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Your Member of Parliament for Whitby

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Dear Neighbours,

I hope you and your family have been keeping well over the last month. With February and March being some of the busiest months of the Parliamentary Calendar, I've been busy working on your behalf, including conducting pre-budget consultations, attending community events, hosting stakeholder meetings, facilitating local constituency council meetings, making individual check-in calls, participating in parliamentary debates, and engaging actively in the proceedings of two parliamentary standing committees. I had the opportunity to have conversations with many of you and as always am thankful for the valuable feedback and input you provided during the pre-budget consultation process. The feedback and ideas provided by Whitby's businesses, non-profits, public sector leaders, and those of our seniors, youth and others have been included in our submissions to the Ministry of Finance.

I know that for all of us, the last two years have been extremely difficult, but with the warmer weather coming and spring just around the corner, as well as the recent news of some public health restrictions being loosened or lifted, I look forward to March being a period of growth and renewal. Let's not forget that these are hard-earned, and welcome changes that are the result of our high vaccination rates and our many contributions and sacrifices over the last two years. I want to sincerely thank every person in our community for consistently acting to protect the health and safety of our loved ones, our neighbours and those that are most vulnerable in our community.

With respect and sincerity,

Ryan Turnbull
Member of Parliament for Whitby

INSIDE: Canada's Response to Putin's War on Ukraine, Loosening Federal Border Restrictions, and more...

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Sign up for my weekly email updates at:
Ryan.Turnbull@parl.gc.ca

WE ARE HERE TO HELP YOU

My office is fully operational and is available to assist you with any questions or concerns you may have. We are available by phone or email.



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- Old Age Security (OAS)
- Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS)
- Canada Pension Plan (CPP)
- Passport Canada
- Employment Insurance (EI)
- Canadian Citizenship and Immigration
- Canada Student Loans (CSL)
- Canada Revenue Agency (CRA)
- Greetings from the Prime Minister
- Certificates from your MP



Canada's Response to Putin's War on Ukraine



On Thursday, February 24, 2022, after stationing 100,000 Russian troops on the northern, eastern and southern borders of Ukraine, the President of the Russian Federation, Vladimir Putin, invaded Ukraine after weeks of lies and distractions meant to deflect from his true intentions. The Government of Canada condemns President Putin's horrifying, illegal and unprovoked invasion of Ukraine in the strongest terms, an independent, sovereign and democratic country. **In the name of freedom, democracy and upholding the international rules-based order, we will continue to impose severe, coordinated**

economic sanctions while providing humanitarian aid, lethal and non-lethal military support, and welcoming Ukrainian refugees to Canada. Applying pressure alongside our allies as we call on Russia to reverse course and withdraw its forces will continue. The Honourable Melanie Joly, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and the Honourable Anita Anand, Minister of National Defence, remain in close contact with their Ukrainian and NATO counterparts.

Canada has:

- Provided Ukraine with more than \$890 million in multifaceted assistance to support Ukraine's security, prosperity, and reform objectives since, in the long-term, reforms are the most effective strategy for building Ukraine's resilience to Russian aggression;
- Extended Operation Unifier, training more than 33,000 Ukrainian armed forces members into a more disciplined, agile, and effective force;

Since Russia's invasion of Ukraine on February 24, 2022, Canada has:

- Donated three shipments of more than \$7.8 million worth of lethal weapons, in addition to the \$23 million of non-lethal gear such as communications

equipment, a mobile field hospital, night-vision goggles and body armour;

- Imposed sanctions in coordination with allies to restrict Putin's war chest - the reserves of the Russian Central Bank;
- Led the charge to remove Russian banks from the SWIFT banking system;
- Imposed an asset freeze and a dealings prohibition on the Russian sovereign wealth fund;
- Subjected all Russian and Belarus exports coming into Canada to a 35% tariff by revoking their "most-favoured nation status";
- Decided to welcome an unlimited number of Ukrainians to come to Canada on a temporary basis with expedited emergency visas using a simplified application process.

I will be sure to keep you updated on this conflict while remaining hopeful that it will not escalate any further. **The Government of Canada's resolve to uphold the rules-based international order and support the sovereignty and security of Ukraine, Europe, and the world is unwavering.** We continue to stand with the Ukrainian people as we are inspired by their strength and resolve in defending their democracy.

Funding to local businesses through My Main Street

The My Main Street Local Business Accelerator Program is made possible by a substantial investment from the Government of Canada through FedDev and directly supports our local business community. **I am pleased to update you that Downtown Whitby and Downtown Brooklin will be supported with 3 dedicated Main Street Ambassadors, customized market research, data analysis and non-repayable funding contributions for new and existing small businesses.** This program will help our local entrepreneurs and small businesses bounce back from COVID-19 and ensure we continue to build flourishing and vibrant downtowns in Whitby and Brooklin. We know our small businesses are the beating heart of our main streets, and ensuring they are thriving and prosperous is a high priority for me.

Removing Pre-Entry Tests for Fully Vaccinated Travellers

As of April 1, 2022, fully vaccinated travellers will no longer need to provide a pre-entry COVID-19 test result to enter Canada. Fully vaccinated travellers who arrive in Canada before April 1 must still have a valid pre-entry test. **These new measures are great news for local tourism as well as our economy.**

As a reminder, fully vaccinated travellers arriving in Canada may still need to take a COVID-19 molecular test on arrival if selected for random testing. Travellers selected for mandatory random testing are not required to quarantine while awaiting their test result.

For partially or unvaccinated travellers who are currently allowed to travel to Canada, pre-entry testing requirements are not changing. Unless otherwise exempt, all travellers 5 years of age or older who do not qualify as fully vaccinated must continue to provide proof of an accepted type of pre-entry COVID-19 test result. The safety and security of Canadians is our highest priority, and we will continue basing our decisions on science to ensure a safe and gradual reopening.



Canada Healthy Communities Initiative Funding Announcement for Whitby

I was pleased to see **funding of \$61,700 awarded to Victim Services of Durham Region to support their project, Empowering Girls Online (EGO) - Disrupting Human Trafficking and Gender-Based Violence Online.** This funding will be provided as part of a second round of investments through the Canada Healthy Community Initiative (CHCI). As youth have been mostly isolated at home, they have turned to social media to express their frustrations, the same sites from which human traffickers have been targeting and luring victims. As per the Empowering Girls Online (EGO) goals - Disrupting Human Trafficking and GBV Online project, this funding from the Government of Canada will reduce the number of human trafficking and GBV victims in Durham Region and develop a tested model of human trafficking online recruitment disruption.



I WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

My job is to be your voice in Ottawa. Hearing from you is what allows me to be an effective Member of Parliament. I work hard to listen and keep up to date with your priorities. I appreciate you taking the time to provide valuable feedback by filling out this form.

First name

Last name

Phone Number

Email Address

Postal Code

How is Ryan doing as your Member of Parliament?

- Very good
- Good
- Neutral
- Poorly
- Very poorly

What are the most important issues facing you and your family?

More Affordable Housing Secured for Durham Region

In March, our Government announced the creation of **36 more affordable housing units for Durham Region**. Our investment will support two new projects under the Projects Stream of the expanded Rapid Housing Initiative (RHI):

- Providing 26 new transitional units through the Muslim Welfare Residences located at 732-740 Dundas Street in Whitby, for women who are homeless or at risk of becoming so;
- Providing 10 affordable homes through Oshawa Microhomes for the homeless, those at risk of homelessness, and those with mental health or addiction issues.



Since the beginning of this year, the Government of Canada has announced 78 affordable homes to be built this year in Durham Region alone.

Supporting Low-Income Seniors Who Received Pandemic Benefits

Many seniors have experienced clawbacks from their Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) and Allowance benefits because of the additional income they received from CERB and CRB during earlier days of the pandemic. To address this discrepancy, the Government will provide up to \$742.4 million for one-time payments. **This automatic, one-time payment will support seniors who saw a loss of GIS or Allowance by compensating them for the whole annualized loss amount.** Seniors do not need to take any action to receive the one-time payment.

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