




HOUSE OF COMMONS  
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES  
CANADA

# ADAM VAN KOEVERDEN

Member of Parliament  
Milton



**Accountability  
Report 2021**

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*Disclaimer: Photos without masks are from prior to the pandemic. Please continue following all public health measures. Wash your hands, wear a mask, keep physically distant, and please get vaccinated! Thank you for doing your part.*

# NOTE FROM YOUR MP

Dear Neighbours,

As the Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games kick off in Tokyo, I reflect on my two proudest moments as a Canadian; winning a gold medal for Canada and being elected as your Member of Parliament here in Milton. Our government was elected in 2019 to strengthen the middle class, fight climate change, walk the road of reconciliation, and position Canada for success in an uncertain world. We created this report to highlight some of the work my team and I are most proud of from the past 20 months.

It would be an understatement to say that a lot has happened since 2019. COVID-19 has reshaped the world we know, but our government remains committed to these priorities, the ones I heard from you at your door, as well as moving forward on the important issue of finding a path to recovery with long-term solutions to the global pandemic.

I will continue to be your voice in Ottawa and a steadfast advocate for the policies and changes that our region needs to see from our government. I am so excited to see you around town, at a local restaurant, in the park, at the movies, or at your doors, as we begin taking steps towards more normalcy in our lives.



# ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE



**\$205,000 FOR CONSERVATION HALTON—CLEANER WATER, SPECIES-AT-RISK PROTECTION, TRAIL DEVELOPMENT**



**BANNING SINGLE-USE PLASTICS**



**PLANTING 2 BILLION TREES CANADA-WIDE, 50,000+ IN HALTON REGION ALONE**



**ENSURING NET-ZERO BY 2050 UNDER THE *ENVIRONMENTAL ACCOUNATABILITY ACT (C-12)***



**\$5,000 SUBSIDY PER HOUSEHOLD TO IMPROVE OUR HOMES' ENERGY EFFICIENCY**



**CONTINUING TO ENSURE THAT POLLUTING IS NOT FREE**



**HELPING BUSINESSES REDUCE THEIR EMMISIONS AND ADAPT TO MAKE LOW-CARBON PRODUCTS**



# PLANTING 2 BILLION TREES

Planting trees is essential for a growing community like Milton. Healthy tree coverage and a vibrant urban canopy is great for our air quality, our health, for shade and our regional biodiversity!

Our government is committed to planting 2 billion trees over the next ten years. 40,000 have already been planted here in Halton.

I was thrilled to announce \$270,000 for over 50,000 trees to be planted right here in the Halton Region, and 200 mature trees in town. That's a new tree for every family in Milton! Thank you to Town of Milton and Conservation Halton for their efforts!





## **\$10/DAY CHILDCARE**

This past year has been difficult for many families in Milton, especially those with young children. Raising a family is expensive, which is why our government just introduced the young child supplement for the Canada Child Benefit, a temporary support of up to **\$1200** per child under 6, benefiting over **2.1 million children**.

High quality affordable childcare is a necessity. Through budget 2021, we will spend up to **\$30 billion** over the next 5 years to build a Canada wide **early learning and childcare system**. Our goal is to bring fees for regulated childcare down to average **\$10 per day** within the next 5 years.



## NEW HORIZONS FOR SENIORS FUNDING IN MILTON

NHSP is a federal grants and contributions program that supports projects led or inspired by seniors who are making a difference in the lives of others in their communities.



St. Paul's  
United Church



Halton Gujarati  
Seniors Samaj

Milton Lawn  
Bowling Club

Town of Milton

Sustainable Milton

Centre canadien pour  
l'unité de la famille

Omagh Seniors Centre

Centre for Skills  
Development

Ontario  
Seniors' Forum

**\$195,149 IN  
FUNDING TO  
9 SENIOR  
SERVING LOCAL  
GROUPS!**

### Canada Child Benefit

**\$109,242,000**  
tax-free to Milton families



Helping over 18,000 families in  
Milton cover the basic needs for  
their children.

# RURAL BROADBAND

## Canada-wide

Access to high-quality, high-speed Internet is essential in our increasingly digital and online world. The pandemic reinforced our dependence on high-speed Internet to work, go to school, access virtual health care, and connect with one another. Many of those in rural communities have been disproportionately impacted due to lack of reliable internet.

Last November, our government announced the launch of the Universal Broadband Fund – a **\$2.75 billion investment** that will help connect every Canadian to high-speed internet. An integral part of the Universal Broadband Fund is the Rapid Response Stream, which consists of \$150 million to fund shovel-ready projects that will bring high-speed internet to communities by the end of this year.

## Our Local Community

I was so happy to make the important announcement that our government is investing **\$1.7 million** to connect over **1500 rural households** in local communities; Moffat, Campbellville, Haltonville, Nassageweya, Rural Burlington and south Milton.

Since 2015, our government has approved programs and projects that will connect at least 1.7 million Canadians to better, faster internet. In Ontario alone, we have already approved 98 projects, totaling over \$250 million in funding, which will connect close to **90,000 households** to broadband.



# HOUSING AFFORDABILITY

Affordable housing has long been an issue in Canada, and the pandemic has only exacerbated existing social inequalities and the hardships faced by Canadians experiencing housing insecurity or homelessness.

Adequate housing is a fundamental human right which is why it is important that our government has invested in speeding up the construction, the repair and support of affordable housing units.

The **\$1 billion Rapid Housing Initiative (RHI)**, is investing over **\$367 million** to support the creation of over **1100 permanent affordable units** for individuals and families in Ontario, including **171 units for Indigenous people and 108 units for Women and Children.**



I had the opportunity to meet with Minister Hussen - Minister of Families, Children and Social Development.

## OFFICE STATS SINCE 2019

85

Speeches in the House of Commons.

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87

Committee meetings.

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108

Bills reviewed and studied by me and my office.

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139

Remarks in Committee.

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203

Votes in the House of Commons.

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3000+

Calls and meetings since taking office in 2019.

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4100+

Constituents my office has helped with Federal casework files.

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36,000+

Emails sent by me and my team since 2019.

# \$3.9M IN TRANSIT FUNDING FOR MILTON



With Milton being one of the fastest growing communities in Canada, public transportation is an essential element towards growth and prosperity. This is why our government is committed to investing in transit infrastructure in Milton.

Under the Investing in Canada plan, our government invested over **\$3.9 million** to build a new Transit Operations Facility in Milton.

Sustainable design practices will be used in the construction of the facility, providing residents with a greener, more reliable and safer form of transportation.



# FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FUNDS

**\$1.6 million**

Universal Broadband funding to bring high-speed internet to over 1500 rural households.

**\$1.4 million**

John Tonelli Sports Centre and Crawford Lake Boardwalk.

**\$190,000**

50,000 trees will be planted throughout the Halton Region through Conservation Halton.

**\$80,000**

Planting 200 mature trees throughout urban Milton to combat the effects of the emerald ash borer.

**\$266,400**

Towards the Rail Safety Improvement plan increasing safety regarding the risk surrounding rail transportation in Milton.

**\$1.1 million**

Upgrading 2 sports facilities– Milton Sports Centre and Mattamy National Cycling Centre.



# NDING IN THE COMMUNITY

**\$6.6 million**

CWB Welding Foundation to enhance the quality of training for skilled tradespeople.

**\$3.9 million**

Sustainable construction of a new local transit operations facility to improve public transit fleet.

**\$1.6 million**

**Canada Summer Jobs** is providing quality work experiences for **565** youth across Milton to acquire and improve upon job related skills.

**\$195,149**

New Horizons for Seniors Programs funding helping 9 organizations in Milton.

**\$15,155**

Support provided to the Royal Canadian Legion for operational shortfalls due to COVID-19.

**\$14.9 billion**

Public transit projects across Canada over 8 years creating affordable commuting options while also reducing emissions.



# SPEECHES IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

I have had the opportunity to rise 21 times in the House of Commons to highlight issues, businesses and individuals in Milton. Here are a few:

- Fighting the CN Intermodal through all stages of development
- Discovery at Kamloops Residential School on Tk'emlups te Secwépemc territory
- London Attack
- National Health and Fitness Day
- Youth Mental Health
- Raufikat Oyawoye-Salami, The Great Canadian Baker
- Recognizing Penny Appeal, who fed needy families during Ramadan
- Black History Month and Black Excellence
- Protecting our Conservation Areas
- Supporting local businesses during the pandemic
- Halton Women's Place
- Coldest Night of the Year fundraiser



# **PUBLIC STATEMENTS**

## **Ongoing violence in the Middle East**

*"There is no justification for these...vile acts of Anti-Semitism and Islamophobia here in Canada"*

## **Missing children of the Kamloops Residential School**

*"We can amplify the voices of Indigenous people, organizations, and creators - it is these voices that have been oppressed and kept quiet for so long."*

**July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021**

*"We must confront our past and acknowledge that the generational impact of this genocide is being felt to this day. We need to confront the reality that systemic racism is a reality faced by too many in this country."*

## **Parliamentary Black Caucus on Anti-Black Racism**

*"The reaction to the COVID-19 pandemic proves that governments can act quickly and ably in crisis. Black Canadians are in a state of crisis: it is time to act. Words and symbolic gestures, while important, are not enough."*

## **Our CN Fight Continues**

*"Shovels are not going in the ground, and I remain steadfastly opposed to this development...Our voices will continue to be heard, and you can continue to count on me to keep fighting for our community. "*

## **Quality High-Speed Home Internet is Essential**

*"Rural Miltonians should be able to connect to the internet with the same convenience, at the same speed, and at no additional expense when compared to their urban neighbours. Our government recognizes this and has invested more than any other in Canadian history on rural internet, but we clearly have more work to do."*

**Read the full statements at:**

**[adamvankoeverdenmp.ca/latest-news](https://adamvankoeverdenmp.ca/latest-news)**

# HOUSE OF COMMONS BILLS

Here are a few of the Bills I was most proud to support and see pass through the House.

## **Bill C-4 (COVID-19 Response Measures)**

*Along with Bills C-9 and C-24, our government has expanded social benefits for Canadians. The new Canada Recovery Benefit, Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit and Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit have helped millions of Canadians return to financial stability during the pandemic.*

## **Bill C-6 (Banning Conversion Therapy)**

*This Bill criminalizes the practice of inducing children to adopt a specific sexual orientation or gender identity. This unscientific practice has been discredited internationally as paramount to torture.*

## **Bill C-7 (Medical Assistance in Dying)**

*We affirmed our commitment to human rights and disability inclusion in this landmark legislation which balanced the autonomy of disabled people with the importance of free and lasting consent in assisted dying.*

## **Bill C-12 (Net Zero Emissions by 2050)**

*We are committed to balancing Canada's carbon footprint in a manageable and transparent way, so we created a series of benchmarks to help Canada achieve our emissions standards within our lifetimes.*

**Bill C-15 (UNDRIP)** *see next page.*



# INDIGENOUS AND NORTHERN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE WORK

## Emergency Session

Following the horrific discovery of 215 Indigenous children buried at the site of the Kamloops Indian Residential School, I called an emergency Committee session. We heard from witnesses and officials that testified to the horrors of that tragedy and assisted in planning the implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action. Our government is committed to completing them, with 80% completed or substantially developed.

## UNDRIP

With my committee colleagues, I worked hard to pass Bill C-15, *The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*. This commits the government to making all laws consistent with the Declaration. It is an important step in furthering reconciliation, and is a crucial building block in fully, respecting, protecting and fulfilling the rights of Indigenous peoples. I'm pleased to say that this Bill was made law on June 21, 2021.

"This is a major step forward for First Nations and for Canada – this is concrete action, this is history in the making...[this legislation] can be a pathway to reconciliation, guided by our inherent and Treaty rights."

*Perry  
Bellegarde,  
National  
Chief of the  
Assembly of  
First Nations.*



## SUPPORTING LOCAL

Local businesses are the heart of our community, adding to the vibrancy of our town and reflecting the diversity of Milton.

I have been proud to support our local shops throughout the pandemic and I recognized some of them on a national scale when I made a statement in the House of Commons to highlight local restaurants that people of Milton love and should continue to support.

Our government has also been working hard to provide support for what are the hardest hit sectors during this pandemic. We introduced the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy to help employers keep their employees on the payroll. We offered an additional top-up subsidy of 25% and extended the program for everyone to summer 2021 to support them and to help fewer Canadians face unemployment.

*A special thanks to Scott, Ginny and everyone at the Chamber of Commerce as well as all of the Farmers' Market vendors.*



# CANADA SUMMER JOBS

Our government introduced the Canada Summer Jobs program to help students gain summer employment so that they can develop necessary skills for when they transition into the labour force. This program also helps local businesses create positions they may not otherwise be able to fund on their own. This year, we have been able to help **94 organizations** employ **565 youth**, by investing **\$1,688,707** in Milton. This investment helps our businesses, our youth, and ultimately, our community.



***Photos: Visit with students who were hired through Canada Summer Jobs program at Kelso Lavender farm.***



***“The differences found between CSJ and regular businesses are clear - the CSJ employers are more interested in exposing us to the workforce and how to run a business. ”***

***- Hannah and Farrah (students)***

***“Win-win for the students, the government and our business” - Leo (one of the owners)***

## **\$80M FOR CANADA'S ACTIVE RECOVERY**

Canadians rely on sport, physical activity and recreation for our mental and physical health, and the pandemic has made access even more difficult than before. Sport has a way of bringing people together and promoting community among Canadians of all backgrounds. Last year I created a working group of MPs from across Canada to put together a plan to support community and grassroots sport and recreation programs to ensure that every Canadian has access to high-quality, affordable physical activity programming. I am thrilled that as a result of that teamwork, and for the first time ever our government is investing **\$80 Million** over the next two years to make sure Canadians have an **active re-start**. We are looking forward to funding things like free swimming lessons, sport for development programs, physical literacy for youth and accessible family activities for all. As a kinesiologist and Olympic athlete, I feel like this is one of my unique contributions as an MP, and I'm really proud of these investments.

## **LOCAL FOOD INFRASTRUCTURE**



Over **\$305,000** for local **food security projects** for community partners like Community Living North Halton, Lunchbox Café, Country Heritage Park, the Salvation Army, Milton Halal Food Bank and

**\$128,345** for Food For Life's new refrigerated food truck, to ensure they can continue to rescue fresh food and deliver it to where it can make a difference!

## **SAFE RETURN TO SCHOOL**

**\$25 Million** to our **schools in Halton** to foster a safe and healthy environment for our educators, students, parents, and school staff. Projects include HVAC renovations to improve air quality, investing in outdoor play and learn facilities, installing water bottle refilling stations to improve access to safe drinking water, and investing in network and broadband infrastructure.



# IN THE WORKS

## **Early Learning and Childcare**

Often times parents, typically mothers, are confronted with high daycare costs which can act as a deterrent in returning into the workforce. This is why we are working on getting each of the provinces to sign off on agreements for \$10 a day child care.

## **Public Transit**

Since 2015, we have invested in 1,300 public transit projects for communities across Canada, including subway and light-rail extensions, zero-emission transportation, and active trails and bike lanes. Through these investments, we support good middle-class jobs, creating better commutes, fighting climate change, and helping make life easier and more affordable for Canadians.

## **High Speed Rail**

It is important for everyone to have access to safe, reliable, efficient and environmentally friendly transportation. As we look to transition away from our dependency on fuel, our government has announced \$491.2 million over a period of 6 years for infrastructure projects that will support the high frequency rail project.

## **Fairer Taxes to Help Everyday Canadians**

Budget 2021 provides for a number of innovative tax solutions to ensure that the wealthiest Canadians pay their fair share. A luxury goods tax on cars and personal planes over \$100,000; and boats over \$250,000, will ensure that extravagant purchases can go on to benefit all Canadians. Tackling tax evasion and considering a one-time wealth tax can help make our tax system work for the benefit of all Canadians.

# LOOKING AHEAD

I've been proud to represent Milton for almost two years now in Ottawa. Our local businesses, charitable organizations, and the hardworking people and families, have persevered through this pandemic, and our government has worked to help and support you along the way. Whether through programs like CERB and the CRB; the Emergency Wage or Rent Subsidies, or the community organizations supports our government has been listening to your concerns and working to meet them.

But our work is not yet done. Vaccination numbers are steadily improving, with almost 700,000 doses administered in Halton region, and many more on the way. Our government's ambitious 2021 Budget is being steadily rolled out, with a comprehensive childcare plan on the horizon. Our future is looking bright, but it is up to us to build back better. Get vaccinated, get your second dose, and keep calling and emailing our office. I'm here to serve Milton and fight for your interests. Let's build a better future together, Milton.

We are here to help, be in touch anytime,

