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A MESSAGE FROM YOUR MP

I hope everyone has enjoyed the first few weeks of Spring. At the end of March, members of the Hindu community gathered to celebrate Holi, the Festival of Colours, Love, and Spring. Christians marked the passing of Easter. I hope everyone had a blessed and holy Easter filled with family and chocolate. Finally, on April 13, Sikh and Hindu Canadians gathered to celebrate Vaisakhi, the Spring Harvest Festival.

For over 35 years, Rotary International has worked hard to eradicate polio, with global polio cases having declined more than 99.9% since 1986. Since first becoming an MP in 2015, I have proudly brought the fight against polio to Parliament, meeting regularly with members of Rotary International and advocating for Canada to contribute funding to Rotary's polio eradication efforts. I was recently invited to speak at the weekly Langley Central Rotary meeting to discuss current government policies that are helping Canadians. The Chair of the Rotary Polio Advocacy Committee for Canada and former Vice President of Rotary International, Dean Rohrs, honoured me with the presentation of the Rotary Polio Hero Award. I am grateful for the recognition of my contributions to the campaign to end polio. This is just the beginning—I will continue to work with my fellow Rotarians until polio is completely eradicated in the world.

April 22 marks Earth Day, an annual celebration of the environment and a commitment to protecting the planet for future generations. Climate change is an existential threat that needs to be addressed now. This month's newsletter shares three initiatives this government has taken since 2015 to protect Canadians from the dangers of natural disasters caused by climate change, protect the beautiful natural environment of Canada, and ensure there is clean air for future generations.

All the best,

Photos: John receives Rotary Polio Hero Award



CLIMATE RESILIENCE: ADAPTING OUR INFRASTRUCTURE

Canadians are growing all too familiar with the devastating consequences of climate change. From flooding in 2021 to 2.48 million hectares of forest lost to fire in BC alone in 2023, we need to be prepared for whatever extreme weather situations are thrown our way.

For every \$1 we invest in climate adaptation measures now, we are saving Canadians up to

\$15 in costs across the economy. Part of our National Adaptation Strategy is the **Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund**, (DMAF) which specializes in structural and infrastructure projects to increase the resilience of communities impacted by natural disasters caused by climate change.

In 2019, we provided \$76 million through the DMAF

to the cities of Surrey and Delta to improve the region's resiliency to flooding. With 13 projects underway or completed in Surrey since this investment, we're taking

the right steps to make sure Canadians are protected while we address the root of the problem: climate change.

DID YOU KNOW?

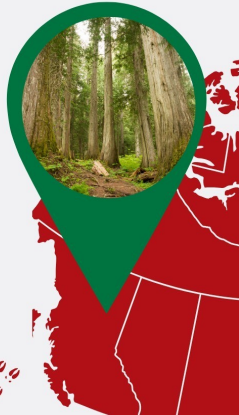
The DMAF is a part of our larger long-term infrastructure plan. Since 2016, the **Investing in Canada Plan** has invested over \$147 billion in 95,000 infrastructure projects across the country, 94 percent of which are underway or completed.

30% BY 2030: THE BC NATURE AGREEMENT

HISTORIC AGREEMENT TO PROTECT NATURE IN B.C.!

Backed by **\$1 billion**, federal, provincial and Indigenous partners unite to protect 30% of lands in B.C.!

- 1 REINFORCE INDIGENOUS RIGHTS
- 2 FULL PARTNERSHIP WITH FIRST NATIONS
- 3 PROTECTS SPECIES AT RISK AND HELPS REVERSE BIODIVERSITY LOSS
- 4 PROTECTS OLD GROWTH AND VITAL HABITAT
- 5 EXPANDS TREE PLANTING PROGRAMS
- 6 FIGHTS CLIMATE CHANGE



In November 2023, the Governments of Canada and British Columbia, and the First Nations Leadership Council, signed a groundbreaking framework agreement to protect and conserve biodiversity, habitats, and species at risk in the province.

One key goal of the agreement is advancing Canada and BC's commitment to protecting at least 30 percent of BC's lands and waters by 2030. With the Framework Agreement, we're working to

reverse the alarming decline in biodiversity while advancing reconciliation and stewardship activities in full partnership with First Nations Leadership.

What the Agreement does:

- Protects 30% of BC's lands and waters by 2030
- Protects species at risk, like the Spotted Owl and Boreal Caribou
- Protects and restores valuable habitat, such as Old Growth Forests and wetlands

TWO BILLION TREES: CLEAN AIR FOR TOMORROW

Planting more trees benefits all of us. From carbon capture to enhancing biodiversity to supporting human well-being, our **2 Billion Trees (2BT) Program** is tackling the dual crises of climate change and biodiversity loss.

Healthy forest ecosystems are home to thousands of living organisms. Forests supply us with food,

provide shelter and shade, and hold spiritual significance for many, particularly within Indigenous cultures.

In July 2023 I joined Minister Wilkinson and Mayor Locke to announce that, since the 2BT Program launched in 2021, the Government of Canada has supported the planting of over 110 million trees. This exceeds the program's

goal of planting 90 million trees during its first two years.

Together with provinces, territories, non-profit organizations, businesses, and Indigenous governments and organizations, we will reach our goal of planting two billion trees across Canada by 2031.

