

REPORT FROM PARLIAMENT

NOVEMBER 2022



Greg McLean MP
Calgary Centre

AROUND CALGARY CENTRE



Pokaik's Walk for residential school victims and survivors



Western Canada High School



Mural unveiling in Chinatown



PRIDE weekend

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Patrick Cousineau (Ottawa) et Shaney Pap (Calgary) parlent français si vous choisissez de communiquer avec mon bureau en français.

GregMcLeanMP.ca

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

When a party gets a new Leader, MPs often receive new assignments. I will be moving from Natural Resources critic to the Environment Committee.

As the Natural Resources critic, I focused on the convergence of responsible energy policy with sustainable environmental policy. Our energy choices and our environmental advances go hand in hand.

Responsible Environmental Strategies

It will be critical to bring balance to the discussions. Canada can pursue a responsible environmental strategy while still allowing people to affordably heat their homes and enabling businesses to keep the economy moving.

I am a strong advocate for Canada to contribute much more to global emissions control if we would just recognize the value of our responsible products and world-leading technologies, and help other countries switch to these advantageous options.

I favour greater reliance on LNG replacing coal and biomass; on nuclear electricity to supplement intermittent wind and solar; and on Carbon Capture, Utilization and Storage as an effective means to mitigate emissions from oil and gas.

My colleagues agree that this work is right up my policy alley, and I'm excited to be involved.



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HH Nov 2022

Inflation Benefits the Government

The number one issue affecting Canadians right now is inflation.

Simply put, inflation erodes the value of your paycheque by making everything you pay for more expensive. That means less of your take-home pay is available for anything beyond the basics – your mortgage or rental payment; your family’s grocery bill; your heat and light at home.

It also makes your savings – if you have any room in your budget now, or what you have saved previously – worth less in the future because those savings will purchase less of what you need. All this inflation wouldn’t be so hard on Canadians if their wages and salaries went up in line with the increase in your cost of living. But that’s not how this works.

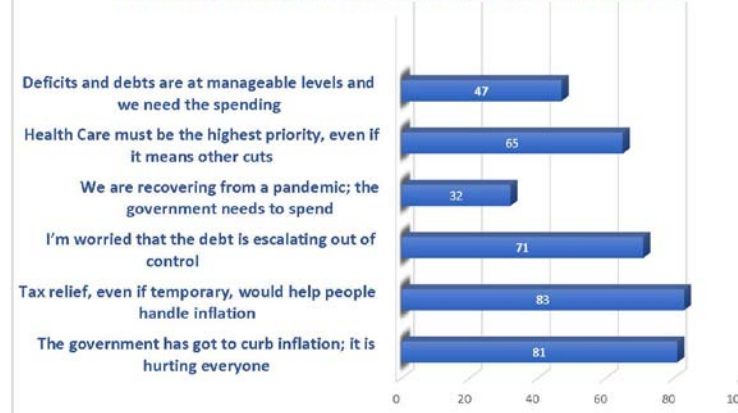
The only beneficiary of higher inflation is the government.

They collect more taxes from an inflated tax base – without passing that re-rating on to Canadians. Essentially, the government gets paid the same percentage on a higher tax base, and Canadians get to pay more of their earnings for that.

On top of that is the increased revenue the government receives from a GST applied on higher prices – which you pay. You’re not

11.4% FOOD INFLATION IS MAKING YOUR GROCERIES MORE EXPENSIVE			
BACON	UP 10%	APPLES	UP 17.3%
FISH	UP 9.8%	LETTUCE	UP 21.1%
BUTTER	UP 14.3%	MARGARINE	UP 37.4%
BREAD	UP 17%	COFFEE	UP 16.5%
RICE	UP 13.6%	SOUP	UP 17.6%
POTATOES	UP 17.2%	FRESH FRUIT	UP 12.7%
PASTA	UP 29.7%	VEGETABLES	UP 12.7%
BREAKFAST CEREAL	UP 16.7%		

Percentage of Respondents Agreeing with each Statement



Results of the constituent survey in my spring householder.

only paying more at the store – but the government is taking their increase there too.

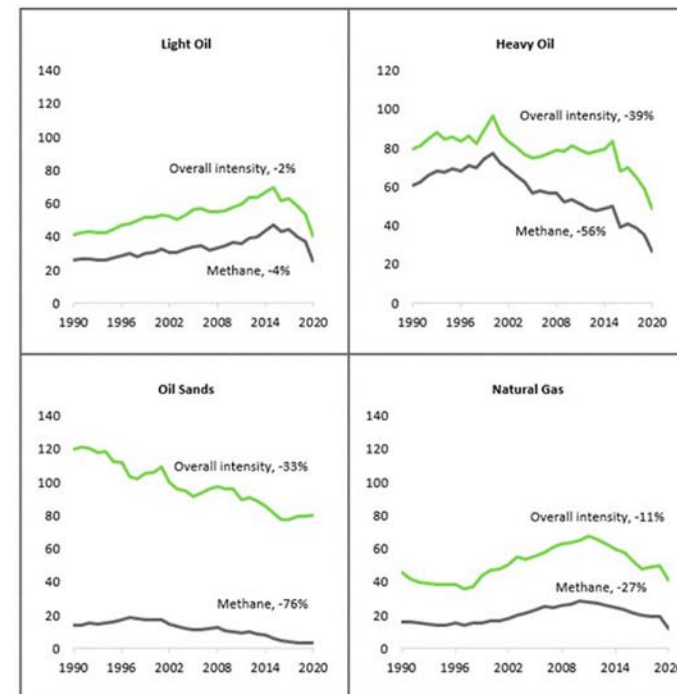
Inflation also leads directly to higher interest rates. Rising rates are painful for Canadians with debt. Canadians with variable rate mortgages have seen their monthly payments increase immediately, and fixed rate mortgages are re-rating as they come due to much higher monthly payments. Rents have also increased.

At a time of high inflation, the government is piling on, by increasing your payroll deductions (CPP, EI) on January 1, and raising the carbon tax 30% (\$50 to \$65) on April 1st. In the end, the Government is collecting much more. You are keeping much less.

Methane Reductions

A study by the Natural Resources Committee looked at a government initiative, the ERF Onshore Program, that aims to reduce methane emissions in the oil and gas sector. Methane is a potent greenhouse gas that persists in the atmosphere for less time than carbon dioxide but absorbs much more heat. This means that a given quantity of methane will contribute more to global warming than an equal quantity of CO². Methane emissions in Canada’s oil and gas sector fell by 4% overall between 1990 and 2020.

Emissions Intensity of Selected Oil and Gas Products in Canada, 1990 to 2020 (kg CO₂e/barrel of oil equivalent)



Housing Cost Hikes

A huge part of the cost-of-living crisis for many Canadians is the cost of housing. Whether your rent just keeps going up; or you have a mortgage with interest rate hikes, it costs more just to live. The government isn’t helping. It has resisted Conservative efforts to reduce the cost of maintaining your home. We proposed to remove the carbon tax from home heating. Heat is a necessity in a Canadian winter, and shouldn’t be taxed. Our motion failed.

Around the world, other countries are reducing taxes on fuel and energy use, given the spike in costs caused by inflation and world events. Other governments have recognized the escalating inflationary effects of adding costs to our energy. By taxing consumers more for their essential energy needs, Canada is an outlier.

We have also urged the government to investigate money laundering schemes that boost the cost of homes and reduce availability as criminals use housing to hide their funds. They refused to do so.

What priorities should I tackle on the Environment Committee?

- Getting LNG to Europe and Asia
- Supporting Canadian clean innovations
- Promoting Small Nuclear Reactors
- Incentives for carbon capture, utilization & storage
- Other:

Comments or Questions:

You can also answer the survey on the website: GregMcLeanMP.ca

To receive Greg’s e-newsletter, provide your email: