

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

July 17, 2026

His Excellency Mark Wiseman
Ambassador of Canada to the United States
Embassy of Canada
501 Pennsylvania Ave, N.W.
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Ambassador Wiseman:

We write to you as concerned members of Michigan's Congressional Delegation on behalf of our constituents, who are facing significant air quality threats as a result of Canadian wildfire smoke drifting across our border.

Unfortunately, this is not the first year Canadian wildfire smoke has posed a threat to our state. For the past few years, our constituents have dealt with noxious wildland fire smoke that has been especially dangerous for Michiganders who are sensitive to air pollutants or those with underlying health conditions. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) issued guidance to our constituents requesting that they keep activity levels low and spend less time outdoors with additional instructions to use indoor air cleaners due to the health risks associated with inhaling smoke.¹ The impacts are also felt by our healthcare system, even resulting in the closure of an urgent care facility due to the significant degradation in air quality.²

As you know, wildfires are a challenge our countries share, and they pose a significant threat to life, property, and the communities we have the privilege of representing. This crisis has been largely driven by decades of inadequate forest management that allowed hazardous fuels to accumulate, leading to larger, and more devastating fires. That is why we passed bipartisan legislation in the United States House of Representatives, H.R. 471, the Fix Our Forests Act, to increase resilience to catastrophic wildfires, promote collaboration across state and federal agencies, restore forest health, and encourage more active forest management.

These challenges are not unique, and certainly impact Canadians and Americans alike. The cooperation between our two countries is paramount to protect the health and safety of our constituents. As a shared challenge both of our countries face, we would like to work with you to find solutions that will increase forest management, improve wildfire prevention, and enhance wildland fire suppression efforts to limit harmful wildfire smoke.

Therefore, we promptly request a meeting no later than July 24, 2026, to discuss what steps can be taken to address the wildfires plaguing both of our countries, any progress being made in Canada on

¹ "Michigan Air Quality Impacted by Smoke and Fires This Week," Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy, July 16, 2026, <https://www.michigan.gov/egle/newsroom/press-releases/2026/07/16/michigan-air-quality-impacted-by-smoke-and-fires-this-week>.

² Joey Oliver, "Wildfire Smoke Forces Bay City Urgent Care Facility to Close Early - Mlive.Com," mLIVE, July 15, 2026, <https://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw-bay-city/2026/07/wildfire-smoke-forces-bay-city-urgent-care-facility-to-close-early.html>.

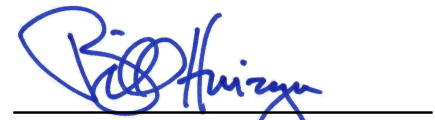
wildfire containment, prevention, and forest management, and how the United States can assist in providing active solutions to benefit Canadians and our constituents.

Canada has been a strong ally and neighbor of the United States, so we look forward to your engagement with us on this issue.

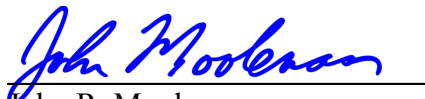
Sincerely,



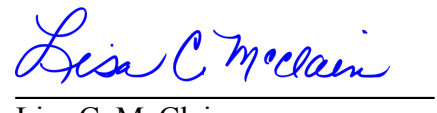
Tim Walberg
Member of Congress



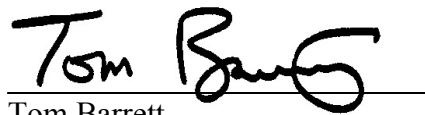
Bill Huizenga
Member of Congress



John R. Moolenaar
Member of Congress



Lisa C. McClain
Member of Congress



Tom Barrett
Member of Congress