# RYAN TURNBULL, M.P. WHITBY COMMUNITY UPDATE

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Dear Neighbours,

I sincerely hope you have all been keeping well over this past week and that all the dads of Whitby had a wonderful Father's Day this past Sunday.

As we approach the end of this parliamentary session, I can truly say that I am proud of the work this government has done to fight climate change and make life more affordable. In this session, we made historic investments that will speed up Canada's transition to green energy, lower carbon emissions, create new jobs, and provide a strong economy for our children and grandchildren. We also brought finalized deals to bring affordable childcare to all provinces and territories, ensured that all Canadians have access to dental care going forward, and made investments to get Canadians into affordable homes. I am very excited to see the fruits of our labour as I believe that the work we did during this session will leave Canada better off in the long run.

Although this week was the final week in the House, there was still much work to be done before our final sitting day on the 23rd. I was busy with committee meetings and votes, none more critical than the Online Streaming Act, which will go a long way to protecting Canadian Content Creators from exploitation by digital platforms.

Before returning to Ottawa for the last sitting week, I had the opportunity to attend events in Whitby and meet some of the difference makers in our community. It's great to get into the community, and I look forward to being able to

spend even more time meeting my constituents during the summer break. On Tuesday, we celebrated National Indigenous Peoples' Day across the country. I think it's important to first acknowledge that Whitby sits on the traditional territory of the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation. It was an important opportunity to celebrate the rich cultures of Canada's First Nations, Inuit, and Metis peoples. However, it is crucial to remember that these rich cultures were severely and sometimes irreparably damaged by Canada's institutional institutions.

These institutions include Canada's Indian residential school system, which forcefully removed indigenous children from their families and communities in the name of assimilation. Many of these children were abused mentally, physically, and sexually, and some never returned home, leaving their families to wonder what happened to their child. With the continued discovery of unmarked graves at the former sites of residential schools, we now know what happened. We must do the difficult work to repair the damage and help Canada's Indigenous peoples heal and rebuild their communities.

Reconciliation can only happen when the truth is acknowledged, and it is our job as a nation to uncover and confront these difficult truths. It is also our job as Parliamentarians to create empathetic and effective policy that will right the wrongs of the past and remove the systemic barriers of the present. Our government knows that there is much work to do, and we will continue to fight to make Canada a more inclusive place for all.

On the weekend, I had the chance to visit the Abilities Centre to celebrate their 10th anniversary and all the positive work they've done for the people of Whitby. For the past ten years, they have done an incredible job of creating inclusive spaces for people with disabilities in our community.





MP Turnbull at the Abilities Centre 10th anniversary celebration last weekend.

Many people with disabilities face prohibitive barriers that exclude them from participating in the parts of life that so many of us take for granted. The Abilities Centre was created to make a space where persons with disabilities could access inclusive community services focused on improving their health and social well-being along with fostering economic participation.

I was astonished by their beautiful facility and all the programs they have to offer to all who wish to access them. Thanks for letting me tour your facilities and participate in some of the activities you showcased this past Saturday. The Abilities Centre is yet another example of Whitby residents doing fantastic work to improve the lives of people in our community. It makes me proud to represent a community where so many are deeply dedicated to giving back. To everybody at the Abilities Centre, please keep up the excellent work! What you are doing is making Whitby an even more equitable and inclusive place for people of all abilities.

This past weekend my family and I were also able to attend the Whitby Yacht Club's annual Blessing of the Fleet Sail Past. There's truly nothing better than spending a sunny morning on the shores of Lake Ontario, and it's one of the many things I love about Whitby. I want to thank them for inviting me and allowing me to say some words to everyone who gathered with us to celebrate.





MP Turnbull poses with the Whitby Yacht Club members at their annual Blessing of the Fleet sail past this past Saturday.

Since 1966, the Whitby Yacht Club has given people in our community a chance to learn to sail, spend time on the water, and create lasting bonds with their neighbours, and they are welcoming to people of all ages and backgrounds. We are fortunate to have them in Whitby, and I commend them for all they do in our community.

After two years of the pandemic, I was happy to finally visit and meet the great people who make the Whitby Yacht Club what it is. It's people like you who make Whitby a special place to live and work.

In the House of Commons I had the pleasure of congratulating Durham Region Transit's awarding of \$68 million in funding from the Canada Infrastructure Bank for the purchase of up to 100 new battery-electric buses. This funding will allow Durham Region Transit to transition away from its current diesel-fueled fleet and introduce a transit system that is reliable and efficient.

Through the transition to zero-emission buses, Durham Region Transit will significantly reduce operating costs and cut carbon emissions by 8,000 tonnes per year. This will help make Durham Region greener and give us more tools to fight climate change in our community. Durham Region is also set to get more zero-emission personal vehicles on the road and more charging stations to power them.

Through all these steps, we will be able to increase the number of ZEV's on the road and lower are carbon footprint.

On Friday of last week, Minister Hussen (Minister of Housing and Diversity and Inclusion and Minister responsible for Canada Mortgage and Housing Cooperation) announced the launch of phase one of the Canada Greener Homes Loan. Loans will be available for up to 175,000 homeowners who will be able to access loans of up to \$40,000 for deep home retrofits. Phase one will be open to eligible homeowners with an open, pre-retrofit stage application. This is a continuation of Budget 2021's \$4.4 billion program along with Budget 2022's additional \$458.5 million that aims to help homeowners find loans to conduct deep retrofits of their homes and make them more energy-efficient.

The Canada Greener Homes Loan will work in tandem with the Canada Greener Homes Grant, which has already received more than 171,000 applications and has awarded \$38 million in grants to over 10,000 Canadians since its launch in May of 2021.

Locally, Whitby residents will also be able to conduct retrofits through the Durham Greener Homes Program. The program will help homeowners connect with consultants and contractors and undertake retrofits like installing new HVAC equipment, lighting, high-efficiency applications, electric charging infrastructure, new doors, and windows, plus much more. Not only will this help fight climate change, but it will also lower utility costs and improve the quality of life for people living in affordable housing.

Through the Canada Greener Homes Loan, Canadian homeowners will have all the tools necessary to make their homes more energy-efficient and join in the fight against climate change.

As always, my staff at the constituency office and I are here to help you. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any concerns of a federal nature you may have.

Warmest Regards, Ryan Turnbull



The Latest from Your Government

### The Online Streaming Act

On Tuesday, The House of Commons passed the Online Streaming Act that will create new requirements for digital platforms to follow so that Canadian Content Creators are fairly compensated for their talents. As it currently stands, web giants have no obligation to support Canadian Creators despite making billions here in Canada. The Online Streaming Act will obligate digital platforms operating in Canada to compensate Canadian Creators, contribute to the creation of Canadian Content, and protect our children and most vulnerable from exposure to harmful content.

The Online Streaming Act is about protecting Canadian Content and Canadian Culture, not infringing on freedom of expression. Our goal will always be to protect the expression and creativity of Canadian Content Creators, not stifle it. As more and more of our content moves online, we will need to continue working to ensure that CanCon does not get lost in the shuffle.

I look forward to seeing this bill continue through our upper levels of government and become a law that will allow Canadian Content Creators to tell our stories.

#### NORAD Modernization

The North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) has kept Canadians and Americans safe for over 60 years. However, the modern challenges we currently face will require modern solutions to solve them. Defence Minister Anita Anand, General Wayne Eyre, and Lieutenant-General Alain Pelletier, Deputy Commander of NORAD, announced Canada's commitment to modernizing NORAD's defence systems to protect Canadians from all possible new and emerging threats.

This commitment to modernization is supported by Budget 2022's investment of \$3 billion over the next six years to enhance the threat-detecting capabilities of both the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) and NORAD. This modernization will also improve communications systems, strengthen our weapons systems, ensure a strong military presence across the country if need be, and bolster scientific and technological development. At a time when autocratic regimes would threaten international peace and order, we must have the modern capabilities to deal with whatever threats may arise.

Learn more about NORAD modernization here

#### New funding for Early Learning and Childcare

On Wednesday, Minister Qualtrough (Employment, Workforce Development, and Disability Inclusion) and Minister Gould (Families, Children, and Social

Development) announced an investment of \$12.5 million in funding for 225 early learning and childcare centres. The funding will come from the Enabling Accessibility Fund's Early Learning and Childcare small projects component and will support childcare organizations that provide specialized and inclusive care for children with disabilities.

With our historic investment of over \$27 billion to bring early learning and childcare across the country, along with our government's agreements to implement our plan in every province and territory, Canadians can take heart knowing that affordable childcare is on the way. The announcement on Wednesday will also ensure that all children of all abilities will be accommodated in our plan.

These investments will go a long way to setting Canada's children up with the best head-start they need to live successful and prosperous lives in the future. Learn about the funding coming from the Enabling Accessibility Fund's Early Learning and Childcare small projects component <u>here</u>

#### Mental Health Promotion funding

The COVID-19 Pandemic has revealed many gaps in access to mental health services in Canada, and the federal government is committed to helping find the solutions needed to close them. Minister Carolyn Bennett (Minister of Mental Health and Addictions and Associate Minister of Health) recently announced that six mental health promotion organizations in Ontario will receive portions of a \$6.6 million investment through the Mental Health Promotion Innovation Fund.

Of the six organizations receiving funding, three operate in the Greater Toronto Area. Those organizations include the Hospital for Sick Kids in Toronto, Community Food Centres Canada, and Central Toronto Youth Services. Certain barriers like racism, discrimination, socioeconomic status, and social exclusion can all limit a person's access to mental health services. With these investments, we hope to bring greater access to mental health services to those who need it most.

Beyond this, the Mental Health Promotion Innovation Fund is supporting community-based programs to examine the social causes of mental health challenges and also helps programs looking to implement culturally sensitive solutions. Closing these gaps will lead to an improved quality of life for people struggling with mental illness.

Learn about the Mental Health Promotion Innovation Fund's investments here

# **Pension Protection Act**

On Wednesday, the House heard the Second Reading of the proposed Pension Protection Act and unanimously voted to move it to a Third Reading. The Act proposes to create new protections that ensure seniors receive 100% of the pension committed to them in the case of corporate insolvency. Unfortunately, more than 250,000 Canadians have experienced pension income loss since 1982, and there have been numerous calls for the federal government to find solutions. The Pension Protection Act is one step that the government can take to allow seniors to retire to full pensions after long careers.

I have long been a vocal supporter of pension protection, and I am glad to see my colleagues take this issue seriously. Last week I presented a petition by Whitby resident Michael Powell who called on Parliamentarians to work collaboratively to find solutions to protect seniors' pensions, and I assure you, we will work hard to prevent seniors from experiencing income loss.

# **Pride Flags**

June is Pride Month. Over the month, we will celebrate the contributions and impacts of LGBTQ2 communities across the country. It is an opportunity to reflect on our progress to expand and protect LGBTQ2 rights in Canada, commemorating the work done by activists and acknowledging the work that still needs to be done.

Our constituency office will offer Pride posters for Whitby residents who want to celebrate Pride Season with us. If you would like to request a poster, please email <u>ryan.turnbull@parl.gc.ca</u> with your name and address, and we will send one. I look forward to continuing to work hard to make Canada a more equitable and inclusive place.

# Canada Day

With Canada Day quickly approaching, I am offering Canada Day signs for any resident who may be interested. If you would like a lawn sign, head to my website at <u>https://turnbullwhitby.ca/canada-day-signs/</u> and signup with your name and address. I hope you have a wonderful Canada Day.



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