

## LEGISLATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS



### A New Canadian Environmental Protection Act

Bill S-5, became law on June 13, 2023, modernizing the Canadian Environmental Protection Act (CEPA). This marked one of the most significant advancements in Canadian environmental law in a generation. I worked directly on many of the aspects of this foundational piece of environmental legislation that protects Canadians and the environment from toxic substances in my role as a member of the Standing Committee for Environment and Sustainable Development. Among other changes, I amended this legislation to create, for the first time in Canadian history, a **right to a “clean, healthy, and sustainable environment.”** Bill S-5 also included the following amendments:

- Requiring the government to create a fresh strategy for **prioritizing continuous risk assessments of chemicals**, including specific timelines
- A strategy to **decrease reliance on animal testing**
- **The implementation of informative labeling** to provide valuable information to the public
- **Consideration of cumulative effects of toxic substances** and on vulnerable populations
- **Respecting the principles of environmental justice**, non-regression, and intergenerational equity.



Photo (above): With Environment Minister Steven Guilbeault and others who helped make the new CEPA possible

Photo (right): Standing with our incredible old growth forests



### Motion 83: Preserving Canada's Old Growth

British Columbia's old growth forests are iconic, irreplaceable, and immeasurably valuable on their own, for the habitat they provide for engendered animals and the service they provide for us, including in storing carbon pollution. But less than 8% of productive big treed old growth forests remain in British Columbia, less than a third of all old growth forests have legal protection, and these remaining forests are threatened by inherently unsustainable logging.

That is why I introduced **Motion-83 in the House of Commons**, which provides a plan for federal leadership in old growth forest protection. My Motion specifically calls for:

- **Banning the export of old-growth trees** and products made from old growth logs
- **Banning the destruction of old growth** on federal lands
- **Conserving old growth through the Old Growth Nature Fund**
- **Supporting sustainable value-added forestry industry initiatives** in partnership with First Nations from sustainably harvested forests.

This Motion laid the groundwork for the Nature Agreement we signed with British Columbia and First Nations on November 3rd 2023. This new \$1 billion agreement provides the backing and framework to protect 30% of BC's environment by 2030, including 13,000 km2 of high priority old growth forests.



### Tackling Greenwashing

As a member of the Standing Committee on Finance, I worked on **Bill C-59, a major update to the Competition Act**. One key change I pushed for was to tackle greenwashing — the practice of companies making false or misleading environmental claims about their products or services. This has been a particular issue in the fossil fuel industry, where companies have spent millions trying to convince Canadians that more fossil fuel extraction is good for the environment.

Now, companies making environmental claims must provide proof to back them up. If they don't, they can face fines of up to \$10 million. This new law is already making a difference, as many oil and gas companies have pulled down their misleading ads, and you'll likely notice fewer of these ads on buses, billboards, and online.

## YOUR GOVERNMENT DELIVERING FOR CANADIANS

We have accomplished a lot since 2015. We know though that there is much more to do to build on the progress we've made but also address the new challenges and opportunities of the next few years. Read below for some of the highlights of this government since 2015.



**Raising tax on the top 1% so it can be lowered for the rest of Canadians to the lowest level in a generation**



**Lifted 2.3 million people out of poverty since 2015**



**Lowered the Small Business Tax Rate from 11% to 9%, so Canadians can build and invest in their small businesses**



**Implemented UNDRIP, prioritized Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples and made significant progress in addressing infrastructure and healthcare gaps**



**Legalizing cannabis, creating a regulated industry that's added \$45b to Canada's GDP, and created over 43,000 direct jobs**



**Comprehensive Climate Strategy that's lowered emissions to 1996 levels - when Canada's economy was 3.5x smaller with 10m less people**




**10 times more investment in public transit than the previous Conservative government**




**Protecting our coastal communities and ecosystems with the Oceans Protection Plan**



**Creating almost 3 million new jobs since 2015, and making Canada the third largest recipient of Foreign Direct Investment in the world**



**Salmon Stocks rebounding after historic investments in salmon recovery, and launching the transition away from open-net salmon aquaculture**




**Making \$10/day childcare a reality across Canada, saving families thousands of dollars per year**



**Protected 17% of Canada's land and 15.5% of water as we works towards our 30% protection goals by 2030**



**Creating the Canada Child Benefit, providing families up to \$7,437 per child in support**



**Restored regulatory confidence and protections in the Fisheries Act and environmental assessments through the Impact Assessment Act**



**Restoring OAS eligibility to 65 from 67, with a 10% increase for seniors over 75, and a 10% increase to the GIS**




**Delivering Canada's National Housing Strategy which has built over 150,000 affordable homes and is speeding up building approvals**




**Canadian Dental Care Plan saving 11,402 residents in our riding an average of \$780/year**



**Historic Investment in Infrastructure, with \$155 billion for over 99,000 projects, 92% of them completed or underway**



**Launched the Canada Disability Benefit to support the most vulnerable Canadians**



**Signed free trade deals with Europe, Pacific nations and others that give Canadian businesses access to the markets of over 50 countries**



**Launching the Pacific Economic Development Agency of Canada to support BC based business to grow and reach their potential**



**More than doubled investments in our military since 2014 as we work towards our 2% of GDP defence spending goal**



**Stood firm against Trump in his first term, and renegotiated NAFTA into CUSMA to protect Canadian interests**



## PATRICK WEILER

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## MP NEWSLETTER: A STRONG VOICE FOR OUR COMMUNITY

It has been an honour serving as your Member of Parliament for over five years. During this time, I have had the privilege of meeting and working with so many incredible people in West Vancouver-Sunshine Coast-Sea to Sky Country. I make it a priority to visit all parts of our riding regularly to listen to your concerns and better understand the issues that matter most to you.

I take my responsibilities in Ottawa as a legislator and as an advocate in our communities very seriously. A lot has been achieved over the past five years. In this newsletter, I'll highlight key priorities we've worked on, major local projects that have been delivered, and legislative changes I have championed in Ottawa.

With a new Prime Minister in office, we have a chance to shape a new direction for Canada. I'm excited to continue working with the Prime Minister and government to represent our community's needs and keep delivering for you.



## CANADA-US RELATIONS

Canada is facing some of the toughest challenges in our history. Our long-standing relationship with the United States is being tested, especially under a US president who doesn't value the partnership we've built over centuries. This calls for a fresh approach to both our domestic and foreign policies.

One of the most important steps we're taking is removing internal trade barriers within Canada. In February, the Government of Canada announced it would eliminate more than half of these barriers, with more to follow as we continue to consult with provinces and territories.

This move comes at a critical time as we face the threat of tariffs from the US. It will help strengthen our economy and is expected to add up to \$200 billion to Canada's economy each year.



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