



**JAGMEET SINGH**

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December 21, 2021

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau  
Prime Minister of Canada  
House of Commons,  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Dear Prime Minister,

I am writing to you today because, as you know, the pandemic is getting worse. Not only are the number of new cases breaking records in some provinces, but the new measures announced have and will continue to have devastating impacts on many Small and Medium-sized Enterprises and workers. This is particularly true for self-employed workers and for those in the restaurant, entertainment and tourism sectors.

The cuts you have made to programs that help workers and SMEs are already being felt. After promising during the election campaign to always be there for Canadians, people are now facing a devastating situation with almost non-existent, highly inadequate assistance programs. During our previous discussions, I warned you about the likelihood of this situation and, unfortunately, you have not followed our recommendations.

The clock is ticking, and people need federal leadership and assistance. I implore you to virtually recall Parliament so that we can restore the assistance programs that are needed to deal with this new wave, including expanding the current lockdown benefit to apply to workers impacted by public health policies, such as capacity limits, the wage subsidy and the rent subsidy programs.

I am also asking you to use our military and all trained federal personnel to assist in a mass vaccination campaign. Canadians are trying to follow public health advice by getting vaccinated. People are lining up for hours in the cold for their third dose - they are doing their part. Your government must do everything in its power to ensure that vaccines are available and administered quickly. The lives of Canadians depend on it. Our health care workers have been working hard for almost 21 months, we need to give them the support they need to keep going.

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People need more from their federal government. All over the world, countries such as the United Kingdom and the United States are using the powers of the federal government to roll out vaccines, rapid tests and better PPE to their citizens. Canadians deserve no less.

I look forward to your response,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jagmeet Singh". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jagmeet Singh, MP (Burnaby South)  
Leader of New Democratic Party of Canada