



HOUSE OF COMMONS
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CANADA

PATRICK WEILER

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A MESSAGE FROM YOUR MP

In September, our Government delivered the 2020 Speech from the Throne, highlighting our continuing response to the pandemic and commitments to Build Back Better for a more resilient Canada.

From extending emergency supports for families and businesses, building a national childcare program, to investments supporting a green recovery, we have an ambitious plan to support Canadians and deliver for our communities.

This October also marks the one year anniversary since I was elected as your Member of Parliament. Since then, I have engaged with thousands of

constituents from every corner of our riding, to listen to your priorities and concerns, and to advocate on your behalf. I am proud to be our community's voice in Ottawa, and I look forward to continuing to work for you for as long as I have the honour of doing so.

Sincerely,

Patrick Weiler, MP
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Protecting Canadians from COVID-19

Protecting the health and safety of Canadians is our number one priority as we learn to live and work with COVID-19. Through the \$19 billion Safe Restart Agreement, and \$2 billion Safe Return to Class Fund, we are making sure provinces, municipalities, workplaces, and schools, have the resources they need to keep people safe. As we enter peak flu season, the federal government will continue to help provinces increase their testing capacity, having secured 7.9 million rapid point-of-care tests for distribution. To prevent small clusters from becoming major outbreaks, communities may need to enact short-term closure orders. To make that decision easier for public health authorities, we will provide financial support directly to businesses which have to temporarily shut down.

As global vaccine development continues, we have already secured access to vaccine candidates and therapeutics, while investing in manufacturing and distribution capacity here at home. From the Vaccine Task Force, to the Immunity Task Force, Canada's top scientific minds are guiding our country every step of the way.



Photo:
Participating virtually in the
2020 Speech from the Throne

We Want to Hear From You

Share your thoughts by emailing us at Patrick.Weiler@parl.gc.ca or sending a letter to the Constituency Office at 6367 Bruce Street, West Vancouver, BC, V7W 2G5. No postage required.

Helping Canadians through the pandemic

Our Government took bold action early on to support Canadian workers and businesses at the onset of the pandemic with the Canada Emergency Response Benefit, Wage Subsidy, and Business Account, among other measures. Hundreds of businesses have told me how these programs have been lifelines to their businesses, allowing them to adapt, pivot, and navigate through the pandemic, while employing innovative solutions to keep employees and customers safe.

To ensure workers and businesses have the supports they need, we are extending the Wage Subsidy through to next summer and are expanding the Canada Emergency Business Account so more can apply. We are also bringing forward additional support for industries that have been the hardest hit, including travel and tourism, hospitality, and cultural industries like the performing arts. Those who have lost their jobs from the pandemic will now have access to a reformed, more flexible and generous Employment Insurance system. For those who still do not qualify for EI, a new Canada Recovery Benefit will provide continuing support to weather the pandemic. We also brought forward paid sick leave so individuals can safely quarantine at home without worrying about putting food on the table, as well as a caregiver benefit for those who must take time off work to care for a dependent because of the pandemic. All three programs are open for application, and more information on these and other programs can be found at canada.ca/coronavirus.



*Photo:
Meeting with Canada
Summer Jobs
students with
Ocean Ambassadors
Canada*

The Canada we're fighting for

The 2020 Speech from the Throne also reaffirmed our commitments to building a more equal and inclusive Canada, one that learns from our mistakes and builds on our societal obligations for a fairer, more just society. To that end, we are accelerating work on the National Action Plan and implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls for Action and will enshrine the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples into federal law by the end of 2020.

For too many Canadians, systemic racism is a lived reality. We need to address this head on, and to do so requires systemic change. Canada's Anti-Racism Strategy for 2019-2022 will lead these efforts, having already created an anti-racism secretariat and the appointment of the first-ever Minister focused specifically on diversity and inclusion. We are focused on economic empowerment of racialized communities through programs like the Black Entrepreneurship Program, while closing infrastructure and services gaps that continue to impact Indigenous communities. Our Government will also introduce legislation and make investments that take action to address the systemic inequities in all phases of the criminal justice system and move forward to modernize law enforcement training and reforms to the RCMP.

Building Back Better

The pandemic has impacted the most vulnerable in our country, highlighting existing deficits in our social safety net system that we must address. In particular, the tragic losses in long term care homes represent the biggest calamity of the pandemic. This is why we will work with the provinces and territories to institute national standards for long-term care of seniors to ensure our elders have access to the standard of care they deserve. Our Government will bring forward a Disability Inclusion Plan, modelled after the GIS for seniors, increase Old Age Security once a senior turns 75, and boost the Canada Pension Plan Survivor's Benefit. To create a more resilient health care system, we will accelerate steps to achieve a national, universal pharmacare program. There is no greater measure our country could take to improve gender equity and growing our economy than ensuring access to affordable, inclusive, and high quality childcare. As such, we will work with provinces and territories to create a Canada-wide early learning and childcare system. We have also committed to completely eliminating chronic homelessness across the country through the recently announced Rapid Housing Initiative, and by partnering with co-ops and non-profits for solutions in the mid-to long-term.

A key part of our plan to Build Back Better is to build back greener. Our Government will immediately bring forward a plan to exceed Canada's 2030 climate goal and will legislate five-year climate targets to ensure our country meets our commitment to be net-zero in emissions by 2050. Progress in meeting our climate commitments also makes our economy more competitive, resilient and will be a cornerstone of our plan to create a million jobs across the country. Through home and building retrofitting, making zero-emissions vehicles more affordable, building more electric vehicle charging infrastructure, investing in sustainable public transit options, and working with our agricultural and natural resource sectors, we will create jobs that will provide local and global environmental benefits. We will also launch a new fund to attract the creation of zero-emissions products, and take measures to make Canada the best place to start and grow a clean tech company, providing even more of the innovative technologies our world will need to solve the challenges of this century. Investments in rural broadband Internet connections will address the urban-rural divide, solving a persistent inequity and unlock opportunities throughout our region and country.



*Photo: Giving a Member's Statement in the House of Commons on
September 30, 2020*



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