Dear (candidate’s name),

Accessible reading material is essential to the economic and academic success of the estimated 1 in 10 people in Canada with print disabilities. Print disabilities include blindness, low vision, learning disabilities like dyslexia, and physical disabilities that prevent individuals from reading print books. Equitable access to reading materials also promotes social inclusion and removes barriers to essential information. And yet funding for accessible reading materials is continually under threat.

Currently only 5-7% of published materials is available in accessible formats. The federal government has a significant role in supporting equitable access to reading through organizations like CELA and NNELS to ensure that all people in Canada, regardless of how they read, can fully participate in our society and in our collective conversations. Canada must also fulfill its commitment to the Marrakesh Treaty to help eradicate the book famine around the world.

As a voter (organization) who deals with the impact of print disabilities and understands the importance of ensuring equitable access to reading materials, I am urging you and your party to commit to supporting a sustainable funding model for accessible book production to create a more inclusive Canada.

Thank you,