



TONY Van Bynen
Member of Parliament Newmarket-Aurora

Vaccines, Confirmation, and a Budget

It has been an encouraging week for news and positive announcements out of Ottawa.

Vaccines continue to dominate the news cycle and as of today **6,207,530** doses (Moderna, Pfizer, and AstraZeneca) have been delivered to the provinces and territories. In total, more than 5.1 million doses have been administered, and here in York Region 140,580 shots have found their way into the arms of residents.

Our government has met its projected commitment of 6 million doses by the end of March and will continue to ensure we have enough shots for vaccines for all Canadians who want one by the end of September - and quite possibly even sooner. Pfizer will begin to ship 1 million doses a week from now until the end of May. Moderna has advised there will be 855,000 doses delivered the week of April 5th and an additional 1.2 million doses the week of April 19th. While these updates are certainly encouraging, we must remain vigilant in protecting ourselves and others. Please do your part to stop the spread of COVID-19.

This past week, the Supreme Court of Canada confirmed the constitutionality of the federal carbon pricing law. They noted that climate change is real, that it is caused by greenhouse gas emissions resulting from human activities and poses a grave threat to our future.

Our plan to put a price on carbon pollution is one of the most effective ways to reduce greenhouse gases and stimulate investments in clean innovation. The majority of the proceeds from federal fuel charge in Ontario go back to individuals and families as Climate Action Incentive payments. For 2020, the baseline amount for a family of four is \$600, claimable when you file your income tax returns.

At the beginning of this pandemic, Canada's strong financial position allowed our government to provide unprecedented support to Canadians. On **April 19th**, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance will table Budget 2021. Following the Fall Economic Statement and an extensive budget consultation process, I am excited by the prospects of this budget and the sharing of our government's vision on building back better.

On **March 31st** at 7:00pm, I hope you will join me in a conversation about mental health, and learn about Southlake Regional Health Centre's Mental Health Campaign. This virtual event will also include Southlake Regional Health Centre President & CEO Arden Krystal and psychiatrist, Dr. Mark Katz. For more information, please contact Taylor Browne at TBrowne@southlakeregional.org.

[Information on COVID-19 in Canada](#)

COVID-19 Facts and Figures



Vaccine Deliveries to Provinces and Territories

As of March 25, we have distributed 6,178,008 to the provinces and territories, meeting our projected deliveries by the end of March.

The Province of Ontario has received a total of 2,353,665 doses - 1,686,165 doses from Pfizer, 473,000 from Moderna, and 194,500 from COVISHIELD Verity/Serum Institute of India.

This week, Canada is expected to receive a total of 3,200,000 doses of COVID-19 vaccine - 1,500,000 AstraZeneca doses via the United States, 1,200,000 Pfizer doses, and 500,400 Moderna doses.

We can also expect 6,000,000 doses to arrive in the next 3 weeks - 3,200,000 from Pfizer, 1,500,000 from AstraZeneca, and 1,400,000 from Moderna.

[Distributing Vaccines](#)



Support for Vaccines, Health Care, and Municipalities

Since the start of the pandemic, we have been working closely with provinces, territories, municipalities and Indigenous communities to fight against COVID-19, support Canadians and businesses and keep Canadians safe and healthy.

In recognition of the extraordinary pressures faced by all orders of government and communities during the ongoing pandemic, we introduced Bill C-25.

This legislation will provide \$7.2 billion in additional support to Canadians, and the funding will support health care needs, including the roll-out of the COVID-19 vaccine, and local infrastructure projects in our community.

We will continue to support Canadians and their communities as we prepare to rebuild our post-pandemic economy.

[More Information](#)



Upcoming Event: A Conversation with Southlake about Mental Health

I invite you to join us in conversation about mental health and to learn about Southlake Regional Health Centre's Mental Health Campaign with President & CEO Arden Krystal and psychiatrist, Dr. Mark Katz.

Please contact Taylor Browne at TBrowne@southlakeregional.org or 905-836-7333 for more information.

When: Wednesday, March 31 at 7:00 pm
Where: Zoom link below

[Join the conversation!](#)

Recent Announcements from your Federal Government



Supreme Court confirms the constitutionality of pollution pricing

Since 2019, we have ensured pollution isn't free anywhere in Canada. Last week, the Supreme Court confirmed that the federal carbon pricing law is constitutional. They noted that global warming causes harm beyond provincial boundaries and that it is a matter of national concern.

Climate change is real and it affects each and every one of us. This price on pollution is not a carbon tax. Through pollution pricing rebates, it puts more money back into the pockets of Canadians. Our comprehensive climate plan will ensure we exceed our climate goals for the first time in history.

[More Information](#)

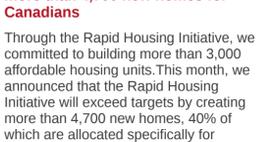


Over 1.3 million Canadians lifted out of poverty since 2015

With Canada's first-ever National Poverty Reduction Strategy, we are making progress towards reducing poverty in Canada by 50% by 2030. According to the 2019 Canadian Income Survey, the poverty rate continues to decline and income inequality is at its lowest level since 1995.

Since 2015, over 1.3 million Canadians, including 435,000 children and 45,000 seniors, have been lifted out of poverty. We know there's still more to do and we'll continue to work to ensure every Canadian has a real and fair chance to succeed.

[More Information](#)



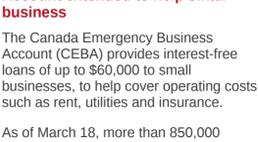
Rapid Housing Initiative will create more than 4,700 new homes for Canadians

Through the Rapid Housing Initiative, we committed to building more than 3,000 affordable housing units. This month, we announced that the Rapid Housing Initiative will exceed targets by creating more than 4,700 new homes, 40% of which are allocated specifically for Indigenous Peoples.

Every Canadian deserves a safe and affordable place to call home. By making smart investments in affordable housing, we can help the most vulnerable, strengthen our communities, and create jobs and economic growth.

Since 2015, we have invested more than \$22 billion to provide more than 1 million homes for Canadian families.

[More Information](#)



Canada Emergency Business Account extended to help small business

The Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA) provides interest-free loans of up to \$60,000 to small businesses, to help cover operating costs such as rent, utilities and insurance.

As of March 18, more than 850,000 CEBA loans have been approved, representing nearly \$45 billion in credit disbursed.

On March 22, we announced a new deadline for new applications for CEBA loans of \$60,000 or new applications for the additional \$20,000 for businesses that have received the \$40,000 loan.

The application period is being extended from March 31 to June 30, 2021.

[More Information](#)

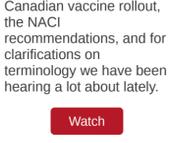
Supporting Post-Secondary Students across Canada

Investment in students means investing in our future. That's why since day one, we've been focused on giving students the tools they need to transition into the workforce and help grow the middle class.

We know that post-secondary students across Canada are facing unprecedented challenges. This is why we launched a suite of measures that included direct financial support, funding to double Canada Student Grants, a temporary moratorium on Student Loans and investments that allow students to gain the experience they need to start their careers.

Our government will always be there to support young Canadians through these challenging times and into our economic recovery. Young people are not only the leaders of tomorrow, they are the leaders of today!

Tony in the House



Information on COVID-19 vaccines

On March 12, the Honourable Patty Hajdu, Minister of Health, and Public Health Officials, including Dr. Theresa Tam and Major-General Dany Fortin, appeared before the Health Committee.

I had the opportunity to ask them about the Canadian vaccine rollout, the NACI recommendations, and for clarifications on terminology we have been hearing a lot about lately.

[Watch](#)



Supports for Canadian Businesses

On March 23, I participated in discussions in the House about the Conservative Opposition Motion.

I ensured Canadians that government will continue to deploy the necessary fiscal firepower to fight the pandemic and then to recover strongly, while continuing to manage its finances prudently, retaining its low-debt advantage among G7 peers.

[Watch](#)



A National Framework for Diabetes

On March 26, the Health Committee had an opportunity to look at Bill C-237 - A National Framework for Diabetes and ask MP Sidhu, Diabetes Canada, and Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation about the importance of this bill.

I am proud to be a joint seconder for this bill, and was pleased to see it pass unanimously in the House.

[Watch](#)

Bill C-7: Medical Assistance in Dying

Many constituents have recently written to me about Bill C-7: *An Act to amend the Criminal Code (medical assistance in dying)*. It is an important issue and I know many people feel deeply about its implications for very personal reasons.

Some of you have written to me with concerns about the implications of Bill C-7 on people who suffer from mental illness, and I would like to provide some clarification on this matter.

The Bill as passed provides for further study over the next two years to develop standards regarding eligibility for people who suffer from mental illness before these changes come into effect. Additionally, a sunset clause is included in the Bill to exclude persons whose sole underlying medical condition is a mental illness.

These issues and concerns will be examined during the parliamentary review of the MAID regime. We expect that this review will address the difficult questions of mental illness as the sole underlying criterion, advance requests and the case of mature minors.

Filing for the 2020 Tax Year

As a result of COVID-19, this tax season is like no other, but we are working hard to assist taxpayers experiencing tax-related concerns or financial hardships due to the pandemic. Filing online is the fastest way to do taxes, but the CRA will continue to support those who chose to file on paper or by phone. The deadline for most individuals to file their 2020 taxes and pay any amount owing is **April 30th, 2021**.

Filing before the deadline, and including all tax slips, will ensure that the CRA is using the most accurate information for calculating your benefit and credit amounts. This will also ensure you continue to receive benefit and credit payments such as the various COVID recovery benefits, the Canada Child Benefit, the Old Age Security Pension Payments, and the goods and services tax (GST)/ harmonized sales tax (HST) credit.

Here are some key services that could assist you this filing season:

- The **Community Volunteer Income Tax Program** is a service run by volunteers to help eligible Canadians file returns for free! Volunteers are able to do your taxes virtually, by videoconference, or by phone or through a document drop-off arrangement. Find a [tax clinic](#) in your area.
- As of March 12th, the **CRA Benefits Outreach Program** has delivered over 85 sessions since the start of filing season to community organizations looking for information on taxes, credits and benefits. Organizations are encouraged to [set up a meeting](#) with a CRA outreach officer if they are passionate about helping residents in Newmarket-Aurora with taxes and benefits.
- In need of a quick answer to a question regarding your taxes? Try **Charlie the Chatbox!** Charlie makes it easier for taxpayers to get the information they need to file their income tax and benefit return, and can be found on the CRA homepage [CRA homepage](#).



On March 27, Jewish communities observed the beginning of Passover. Families traditionally gather around the Seder table to share symbolic foods like matzah and maror, drink wine, and read from the Haggadah.

Passover invites us to reflect on finding hope, inspiration and perseverance to overcome adversity.

To all celebrating, Chag Pesach Sameach!

[Chag Pesach Sameach!](#)

On March 28-29, Hindu communities celebrate Holi, or the Festival of Colours, marking the end of winter and the start of spring. During this happy occasion, families traditionally eat delicacies, sing, dance, and celebrate in colour-filled festivities.

Holi brings a message of peace and friendship, and is a time for reflection, optimism, and hope for the coming year.

To all celebrating, Holi Hail!

[Holi Hail!](#)

This weekend, Christian communities celebrate Easter, the holiest of Christian holidays marking the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is a time for joy, hope, forgiveness, and renewal.

Easter is an opportunity for all of us to extend a helping hand to those in need, and reflect on the notions of personal sacrifice and compassion.

To all celebrating, Happy Easter!

[Happy Easter](#)

Newmarket—Aurora Youth Council



In conversation about youth opportunities

Last week, the Newmarket-Aurora Youth Council hosted a conversation with Zoe, this year's delegate for Equal Voices Daughters of the Vote Program. We discussed her experience, the things she learned through the program, and how youth can be involved in politics!

[Watch here](#)



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