



# TONY Van Bynen

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## Share Your Views on How to Grow Canada's Economy

Last week, Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister Chrystia Freeland and Minister Middle Class Prosperity and Associate Finance Minister Mona Fortier launched pre-budget consultations for Budget 2021. This is an opportunity for Canadians to share their thoughts about how the government can make investments to grow our economy.

We want to hear the best ideas from individuals and experts across sectors and across the country on how Budget 2021 can support Canadians through the pandemic and help us build back better. We invite you to fill out a questionnaire that will provide valuable insights on stimulating job creation, strengthening and growing the middle class, and setting the stage for a robust recovery. I encourage you to visit [letstalkbudget2021.ca](http://letstalkbudget2021.ca) to join the conversation.

Indeed, this pandemic has been a setback for our economy. Once the coronavirus is under control it will be time to rebuild. When our economy is ready to absorb it, we will inject targeted stimulus funding to jump-start new economic growth. The timing will be critical, and we want to do it right.

This is why the work of identifying investments begins now. Our growth plan will create good jobs for the middle class by investing between \$70 and \$100 billion, or roughly 3 to 4 per cent of GDP, over three years. These pre-budget consultations will help inform our planning, and the measures and investments that will make up Budget 2021.

All of this depends on our success in fighting and defeating COVID-19. We will continue to support Canadians, keeping their health and safety at the forefront of our decision making. COVID-19 is still with us and still doing great harm. We are confident in our quarterly timelines for vaccinations and will continue to work with the provinces and territories to ensure every Canadian who wants a vaccine will be able to do so by the end of September this year.

Together, we can do this.

[Let's Talk Budget 2021](#)

## COVID-19 Facts and Figures



### PPE Delivery

In the last 7 days, we've delivered 1,160,000 surgical masks, and 655,500 gloves to the provinces and territories.

To date, over 15.4 million rapid tests have been shipped to the provinces and territories. The Province of Ontario has received 4,625,084.

[Learn More](#)



### Vaccination Deployment

As of January 21, 1,119,225 vaccines have been distributed to the Provinces and Territories.

The Province of Ontario has received 302,250 doses of the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine and 109,400 doses of the Moderna vaccine.

[Learn More](#)



### Vaccination Tracker

We have launched a tracker with COVID-19 vaccination information on doses administered from across Canada.

The data on vaccination coverage is also available by demographics and key populations and is updated every week.

[Learn More](#)

## New Travel Restrictions and Quarantine Requirements

To prevent new cases from coming to Canada and to protect Canadians from new variants of the virus, we have announced the following strengthened travel measures:

o Starting January 31 until April 30, Air Canada, WestJet, Sunwing, and Air Transat will suspend air services to sun destinations, including to the Caribbean and Mexico.

o Starting next week, we are strengthening measures to better control international flights by reducing them to only four airports – Vancouver (YVR), Toronto (YYZ), Calgary (YYC), and Montreal (YUL).

o In the coming weeks, there will be mandatory PCR testing at the airport for people returning to Canada. At an expense of up to \$2,000, travelers will have to wait up to three days at an approved hotel for their results.

o In the coming week, non-essential travelers will be required to show a negative test before entry at the land border with the US, and we are working to implement additional testing requirements.

More information can be found [here](#).



## Welcoming Minister Schulte to Newmarket—Aurora

I was pleased to welcome Minister of Seniors, Deb Schulte to Newmarket—Aurora for a virtual Seniors Townhall with local stakeholders and seniors.

Minister Schulte discussed the importance of better standards for long term care, the development of the New Horizons for Seniors Program, the Community Emergency Support from United Way, and the introduction of the doubled GST credit for seniors.

It is critical to engage in these conversations, so we can hear from the Minister about our government's steps to support seniors during the COVID-19 pandemic, but, most importantly, to hear from local stakeholders to listen to their concerns and priorities.

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## Speaking to our Economic Recovery in the House

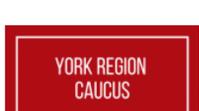
As Parliament started again this week, I was proud to virtually rise in the House to speak to Bill C-14, An Act to implement certain provisions of the economic statement tabled in Parliament on November 30, 2020 and other measures.

Our economic recovery is focused on investing in training and skills, creating an action plan for women in the economy, creating opportunities for youth, fighting systemic racism and building up our communities.

These measures are the basis of how our government's stimulus package will make smart investments that create genuine, sustained value for many years to come.

Our commitment to do whatever it takes to keep Canadians safe, healthy and solvent through the COVID-19 pandemic has always been at the heart of our plan. And we'll do it for as long as Canadians need us to.

[Watch Full Speech](#)



## York Region, Let's Talk

On Bell Let's Talk Day, York Region Members of Parliament united to share a special message about mental health.

We can all help create positive change in our communities, our workplaces and our schools. Let's work together to support one another, have difficult conversations and break the stigma.

For more mental health and wellness resources, please visit this [page](#).

[Listen to the Message](#)



## New Highly Affected Sectors Credit Availability Program for businesses

Minister Ng announced the Highly Affected Sectors Credit Availability Program (HASCAP) to provide much needed relief to hardest-hit businesses and support to workers and their families.

Through HASCAP, the Business Development Bank of Canada (BDC) will work with participating Canadian financial institutions to offer government-guaranteed, low-interest loans of up to \$1 million. Hard-hit businesses, like a chain of hotels or restaurants with multiple locations under one related entity, could be eligible for up to \$6.25 million.

HASCAP will help businesses with their day-to-day operating costs during the COVID-19 crisis and enable them to invest in their longer-term prosperity. Applications open February 1, 2021.

[Details and Eligibility](#)



## New Deadline: Canada Summer Jobs

Minister Qualtrough announced this week that the employer application for Canada Summer Jobs (CSJ) has been extended to February 3 at 3 PM.

Not-for-profit organizations, public-sector employers, and private sector employers with 50 or fewer full-time employees can start preparing their applications now to hire a young Canadian.

[Apply Today](#)



## Employment Opportunity: Census 2021

The next Census of Population will take place in May 2021 and you can be a part of collecting information that is vital for planning schools, hospitals, family services, public transportation and skills training for employment.

Statistics Canada is hiring 32,000 people across the country to help run the 2021 Census.

[Apply Today](#)



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