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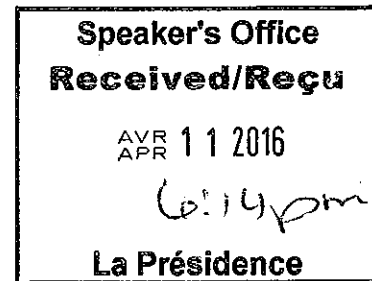
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Charlie Angus
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Monday April 11, 2016

Hon. Geoff Regan, MP
Speaker of the House of Commons
222-N Centre Block
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6



Dear Mr. Speaker:

I am writing to you to give notice under Standing Order 52(2) that I will be seeking leave on Tuesday April 12th to propose an emergency debate on the distressing suicide crisis among Indigenous Peoples.

There is a suicide crisis among Indigenous peoples in Canada that is hitting youth the hardest. We hear the cries from communities such as Attawapiskat, la loche, and Cross Lake.

In Attawapiskat alone there were over 100 suicide attempts since August, 26 in March alone and 11 this last Saturday evening. As the community said to me this morning, it shouldn't take a state of emergency to get mental health workers to fly into a region where you've had 700-plus suicide attempts.

These nightmares and tragedies should serve as wake-up calls that there isn't time to wait. There must be national action. Yet, the most recent budget did not place any additional dollars for health or mental health services. As adults, we are failing our most basic job to protect children.

An emergency debate is required in order to allow parliamentarians to address this crisis and show that as Parliamentarians we are willing to work together because the days of shrugging off the tragedies or tinkering with Band-Aid solutions are over.

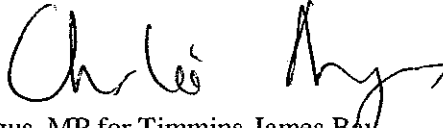
Mr. Speaker, the NDP has raised this issue in question period, but, we do not receive answers about addressing funds for mental health and health services. We have a motion that has been sitting at committee since December 2nd 2016. And there is no opposition day for the third party in the foreseeable future when this issue can be raised.

This matter simply cannot wait and I cannot imagine anything more important than us showing these kids that as Parliamentarians we stand with them. It is our responsibility as parliamentarians and as parents to have an immediate and in-depth discussion about the suicide crisis.

As a country, we must start putting these kids first, and it needs to start in Parliament. We cannot fail another generation of First Nations children

I thank you for your careful consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charlie Angus". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Charlie" and the last name "Angus" clearly distinguishable.

Charlie Angus, MP for Timmins-James Bay
Critic for Northern and Indigenous Affairs