



**Hon. Kerry-Lynne D. Findlay, P.C., Q.C., M.P.**  
*South Surrey—White Rock*

April 7, 2020

The Hon. François-Philippe Champagne  
Minister of Foreign Affairs  
Parliament Buildings  
Ottawa, ON

**Re: Repatriation of British Columbians Stranded in India**

Dear Minister,

I would like to foremost thank you, your team, and the Ministry as a whole for all your hard work in bringing back home thousands of Canadians who were left stranded in countries scattered across the globe. I know that was not an easy task, and on behalf of my constituents and myself – thank you for your efforts.

The reason why I am writing to you today is to raise the concerns of many of my own constituents who are currently stranded in India. Due to the current travel restrictions domestically and abroad, it is becoming increasingly more difficult for Canadian citizens to return home via commercial means. The majority of residents trapped are not close to or near Mumbai or Delhi, but almost all are located in the Punjab region of India.

Further to the Government of Canada's suggestion that private citizens should arrange travel home through Mumbai and Delhi, the costs associated with this method of transport have risen exponentially in recent days. It is not fiscally reasonable to assume South Surrey – White Rock constituents and other Canadian citizens abroad can afford to do so – as this would entail a 5-10 hour drive under normal circumstances in addition to the time associated with returning home.

As discussions continue between the Indian and Canadian Governments, please advocate that flights be allowed to depart the Punjab region – more specifically, out of cities such as Chandigarh and Amritsar, in addition to Mumbai and Delhi. Please look to find options that are reasonably costed,

because the burden on a family of 3 or 4 to get back can be presently prohibitive. These adjustments in arrangement would have a direct impact on Canadians in my constituency and across our country that are currently unable to return home.

I look forward to your response and thank you for your continued efforts.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kerry-Lynne D. Findlay". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

The Honourable Kerry-Lynne D. Findlay, P.C., Q.C.

Member of Parliament for South Surrey—White Rock