

Here for Etobicoke - Lakeshore

Bernard Trottier

Member of Parliament
for Etobicoke—Lakeshore



Spring/Summer 2012: Celebrating our Country and Securing our Future

Friends,

This month marks one year since the election of a Conservative majority government for Canada, and I'm proud to say our country is on the right track. Canada is leading the western democracies in controlling deficits and debt, in increasing international trade, and most importantly, in creating job opportunities. Economic conditions in Europe, the USA, Japan and other countries remain challenging. Canada is moving ahead with our plans to promote growth and long-term prosperity.

I'm proud to contribute to our government's initiatives to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the services it provides. Of note for Etobicoke-Lakeshore and the GTA are ongoing improvements to Canada's immigration system to reduce backlogs and focus immigration priorities on today's economic needs. Hand-in-hand with that are measures we've taken to strengthen the value of Canadian citizenship, via a focus on Canadian history, traditions and values.

Over a thousand people have been through my constituency office since last year. My constituency staff and I are pleased to assist you with federal government services, including immigration, income tax, social security, veterans' affairs and other issues. We're here to help Etobicoke-Lakeshore's businesses as well, to help make our community a great place to live, work and raise a family.

I'm also active as Co-Chair of our Toronto Caucus, to voice Toronto's concerns within government on investments like the upcoming PanAm Games facilities, the Waterfront, urban transportation and the future Rouge National Urban Park. Toronto is one of the world's great cities, and my hope is to make it even greater.

Thank you for all your letters, emails, calls and face-to-face meetings. Your feedback and input are always welcome. Please sign up to receive my bi-weekly e-newsletter, the *Lakeshore Link*, on my website. It's an honour to be your representative in Parliament.

You're invited to our, first annual
Saturday July 14th, 2pm-5pm
Sainte-Marguerite-d'Youville School
755 Royal York Rd.
Etobicoke, M8Y 2T3



We encourage everyone to bring donations of non-perishable food items for our local food bank

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CANADA'S ECONOMIC
**ACTION
PLAN**



PROUD Canadian FACTS

The History of **CANADA DAY**

For Canadians from coast to coast to coast, Canada Day is a much-anticipated national holiday, and a welcomed opportunity for barbecuing, picnicking with friends and family, or even watching a fireworks display.

Canadians enjoy July 1 in many different ways, but Canada Day is, first and foremost, a day to celebrate the country we know and love. And Canadians have been celebrating for a long time.

Canada's Confederation came into existence when Queen Victoria gave Royal Assent to the British North America Act (BNA Act) in March, 1867. A proclamation read: "We do ordain, declare, and command that on and after the First day of July, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Sixty-seven, the Provinces of Canada, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick, shall form and be One Dominion, under the name of Canada."

On June 20, 1868, a proclamation signed by the Governor General, Lord Monck, called upon all Her Majesty's loving subjects throughout Canada to join in the celebration of the anniversary of the formation of the union of the British North American provinces in a federation under the name of Canada on July 1. The July 1 holiday was established by statute in 1879, under the name of Dominion Day.

As new provinces and territories became part of Canada, Dominion Day came to be celebrated across the country. There aren't any records of organized ceremonies after this first anniversary, except for the 50th anniversary of Confederation in 1917. At that time the new Centre Block of Parliament was under construction, and it was dedicated as a memorial to the Fathers of Confederation and to the courage of Canadians fighting in the First World War in Europe. The next celebration was held in 1927 to mark the Diamond Jubilee of Confederation.

Since 1958, the Government has arranged for an annual observance of Canada's national day. The format includes a Trooping the Colours ceremony on the lawn of Parliament Hill in the afternoon, a sunset ceremony in the evening followed by a mass band concert and fireworks display. Many Canadians still remember Canada's Centennial in 1967, when Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II attended a large-scale celebration on Parliament Hill. Most recently, she was joined by 100,000 Canadians to celebrate Canada's 143rd birthday on Parliament Hill in 2010.

On October 27, 1982, "Dominion Day" officially became known as "Canada Day."

Have fun this Canada Day, but please take a minute to reflect upon our country's incredible history and culture.

The Maple Leaf as a **CANADIAN SYMBOL**

Long before the ships of Cabot, Cartier and Champlain appeared on Canada's eastern horizon, Canada's aboriginal peoples had discovered the importance of maple sap and used it for culinary purposes. In fact, an Iroquois legend recalls ancestors piercing maple bark and using its "sweet water" to cook venison.

Many historians believe that the maple leaf began serving as a Canadian symbol as early as 1700. As time passed, Canadians became increasingly aware of the maple leaf as a distinct part of the Canadian identity.

In 1834, Ludger Duvernay is reported to have proposed the maple leaf as an emblem of Canada when the *Société Saint-Jean-Baptiste* was founded on June 24 of that year. Two years later, *Le Canadien*, a newspaper published in Lower Canada, referred to it as a suitable emblem for Canada.

In August 1860, at a public meeting held in Toronto, the maple leaf was adopted as the national emblem of Canada for use in the decorations for the Prince of Wales' visit.

One of the most enthusiastic advocates of the maple leaf was Alexander Muir, a Toronto schoolmaster and poet. In 1867, to honour Confederation, he composed the song *The Maple Leaf Forever*.

During the First World War, many Canadian soldiers respectfully wore the maple leaf on military badges, and it was the dominant symbol used by many Canadian regiments.

In 1957, the colour of the maple leaves on the arms of Canada was changed from green to red, one of Canada's official colours. And on February 15, 1965, the red maple leaf flag was inaugurated as the National Flag of Canada.

The maple leaf has become a recognized and distinctive symbol of our country. Canadians from coast to coast to coast can take pride in the maple leaf and all that it represents.

RETURN TO BALANCE



It was our strong financial position that enabled us to respond swiftly and effectively to the global recession. We prudently paid down over \$37 billion on the debt in advance. Our temporary stimulus program created jobs and built essential infrastructure, without our Government taking on the kind of debt that plagues many countries. Canadians deserve to know that their country's finances remain strong.

That's why our Government made a commitment, in 2009, to return to balanced budgets over the medium term. We are on track to keep that promise, having already cut the deficit in half. Economic Action Plan 2012 takes the next essential steps.

Most savings will come from eliminating waste in the operation of government, and delivering services more efficiently that Canadians depend on.

For example, we will eliminate the penny, which costs taxpayers a cent-and-a-half for every penny we make. We will also adopt other common sense measures, such as the substitution of teleconferences for travel where possible.

Because our Government made responsible choices, Canada does not require the harsh measures some countries have been forced to undertake. Canada will return to balanced budgets through moderate restraint, because we paid down debt before the global recession and maintained a relatively strong financial position throughout.

SUPPORT FOR THE DRIVERS OF OUR ECONOMY: SMALL BUSINESSES



The Harper Government recognizes the vital role small businesses play in the economy and job creation. That's why we're committed to helping them grow and succeed.

Since we were first elected in 2006, our Government has supported small businesses. We increased the amount of income small businesses could earn to be eligible for a reduced federal tax rate to \$500,000. We increased the Lifetime Capital Gains Exemption, and eliminated the corporate surtax for all corporations in 2008.

Now, through Economic Action Plan 2012, our Government will do more. We will extend the popular Hiring Credit for Small Business to continue to encourage job creation. We will increase direct support for business innovation, through initiatives such as the Industrial Research Assistance Program and the Industrial Research and Development Internship. We'll also reduce red tape by implementing the 'one-for-one' rule, and develop a Red Tape Reduction action plan to reduce unnecessary and ineffective regulations. Finally, we'll reduce the administrative tax burden by enhancing sections of Canada Revenue Agency's website, and doubling the thresholds for eligibility to use the GST/HST streamlined accounting methods.

The Harper Government is committed to ensuring small businesses have the right tools to grow and succeed, making our communities stronger.

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY/TOWN _____
PROVINCE _____ POSTAL CODE _____
EMAIL _____



I want to know what you think...
What issues are important to you?

COMMENTS

Here for Etobicoke –Lakeshore

Here for Etobicoke—Lakeshore



Working with Humber College



Investing in local businesses



At the Toronto Board of Trade



Tax Savings Town Hall Meeting



Going Green with the Cloth Diaper Challenge



With Minister of Justice Nicholson in Alderwood



Breaking Ground in Mimico



Great to see new businesses here



Lakeshore Santa Claus Parade



Presenting the QEII Jubilee Medal



Our Christmas Open House



First annual Family Skate Day



Proud Partner of 22 Division



Addressing the Etobicoke Rotary Club



Welcoming New Canadians

Here for Canada

Your Voice Matters

Send in your reply today!



no postage required



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