



SVEN SPENGMANN

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A MESSAGE FROM YOUR MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT:

Dear Friends and Neighbours,

It remains our government's top priority to keep Canadians safe, healthy and financially supported. More than 44 million vaccine doses have been administered, and we've delivered more than 53 million doses to the provinces and territories. I would like to thank all those who have continued to follow public health guidelines to keep our community safe.

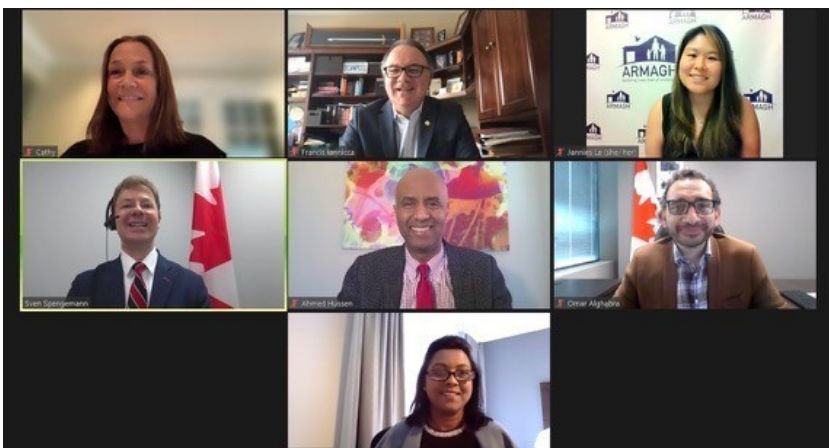
I would also like to thank everyone who has written to me, and called to ask questions, to advocate, to voice concerns, and to offer recommendations. Some of the questions our office has received most frequently are addressed in this bulletin.

Over the course of the spring, we have been confronted with difficult realities of historic and present-day injustices and racism, and I would like to acknowledge everyone who

has connected with me to express support for the work to defend human rights, to fight injustice and to achieve reconciliation. We must seize this opportunity to listen to each other, to learn and to come together as human beings, as communities and as a country, relentless in defending the values that unite us. By working together, with genuine commitment and urgency, we will build a better Canada.

My team and I will continue to listen closely to you as we head into the late summer months. We are here to provide you with important, up-to-date information on federal services and programs and to answer any questions you may have.

My best wishes to you and your loved ones,



Through the Rapid Housing Initiative, a \$32.75 million investment was made for the construction of ~77 affordable homes in the Region of Peel. This includes \$2.3 million for the Armagh Housing Expansion project, which will provide 10 new transitional housing units for women and their children fleeing domestic violence in our community.



Curb-side pick-up for the Mississauga-Lakeshore Constituency Youth Council's annual toiletries drive to continue to support the Compass Food Bank.

KEEPING CANADIANS SUPPORTED

To help ensure that no one is left behind as our economy starts to recover, we have:

- Extended EI sickness benefits from 15 to 26 weeks
- Maintained flexible access to EI benefits for an additional year, until the fall of 2022
- Extended the number of weeks available under the Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit
- Extended the Canada Recovery Benefit and the Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit by an additional 12 weeks, until September 25

SUPPORTING CANADIAN BUSINESSES

Small businesses are the cornerstone of our communities, and have been among the hardest hit by the pandemic. We have seen businesses stepping up to support our community time and time again. Our businesses deserve the same support they have demonstrated.

To date, more than 5.3 million Canadians were able to keep their jobs and 162,000 organizations pay their rent because of programs like the Wage Subsidy, the Rent Subsidy, and the Lockdown Support.

Our government will help them get ready for recovery by:

- Introducing the Canada Recovery

Hiring Program for businesses to hire back staff and hire on new staff to help recover faster

- Improving the **Canada Digital Adoption Program** to help small businesses go digital, adopt technology and stay competitive
- Improving the **Canada Small Business Financing Program** to increase maximum loan amount and expand eligibility
- Reducing credit card transaction fees
- **Removing barriers to trade** between provinces and territories
- Investing in the regional development agencies to ensure we **create jobs and growth in every part of the country**



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@SvenTrueNorth

On #WorldParliamentDay, we have an opportunity, as parliamentarians, to amplify the urgent call for global #ClimateAction and to set the path for #NetZeroBy2050. #Glasgow @COP26 @IPUparliament @JohnKerry @BGIPU @SDGaction @UNFCCC #COP26 @EUinCanada @PARLASUR

UN Climate Change @... · 2021-06-30

Record #heat 🌡️

The exceptional heatwave in 🇨🇦 has broken all-time temperature records for the third straight day.

To stop extreme weather events from becoming ever more frequent & strong, countries must kick-start a decade of #ClimateAction at #COP26.

by @ScottDuncanWX

How will the government be held to its commitment to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050?

I heard from many of you on the urgency of Bill C-12, *The Canadian Net-Zero Emissions Accountability Act*, which is now law (June 2021), and I would like to thank you for your continued leadership on environmental protection. This legislation will hold the federal government to its commitment to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050, and to exceeding our 2030 Paris target.

This act has robust accountability and transparency, including:

- A requirement to put in place a target and **establish an emissions reduction plan**, both to be tabled in Parliament, within six months of coming in force of this Act
- A **legally-binding process** for the federal government to **set climate targets**, and bring forward ambitious climate plans every five years between 2030 and 2050
- A **2030 progress report** which must be tabled before the end of 2027



- An annual report detailing how the federal government is **managing the financial risks of climate change** – and the opportunities
 - **Enshrining the role of Indigenous Knowledge** in the climate accountability process
- “Canada’s new net-zero law provides the long-term confidence and certainty required to attract investment and ensure that Canadians are delivering products and services that will be in high demand the world over, now and well into the future. **Climate change is the biggest long-term threat of our generation, but it is also the greatest economic opportunity.**” – Hon. Jonathan Wilkinson, Minister of Environment and Climate Change

How will the federal government support seniors through the recovery phase of COVID-19?

Many residents and organizations like the **Mississauga Seniors Council** and the **International Longevity Centre Canada** are doing important work, including to address the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on seniors, and I would like to thank everyone for taking the time to connect with me on this increasingly important issue. Our government has taken decisive action to help ensure that seniors are supported throughout and beyond the pandemic. Among other supports, our government has **increased the Old Age Security (OAS) benefit by 10% for seniors age 75 and older, proposed \$3 billion over 5 years to improve the quality of life of seniors, national standards for long-term care, and \$90 million to support seniors aging well at home.**

The tourism industry, including independent travel agents, has been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19—how is the federal government going to support them through this phase?

Canada’s tourism sector has been among the hardest hit through the pandemic and faces the longest path to recovery because of ongoing public health and travel restrictions. I would like to acknowledge that there has also been a disproportionate impact on certain groups, including independent travel agents, majority of whom are women, and have experienced a particularly challenging 1.5 years.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, the Government of Canada has provided **over \$15.4 billion in direct supports to the tourism sector**. Budget 2021 committed an **additional \$1 billion to help the tourism sector prepare to welcome domestic travelers and reposition Canada as a world-class destination**. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, tourism was at an all-time high, with several record-breaking years in terms of revenue generation and number of tourists visiting Canada.

The additional \$1 billion to help the sector, includes the **Tourism Relief Fund**. The Tourism Relief Fund is a **\$500 million investment to support tourism-related businesses and organizations** severely impacted by the pandemic. This Fund will support businesses and organizations to **adapt their operations to public health measures** while investing in products and services to facilitate future growth.

Indigenous communities that rely heavily on tourism have also been disproportionately affected by COVID-19. We are committed to investing a minimum of **\$50 million towards Indigenous tourism projects**.

Can you provide a progress update on how the federal government is improving access to clean drinking water in First Nations communities?

We have received many questions in the last weeks about the progress to end long-term boil water advisories in Indigenous communities. Below, you will find the progress since 2015:

- 108 long-term drinking advisories lifted
- 183 short-term advisories lifted
- 535 water infrastructure projects (incl. 99 treatment plants)
- \$4.3 billion invested

To date, 51 advisories remain, of which 14 have been completed and are waiting on approval. Further, 33 of are under construction, 2 are in the design phase and 2 are subject to a feasibility study.

For the most up-to-date information, please visit:
www.sac-isc.gc.ca

I invite you to read:

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s final report:
<https://www.rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca/\eng/1450124405592/1529106060525>

Reclaiming Power and Place: The Final Report of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls: <https://www.mmiwg-ffada.ca/final-report/>

“
I am calling on all States to stop denying and start dismantling racism; to end impunity and build trust.
”

28 June 2021—Michelle Bachelet
United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights