



As we enter the festive holidays, my wife Ruth joins with me in wishing you and your family a safe and enjoyable season of celebrations.

If you've been following our work in Parliament, you will know that the issue we are chiefly concerned with addressing is runaway inflation, fueled by higher taxes and excess government spending. The consequence is that many Canadians are facing some very tough choices this year.

The Parliamentary Budget Officer calculates that 60% of Albertans will pay more in carbon tax than they will receive back in rebates. This independent office disputes the government's narrative on this matter, quite openly, and yet, the Liberals are sticking to their contradictory talking points

Small businesses, including farms, receive no rebate and yet often have little control over how much fuel they must use for transportation and heating. Input costs are going up, which means some businesses must raise their prices. Wages are going up much more slowly than housing costs and essentials. Rent is going up at twice the pace of hourly wages; mortgage costs are up 11.4%.

Taxes - including the carbon tax due to increase on April 1st and payroll taxes that will go up January 1st - are **INTENDED** to create inflation. The theory is that higher prices constrain consumer spending, which helps to hold inflation down by reducing demand.

The problem in Canada is that inflated prices are for essentials - groceries,

heat and fuel. Families have very few options to cut down on those purchases, causing real hardship.

Inflation is good for government. As prices rise, so do government revenues. As tax rates rise, so do government revenues. If wages rise in response to inflation, the government takes their cut there too.

This government expects applause because it gives some of your tax money back in the form of rebates, one-time payments, and redundant programs. They deserve no applause. They are just recycling your money. Better to leave it in your pocket in the first place.

One way the government could reduce your inflation burden is to delay planned tax increases. They could also restrain unnecessary spending (of which there is plenty) so there is less money in the economy pushing up demand.

They refuse to do either. I will keep pressing. Some of my questions and speeches in the House are linked below and you can always find all of my interventions on [YouTube](#) and on my [website](#).



WHY IS CANADA THE OUTLIER ON CARBON TAXES?

Every G7 economy is reducing or repealing their carbon taxes because of the inflationary effect these taxes are having on food, fuel, home heating and everything else.

But not Canada. Canada is the outlier.

Does this Finance Minister know something that no one else in the G7 knows, or will she follow good advice from the major world economies and repeal the carbon tax increase?

I asked the government that question in Question Period on November 25.

[Watch here.](#)



INFLATION: GOOD FOR GOVERNMENT, NOT FOR YOU

Why is inflation so persistently high in Canada?

This government repeatedly defends itself by saying other countries have inflation too, without acknowledging that we measure differently than other countries (housing here is a smaller component of the calculation, for example). Besides, just because others have also made mistakes is not an excuse for Canada's government to take no remedial action.

The most important contributor to inflation today - taxes. Canada is the only G7 country not to repeal tax increases on fuel (instead, we are raising it on April 1). European countries have refunded over €700 million in fuel rebates to their citizens, to deal with the inflation caused by rising energy prices. We are moving counter to the world on this matter.

Inflation is good for governments that collect more revenue on higher prices, but bad for consumers who need to heat their homes, use a vehicle for work or family, operate a farm or business, or buy groceries that are transported from somewhere else.

I spoke on that in the [House on Nov 24:](#)



BILL S-5: PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT AND CANADIANS' HEALTH

The Environment Committee, of which I am a member, is studying a bill that originated in the Senate, [Bill S-5](#), with the cumbersome name of "*An Act to amend the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999, to make related amendments to the Food and Drugs Act and to repeal the Perfluorooctane Sulfonate Virtual Elimination Act*".

It is a complex Bill, with many technical legislative amendments. It recognizes the importance of minimizing the risks posed by cumulative effects of toxic substances, and the importance of considering vulnerable populations in risk assessments. We are largely supportive, but we will be proposing amendments to gain some clarity. This is some of the detail work of legislating that most Canadians don't see their representatives perform

The preamble asserts that every Canadian has a right to a healthy environment, which raises some very interesting questions about what this means and why we need such a statement.

[In this clip](#), I questioned the witness about countries that have constitutional provisions for a healthy environment. **Do you think that Bahrain, Bangladesh and Tanzania have better environmental outcomes than Canada?**

The witness, Lisa Gue, Manager, National Policy, from the David Suzuki Foundation, acknowledged that the key strategy to protect citizens from toxic substances is enforcing appropriate laws, not some vague guarantee of a right. Canada already has and enforces such laws. If we need to strengthen those laws in light of new developments, that is a different question.

Several clips from my questions can be seen on my [YouTube channel](#) and on my [website under the News tab](#).



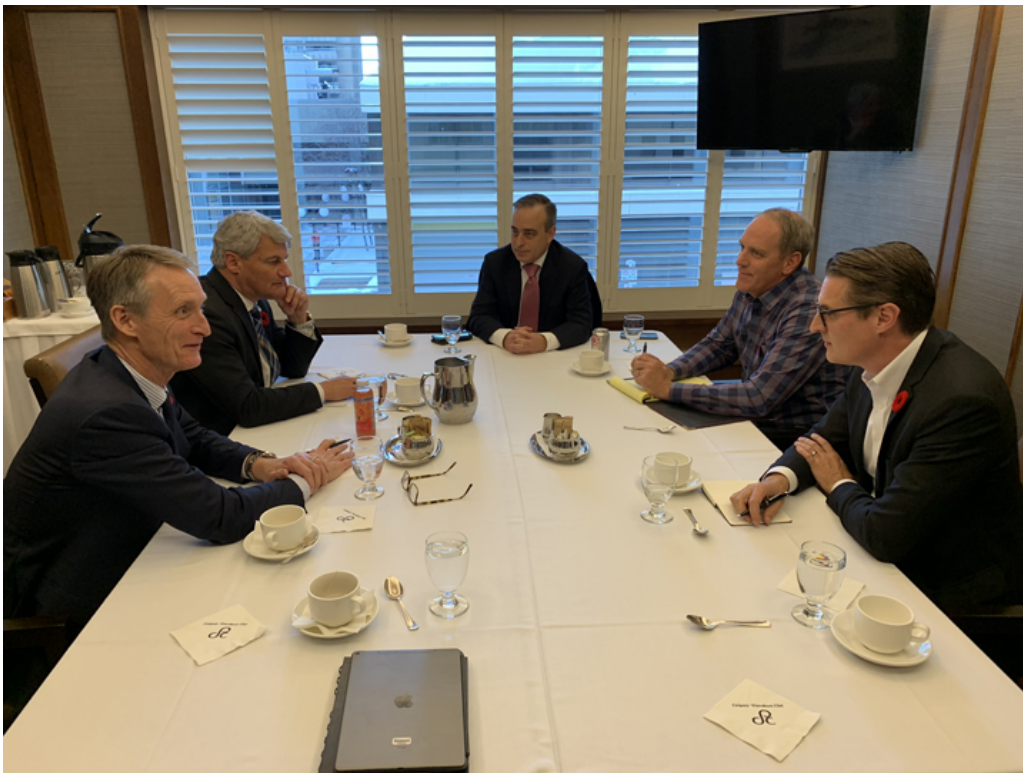
AROUND CALGARY CENTRE



I attended the Rideau-Roxboro community association meeting and heard from many residents about their concerns.



I opened Canadian UAV's new Textron Aerosonde distribution centre which supports Calgary's growth as a hub for aviation expertise and adds 20 new high quality technology jobs.



I hosted my colleague MP Gérard Deltell from Louis-Saint-Laurent (Québec). Gérard is the Conservative's Shadow Minister for Environment and Climate Change and has a keen interest in Canada's sustainable energy industry including the responsible contribution from fossil fuels. We met with the Pathways Alliance, the six largest oil sands developers committed to net zero by 2050; with the Petroleum Technology Alliance

(PTAC), focused on innovation in the hydrocarbons industry; with the Transition Accelerator, that is moving Canada's hydrogen developments forward; and with the Clean Resources Innovation Network (CRIN), that is leading in reducing the environmental footprint in our resource industries.



I attended a rally, hosted by my colleague MP Tom Kmiec, against the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps and in support of brave Iranian women and men who are protesting against the injustices in their lives.

Please get in touch if there's anything my office can do for you.

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