

Autumn 2022 Adam van Koeverden

Member of Parliament • Milton

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## **Message from your Member of** Parliament

Dear Neighbours,

The cost of everything has been on the rise, particularly at the grocery store and the gas station, so our government has focused our efforts and legislation on measures supporting affordability and financial relief. Recently, we passed the Canada Disability Benefit Act, we've doubled the GST credit, we are providing middle & lower income Canadian families with a dental care benefit, and enhancing rent supports for low-income earners. We've also increased the Canada Child Benefit, Old Age Security for Seniors and improved the Canada Worker Benefit. These measures will all support Canadians as they deal with the impacts of global inflation - but there's always more work to do.

There are many factors impacting affordability, but I was proud to vote for a motion that looks to close corporate tax loopholes forcing CEOs and big corporations to pay their fair share in taxes. It also supports a study on inflation and profits in the food supply chain of large grocery stores while launching an affordable food strategy for the grocery sector.

The past few years have been challenging for small businesses and their workers, especially with increasing prices. Local small businesses are the heart of our communities. As they drive our economy and create good jobs for Canadians, our government is looking to lower credit card transaction fees for small businesses.





# **Canada Dental Benefit**

Making life more affordable for families across the country includes making oral healthcare accessible for all. Dental care is a part of overall healthcare, but one third of Canadians can't afford it. We introduced the Canada Dental Benefit for parents and guardians of children under 12 who don't have access to dental insurance, starting this year. Eligible families will receive direct payments totalling up to \$1,300 per child over the next two years to be spent on dental care services for their children.

No family should have to choose between going to the dentist and other essentials, so we are working on a long term solution while putting in this interim measure.

This is the first stage of the government's plan to deliver dental coverage for families with adjusted net income under \$90,000, and will allow children under 12 to receive the dental care they need while the government works to develop a comprehensive national dental care program.



#### Saving your Family on Childcare

I'm thrilled to have heard from many Milton families about how much money they'll save this year and into the future with our National Childcare Plan. We are cutting child care costs by an average of 50% by the end of this year, and cutting fees to \$10 per day within the next few years.

One family called me to let me know that since they've got both kids in **affordable childcare** this year, mom and dad are back to work full-time. They'll earn more money AND save over \$8000 in childcare fees!



### Canada Child Benefit in Milton

Milton has one of the youngest populations in Canada, so we're home to over 35,000 children who's parents receive the **Canada Child Benefit.** The average yearly payment to a Milton family is about \$3200. Annually ~**\$109,242,000** comes back to Milton, helping families afford the essentials!

### \$500 in Additional Rent Support

With the rising cost of living, it's becoming more and more difficult for renters to find an affordable home that works for them or their family. We are delivering an additional \$500 payment through the **Canada Housing Benefit** to nearly 2 million low-income renters including seniors and students.

## Ending Disability Poverty

With **over a million** Canadians with a disability living in poverty, the government has moved forward with a framework to establish the **Canada Disability Benefit** for lowincome working Canadians with disabilities.

The Canada Disability Benefit will become an important part of Canada's social safety net, alongside Old Age Security, the Guaranteed Income Supplement and the Canada Child Benefit. It has the potential to significantly reduce poverty for hundreds of thousands of Canadians with disabilities.

Read more about the Canada Disability Benefit here:



www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/disability.html

### **Climate Action Incentive**

Families in Ontario have been receiving the Climate Action Incentive rebate which helps make life more affordable for hard-working Canadians across the country, all while taking meaningful steps to fight climate change.

Carbon pricing is about recognizing the real cost of pollution and accounting for those costs in our daily decisions. Putting a price on carbon pollution is widely recognized as the most efficient means to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, while also driving innovation. Ontario used to price carbon using Cap &Trade, but our province has used the federal backstop program since the Ontario government cancelled the Cap and Trade climate plan in 2018.

This is a revenue neutral system, and the government sends all the money from the price on pollution back to families. It is a non-taxable benefit and it increases a little bit every year. 80% of families receive more back than it costs, and it supports us in making greener, cleaner, more efficient choices. I used my rebate to tune up my bike at MillTown Cycle, and rode it instead of driving more frequently than last year!

On the amount you receive - there are four quarterly payments per household. The annual credit is **\$373** for the first individual, **\$186** for a spouse, common law partner or the first child in a single parent family, plus **\$93** per additional child under 19.



### **Protecting our Community**

Our communities should be safe places to live, worship, raise children, and spend time with friends and family. Gun violence contributes to higher murder rates, suicide rates as well as incidents of domestic abuse, which erodes the sense of security within our communities.

In 2020, we banned over 1,500 types of assault-style weapons like the AR-15, because weapons of war don't belong in our communities. We also implemented a national freeze on handguns. On top of this, we're also taking action at Canada's borders, with investments in the CBSA and RCMP to fight smuggling to stop criminal bringing illegal guns into Canada; and launching a buyback program to get assault-style weapons off of our streets. We also want to stop gun and gang violence before it starts so we are investing millions in programs for prevention to help young people succeed and build stronger, safer communities.

One life taken by gun violence is one too many. On September 12, a tragic and terrifying series of gun attacks left our community shocked, scared and in mourning. A Toronto police officer, Constable Andrew Hong, and Shakeel Ashraf, a small business owner from our community in Milton, as well as his colleague, Satwinder Singh, an exchange student, were brutally murdered when a gunman terrorized our communities and the residents of Mississauga and Milton. My sincere condolences go to the families and the loved ones of the deceased.

Thank you to all of the first responders and police services of Halton, Hamilton and Peel, as well as the OPP, who worked together to bring an end to the attacks. My thanks for their brave and dedicated service.

Canadians deserve to feel safe in their homes and in their communities and nobody should live in fear of gun violence. This government has done more than any in a generation to keep Canadians safe from guns and crime, but there is much, much more work to be done.

Milton is a strong, compassionate, and resilient community. My thoughts remain with the families, friends and colleagues of the victims.

We're doubling the GST tax credit to put **hundreds of dollars in the pockets of those who need it the most** 



# **Doubling the GST Tax Credit**

Countries across the globe are dealing with higher than average inflation rates. While we have a lower rate of inflation than most, it has put an extra financial pressure on citizens, while corporate greed is adding to these burdens and increasing the prices of our food as well as what we pay at the pump.

Our government continues to take actions to help support Canadians as we get through this current economic challenge. One of the supports we have introduced is the doubling of the GST tax credit for six months. Increasing the GST tax credit helps us to target those who are most impacted by the rising costs of goods and services.

Doubling the GST tax credit means an extra **\$234** in the pockets of single Canadians, up to **\$467** for families of four, and an average of an extra **\$225** for seniors this year.

This credit will put hundreds of dollars back into the pockets of over 11 million Canadian households. Check your statement on Nov 4th, or keep an eye out for a cheque in the mail.





Sohail Naseer received a Queen's Jubilee pin



Sameera Ali receiving a Queen's Jubilee pin



Site visit to Wilcox Truck Bodies



Visiting with Halton Gujarati Samaj



Celebrating Eid



I was Chieftan for the Georgetown Highland Games

#### MAKING LIFE MORE AFFORDABLE THIS YEAR

Providing up to \$1,300 over the next two years for dental care to children under 12





Our government is making all Canada Student & Apprentice Loans 100% interest-free, including those currently being repaid, starting April 2023.

Permanently.

#FallEconomicStatement2022

#### MAKING LIFE MORE AFFORDABLE THIS YEAR

Putting hundreds of dollars in the pockets of those who need it most **by doubling the GST tax credit** 



#### OTHER WAYS WE'RE MAKING LIFE MORE AFFORDABLE

- Cutting child care fees in half this year
- Boosting OAS payments by 10% for seniors over 75
- Putting up to \$2,400 in the pockets of workers through the enhanced Canada Workers Benefit
- Tackling housing speculation and building new homes

#### A New, Quarterly Canada Workers Benefit

The Canada Workers Benefit is a refundable tax credit that tops up the income of about 3 million of our lowest-paid—and often most essential—workers in a typical year. It is currently delivered through tax returns, meaning Canadians who receive it need to wait until the tax year is over to receive the support that helps them pay for day-to-day essentials like groceries and rent.

FALL ECONOMIC STATEMENT~ 2 HIGHLIGHTS

The CWB would provide up to \$1,428 for single workers or up to \$2,461 for a family this spring through the existing tax return payment, and then new advance payments for 2023 across three quarterly advance payments starting in July, putting more money in workers' pockets to help cope with the rising cost of living.

#### **Eliminating Interest on Student Loans**

The 2022 Fall Economic Statement proposes to eliminate interest on Canada Student Loans and Canada Apprentice Loans, including those currently being repaid, beginning on April 1, 2023. Huge help for current and future students!