

#TransformingEducation

results results.canada.ca/campaign/campaign-2/



“Every child has a right not only to be in school, but to learn in school, acquiring the basic skills that are the foundation for higher learning and higher income levels someday – in turn supporting equitable development and sustainable growth”.

- Robert Jenkins, UNICEF Global Director of Education

At this very moment, without even realizing it, you are decoding a complex set of symbols to form words that have assigned meaning, then collecting these words in a sentence and ascribing a high level of meaning and comprehension to understand what is being communicated in the written word. Now, imagine how different your life would be if you couldn't read or comprehend a simple text. This is the reality of millions of children living in low- and middle-income countries around the world.

Even before the pandemic, the world was facing a learning crisis, with nearly 6 out of every 10 ten-year-olds in low- and middle-income countries suffering from learning poverty—meaning they were unable to read and understand a simple story by the age of 10. Last month, *the State of Global Learning Poverty: 2022 Update* was released and predicted that since the pandemic this rate has increased by a third in low- and middle-income countries, with an estimated 70% of 10-year-olds unable to understand a simple written text. If children do not acquire the basics of literacy—together with numeracy and other foundational skills including psychosocial health—the futures of hundreds of millions of children around the world and their societies are at grave risk.

positive impact of foundational skills

New data on the skills gap, estimates that committing to the achievement of universal basic skills globally would raise future world Global Domestic Product (GDP) by USD\$700 trillion over the remainder of the century. Beyond the financial impact of foundational skills, the ability to read, write, and do basic math is a critical component of an individual's autonomy and growth—it contributes to understanding laws, rights, and public health information, participation in democracy, the expansion of knowledgebase, gender equality, growing empathy, excelling in a career, and building positive relationships, just to name a few. Healthy education systems have a positive impact on individual children, communities, and societies at large.

Education is very complex. At the individual level, every child has different needs, ways of learning and circumstances that play a role in their ability to access education systems and learn. For example, young girls face barriers because of gender, including early marriage and menstruation, while young boys will start work instead of attending school to help support their families financially. At the societal level, each community faces different challenges that prevent their education systems from promoting lifelong learning. In low- and middle-income countries with lower reading and math rates, some of the barriers faced by communities include teacher shortages, limited learning resources like a lack of textbooks and digital technology, increased student drop-out rates, and in many instances, students are not learning in their mother language. Each community faces different and unique challenges, so it is imperative that all solutions to address the learning crisis are tailored and led by the community for the community.

The learning crisis persisted before the pandemic because within the national, and international development ecosystem, barriers prevented impact. Barriers include a lack of global leadership, prioritization, and political awareness of learning skills, a lack of data and measurement of the full breadth of the problem, limited accountability for outcomes, and inadequate financing. Canada can use its diplomatic influence, reputation in the global education space, programmatic integrity, and policy prowess to partner with local communities to make a real impact on the learning crisis. To do this, Canada must:

- Prioritize early grade reading and math in global education programming
- Measure learning by assessing reading and mathematics nationally in partnership with local communities
- Improve the teaching of reading and math in the classroom by supporting teachers with structured pedagogy lesson plans, livable incomes, and psycho-social support and resources

Canada has a role to play in addressing the learning crisis and it starts with reaffirming our global leadership for education at the upcoming Transforming Education Summit during UNGA in September. The Summit seeks to mobilize the political will to transform education by taking stock of efforts to recover pandemic-related learning losses; reimagining education systems; and revitalizing national and global efforts to achieve SDG-4. Canada has a historic legacy in global education, under Prime Minister Justin

Trudeau, through the [Charlevoix Declaration](#) that leveraged over [CAD\\$4 billion](#) in investments to improve access and reduce barriers to [quality education](#) for women and girls around the world, specifically in conflict situations. Unfortunately, Charlevoix investments will run out next year, jeopardizing impact and potentially stalling or stopping critical education programming in some countries.

education is a basic human right and equalizer for all

Education is a [basic human right](#) protected under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and represents a key global priority through [Sustainable Development Goal #4](#) (SDG-4). Every child has the right to access [quality education](#), that is why it's critical we take action to ensure that children everywhere have the opportunity to go to school and learn the skills needed to strive and thrive. You can learn more on our [quality education issue page](#).

Before Canada can address the learning crisis through improved policy and programming, we must invest more financial resources towards education to reach the benchmark of committing at least [10% of bilateral Official Development Assistance \(ODA\)](#) to global education. In the [Report to parliament](#) on the Government of Canada's international assistance 2020-2021, Canada reaffirmed its commitment to meet this 10% target but has failed to do so to date. This critical bump to education investment can be achieved with increased spending in our overall ODA in #Budget2023.

The ask: To address education disruptions and accelerate learning so that children everywhere can read, write, and do basic math, Canada must reaffirm its global leadership in education at the #TransformingEducation Summit during UNGA AND commit to increasing its Official Development Assistance (ODA) in #Budget2023 to meet commitments to invest more in global education.

bilateral vs. multilateral ODA

Bilateral aid represents flows from official (government) sources directly to official sources in the recipient country. **Multilateral** aid represents core contributions from official (government) sources to multilateral agencies where it is then used to fund the multilateral agencies' own programs.

latest call-to-action updates

- **#FightForWhatCounts: We are making strides for a CAD\$ #1Point2Billion replenishment for the Global Fund.**
- We have been working hard to gain signatures on a [letter of support](#) for the Global Fund to send to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau. We have secured 49 signatures representing all major parties and Senator support!

- In her op-ed recently published in The Globe and Mail, Policy & Advocacy Officer Hanna Belayneh wrote on how a #1Point2Billion pledge from Canada to the Global Fund is part of the solution to global health threats. Tune into her interview that followed.
- This July, our coalition of advocacy organizations is collaborating with advocates who remember HIV/AIDS in Canada during the 80s/90s and have launched a video series. Follow Results Canada to amplify these videos.
- **#RaiseYourHand:** Senior Advisor of Policy & Parliamentary Affairs Lindsay Sheridan travelled to Paris to participate in the Transforming Education pre-summit. In Paris, global stakeholders and parliamentarians met to identify priority areas to focus on at the Summit in September; addressing learning loss by improving foundational literacy and numeracy skills emerged as a key priority!
- **#InvestInNutrition:** While participating at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Kigali, Rwanda on June 23, Prime Minister Trudeau announced \$250 million to help address the global food security crisis. Similarly, Minister Sajjan announced the launch of a matching fund as part of Canada's response to the hunger crisis in Sub-Saharan Africa. Also, every donation made by Canadians to the Humanitarian Coalition and its members from June 15-July 17, 2022, was matched up to CAD\$5 million.
- The State of Global Learning Poverty: 2022 Update
- Human Capital Africa Call to Action 2022
- Personalizing the basics of reading and maths for children one village at a time: PAL Network
- Learning assessment during the COVID-19 pandemic in Africa: KIX Observatory
- Our 2022 advocacy plan



[Watch Video At: https://youtu.be/UmVnqMWawEc](https://youtu.be/UmVnqMWawEc)

video (above): [How to end the global learning crisis | UNICEF](#)

key dates

August 1-7: [World Breastfeeding Week](#)

August 12: [International Youth Day](#)

August 19: [World Humanitarian Day](#)

Check out our full [key dates calendar](#)

key words

Education

Learning poverty

The learning crisis

Foundational literacy and numeracy

Transforming Education

hashtags

#Canada4Results

#TransformingEducation

#RaiseYourHand

#EndLearningPoverty

#TheLearningCrisis

Twitter tags

[@ResultsCda](#)

[@CanadaDev](#)

write an op-ed or LTE

 resultscanada.ca/action-button/write-a-op-ed-or-lte-campaign-2/



Call-to-action summary:

Our call-to-action for August draws attention to the global learning crisis that has left millions of children unable to read a simple text or do basic math and calls on Canada to reaffirm its global leadership in education at the #TransformingEducation Summit happening during the United National General Assembly (UNGA) in September.

[read full call-to-action](#)

**op-ed \ 'äp- 'ed **

: a page of special features usually opposite the editorial page of a newspaper

letter to the editor (LTE)

: a letter written to a newspaper, magazine or other periodical about issues of concern to readers, usually intended to be published in the paper/periodical

Canada has a role to play in addressing the learning crisis and it starts with reaffirming our global leadership in the education space at the upcoming [Transforming Education Summit](#) during UNGA in September. Canada under Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has a historic legacy in global education through the [Charlevoix Declaration](#) that leveraged over CAD\$4 billion in investments to improve access and reduce barriers to quality education for women and girls around the world, specifically in conflict situations. Unfortunately, Charlevoix investments will run out next year, jeopardizing impact and potentially stalling or stopping critical education programming in some countries.

Up until **mid-September**, prepare an op-ed or an LTE that shines a light on the learning crisis and what Canada can do to solve it, urge the Prime Minister to attend the upcoming Transforming Education Summit on September 19 to reaffirm Canada's commitment to education and highlight the importance of increasing our Official Development Assistance (ODA) in #Budget2023 to ensure that education financing reaches the 10% of bilateral funding commitment to global education, which is outlined in the [Report to parliament](#) on the Government of Canada's international assistance 2020-2021.

Use any of these moments as hooks: Summer is in full swing but school is just around the corner, budget advocacy for 2023 will start earnestly in the fall, and on September 8 the global community celebrates [International Literacy Day](#).

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Use our step-by-step instructions below and get your op-ed or LTE published in the media.

follow these step-by-step instructions to write an op-ed

Volunteers on average spend 3-4 hours researching and planning, 3 hours writing their draft and 15 minutes submitting it to a newspaper.

1. Read our current [call-to-action](#) and note the "ask".
2. Research the current issue by reading the news or external reliable sources (e.g., the World Health Organization).
3. Pick one newspaper to target and read their submission guidelines carefully. Word count and format will vary between newspapers. For options, use our database of [editors' emails](#).
4. Create an outline using the [EPIC format](#) to help make your piece persuasive. Remember to state the problem early on and include a solution to the issue, which is usually the "ask" in the current [call-to-action](#).
5. Draft your op-ed.
 - Use simple language and write in the [active voice](#). The idea you're sharing doesn't need to be simple, but plain language will help you get that idea across.
 - Cite your sources. Editors will fact-check your op-ed, so include hyperlinks to the original reputable sources for every statistic or fact. You can draw evidence from your research and/or our [call-to-action](#).
 - Review your draft to make sure you are using respectful and inclusive language – see our [anti-oppression best practices](#).
 - Write a catchy title that will draw the reader in.

6. Follow the submission guidelines for the newspaper you chose. You will probably be asked to include a one sentence bio that explains why you are a credible source, a photo, your name, address, and phone number for the editor. For example, “NAME is an International Development student at the University of British Columbia and a volunteer advocate with Results Canada.”
7. Press ‘send’ – congratulations! Tell your Group Leader you’ve submitted an op-ed. If you are not part of a group, consider [joining one](#).
8. Recycle. Send your op-ed draft to your [Member of Parliament \(MP\)](#) to let them know your opinion.

follow these step-by-step instructions to write an LTE

Volunteers on average spend 1-2 hours researching and planning, 30 minutes writing their draft and 15 minutes submitting it to newspapers.

1. Read our current [call-to-action](#) and note the “ask”.
2. Research the current issue by reading the news or external reliable sources (e.g., the World Health Organization).
3. Draft your LTE. It doesn’t have to be perfect, and you don’t have to be an expert to have an opinion.
 - Create an outline of your letter using the [EPIC format](#).
 - Keep it short – 150-200 words. Being clear and concise will increase your chances of getting published.
 - Focus on your perspective and speak from the heart while supporting your opinion with evidence from our [call-to-action](#) and/or your research.
 - Remember to state the problem early on and include a solution to the issue which is usually the “ask” in the [call-to-action](#).
 - Write a catchy title that will draw the reader in.
 - Review your draft to make sure you are using respectful and inclusive language – see our anti-oppression best practices.
4. Decide if you are sending your LTE to one or many newspapers. If you’re emailing multiple newspapers, put their addresses in the BCC field. Use our database of [editors’ emails](#) for options.
5. Press ‘send’ – congratulations! Tell your Group Leader you’ve submitted an LTE. If you are not part of a group, consider [joining one](#).
6. Send your LTE draft to your [Member of Parliament \(MP\)](#) to let them know your opinion.

did you get published?

If your piece was picked up, complete the [“I got published in the media” form](#). Share it on social media by using [#Canada4Results](#), plus tagging [@ResultsCda](#) and [your MP](#).

See all our [resources](#) to help you write your op-ed, along with key dates, hashtags, tags, and keywords found in our current [call-to-action](#).

see an example of an op-ed

Twenty five years of gains in girls' education is on the line

Some parts of the world may be beginning to reopen, but for over 20 million girls who are at risk of dropping out of school forever, the worst may be yet to come. Canada had an opportunity to lead globally in girls' education at the recent G7 Summit, but unfortunately failed to increase its commitment.

This July, the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) is holding a replenishment conference, giving Canada a golden opportunity to unlock the potential of millions of girls and ensure they are not left behind in the wake of COVID-19.

Over 130 million girls were already out of school prior to the pandemic, having faced barriers to education on several fronts. On the one hand, girls are at a higher risk of sexual exploitation, child marriage, and adolescent pregnancy in lower income countries. They also need to contend with harmful cultural norms and practices and school-related gender-based violence. Even at the most basic level, a lack of period management products, information, and sanitation act as roadblocks to fully capable girls wanting to complete their schooling.

The unfortunate truth is that COVID-19 is having a disproportionate impact on disadvantaged and marginalized populations. Here in Canada, we have questioned the effectiveness of virtual classes over the past year with teachers estimating that students are at least three months behind due to the pandemic.

In lower income countries, the situation is more dire. During school closures, as families plunge deeper into poverty, girls are the hardest hit in terms of learning loss. Not only do housework and caregiving responsibilities fall largely on the shoulders of young girls, the gender digital divide has exacerbated learning inequalities. Girls now have even less access to the internet and digital devices than ever.

The beautiful thing about investing in girls' education is it can have a transformative impact on our global pandemic recovery. If every girl received 12 years of schooling, the global economy could be boosted by nearly US \$30 trillion. Educating girls has also been shown to dramatically improve a country's climate resilience and public health, and contribute to lasting peace and stability. Maternal deaths would decline by nearly 70 per cent and population growth could be curbed significantly. In short, everyone stands to gain from educating girls.

Fortunately, Canada already knows the value of educating girls, having led the Charlevoix declaration for quality education for girls in developing countries at 2018's G7 Summit.

With the 2021 GPE replenishment conference being held July 28-29, Canada has an opportunity to cement its legacy in girls' education. The GPE is the world's largest education partnership and fund dedicated to creating more sustainable, peaceful, and resilient societies by putting gender equality at the heart of education.

As a founding member of the GPE, Canada's total investments have already helped to double the number of girls on the pathway to equality. Unfortunately, the Canadian government failed to increase its GPE contribution at this year's G7 Summit, only pledging CAD \$300 million. Now, we face a once-in-a-generation opportunity.

Canada can help enrol an additional 48 million girls in school, save 2 million girls from early marriage, lift 18 million people out of poverty, and ultimately add US \$164 billion to the global economy. What it would take is a fully funded GPE. By topping off our current GPE pledge, millions of girls will have access to a safe and supportive learning environment.

Beyond schooling itself, Canada's investments will provide adequate health care and immunization services, sexual and reproductive health education, nutritious meals, psychosocial support, and protection from violence and abuse.

When a girl is prioritized, protected, and educated, she can lift herself and those around her out of the clutches of extreme poverty. As we look to emerge from the largest education disruption in history, the time is now for Canadian leadership.

It is my hope that Prime Minister Trudeau will commit to investing an additional CAN \$200 million over five years in the GPE this summer and show the world that Canada leaves no one behind.

Charanya Thiyanavadivel, June 22 2021, [The Toronto Star](#)

see an example of an LTE

Pay more attention to growing poverty

I am writing this from a suburban neighbourhood with a roof over my head and access to clean running water. I have the means to pay my tuition and had easy access to two doses of the COVID vaccine. It is a privilege that I am writing about poverty and not living it.

The International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, Oct. 17, goes all the way back to 1987. On this day, many gather to show solidarity for those in need. Poverty is a violation of human rights yet the quest to end poverty has experienced a huge setback. According to the World Bank, global extreme poverty rose in 2020 for the first time in more than 20 years as the pandemic exacerbated climate change and conflicts. The Bank estimates that 120 million additional people are living in poverty as a result of the COVID-19, with the total expected to rise to about 150 million by the end of this year.

These numbers represent by far the biggest blow since extreme poverty rates began to decline in the 1990s, impacting not only income but health care, the quality of education, nutrition, access to clean water, and the battle against other epidemics.

As a society, we are constantly focusing on our jobs, school, etc. I am guilty of this as well. I try to challenge myself to do research on our global issues. We should all spend Oct. 17 donating and advocating for this cause and educating ourselves to learn how we can all help all year-round. No action or sum is too small.

Istahill Daoud, Ottawa, Publication date: Oct 16, 2021, [The Ottawa Citizen](#)

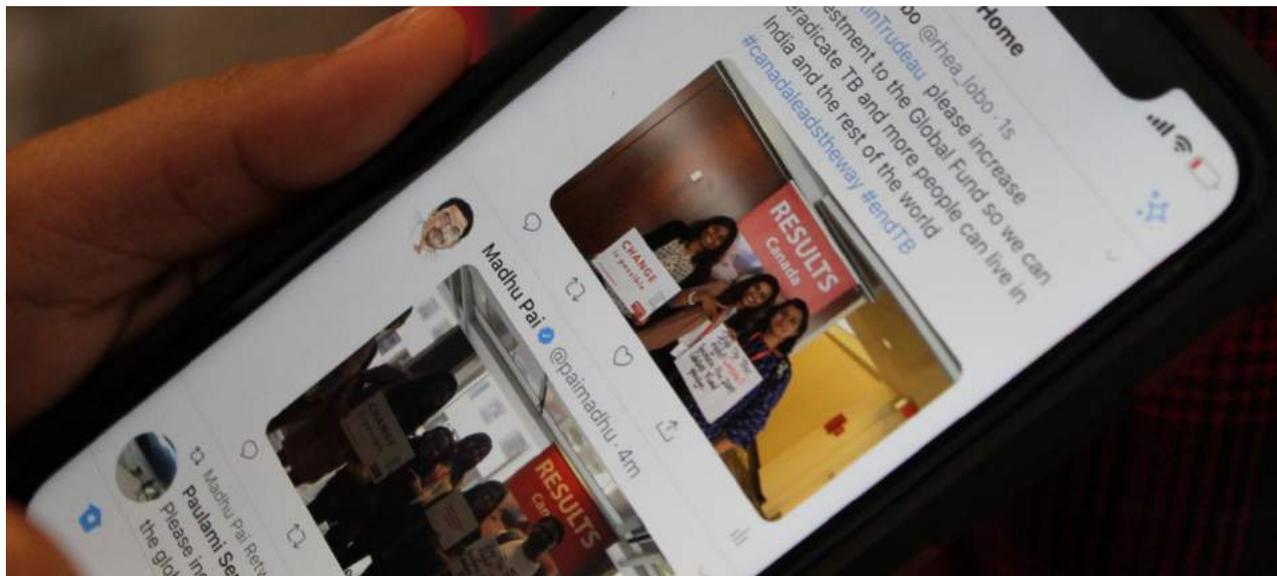
See more [published volunteer LTEs](#).

“I enjoyed the whole process of writing an op-ed, from reading background material on the Global Fund to collecting my thoughts and finding the right words to express them. It felt good just to get it done, so actually getting it published was an added bonus. I'd encourage anyone who's especially interested in a topic to give it a try.”

- Chitra, Results volunteer

use your voice on social media

results resultscanada.ca/action-button/use-social-media-campaign-2/



Call-to-action summary:

Our call-to-action for August draws attention to the global learning crisis that has left millions of children unable to read a simple text or do basic math and calls on Canada to reaffirm its global leadership in education at the [#TransformingEducation Summit](#) happening during the United National General Assembly (UNGA) in September.

[read full call-to-action](#)

Canada has a role to play in addressing the learning crisis and it starts with reaffirming our global leadership in the education space at the upcoming [Transforming Education Summit](#) during UNGA in September. Canada under Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has a historic legacy in global education through the [Charlevoix Declaration](#) that leveraged over CAD\$4 billion in investments to improve access and reduce barriers to quality education for women and girls around the world, specifically in conflict situations. Unfortunately, Charlevoix investments will run out next year, jeopardizing impact and potentially stalling or stopping critical education programming in some countries.

One of the reasons foundational skills such as reading, and writing are not prioritized globally is that most people don't realize that the world is experiencing a learning crisis. Many people including policymakers and parliamentarians often assume that if children are in school, they are surely learning. This assumption prevents action on the learning crisis.

Use your voice on social media to educate and inform your online community of the learning crisis.

The ask: To address education disruptions and accelerate learning so that children everywhere can read, write, and do basic math, Canada must reaffirm its global leadership in education at the #TransformingEducation Summit during UNGA AND commit to increasing its Official Development Assistance (ODA) in #Budget2023 to meet commitments to invest more in global education.

Tweet instantly:

DYK learning poverty has increased by a 3rd in low & middle-income countries with an estimated 70% of 10-year-olds unable to understand a simple written text? @CanadaDev can help solve the learning crisis by prioritizing reading & math skill to #TransformEducation #Canada4Results

Instagram/Facebook/LinkedIn post:

DYK that learning poverty has increased by a third in low- and middle-income countries, with an estimated 70% of 10-year-olds unable to understand a simple written text? Canada can help solve the global learning crisis by prioritizing reading & math skills to #TransformEducation in our global programming. All children have the right to quality education to gain foundational skills that will allow them to thrive and strive in the future! #Canada4Results





[view all our photos and social media images](#)

If you prefer to write your own tweet or post, use our instructions, tips, and resources below.

1. Familiarize yourself with our current [call-to-action](#).
2. Connect our call-to-action, and support your opinion with a newsworthy topic or hook that inspires you. Try these ideas:

- refer here to our [key dates, hashtags, tags, and keywords](#)
- do internet research, read the latest news articles, or use external resources
- refer to [Twitter](#) and our [Social Media Wall](#) to see posts from volunteers and others

3. Login to your profile on social media. If you need help, consult our [social media tips](#) for Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram

4. If your MP, a Minister or the Prime Minister has social media, you can find their details [here](#).

5. Write your post and personalize it so that it's meaningful to you. Consider these ideas:

- consult [your tools](#) to learn how to use social media powerfully
- include [@ResultsCda](#) in your post so that we can help amplify your voice

6. Hit post and ask your friends to help you spread the word by sharing, commenting and liking.

7. If you belong to a Results group, let your Group Leader know that you took action on social media. If you are not part of a group, consider [joining one](#)! Until then, fill out this "actions taken" [online form](#).

read our top tips

1. Be catchy
2. Be bold and respectful
3. Post frequently
4. Always tag [@ResultsCda](#) so that we can help amplify your message. If space allows, include the hashtag #voices4results

secret tip

When posting on social media, be genuine and speak from the heart. People want to connect with other human beings online, so be yourself and it'll help you get your message across!

See all our [resources](#) to help you use social media, along with key dates, hashtags, tags and keywords found on our [call-to-action](#) page.

All of our voices together can change the world and the lives that others live.

–Clarecia Christie, former Results Canada board member

write an email to Prime Minister Trudeau

 resultscanada.ca/action-button/write-an-email-to-prime-minister-trudeau-campaign-2/



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Before Canada can address the learning crisis through improved policy and programming, we must invest more financial resources towards education to reach the benchmark of committing at least [10% of bilateral Official Development Assistance \(ODA\)](#) to global education. In the [Report to parliament](#) on the Government of Canada's international assistance 2020-2021, Canada reaffirmed its commitment to meet this 10% target but has failed to do so to date. This critical bump to education investment can be achieved with increased spending in our overall ODA in #Budget2023.

Write an email to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau (justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca) urging him to attend the Transforming Education Summit in September in-person to reaffirm Canada's commitment to global education. Outline the success of the [Charlevoix Declaration](#) and the importance of maintaining its impact and Canadian legacy in education. Mention how his presence at the Transforming Education Summit will signal that Canada is still invested in education and motivate more high-level political engagement from other countries. By attending the Summit, Prime Minister Trudeau can help ensure global education remains a priority for leaders around the world and catalyze impact to #TransformEducation for children everywhere.

IMPORTANT - BEFORE YOU START: In your email to the Prime Minister do not include the monetary ask just yet, our first advocacy step is to re-engage him at the political level and reinvigorate his personal interest in global education. Keep the focus on the impact of the [Charlevoix Declaration](#) and mention how investment will come to end in 2023.

about the Charlevoix Declaration

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secret tip

Keep your email to the Prime Minister positive in nature, it always helps to celebrate success so be colorful with language around the Charlevoix Declaration and the impact it's had in the world. Connect your own experience and voice with education domestically to the global situation and remember before joining politics, Prime Minister Trudeau was a teacher himself!

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Letter writing is something you can do anytime. So that's when I like to do it: anytime. Just write letters and send 'em in.

– Willie Dickerson, RESULTS U.S. volunteer