

Canadian Crossroads International

Action Ideas



**Canadian Crossroads International
Carrefour Canadien International**



ACGC Alberta Council for Global Cooperation

Action Ideas

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Want to take action but unsure where to start?

Learn more about poverty issues locally and globally

Vote! And be an informed voter.

Write letters to local or national newspapers, magazines, and websites.

Be an informed consumer and investor; look into Fair Trade and Ethical Investing.

Support an organization with your time, your ideas, your networks, your voice, your dollars. For example, volunteer to support immigrant professionals integrating into the job market (intercultural associations), volunteer to support housing projects for marginalized populations...

Be Visible – organize an event, a potluck, a picnic and share news, ideas, actions

Engage your MP - write a letter or arrange a meeting (see back)

Visit these networks and organizations for information and opportunities to get involved:

Subscribe to your province's Community Economic Development bulletin or to your province's Council for International Cooperation newsletter. You can find them through their National Network links: www.ccednet-rcdec.ca and www.ccic.ca.

Make Poverty History www.makepovertyhistory.ca.

Subscribe to the CCI e-bulletin to stay informed: Register in the News and Announcements section of www.cciorg.ca.

Global Citizens for Change www.globalcitizensforchange.com

End Poverty 2015 Millennium Campaign www.endpoverty2015.org

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Tips for Letter writing

- MPs are busy, so keep your letter short and to the point. Just a few paragraphs will be enough.
- Be polite and courteous. Getting annoyed or rude will achieve nothing, and may even be counterproductive.
- Remember to include your full name and address.
- Use bullet points to highlight your main concerns.
- Include supporting evidence, but 1 or 2 key points clearly explained is better than 5 points poorly explained.
- Make it clear what you are asking the MP to do.
- Only write to your own MP.

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Things to include:

- A description of the problem
- What you want them to do
- Your personal testimony; why you want them to do something and your personal opinion on the matter
- Further evidence: key points regarding the issue
- Ask for a personal reply and say you are interested in your MPs own opinions.

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PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT - EVENTS / OUTPUTS & OUTCOMES

Part I: Description of the event

Name of the event	
City, Location where the event takes place	
Date of the event	
CCI Program officer	
Person or group responsible for this event	
Resource person or person invited for this event	
Is this event part of a partnership project? If so, which one?	

1. Brief description of the public engagement event, including objectives, public target, approach taken, etc.
2. What was key strategy used to achieve objective(s) above?
3. In what sense did the planned objective of the activity / the event contribute to CCI objectives, which are:
 - To build an active and engaged community of supporters prepared to take action in support of our mission
 - To influence policy and effect change
 - To raise CCI profile and credibility
 - To increase and leverage resources

Part II: Participation at the event

1. How many people actively participated in the event? Number of women? Number of men? Where possible, please indicate the number of Crossroaders (returned overseas volunteers) and partners.
2. How many people were reached by the event? Number of women? Number of men? (if possible, indicate the number, otherwise an estimation)
3. List any media outlets in attendance and the date and time of the coverage received (include a copy if possible).
4. Did the event suggest an action (postcard signature, registration to an electronic bulletin, etc.) If so, which action?
5. If possible, indicate how many signatures, postcards or email addresses were collected. How many people signed up to the CCI e-bulletin? Or took a concrete action? If possible, indicate number of women and men
6. From your point of view, in what sense people may change their attitudes, their beliefs as a result of the event?
7. From your point of view, how may people have undertaken effective action or behaviour changes because of the event or modified their behaviour?

Part III: Learning

Is there anything that you learned from this event that you would like to share with the rest of the Crossroads community? This might be around the way the event was organized, or the nature of the event, or the audience to whom the event was directed. This question is completely open-ended – please feel free to write about any aspect of the event that you think is important for others to learn.

Part IV: Most significant moment

Is there a significant moment regarding the event? It could be a participant's testimony, participant taking action, media coverage, or impact in the community.