



TONY Van Bynen
Member of Parliament Newmarket-Aurora

Fall Economic Statement 2020

This has been a busy week, a week of cautious optimism and hope that the much-anticipated roll out of a COVID-19 vaccine is close at hand.

We know that there are difficult months ahead, with restrictions on gathering with loved ones, friends and community. Governments at all levels are struggling with the choice of lockdowns, restricting economic activity and freedoms we cherish. But I honestly believe they do so with the health and safety of their constituents as their guiding principle.

At the federal level, our government has invested \$1 Billion in vaccine agreements and secured a supply of up to 429 million doses of promising COVID-19 vaccine candidates. Canada has the most diverse portfolio of any country. We are working diligently with the provinces and territories, the Canadian Armed Forces, and manufacturers to ensure that when a vaccine is ready, we will be ready. Our approach has always been informed by science and evidence to ensure the health and safety of Canadians.

This week, the Honourable Chrystia Freeland, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, released Supporting Canadians and Fighting COVID-19: Fall Economic Statement 2020, which outlines our plan on how we will continue to protect Canadians' health, jobs and the economy.

The Fall Economic Statement proposes new measures to see Canadians through the pandemic and support a robust and resilient recovery, including the following measures:

To fight COVID-19, investments in testing and tracing, procurement of personal protective equipment, and a suite of measures to protect people in long-term care, and \$150 million to improve ventilation in public buildings and help reduce the spread of COVID-19.

To support businesses big and small through the second wave, increasing the maximum rate of the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy to 75 per cent for the period beginning December 20, 2020, extending this rate until March 13, 2021, and extending the current rates of the Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy and Lockdown Support until March 13, 2021. Both programs will be there for businesses until June 2021.

To support Canada's hardest-hit industries, like tourism, hotels, arts and culture, and the air sector, new supports will include the new Highly Affected Sectors Credit Availability Program.

We will continue to support Canadians, keeping their health and safety at the forefront of our decision making.

[Read the Fall Economic Statement](#)

Fall Economic Statement Highlights



Fighting COVID-19

We are fighting a virulent second wave of COVID-19, but we are better prepared than we were last spring. We have the PPE we need to protect nurses, doctors and front-line workers. And we are procuring more.

Canada has secured up to 429 million doses of seven COVID-19 vaccine candidates: Pfizer, Moderna, Johnson & Johnson, Sanofi and GlaxoSmithKline (GSK), Medicago, Novavax, and Oxford-AstraZeneca. This is the most extensive and diverse vaccine portfolio of any country.

Every Canadian can be confident they will have access to an effective vaccine, for free, once it's ready.

[More information](#)

Building Back Better

We are planning a program of meaningful, targeted stimulus – up to 3 to 4 per cent of GDP, over three years – to foster a strong, greener, more inclusive, more resilient and more competitive economic recovery.

Measures in this fall economic statement are a down payment on this plan.

Our recovery from COVID-19 must leave no one behind. Investments to build back a better economy include: putting climate action at the centre of our plan to create a million jobs, bolstering training support for those hit hardest by the pandemic, and helping homeowners make energy-efficient improvements to their homes.

[More information](#)



Supporting Canadians through the pandemic

Since this crisis began, our government has supported public health, provided direct income supports to Canadians, and bridged businesses through the crisis. It will continue to do so well into 2021.

Our government is putting in place further support for Canadian families and businesses as they fight the second wave of the virus.

This includes providing immediate relief to Canadians, creating new streams of supports for businesses and eliminating interest on the federal portion of student loans.

Our actions have stabilized the economy. Almost 80 per cent of the jobs lost at the outset of the pandemic have been recouped, compared with about half in the United States.

[More information](#)

Supporting Provinces and Territories

Eight of every ten dollars spent in Canada to fight COVID-19 and support Canadians has been spent by the federal government.

Through the Safe Restart Agreement, we invested over \$19 billion to help provinces and territories invest in contact tracing and testing to help prevent the spread of the virus and increased hospitalizations.

Our government is setting new, national standards for long-term care, and providing \$1 billion for safe, long-term care across Canada to ensure our seniors are safe, respected and living in dignity.

We will continue working with the provinces and territories, municipalities, Indigenous communities, and public health officials as Team Canada to make sure Canadians are safe.

[More information](#)



Tourism and Hospitality

Approximately 750,000 workers depend on tourism, hospitality, travel, and arts and culture. Small and medium sized businesses dominate the tourism sector and employ a higher proportion of youth, women and Indigenous Peoples.

To date, approximately \$9.7 billion is estimated to have flowed to businesses in these sectors through the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy, Canada Emergency Business Account and the Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance program.

Our government is creating a new stream of credit support for businesses in these sectors to help ensure they remain viable and in place to drive future economic growth.

[More information](#)

A Prudent Fiscal Plan

Canada entered this pandemic with the strongest fiscal position of any G7 country, and we retain that position today.

We are taking on debt so Canadian households and families do not have to, preventing households from going bankrupt, and businesses from permanently shutting their doors.

At the same time, the COVID-19 debt is affordable, with debt-servicing costs at a 100-year low, which we are locking in over the long-term.

Canadians understand that this crisis demands targeted, time-limited support to keep people and businesses afloat and to build our way out of the COVID-19 recession.

[More information](#)



Thank you, small businesses!

It was an honour to rise in the House to recognize the small businesses that are the backbone of our local economy in Newmarket-Aurora.

A special thanks also to the Newmarket Chamber of Commerce and the Aurora Chamber of Commerce for their continuous support to our local business owners throughout these challenging times.

[Watch my full statement](#)

MP Van Bynen in Committee



Asking Minister Hajdu about investments in Mental Health

The Honourable Patty Hajdu, Minister of Health, appeared before the Health Committee recently to answer questions from the members.

I continue to advocate on this important issue and asked her what our government is doing to support Canadians during these difficult times.

[Watch](#)

Finding out the Facts and Myths about the PMPRB Guidelines

The Health Committee began to study the [Patented Medicines Prices Review Board Guidelines](#) set to take effect on January 1, 2021.

Many of us are not familiar with PMPRB, so I asked Mr. Doug Clark from the PMPRB Board to share some facts and myths about the updated regulations.

[Watch](#)

Learning how to Break the Stigma Surrounding Mental Health

Experts from across the country had an opportunity to talk about the impact of COVID-19 on the mental health of Canadians.

Dr. Peter Cornish, from Stepped Care Solutions, answered my question on how to break the stigma surrounding mental health and encouraging Canadians to seek help.

[Watch](#)

Helping our community this Holiday Season

 <p>The Salvation Army</p> <p>The Salvation Army (Aurora Corps) is working to help rescue the holidays for those facing poverty, hunger and job loss.</p> <p>This holiday season, they are working to help place presents under the tree, put food on the table, pay bills and provide shelter to those without a home.</p> <p>Your support helps ensure people meet their greatest needs!</p> <p>Aurora Corps</p>	 <p>York Region Food Network</p> <p>There are a number of local food organizations committed to offering healthy and dignified food programs in our community.</p> <p>This holiday season, please consider making a donation to one of our local food pantries to ensure every family has the opportunity to have a holiday meal.</p> <p>Your support makes a difference in our community!</p> <p>York Region Emergency Food Resources</p>	 <p>Women's Centre of York Region</p> <p>The WCYR helps women who have identified the need and the desire to bring positive change into their lives.</p> <p>Through a multi-dimensional approach, the WCYR helps women in our community feel empowered and believe they can live to their full potential.</p> <p>Your support brings a positive change to their lives!</p> <p>WCYR</p>
--	--	---

[Local organizations in need of support this holiday season](#)

<p>Constituency Office</p> <p>Main office - Newmarket 16600 Bayview Avenue Suite 202 Newmarket, Ontario L3X 1Z9</p> <p>Telephone: 905-953-7515 Fax: 905-953-7527</p>	<p>Hill Office</p> <p>House of Commons * Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6 Justice Building Suite: 09</p> <p>Telephone: 613-992-9310 Fax: 613-992-9407</p> <p><small>* Mail may be sent postage-free to any member of Parliament.</small></p>
---	--

