224-455 Silin Forest Rd.

Fort McMurray AB T9H 3S5

March 17, 2017

Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister

Government of Canada

24 Sussex Dr.

Ottawa ON K1A 0R6

Dear Mr. Trudeau:

My name is John Ottogalli and I am a Social Studies teacher, an avid Liberal and I count myself among your strongest supporters. My position affords me the opportunity to help shape the minds of the next generation of Canadians. I am writing to you today with regard to Canada’s role in helping the world’s refugees. It is one of the most salient issues facing your administration.

Canada has an important role as a safe haven for those facing deplorable conditions abroad. We are respected globally for our compassion and humanity. Our agreement with the United Nations is a testament to our resolve and dedication to those in need. The Supreme Court said as much in their “Singh Decision” of 1985. These commitments are critical to Canada’s respected position among the countries of the world.

Critics will claim that refugees put a strain on us economically, socially, politically or even religiously. While refugees do represent an investment up front, they will actually help us in the long term through paying taxes and being consumers. Their children will contribute to our economies their entire lives. I acknowledge the other issues will be a challenge. We have to be willing to accept people despite our differences. People who look different, sound different and worship differently will only add to the cultural mosaic that is Canada. We are a nation of immigrants. Despite heightened criticism from the opposition I urge you to stay the course. It really is the Canadian thing to do.

Thank you for your consideration. Should you wish to contact me, I can be reached at j.ottogalli@hotmail .com or 780-123-4567.

Sincerely,

John Ottogalli

John Ottogalli