

# Sample Letter

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

I am pleased that the Canadian government committed \$400 million for 2010 to help developing countries adapt to and fight climate change. It is important to maintain this commitment for 2011 and 2012.

As a supporter of Canadian Foodgrains Bank I would like to see Canada's financing for developing countries help smallholder farmers. More than 75% of the world's poorest people live in rural areas, and most are farmers. Climate change increases their risk of hunger and ongoing poverty.

To best support farmers and other vulnerable groups, I ask that:

- Canada give a larger share of its financing toward adaptation, as agreed to in the Copenhagen Accord. In 2010, Canada gave only 11% of the \$400 million towards helping people adapt to climate changes;
- Canada's contribution be given as grants, not loans;
- It be additional to Canada's existing aid budget.

I urge the Canadian government to ensure that Canada's \$400 million truly supports those most vulnerable to climate change. I request that you convey this important message to the Prime Minister's office and to the Minister of the Environment.

Sincerely,

It's a good idea to start with something positive.

Make the letter personal. Are you studying international development which has inspired your concern? Mention it. Did you grow up on a farm and can appreciate the challenges farmers face everywhere? Mention it.

Be clear about what you're asking for.

Don't assume your MP is knowledgeable about this issue. Some background info is helpful.

It's helpful to point out what the government already agreed to do.

Make sure your return address is somewhere on the letter so your MP can reply.

## Harvest of Letters Report *(or fill out online at [foodgrainsbank.ca](http://foodgrainsbank.ca) under Get Involved > Harvest of Letters)*

We held our letter-writing event on / I wrote my letter on (date) \_\_\_\_\_

Main contact person \_\_\_\_\_ Name of church/campus/group \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/Town \_\_\_\_\_ Prov. \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

email \_\_\_\_\_ Church Affiliation (if any) \_\_\_\_\_ Ph \_\_\_\_\_

Our event was attended by \_\_\_\_\_ people (if applicable). Number of letters gathered: \_\_\_\_\_

MP \_\_\_\_\_ #of letters \_\_\_\_\_ MP \_\_\_\_\_ #of letters \_\_\_\_\_

MP \_\_\_\_\_ #of letters \_\_\_\_\_ MP \_\_\_\_\_ #of letters \_\_\_\_\_

MP \_\_\_\_\_ #of letters \_\_\_\_\_ MP \_\_\_\_\_ #of letters \_\_\_\_\_

Please rate the Advocacy Guide & Harvest of Letters on how clear and easy-to-use it was: (5=clear, useful; 1=not clear, difficult).

Please circle: 5 4 3 2 1 Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Canadian Foodgrains Bank | PO Box 767 | Winnipeg, MB | R3C 2L4 | 1.800.665.0377