Your Name

Address

Phone #/email

Date

To: Name & title of MCSS employee

Address

I am writing on behalf of my \_\_\_\_\_year old (son/daughter) (name) with a diagnosis of\_\_\_\_\_, which means he/she requires\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(briefly outline burden of care, one sentence). My (son/daughter) was abruptly cut off from Special Services at Home (SSAH) funding for respite services in\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (month/year) at the age of eighteen– and now, *nothing,* which is both unbelievable and unacceptable. It has been \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(outline how long you have been waiting for Passport funding) without these respite services, which were essential to our family’s well-being.

(Son/Daughter’s name) was deemed eligible by the DSO and was added to the already lengthy Passport waitlist in \_\_\_\_\_(month/year) with no indication as to how long this wait will be. This lack of transparency by the government and the unknown wait time for funding for services is both disempowering and extremely stressful for us as parents. Now 100% of the burden of care is now placed on us with no safety net of supports and no outlet for respite breaks as we face the 24/7 duties of caring for our special needs (son/daughter). If anything, these supports and respite services are even more necessary at this stage of life as we are aging and finding it more challenging to provide care.

We believe by creating a waitlist for Passport funding, MCSS is being negligent in their fiduciary responsibility and in their promises to deliver services to developmentally disabled young adults. We believe it is a violation of their human rights according to the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, by creating a gap in funding and service delivery and denying these supports and services seamlessly.

We have contacted our local DSO & CSCN offices to confirm the waitlist that our (son/daughter) is on. I have filed a formal complaint with the Ombudsman Ontario office. As parents, we simply cannot wait indefinitely for funding that we desperately need to keep our family together. It is extremely frustrating that the system is crisis-driven and does not allow for proactive planning – we want our (son/daughter) to live at home for as long as possible, but we cannot do this without this much-needed support.

My (son/daughter) is (dependent/vulnerable/non-verbal/developmentally delayed) and we must be (his/her) voice. What is MCSS going to do to address our family and (son/daughter’s) needs? When can we expect to receive his/her Passport funding, as (he/she) is finished high school in (month/year)? We would appreciate a written response to our letter responding to our specific questions outlining how and when MCSS is going to address our concerns and fulfill our current essential needs for the health and well-being of our family.

Sincerely,

Your names

(Parents/Guardian of son/daughter’s name)