



Hon. Candice Bergen, P.C.

Member of Parliament for Portage—Lisgar

Députée de Portage—Lisgar

February 12th, 2018

Dear Constituent,

Thank you for writing to me regarding your support of those living with MS. Your thoughts are appreciated and taken into consideration.

As your Member of Parliament, I will continue to advocate for increased efforts and awareness on this important topic that effects so many families. Canadian researchers are world-renowned for their expertise and medical breakthroughs. However, I believe further research funding and support is needed to better the lives of Canadians living with MS, and I will continue to work towards this goal.

MS has an impact on all Canadians, whether it be those living with this disease or their loved ones. Barriers such as access to treatment, homecare, transportation and reliable employment are daily struggles and I believe Canada can do better. Recent developments on this file include the creation and testing of the Canadian MS Monitoring System which began in April 2011. This initiative was led by the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) in partnership with the provinces and territories, the Canadian MS Society and the Network of Canadian MS Clinics, the System has aided in data collection from MS and related healthcare facilities.

In addition, Conservatives have approached the Minister of Labour to update employment insurance rules. These important updates would allow for the sporadic missed time incurred by many individuals with MS, which causes them to be ineligible for EI, or to not be able to work when they are well.

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House of Commons

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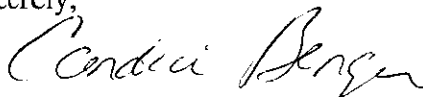
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I will continue to advocate for increased accessibility and treatment options for those living with MS. Sadly, we have recently seen that this Liberal Government does not appreciate the unique circumstances people with potentially debilitating health issues face. Whether it has been the series of disrespectful comments made by the Former Minister of Sport and Persons with Disabilities Kent Hehr, or the attempt to claw back much needed tax breaks from people living with Type 1 Diabetes, the Liberals have so far failed to support the most vulnerable in our society. This pattern of disrespect needs to end if progress is to be realized, and the Government of Canada must come forward and make the support and care of vulnerable Canadians a national priority.

Thank you again for taking the time to write to me. If my office can be of any further assistance on this or any other matter, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Candice Bergen".

Hon. Candice Bergen, P.C., M.P.
Conservative House Leader