**[Date and address]**

The [**Name of your member or parliament]**
House of Commons
Ottawa

Dear \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,

I am writing to encourage your government to take action on two fronts with regard to refugee settlement:

1. to reactivate and increase the BVOR(Blended Visa Office-Referred) program
2. to put in place the necessary resources to increase admissions of refugees to Canada

As the government addresses the need to bring and settle Afghanistan refugees in Canada, and as humanitarian crises in Ethiopia and elsewhere escalate, these actions are all the more urgent.

The government is well aware of the benefits of the BVOR program, and it is disappointing that in the past not more sponsorship groups made use of it. I hope that BVOR could be promoted as a way for groups to continue sponsoring refugees over the long term, aided by government funding. Perhaps this funding could be increased beyond its current level as a further incentive. Existing networks of settlement groups could be enlisted to help promote this very valuable program.

Secondly, the flow of refugees into Canada during the past two years has been severely diminished, largely due to the pandemic. I appreciate that the process by which a refugee finally lands in Canada is long and complex, and that there is a considerable backlog to be dealt with. However, now is the time to put in place the necessary resources to admit refugees to Canada in significant numbers. Their need is immediate and great, and we who welcome them and help them find a new life in Canada will benefit immensely as well.

I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely yours,

[ **your name**]