

JOHN BAIRD

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT



Getting Things Done

Volume 2, Issue 2

Friday, March 5, 2010

COMMUNITY UPDATE

BUDGET 2010 *Leading the Way on Jobs and Growth*

Below are some highlights from Budget 2010—Part 2 of our government's Economic Action Plan.

- **\$3.2 billion in personal income tax relief.** This includes allowing Canadians to earn more income before paying federal income tax and before being subject to higher tax rates. It includes the enhanced Working Income Tax Benefit to strengthen work incentives for low-income Canadians. Tax measures for 2010–11 also include higher child benefits for parents and lower taxes for low and middle-income seniors.
- **Over \$4 billion in actions to create and protect jobs.** This includes additional Employment Insurance (EI) benefits and more training opportunities to help unemployed Canadians through this difficult period, and help ensure they are equipped to re-enter the workforce and prosper in the future.
- Improving Registered Disability Savings Plans to allow more flexibility for contributions
- Reaffirming the Government's commitment to ensure that Canada's retirement income system remains strong and efficient through spring consultations and a review of policy options at the May Finance Ministers' meeting.
- Providing \$6.6 million to enhance the existing Federal Victims Strategy, including facilitating access to Employment Insurance sickness benefits for families affected by a crime.
- The Government will not raise taxes. The Government will not cut major transfers to persons and other levels of government.

For more information about Budget 2010, please visit <http://www.budget.gc.ca/2010/plan/toc-tdm-eng.html>

CONGRATULATIONS TEAM CANADA!

Wow! What a spectacular showing by our talented athletes at the 2010 Vancouver Olympic Games! Canada's athletes truly owned the podium, and I'm certain that this overwhelming Olympic spirit and sense of Canadian pride will be with us for a long time to come. To our athletes, again, I say thank you for your hard work and dedication to both your sport and our country.



As you may know, the official Olympic Torch Relay stopped at Carlingwood Mall back in December. This past weekend, I was pleased to bring the Olympic spirit back to Carlingwood Mall with the Olympic Torch for people to see, hold and take pictures with.

Visit with residents of Valleystream Manor

I was pleased to visit with residents of the new Valleystream Manor this week. I received a tour of the residence from owner Frank D'Amato, and had the opportunity to meet with constituents. Thank you for your warm hospitality.



Budget Consultations with Queensway Carleton and Ottawa Hospitals

Budget Consultations with Queensway Carleton and Ottawa Hospitals

In preparation for today's budget, over the last few weeks I set out to consult with local city officials about their priorities. In addition, I met with Mr. Tom Schonberg, CEO of the Queensway Carleton Hospital and Dr. Jack Kitts, CEO of The Ottawa Hospital to discuss with them the current issues in health care for our community.

Funding for Ottawa's Catholic Immigration Centre

I was pleased to announce \$375,000 in funding for Ottawa's Catholic Immigration Centre. The Centre is a one-stop welcome centre for new arrivals to Ottawa where people can access a host of services. This project will improve the sustainability and life-cycle of the building by replacing the elevator and waterproofing the basement to prevent flooding.



From left to right: Royal Galipeau, Member of Parliament for Ottawa–Orleans; Lucila Spiegelblatt, Deputy Executive Director, Catholic Immigration Centre; John Baird, Carl Nicholson, Executive Director, Catholic Immigration Centre; Pierre Poilievre, Member of Parliament for Nepean–Carleton; Abdirizak Karod, Executive Director, Somali Center for Family Services.

Other Meetings and Events:

- Meeting with Ottawa Centre for Research & Innovation CEO, Claude Haw, on local high-tech issues
- Tour of local Bells Corners company General Dynamics
- Roundtable with local community associations
- Meeting with the Council of Turkish Canadians
- Meeting with representatives of the Ottawa Taxpayers Advisory Group
- Attend Open House for local high-tech company, Spartan Bioscience Inc.

LOOKING AHEAD:

- Parliament resumes
- Roundtable with Ottawa West-Nepean community association and business leaders
- Meet with students of St. Paul High School on Parliament Hill
- Meeting with local MPP, Norm Sterling
- Meeting with constituents regarding Roman Avenue
- Ottawa Humane Society Fur Ball with Mrs. Laureen Harper
- Meeting with Canadian Alliance of Student Associations
- Meeting with the Canadian Urban Transit Association

CAN I HELP YOU?

Do you have a question or issue that you think I can help you with? Please give my constituency office a call at **613-990-7720**, or visit my online office at **www.johnbaird.com**