

The Honourable Melanie Joly, P.C., M.P.

Minister of Industry and Minister responsible for Canada Economic
Development for Quebec Regions
235 Queen St
Ottawa ON K1A 0H5

December 5, 2025

An Open Letter to Minister of Industry and Minister responsible for Canada Economic
Development for Quebec Regions Melanie Joly on the Need to Select a Strong Commissioner
of Competition Who Fights Monopolies

Dear Minister Joly,

On behalf of the undersigned 4,715 Canadians, OpenMedia—a community-based non-profit with over 230,000 members dedicated to keeping the Internet open, affordable, and surveillance-free—is calling on you to appoint a Competition Commissioner with a strong record of fighting for the public interest who will stand up to corporate monopolies.

Canada is facing a competition crisis. Everyday Canadians feel it through high living costs, products built to fail, and increasingly terrible AI-driven customer services. Too many Canadian markets are dominated by a few players who raise prices, stifle innovation, push workers into insecure gig jobs, and block better choices from reaching Canadians.

Competition is what keeps our economy fair, affordable, and dynamic. When markets work, people benefit from fairer prices, better products, and real innovation. But over the past two decades, corporate concentration has surged across telecom, groceries, transportation, banking, and digital markets. In sector after sector, Canadians are paying more while getting less.

That's why the upcoming appointment of Canada's next Competition Commissioner is so critical. This decision will shape whether our country continues sliding deeper into a monopoly-driven economy—or whether Canada finally has a watchdog willing to challenge entrenched corporate power.

Canada's newly strengthened competition laws, passed in 2023, have enormous potential. But they only matter if we have a Commissioner who is willing to fully enforce them, investigate abuses of dominance, scrutinize harmful mergers, and take on monopolies that have grown far too powerful for far too long. Without a strong Commissioner, the new competition tools your government rightly created will sit unused while prices rise and choices shrink.

Your public commitment to improving competition has set a clear expectation that must now be fulfilled. This appointment is your opportunity to deliver on that vision by choosing a Commissioner who will:

- Defend consumers, workers, and small businesses;
- Take on monopolies in both digital and traditional markets;

- Conduct market studies that document abuse of market power and issue corrective judgments and penalties for this conduct;
- Stop harmful mergers before they damage our economy,
- Order structural separations in already overly concentrated industries; and
- Champion fair, open, and competitive markets across Canada.

A Competition Commissioner must serve the public interest, not the interests of the most powerful corporations in the country. We respectfully urge you to appoint a Commissioner who will fight for fair prices, more consumer choice, and a stronger, more competitive future for Canada.

We have attached the names of 4,715 Canadians in support of this call. Should you wish to explore our perspective further, we would welcome the opportunity for continued dialogue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matt".

Matt Hatfield
Executive Director, OpenMedia
matt@openmedia.org

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jenna".

Jenna Fung
Senior Campaigner, OpenMedia
jenna@openmedia.org

APPENDIX A: Petition text and signatures

Canada Needs a Commissioner Who Fights Monopolies

*OpenMedia is a community-based organization that safeguards
the possibilities of the open Internet.*

December 5, 2025



APPENDIX A: Petition text and signatures.

OpenMedia and 4,715 community members call on the Minister of Industry and the Minister responsible for Canada Economic Development for Quebec Regions to appoint a Competition Commissioner who will stand up to corporate monopolies.

To: Minister of Industry and Minister responsible for Canada Economic Development for Quebec Regions

Canada is facing a competition crisis. Everyday Canadians feel it through high living costs, with telecom companies charging some of the highest prices in the world. Products are built to fail, and too many markets are dominated by a few players who raise prices, stifle innovation, push workers into insecure gig jobs, and block better choices from reaching Canadians.

Strong competition policy is essential for everyday affordability and for Canada's economic sovereignty. We need a Commissioner who will stand up to both foreign and domestic monopolies in defense of consumers, workers, and businesses—a leader with a clear, public vision for using competition law to stop harmful mergers and abuses of dominance.

We urge you to appoint a Commissioner who will fight for ordinary Canadians and stop monopolies from consolidating entire industries, abusing their customers, and bending the rules of the economy in their favour.

Sincerely,

4,715 undersigned