada has also made an additional \$1 billion available for International Monetary Fund loans related to COVID-19.

The outpouring of support from Canadians to India has been incredible. Canadians interested in contributing to India's COVID-19 response have been and are able to do so through the Canadian Red Cross India COVID-19 response appeal.

Rest assured that Canada will continue to closely monitor the public health situation in India and will cooperate closely with India in terms of addressing any future needs.

Thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Karina Gould". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Karina" and the last name "Gould" clearly distinguishable.

The Honourable Karina Gould, P.C., M.P.