



Corporate Responsibility for Human Rights and the Environment

Engaging your Member of Parliament

Prior to the meeting:

- Review CJI's preparation guide (see Appendix 1)
- Determine whether you want to meet individually or with a group of people also concerned with this issue (If with a group, you need to be sure that the group is prepared).
- get information from credible sources (verify your sources)
- Strive to get information from people close to the issue at stake
- Prepare a letter for the MP (or MPs) you intend to meet with (see key points below and follow instructions on how to address them here <https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/services/protocol-guidelines-special-event/styles-address.html>)
- Prepare in advance a report that gathers the information collected (newspaper articles, scientific articles from reputable sources, first person accounts, etc.)
- send a copy to the group that is joining you to meet the MP
- Prepare what you want to say in the meeting in advance (have a clear agenda that is timed; rehearse and ensure you stay on point, ensuring time for questions).

At the meeting:

- Keep it short, on point and leave time for discussion/questions.

After the meeting:

- i) Contact your representative and thank them! (Don't forget to thank their staff too)
- ii) In your communication, summarize what was said at the meeting and emphasize the expected actions (with clear timeframes and milestones).
- iii) Follow up on expected actions, depending on what was discussed.

Corporate Responsibility for Human Rights and the Environment

(Credit: Information taken from CNCA. You can find more information from CNCA at the CJI Booth on)

Use the script below to call, write and/or tweet at Minister Ng, Minister Garneau, and Minister Gould to present our position and the action requested! Please note that at the persons in these cabinet positions are subject to change in the wake of the announcement by the Federal Liberal Government of a cabinet shuffle on October 25th. Please review and update accordingly.

Marc Garneau, Minister of Foreign Affairs (613-996-7267); Marc.Garneau@parl.gc.ca

Karina Gould, Minister of International Development (613-995-0881); Karina.Gould@parl.gc.ca

Mary Ng, Minister of Small Business, Export Promotion and International Trade (613-996-3374); Mary.Ng@parl.gc.ca

Dear Minister of Foreign Affairs/Minister of International Affairs/Minister of Small Business,

Voluntary measures have proven to be ineffective in preventing human rights abuses and environmental destruction linked to Canadian mining, energy, and garment projects overseas.

The individuals and communities in every corner of the world who continue to be harmed by powerful Canadian companies operating overseas can wait no longer for Canada to take action to address corporate abuse.

We implore the Government of Canada to fulfill its promise and take immediate action to empower the Canadian Ombudsperson for Responsible Enterprise with independence and the power to investigate human rights abuse allegations, including the power to compel documents and testimony.

We are also calling on Canada to catch up to the growing international trend and enact a comprehensive mandatory human rights due diligence law that would require Canadian companies to prevent human rights abuse and environmental harms in their global operations and supply chains or face real consequences for failing to take all reasonable steps to prevent harm.

Listen to the people, the time is now to ensure there is real corporate accountability for the actions of Canadian companies abroad!

Thank you.

(Letter comes from the CNCA campaign on Human Rights and Environmental Due Diligence Legislation in Canada)

Further information regarding Corporate Responsibility for Human Rights and the Environment:

Canadian companies and global supply chains are implicated in human rights abuses and environmental damage around the globe. However, Canada has failed to establish rules that require Canadian companies to respect human rights and the environment overseas. Instead, Canada relies on a suite of voluntary measures to curb corporate abuse. Experience shows that voluntary measures don't work.

To end corporate impunity, [several countries have enacted](#), or are in the process of developing, laws that require companies to review all their business activities, identify actual and potential risks to people and the planet, take steps to mitigate and address these risks, and ensure remedy for those harmed. This is called human rights and environmental due diligence.

Building on this global momentum, and on [Canadian civil society consensus starting points](#), a new draft model legislation provides lawmakers with a blueprint for writing into Canadian law the corporate duty to respect human rights and the environment. Please call upon your representative to take the steps necessary to bring the Corporate Respect for Human Rights and the Environment Abroad Act into Canadian law through legislation.

Always copy your own Federal MP in your own riding on any letter you send to a Cabinet Minister or to the Prime Minister

Additional Relevant Representatives at the provincial level- it is sometimes good practice to copy your MPP on a letter that you send to your Federal MP, even though they do not have jurisdiction on Federal matters.

Federal - Liberal

- Johnathan Wilkinson (Environment and Climate Change)

Newfoundland - Liberal:

- Bernard Davis (Environment and Climate Change)

Nova Scotia – Liberal

- Gordon Wilson (Environment)

PEI – Liberal:

- Steven Myers (Environment)

New Brunswick - Liberal:

- Gary Crossman (Environment and Climate Change)

Quebec - Coalition Avenir Quebec

- Benoit Charette (Environment)

Ontario - PC

- Jeff Yurek (Environment and Climate Change)

Alberta - PC

- Jason Nixon (Environment)

Manitoba - PC:

- Sarah Guillemard (Environment)

Saskatchewan – Saskatchewan Party

- Warren Kaeding (Environment)

British Columbia – NDP

- George Heyman (Environment and Climate Change)

Yukon – Liberal

- Pauline Frost (Environment and Climate Change)

Nunavut N/A

- Joe Savikataaq (Environment and Natural Resources)

Northwest Territories:

- Shane Thompson (Environment and Natural Resources)