[date]

To: [name of MP], M.P.

**RE: Bill C-219 - An Act to enact the Canadian Environmental Bill of Rights and to make related amendments to other Acts**

Dear Mr./Mrs./Ms./Mx. [name]

I am writing on behalf of CFUW [club name], an affiliate of CFUW, a non-partisan, self-funded organization with 94 clubs across Canada and over 6,600 members. Our mission is to achieve educational and economic equality and social justice through continuous learning and empowerment. Our vision is that women and girls are educated and empowered to make transformative change in the world.

CFUW [club name] requests your support in passing Bill C-219.

Last year, CFUW passed a Resolution urging the federal government to **enable constitutional recognition that a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment is a human right.** CFUW recognizes that without a healthy environment, all other human rights are compromised—the preservation of the environment is central to the improvement of the status of women. We also know that environmental degradation and climate change disproportionately impact marginalized people, especially Indigenous peoples, so upholding this right is imperative to prevent the deepening of existing inequalities.

The United Nations General Assembly also passed a Resolution declaring the right to live in a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment a universal human right last year. Canada was among the 161 countries to vote in favour of this Resolution, despite not yet having any federal legislation recognizing this right domestically.

Canada recently took a welcomed first step towards enshrining this right by passing Bill S-5, which amended the Canadian Environmental Protection Act (CEPA) to recognize that every individual in Canada has a right to a healthy environment as provided under the Act. However, this right remains limited to the scope of CEPA only and comes with no enforcement mechanisms, which weakens it considerably.

Bill C-219, currently in the House of Commons, will expand and strengthen the right to the rest of the scope of federal jurisdiction. It will also provide individuals with a toolbox of accountability mechanisms and powers to ensure their rights are respected. **We urge you to take a stand for our inherent right as humans to live in a healthy environment and vote in favour of Bill C-219.** If you do or did not vote in favour of Bill C-219, could you please kindly provide us with an explanation for your stance?

Thank you very much for your attention and support on this matter.

Yours sincerely,

[signature]

[name]

President, CFUW [club name]