

Permanent Mission of Canada
to the United Nations
and the World Trade Organization



Mission permanente du Canada
auprès des Nations Unies
et de l'Organisation mondiale du commerce

5, avenue de l'Ariana
1202 Geneva

September 28, 2018

To the mandates of
The Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health;
The Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context;
The Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples;
The Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights.

OHCHR
Palais des Nations
1211 Geneva 10

Dear Special Rapporteurs,

The Government of Canada wishes to follow-up on the Joint Communication dated May 16, 2017 (AL CAN 1/2017), in which you offered comments and recommendations on topics related to systemic homelessness in Canada.

In Canada, homelessness is an area of shared federal-provincial and territorial jurisdiction and the federal government remains committed to collaborating with these orders of government and other partners on the issue of homelessness. To that effect, we are working to respond to issues raised in your letter. However, given their breadth, consultations are required with other government departments and with the province of British Columbia. Canada expects to submit its response later this autumn. Canada's work on increasing access to affordable housing and reducing chronic homelessness is ongoing. The National Housing Strategy is a bold plan that sets ambitious targets to ensure that unprecedented investments and new programming deliver results, with an emphasis on supporting Canada's most vulnerable populations. Through key initiatives under the Strategy, our Government is taking definitive steps to progressively realize the right to adequate housing. The Government also is redesigning its homelessness strategy to support communities in addressing the needs of those experiencing or at risk of homelessness. We continue to engage with community partners, Indigenous partners, national stakeholder organizations, and people with a lived experience of homelessness on how best to implement elements of the redesigned program.

OHCHR REGISTRY

Canada

- 2 OCT. 2018

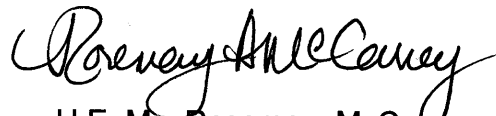
Recipients :.....**SPD**.....

Enclosure

We wish to thank you for sharing your findings and for continuing to hold governments accountable for their commitment to human rights.

Please rest assured that Canada maintains its steadfast support for the United Nations system, including the United Nations Human Rights Special Procedures mandate holders in promoting and protecting the human rights of all persons.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Rosemary McCauley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "R".

H.E. Ms. Rosemary McCauley
Ambassador and
Permanent Representative