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Dear Members of Parliament

On behalf of Merck Canada Inc. (Merck), we would like to congratulate you on your recent appointment and introduce you to the work we are doing to help build a better healthcare system for Canadians.

Merck is a global healthcare leader with a diversified portfolio that includes vaccines, prescription medicines, and animal health products. In Canada, Merck employs approximately 775 individuals across the country. During the past fifteen years, Merck has been one of the top R&D investors in Canada, with investments totaling more than \$1 billion.

We provide Canadians with much more than medicines, including actively supporting healthcare professionals and patients with a variety of tools that have a direct impact on health outcomes, including clinical trial support, chronic disease management tools and patient assistance programs.

Specific ways, in which Merck contributes to our communities here and around the world, include:

- **Solutions for major unmet medical needs** in the areas of oncology, hepatitis C, vaccines (Ebola rVSV-EBOV), diabetes, and antibiotic-resistant bacteria;
- **Clinical trials in Canada** where we are committed to including Canadian patients in as many research studies as possible, and have succeeded in attracting a disproportionate amount of clinical research to Canada relative to its population;
- **Health research partnerships in Canada**, shifting our approach from conducting in-house vertically integrated research to forming partnerships with Canadian universities, hospitals, and biotech businesses;
- **Chronic disease management** programs where we directly support primary healthcare teams, helping them close care gaps in chronic disease management;
- **Corporate social responsibility** initiatives that will ensure affordable access to healthcare coverage for all Canadians, improving maternal health for aboriginals, ethical and transparent business practices, environmentally sustainable operations and employee wellness.

While Merck is eager to highlight our successful partnership model and showcase our breakthroughs in the innovation field, this area is not without its challenges. Canada is competing with other nations for global investments.

That is why we are committed to working with governments, health care professionals and all stakeholders on strengthening Canada's position globally as we believe this will bring economic benefit and support health solutions to improve patient outcomes and ensure health system sustainability.

We all have a responsibility to collaborate to find opportunities that will ensure better health outcomes for Canadians. Together we can build a healthier and more prosperous country.

Sincerely,



Chirfi Guindo
CG/lv