**Sample Letter to the Editor: Vaccine Equity**

Please use the sample below to draft your letter. Once sent, please let us know where you’ve sent it by sending a short email to GRAN at **info@grandmothersadvocacy.org**. If your letter is published we would like to know that too, and would love to have a copy!

**Re: World Immunization Week, April 24 - 30 - Global Vaccine Inequity**

I live in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and World Immunization week is very important to me.

It is time to end global vaccine inequity. 2.8 billion people, largely in low and middle income countries, remain completely unvaccinated against COVID-19.

While 80% of Canadians have received two COVID-19 vaccine doses, just 15% of people in the Global South have received one dose. Ending global vaccine inequity must become a priority to put an end to this pandemic.

**[*Choose one of the following*:]**

COVID-19 has had a devastating impact on marginalized communities around the world; eighty million people have gone into extreme poverty. Until the pandemic is controlled everywhere, new variants will continue to emerge, endangering us all. A global effort now will help us prepare for future pandemics.

**or**

The global economy has been affected by the pandemic; 250 million people have lost their jobs. There has been increased gender-based violence and many young girls may never return to school. Global vaccination will reduce the risk of further variants which threaten everyone.

**[*Choose one of the following*:]**

Canada could show its commitment to a COVID-free world by joining the more than 100 governments at the World Trade Organization that fully support the proposed suspension of intellectual property barriers that would allow increased manufacturing in low and middle income countries (the TRIPS waiver).

**or**

Through full support of the proposed TRIPS waiver at the World Trade Organization, Canada could show its continued leadership in global human rights by ensuring that vaccines, treatments, patents and manufacturing knowledge are available to all countries.

**[*End with a concluding statement such as:*]**

I urge the Canadian government to make this happen.

Your Name

Your Address

Member of the Grandmothers Advocacy Network (GRAN)