**For Immediate Release**

**NEWS RELEASE**

**[INSERT RIDING NAME] All-Candidates Debate highlights community concerns [OPTIONAL: ahead of the upcoming election]**

*Candidates committed to driving change in [INSERT COMMITMENT AREA: affordability, climate change, housing, healthcare…]*

**[CITY/LOCATION]** – On [Weekday, Debate Date], community members from [list local groups that hosted the debate] in [Riding Name] hosted a non-partisan, all-candidates debate on the environment [***if online***: via (Platform Name - Zoom, etc) / ***if in-person***: at (Venue Name) ].

The debate drew in [INSERT number of attendees if significant] constituents from across the riding who were eager to put community-level concerns front and centre as campaigning for the [insert upcoming election - i.e. 2021 Federal Election] goes underway. Participating candidates included [list candidates’ names and parties – i.e. “Jack Smith of the GPC/LPC/NDP/CPC”]. [IF APPLICABLE: Though invited, the candidate(s) from the GPC/LPC/NDP/CPC did not confirm their attendance in time for the debate.]

The candidates elaborated on a number of prominent issues facing [Riding Name] and the [country/province/city] at large, including [list topics discussed: housing, affordability, climate change]. The debate saw active engagement between candidates and audience members alike, with candidates sparring over [list issues of contention/any significant discussions] – providing some encouragement to attendees that these issues are being taken seriously.

[SAMPLE QUOTE - REPLACE WITH YOUR OWN: "This debate sent a message to candidates that voters' top priority issues like affordability are deeply interconnected with the health of our environment. Nothing will impact affordability more than climate change, and voters here expect action," said local organizer (insert name) ]. Recognizing this, candidates provided clear commitments when it came to addressing issues of relevance to [Riding Name], such as [IF APPLICABLE: list significant candidate commitments].

This debate highlighted how important it is that constituents hear directly from the politicians seeking to represent them so that they can make an informed decision on voting day and ensure promises are followed through. You can watch this debate in full at [insert link if applicable: FB event page, Youtube Link, etc].

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**ABOUT [YOUR ORGANIZATION/RIDING]**

[Include 1-2 sentences about the organization and riding]

**[Names of Organizers/Comms Person]**

Name, Riding/Organization, Phone Number, Email Address

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