

My Private Member's Bill



On December 11, I introduced Bill C-262 which would use the Income Tax Act to incentivize carbon capture, utilization, and storage (CCUS).

The US Tax Code currently offers this type of tax credit (Section 45Q) which has led Canada to lose out on potential investments in CCUS. This bill would make Canada more competitive with our largest trading partner for development of greenhouse gas mitigation technologies.

I visited the Alberta Carbon Conversion Technology Centre near Calgary. The ACCTC tests CO₂ capture and conversion technologies that assist in GHG reductions by converting CO₂ into commercially viable, value-added products such as alternative building products, bioplastics and chemicals used to manufacture industrial and consumer goods.



You can track the progress of my bill (and all bills) here: <https://www.parl.ca/LegisInfo/Home.aspx>



Parliamentary Accountability

Parliament has several options to see how your representatives perform and how we spend your money. Here are a couple of websites that help provide accountability:

- **Members' Expenses:** Every quarter, our travel, hosting and office expenses are posted in considerable detail. The July 1-Sept 30 expenses were posted in mid-December: <https://www.ourcommons.ca/PublicDisclosure/MemberExpenditures.aspx>
- **Voting and Speaking:** You may track how I vote and what I say in Parliament at: <https://openparliament.ca/politicians/greg-mclean/>



COVID-19 restrictions are in place for our safety, but please remember that the small businesses in our neighbourhoods need our support. If we want them around on the other side of this pandemic, we need to safely support them today.



Return Address:

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Greg McLean, MP
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Dear Constituents,

As I write this, Parliament has risen from the fall session. We will return at the end of January.

With COVID-19 restrictions, it is harder to keep in touch in the usual ways. I host a monthly Facebook Live Q&A "Town Hall Meeting"; and I respond to many comments or questions posted on my social media pages. Although my offices are not staffed in person, my team is working remotely answering phone messages and e-mails.

Coming up in 2021 will be important legislation that phases in a higher carbon tax (\$170/tonne by 2030) that will directly increase the price of fuel by 37 cents/litre, but also increase the cost of almost everything else, especially goods like groceries which have to be transported to us.

In 2021, I will also hold the government to account on its massive spending plans. While I support the need for aid during the pandemic, even the Parliamentary Budget Officer thinks the Government's future spending plans are larger than required to spark economic recovery.

As the Natural Resources Shadow Minister, I will keep pressing for measures that get Albertans working; including measures that champion Alberta's leading role in developing clean energy technology, alternative energy sources, and emissions control.

GET IN TOUCH

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Patrick et Shaney parlent français si vous choisissez de communiquer avec mon bureau en français.



FALL 2020 ISSUES IN PARLIAMENT

I frequently speak in the House of Commons on economic and energy issues. Here are some examples of holding the government to account from this session of Parliament. See the original video of these and other speeches/questions on my website (GregMcLeanMP.ca/News) or on YouTube ([GregMcLean](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGmMcLean)).



Nov 26: Pressing the government on how it will approach the Biden Administration regarding Keystone XL.

In Question Period on November 26, I pressed the government about its plans to work with the new Biden Administration on pipelines. My question:

“\$16 Billion dollars.
That’s the amount that Canadians didn’t receive last year as a result of the discount for our most valuable export product - Canadian oil.

“This is the result of bad decisions and a constrained pipeline infrastructure to deliver environmentally produced Canadian oil to key markets.

“Can the Government tell this House its plans to coordinate with the new US Administration so that long-planned and existing pipelines can provide the most environmental solution to US refineries?”

PS - the answer didn’t mention the United States.



Nov 5: Grilling Finance Minister Chrystia Freeland

On Nov 5, I had five minutes to grill Finance Minister Chrystia Freeland on changes

to the Income Tax Act intended to help businesses through COVID-19 (rental assistance and wage subsidies) and their unintended consequences to the Canadian economy. You won’t find many answers here, but the exchange is interesting if you’d like to watch the video on my website or YouTube channel. What do you think? Does she understand the issue?



Oct 8: Asking Why the Federal Government is Blocking Alberta’s Plastics Strategy

The Government of Alberta announced a petrochemicals diversification plan to develop environmentally friendly plastics and a world class plastics recycling industry.

The very next day, at a hastily called press conference, the Liberals announced regulations that will give serious concerns to potential investors in this diversification initiative. Why are the federal Liberals so determined to block any new jobs in Alberta, even when those jobs advance environmental outcomes?



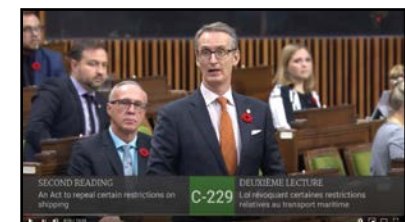
Nov 2: Celebrating Rouleauville

November 2 was the anniversary of the founding of Rouleauville in Calgary Centre.

I stood in the House

to commemorate this historic community. Settled by francophone merchants and missionaries around 1850, it became a permanent mission in 1872.

In honour of its heritage as the French roots of Calgary, I gave my statement completely in French. You can see both the original French, and the English voice-over, on my website or YouTube channel.



Nov 2: Seconding Bill C-229 to Repeal the Canadian Oil Tanker Ban.

On November 2 I rose in Parliament to second Bill C-229, introduced by my

colleague from Edmonton Centre, MP James Cumming, which would repeal the Canadian Oil Tanker Ban on BC’s north coast.

This Liberal government implemented a ban on Canadian oil tanker traffic on the northern BC coast, but not on US oil tanker traffic which continues to sail down our west coast, not on tankers carrying products other than Alberta oil, and not on tankers operating on Canada’s east coast or St. Lawrence River that bring oil to eastern provinces. It has been yet another obstacle to Canada’s prosperity and our appeal as a location to invest, because it effectively blocks any oil pipelines through northern BC, including those proposed and supported by Canada’s First Nations.

Medically Assisted Dying

Bill C-7, which revises Canada’s law on medical assistance in dying, has passed the House of Commons. It had a Court-imposed deadline of December 18, 2020 to make required revisions.

Conservatives tried to make amendments that responded to concerns raised by the disabled community. Our proposals would have ensured safeguards for the most vulnerable in our society. We also wanted some provisions for health care practitioners who could not in good conscience administer the law, such that their rights and the rights of their patients were both respected. Unfortunately, the Liberals blocked these amendments.

Conservative MPs exercised a free vote. I chose to vote in favour of MAiD. Despite the imperfections, I fundamentally believe that dying Canadians should have greater control over the timing of their own deaths, and be able to die in a peaceful environment with family and friends, and with appropriate medical assistance.

The original MAiD legislation (2016) requires a five year in-depth parliamentary review of the law and the state of palliative care. This review must examine how MAiD is impacting persons with disabilities. It is important that Parliament continue to monitor this legislation and make adjustments in the future if necessary.



Conversion Therapy

Parliament began the process to ban “Conversion Therapy” with the introduction of Bill C-6.

Conversion therapy (“therapy” is really the wrong word) is the practice of using coercive measures to induce a person to change their sexual identity. It is often done against the person’s will, and the methods are typically cruel and degrading.

Bill C-6 has passed at the Justice Committee stage and will return to Parliament in 2021 for report stage and third reading. I expect it to pass into law next year.

Conservatives put forward two reasonable amendments. We wanted to incorporate the clarity that voluntary conversations between individuals and their advisors (family or friends, counsellors, faith leaders, health care practitioners) would not be prohibited. This safeguard already exists in the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms*, but some MPs felt it would be best to further clarify by repeating the provision in the bill itself. These amendments were defeated by the Liberals and NDP.

Conservatives believe that conversion therapy is wrong and should be banned. No Canadian should be forced to change who they are.

I expect this to be a free vote in Parliament, and I intend to support the bill. Whether or not the bill is perfect, LGBTQ2+ Canadians deserve legislation that will ban conversion therapy and protect their individual rights.

Before the COVID restrictions tightened, I held a masked, distanced Meet and Greet in Inglewood. Once restrictions are lifted, I will hold more such accountability sessions around Calgary Centre.

QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Canada should use the Income Tax Act to incentivize more carbon capture, utilization, and storage investments.
Yes No Not sure
2. Raising the carbon tax to \$170/tonne (37 cents a litre) is too much, especially now when the economy is so fragile.
Yes No Not sure
3. The Government should have a more proactive strategy to persuade the Biden administration to support Keystone XL.
Yes No Not sure

Comments or Questions:

I would like to receive Greg’s e-newsletter. My email:
