

# #VaccinesWork

## February call to action 2020

"Vaccines help to protect children who "grow up to be teachers... nurses... [and] leaders. And that in effect, is the world's most precious resource."

- Bill Roedy, Gavi Envoy, former Vice Chair, Gavi Board

Canadians know that #VaccinesWork because they have saved more lives in Canada than any other medical intervention in the past 50 years. Thanks to immunization efforts, Canada has been polio free for the last 20 years, and children are protected from devastating diseases like pneumonia and measles. Unfortunately not every child has access to these life-saving vaccines and 1.5 million children around the world die every year from vaccine-preventable diseases. Let's work together to send polio to the history books and ensure that no child dies from a vaccine-preventable disease.

This month we are continuing our multi-month #VaccinesWork campaign. We are also celebrating International Development Week from February 2-8, and want to focus on the stories impact and how vaccines are making a real difference for people around the world. This means telling stories of change, like [Gavi's work](#) in fragile countries facing disease outbreaks, [the stories and people](#) behind the fight to end polio, and the stories of survivors who have beaten life-threatening diseases. By connecting people with these stories it will help us generate the political will that we need to create change!

We need Canada to support global immunization efforts by funding the life-saving work of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance.

**Ask #1:** Canada to pledge \$215 million over 4 years to GPEI.

**Ask #2:** Canada to pledge \$600 million over 5 years to Gavi.

In order to tackle extreme poverty we need to make sure that every last child receives life-saving vaccines. With your help, we can ensure Canada remains a leader in global health by making strong financial commitments to the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance.

## latest campaign wins

- Volunteer [Roshelle Filart](#) met with MP Han Dong and he has signed the polio letter
- Volunteers [Sherry Moran](#), [Stephen St. Denis](#) and [Younes Boukhaffa](#) met MP Anita Vandenberg
- Thanks to volunteers [Colin Nelson](#), [Jeanette Aubin](#) and [Sam Weller](#), MP Laurel Collins signed polio letter

## take action

- write an oped**  
 Write an op-ed to share your opinion on a newsworthy topic connected to our current campaign. Longer than an LTE, an op-ed allows you to go in-depth to educate, stimulate public debate or help shape policy. Use our [step-by-step instructions](#) to write your op-ed and get it published in the media.
- write a letter to the editor (LTE)**  
 It is time to capture the headlines. In celebration of International Development Week, tell or amplify the human stories of how #VaccinesWork. Write about why Canada should support GPEI and Gavi with an ambitious pledge. Find hooks in published articles (or what's going on in the news) and share real stories of impact, like Safia's to help tell the story. Use our [step-by-step instructions](#) to write your LTE and get it published in the media.
- use your voice on social media**  
 Take to social media! Share how #VaccinesWork and are having very real impact on people's lives. It's time to call for the Government of Canada to support equitable access to vaccines around the world. Don't forget to tag decision-makers and your MP! [Click here](#) to tweet instantly.
- meet your MP**  
 Set up a meeting with your local MP to discuss how #VaccinesWork to build a healthier world and ask them to support Canada pledging to Gavi and GPEI. Ask them to sign and send the letter in support of a CAD \$215 million GPEI pledge to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau. Read our [step-by-step instructions](#) for meeting your MP.

## resources

- Learn more about [immunizations](#) and meet our immunization [champions](#).
- Find more resources [here](#) to help you take action.
- Find the [polio letter here](#).

key dates	hashtags	keywords
<b>Feb 2-8:</b> International Development Week	#Canadianaid	Canadian aid
<b>Feb 20:</b> World Social Justice Day	#Cdnpoli	Global Polio
<b>Feb 29:</b> Last day for Results Canada's National Conference early bird registration	#EndPolio	Eradication Initiative
	#VaccinesWork	GPEI
	#PolioFreeWorld	Vaccines
	#GoForTheGoals	Gavi
		International Development Week