Dear [INSERT CANDIDATE NAME],

As mayor of [INSERT CITY/TOWN/VILLAGE NAME], I am writing to you about your party’s stance on a number of important issues facing Saskatchewan’s urban municipalities — our hometowns.

Our hometowns are engines of economic growth. From cities and towns to villages, resort villages, and northern municipalities, our communities have the greatest potential to drive growth and provide opportunity.

While this is a federal election campaign, I strongly believe that local issues are federal issues, as strong urban municipalities are the foundation of a strong national economy. Federal governments need to work with our communities to:

1. Create a new federal-municipal relationship where municipalities are given the agency to manage their assets and make meaningful investments through the Gas-Tax and Cannabis Excise Tax revenues;
2. Give municipalities the tools to build climate-resilient infrastructure, manage and plan for natural disasters, and reduce and remove plastic waste; and
3. Provide a seat at the table for municipalities to meaningfully engage in infrastructure planning and prioritization of projects, and develop infrastructure funding structures that offer consistent funding, regardless of political changes.

Our community, alongside others across Saskatchewan — and indeed the nation — believes there are several key areas where the federal government could make the biggest impact on the future success of our communities, and in turn, our residents. We are interested in hearing where your party stands on the following issues:

**A New Federal-Municipal Relationship:**

1. **Federally mandating the distribution of 33 per cent of cannabis excise tax revenues to municipalities**. The Federal-Provincial-Territorial Agreement on Cannabis Taxation recognized the need for sustained cooperation between federal, provincial, and municipal governments. It also obligated provinces to work with municipalities according to shared responsibilities towards legalization. The provinces of Alberta, Ontario, and Quebec have acknowledged that municipalities need help with the transition and are providing funding.
2. **Permanently doubling the Gas-Tax Fund** to provide municipalities the capacity to address infrastructure deficits in their communities and give municipalities the potential to build stronger communities.

**Building Sustainable Communities:**

1. **Reinvesting in the Joint Emergency Preparedness Program (JEPP)** to ensure municipal fire departments and other emergency responders have access to the equipment required to respond to emergencies as safely and effectively as possible.
2. Providing communities with **access to national climate research and risk assessment tools, as well as funding to build and adapt climate resilient infrastructure.**
3. **Re-opening of the Canadian Emergency Management College** to provide comprehensive, collaborative, and inter-jurisdictional training for municipal and provincial emergency responders.
4. **Committing to upholding and following through with the 2021 single-use plastic ban** to help municipalities improve management and reduction of plastic waste.

**A Say in Infrastructure Funding:**

1. **Establishing a seat at the table for municipalities to provide input on infrastructure priorities**. Currently, municipalities are unable to provide meaningful input into what types of infrastructure projects their residents are asking them to provide.
2. **Turning the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program into a permanent, long-term, sustainable, and predictable infrastructure program** that increases the overall amount of funding available for municipal infrastructure projects, does not limit the types of projects that can be funded, and allows municipalities to choose priority projects.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. I look forward to hearing more about your party’s stance on these issues. They are vital to our urban municipalities — our hometowns and yours — and the very people you will serve, should you have the honour of being elected to the House of Commons on October 21.

Sincerely,

Mayor [INSERT NAME]

[CITY/TOWN/VILLAGE] of [NAME]