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HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
CANADA

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SIMCOE NORTH SUMMER UPDATE

Dear Friends,

At the time of writing this update, the first session of the 44th Parliament is nearing an end. It will resume in September, with much more work to be done. It is a good time therefore to reflect on the issues facing Simcoe North, across Canada and the rest of the world.



The unprovoked war by the Russian Federation in Ukraine has shaken the world. The images of destruction, despair and war crimes cannot go unanswered.

The courage of the Ukrainian people as they defend their homeland and independence is inspiring. Ukraine is not only defending itself against a Russian invasion, Ukraine is standing up for the principles upon which western society has been built. Justice, the rule of law, democracy and freedom.

I applaud the Prime Minister for offering aid and support to Ukraine. However, I support our government in doing even more in areas of military and humanitarian aid so that we may stand beside our Ukrainian friends. There is more we can and must do. This includes warmly welcoming refugees staying in our communities.

Cost of Living Crisis

Nationally, affordability and inflation are

significant concerns. Inflation has not been this high for over 30 years. The war in Ukraine has further impacted energy and other commodity prices, but inflation was already running at 25 year highs before Russia's invasion.

Inflation hurts everyone, especially the most vulnerable and those whose wages will not keep up with the cost of living. It acts like another tax, causing our dollars to purchase less and less. Higher gas prices and higher prices overall have meant greater tax revenues for the government. I have asked the government to return some of these windfall revenues to Canadians in the form of GST cuts, tax rebates or tax holidays, especially on gasoline and diesel. Since these extra government revenues come from Canadians, I think it is time for the government to give Canadians a break.

Of course, supply chain issues relating to COVID and the war are responsible for some of the inflation we see, but so too have been soaring housing prices and excess government spending. Before the budget, experts warned the government that additional spending would create more inflationary pressure. This is why I criticized the most recent budget for increasing government spending 25% annually over pre-pandemic levels.

Instead of making tough decisions on which programs Canadians can afford during the post-pandemic recovery, the Government has said YES to everything and taken on even more debt.

(continued)

SUMMER 2022

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The kids and me at this year's Coldwater Duck Race. Summer events are bursting out all over Simcoe North. I encourage everyone to get involved, and get back to our families, friends and communities.—Adam

This is not sustainable. We must show restraint in certain areas so that we have the funds to spend on the areas that are most important (healthcare, social transfers, support for families and seniors and defense).

Indeed, the budget sets aside significant new money for dental care and childcare. It is not that these social issues do not deserve funding, but if these are priorities, the government should review its internal spending (almost \$400B annually) to find money from out-of-date programs to redirect towards these new priorities.

A Call For More All-Party Collaboration

Finally, minority parliaments require some collaboration to pass legislation. Opposition parties have worked together, sometimes with or without the support of the government, to better serve the interests of Canada.

For example, opposition parties on the Finance Committee, teamed up to cut COVID 19 supports to publicly traded companies that also pay dividends. As of December 2021, taxpayers had already paid over \$6B dollars to these companies that did not need support. As a member of the Finance Committee, I was proud to work with my colleagues to stop this waste.

Separately, all opposition parties (NDP, Bloc and Green) voted to pass a Conservative Private Members Bill to provide much needed relief from the carbon tax to Canadian farmers. In both cases, I have enjoyed being part of this cooperation to see legislation that better reflects the interests of Canada and Simcoe North.

My role as M.P. has taught me a lot in my first 8 months. I wake up every morning excited to serve constituents of Simcoe North and know there is a lot of work still to do and more to learn.

I look forward to seeing you all over the summer recess as we get back to reengaging with our communities. Have fun, be patient with each other and support our local businesses.

Have a wonderful summer.



Let's all Get Back

to our lives, our work,
our families & friends.

Here are just a few of
the local summer
activities to look for.

Check with event
organizers for details



Hope to see you there!

Canada Day, July 1, 2022

- Community parades and events all across Simcoe North

Mariposa Folk Festival, July 8-10 2022

- Open air concert in Tudhope Park , Orillia

Orillia Scottish Festival, July 15-17, 2022

- Parade and events at Couchiching Beach Park

10th Annual Ramara Classic Car Show, July 16, 2022

- Open air car show. Brechin Marine, Lagoon City

Festival du Loup, July 16, 2022

- Celebration of Francophone and Metis cultural heritage. Lafontaine

All Things Canadian Festival, July 23-24, 2022

- Street festival celebrating our diverse heritage and cultures. Downtown Penetanguishene

Boots & Hearts 2022, August 4-7, 2022

- Summer's biggest country music festival. Burl's Creek Event Grounds, Oro Station.

Coldwater Steampunk Festival, August 5-6, 2022

- Street Fair with crafts and demonstrations

22nd Annual Classic Car Show, August 13, 2022

- Open air car show and entertainment. Downtown Orillia

ODAS Fall Fair, September 10, 2022

- Orillia & District Agricultural Society. ODAS Park

Canadian Martyrs Feast Day, September 24, 2022

Historical observance. Martyrs Shrine, Tay Township