

Lloyd Longfield, Member of Parliament

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April 10, 2016.

Re: REFUGEES

Dear Mr. Longfield,

We are members of a 3 church consortium in Guelph, St. Andrews Presbyterian, First Baptist and Knox Presbyterian (with support from Duff's Presbyterian), and together we hope to bring in and support a Syrian refugee family. Right now we are prepared to receive our family because we have the funds raised and the various group volunteers already in place. Together we are eagerly waiting to be matched with a Syrian family under the BVOR programme through the Presbyterian Church in Canada, our Sponsorship Agreement Holder (SAH).

We are very pleased that the Federal Government has met its 25 000 Syrian refugee commitment and has now committed to another 10 000 Syrian refugees through the private sponsorship programme. We are also happy that you heard the people in Canada and are sending back the immigration officers to refugee registration centres.

Now, we are asking the Federal Government to continue actively supporting this critical Syrian refugee initiative and to increase the number of available Syrian refugee families through the BVOR programme and to expedite their arrival in Canada. This would be another way to keep things going and meet the expectations of so many Canadians who have done the work and are ready and willing to help. We are anxiously waiting to be matched to a refugee family.

Yours sincerely,