



UPFRONT

with **Mike Wallace, MP**



A Publication of Mike Wallace, Member of Parliament for Burlington

Issue No. 16 Summer 2011

Canada's Economic Action Plan: Working for You

The Parliament of Canada was back shortly after the May 2nd election to deal with a number of urgent and time sensitive matters including our 2011 Budget. With the election of a majority government, we have been able to fully implement the Next Phase of Canada's Economic Action Plan. This plan includes several measures which will continue to assist Canadians during a fragile economy. This next phase is designed specifically to provide a low-tax plan to support jobs and growth. The budget includes several new measures to support families and communities, investing in innovation, education and training and preserves Canada's fiscal advantage. I would like to take this time to highlight some of the key actions taken in Budget 2011.

In order to further strengthen our economy, businesses should be provided with incentives to grow and to create new jobs. We will provide a one-time Hiring Credit for Small Businesses of up to \$1,000 against a small firm's increase in its EI premiums over those paid in 2010. Also, to encourage growth, the accelerated capital cost allowance rate for investment in machinery and equipment has been extended for an additional two years. Further, to protect employees who are affected by employer bankruptcy or receivership, this plan will enhance the Wage Earner Protection Program to cover a larger number of workers.

To continue strengthening Canada's Public Infrastructure, the Next Phase of Canada's Economic Action Plan includes several measures such as legislating a permanent annual investment of \$2 billion in the Gas Tax Fund to provide predictable, long-term infrastructure funding for municipalities.

Budget 2011 will also provide assistance to seniors who rely almost exclusively on their Old Age Security and the Guaranteed Income Supplement. This plan will enhance the GIS by providing a new annual top-up benefit of up to \$600 for single seniors and \$840 for couples. This measure will improve the financial security of more than 680,000 seniors across Canada. Federal rules will also be changed to eliminate the mandatory retirement age for federally regulated employees in order to give older workers wishing to work the option of remaining in the workforce.

The Next Phase of Canada's Economic Action Plan will support families by introducing a new Family Caregiver Tax Credit. This 15% non-refundable credit on the amount of \$2,000 will provide tax relief to caregivers of all types of infirm dependent relatives including, for the first time, spouses, common-law partners and minor children. The limit on the amount of eligible expenses that caregivers can claim under the Medical Expense Tax Credit



in respect of financially dependent relatives will also be removed. Further, a new 15% Children's Art Tax Credit will be introduced, providing up to \$500 of eligible expenses for programs associated with children's artistic, cultural, recreational and developmental activities.

In order to protect Canada's natural environment, the Next Phase of Canada's Economic Action Plan is investing almost \$870 million over two years

for Canada's Clean Air Agenda. This investment includes \$400 million for the ecoENERGY Retrofit-Homes program to help homeowners make their homes more energy efficient.

These measures are just a few of the many included in the Next Phase of Canada's Economic Action Plan. I encourage you to visit www.fin.gc.ca or contact our office for more information on Budget 2011.

Thank you to local voters

I would like to thank the voters of Burlington for their support in the May 2nd federal election. I am honoured to be re-elected as the Member of Parliament for Burlington and will continue to work hard to represent my constituents in Ottawa. The voter turnout in Burlington was higher than the national average and I encourage all Canadians to exercise their fundamental right to vote.

I am proud of our government's record of managing the nation's finances responsibly during these difficult economic times. Canada is the best place in the world to raise a family, work and do business. I look forward to working with our community and other levels of government as we continue to make Burlington the best city in Canada to live!

Please feel free to contact my office if you have any questions regarding federal issues. My staff and I are committed to working hard on behalf of the citizens of our community. We want to earn the confidence you have shown us through your support during this recent election.



Mike Wallace with daughter Lindsay celebrating Election Night

Community Group Profiles

Burlington Terry Fox Run Volunteers Needed



This year's Run scheduled for Sunday, September 18th marks the 30th annual Terry Fox Run. The Run organizers want to make this year the best ever.

The Run organizing committee and new chairperson, Don Carmichael, is looking for new committee members. People are needed to

plan, stage and most importantly help with fund raising.

You can run, walk, roll or ride. There is no registration fee and no minimum donation. The registration area and course are wheel-chair accessible. Dog friendly water bowls are provided. There will be food, music, massage for your tired muscles and a great atmosphere. Terry Fox merchandise is available for purchase at the run site.

Burlington is proud to show off its waterfront and run course. Beachway Park and Spencer Smith Park is one of the nicest run sites in Ontario. It is a 5km loop so you can do 1, 3, 5 or 10 km. along Lake Ontario.

The Run is about raising money for cancer research. The Terry Fox Foundation is one of the most effective ways to support research. More than 85% of the funds raised goes directly to research in Canada and it is all done without corporate sponsorship.

Terry Fox ran his Marathon of Hope in 1980. In 1977 he lost a leg to osteosarcoma cancer. While in hospital, Terry met many children also fighting cancer. He was so moved by their courage, that he felt he had to do something to help find a cure. He embarked on a cross-Canada run to raise money and awareness for cancer research. He left Newfoundland in April and ran a marathon every day through the Maritimes, Quebec and Ontario toward his home in British Columbia. By September his cancer had returned and he was forced to end his run outside Thunder Bay. The following June, just short of his 23rd birthday, Terry died. Canada picked up the fight where Terry left off, staging Terry Fox Runs in September annually since 1981.

Terry's story of courage and determination has inspired people world over and raised millions of dollars for cancer research. This has been accomplished as Terry wished--by volunteers, one person at a time, making whatever contribution they can make. Join the Terry Fox team and keep his dream alive. It's about so much more than just the money.

Contact Don Carmichael @ 905-331-1615 or dcarmichael@cogeco.ca

If you belong to a local not-for-profit organization doing great things in our community, or know of a group that you feel should be highlighted here, please get in touch with us.



Mike Wallace with the youngest new Canadian Citizen on Canada Day'

ecoENERGY Retrofit – Homes Program

Canada's Minister of Natural Resources, the Honourable Joe Oliver, announced on July 13th, 2011 that the Conservative Government has renewed the popular ecoENERGY Retrofit – Homes program. This initiative is helping Canadians save on home improvements and energy costs while protecting the environment.

“Our Government is committed to easing the burden of high energy costs on Canadians and putting more money back in their pockets,” said Minister Oliver. “With this program, Canadians can make their homes more energy-efficient and help reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Canada.”

Until March 31st, 2012, homeowners may be eligible to receive grants of up to \$5,000 to make their homes more energy-efficient. The program could help up to 250,000 Canadian homeowners improve their homes' energy efficiency and generate as much as \$4 billion in economic activity across Canada.

Prior to Budget 2011, the Government of Canada provided retrofit incentives to over half a million Canadians. Homeowners who participated in the program saved an average of 20 percent on their energy bills.

For more information, visit ecoaction.gc.ca/homes or call 1-800-O-Canada (1-800-622-6232). TTY: 1-800-926-9105. Grant amounts are listed in the “Grant Table for ecoENERGY Retrofit – Homes.”



Mike Wallace in the House of Commons

What Goes On in Parliament: Opening of a Session

If the opening of a session also marks the beginning of a newly elected Parliament, you will find the members of the House of Commons milling about in their chamber. On a signal, the great doors of the chamber are slammed shut. They are opened again after three knocks, and the Usher of the Black Rod arrives from the Senate. He or she has been sent by the deputy of the Governor General, who is not allowed to enter the Commons, to announce that the Governor General desires the immediate attendance of Honourable Members in the Chamber of the Senate. The members then proceed to the Senate Chamber, where the Speaker of the Senate says: "I have it in command to let you know that His Excellency (Her Excellency) the Governor General does not see fit to declare the causes of his (her) summoning the present Parliament of Canada until the Speaker of the House of Commons shall have been chosen according to law." The members then return to their own chamber and elect their Speaker.

Once the Governor General arrives in the Senate, the User of the Black Rod is again dispatched to summon the House of Commons, and the members troop up again to stand at the bar of the Upper House. The Speaker of the House of Commons then informs the Governor General of his or her election, and asks for the Crown's confirmation of all the traditional rights and privileges of the Commons. The Speaker of the Senate delivers that confirmation, and the Governor General delivers the Speech from the Throne, partly in English, partly in French.

The speech, which is written by the cabinet, sets forth the government's view of the condition of the country, the policies it will follow and the bills it will introduce to deal with that condition. The members of the House of Commons then return to their own chamber, where, normally, the Prime Minister immediately introduces Bill C-1, an Act

respecting the Administration of Oaths of Office. This is a dummy bill, never heard of again till the opening of the next session. It is introduced to reassert the House of Commons' right to discuss any business it sees fit before considering the Speech from the Throne. This right was first asserted by the English House of Commons more than 300 years ago, and is reasserted there every session by a similar pro forma bill.

This formal reassertion of an ancient right of the Commons has been of great practical use in Canada more than once. In 1950, for example, a nationwide railway strike demanded immediate action by Parliament. So the moment the House came back from the Senate Chamber, the Prime Minister introduced Bill C-1, but this time no dummy; it was a bill to end the strike and send the railway workers back to work, and it was put through all its stages, passed by both houses, and received Royal Assent before either house considered the Speech from the Throne at all. Had it not been for the traditional assertion of the right of the Commons to do anything it saw fit before considering the speech, this essential emergency legislation would have been seriously delayed.

The address in reply to the Speech from the Throne is, however, normally the first real business of each session (a "sitting" of the House usually lasts a day; a "session" lasts for months, or even years, though there must be at least one sitting per year). A government supporter moves, and another government supporter seconds a motion for an address of thanks to the Governor General for the gracious speech. The opposition parties move amendments critical of the government and its policies, and expressing want of confidence in the government. Debate on this address and the amendments is limited to seven days, and ranges over the whole field of the nation's business.



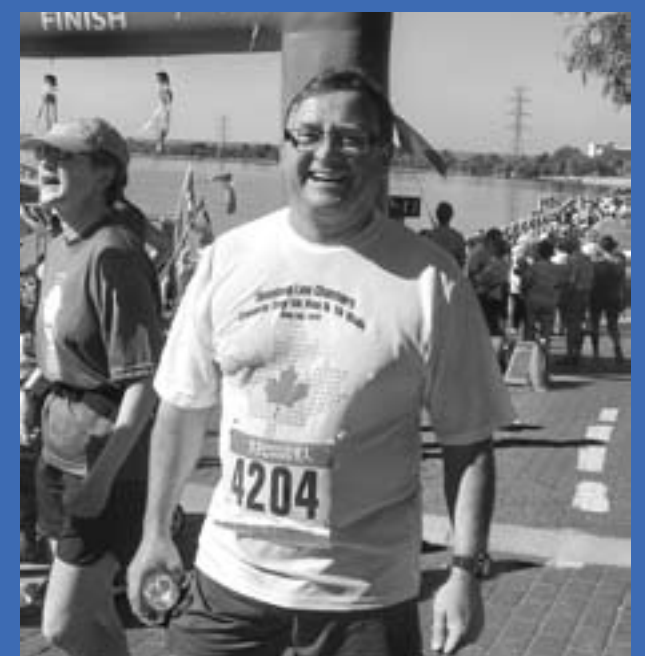
Mike Wallace, Caroline Wallace and staffer Terry Long attend Swearing In Ceremony

Run in Support of Easter Seals

I am excited to once again be participating in the Waterfront Trail Race in support of Easter Seals on September 10th, 2011. All money raised will be donated to Easter Seals in support of local children with physical disabilities. The lead sponsor, Appleby Pharmacy, has challenged me to see who can raise the most money for Easter Seals.

If you wish to help by sponsoring me please go to www.giving.runningroom.com, click on athlete sponsorship and type in Mike Wallace.

Many thanks for considering helping disabled kids in Ontario.



Mike Wallace participating in the 5k run on Canada Day



St. Gabriel School Students attend Swearing In Ceremony

Mike would like to hear from you!



Stay Connected.....

please send our office your name, address, telephone number and email address should you wish to be added to our database, or, if you are already in our database and your information needs updating.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

I look forward to hearing from you.

Information and Updates

Lost Wallet

If you have lost your wallet, make sure that you cancel and replace all of your important cards. Service Canada has prepared a list to help you through this process so that you replace your cards and identification in the right order.

When you have all your replacement documentation, it is a good idea to photocopy them and keep them in a safe place. Having photocopies available will help in the replacement process should you lose any of your identification in the future.

1. Contact Your Bank(s) or Financial Institution(s)

Contact your bank(s) or financial institution(s) and report your missing bank and/or credit cards.

2. Contact Your Local Police

Report that your wallet has been lost, in case it is turned in. Do not dial the emergency number. Refer to your phone book for the local telephone number.

3. Cancel Other Credit Cards

If you have lost a retail credit card or any other credit card, immediately notify the Customer Service or Credit Department of that retail company.

4. Replace Your Driver's Licence

In many cases, a replacement driver's licence may be issued on the spot. Contact your provincial or territorial ministry responsible for transportation for more information on the process. www.ontario.ca

5. Replace Your Birth Certificate

Identification is required to pick up your birth certificate. A driver's licence is an acceptable form of identification. Refer to the Web site for your provincial or territorial ministry responsible for issuing birth certificates for more information. www.ontario.ca

6. Replace Your Citizenship Certificate

Two pieces of personal identification are required when applying for a citizenship certificate. The application kit provides details on what identification is acceptable. There is additional information about replacing a lost, stolen, damaged or destroyed citizenship certificate or certificate of registration of birth abroad (RBA) on the Citizenship and Immigration Canada Web site. www.cic.gc.ca

7. Replace Your Health Card

Two or more pieces of personal identification may be required to apply for

your replacement health insurance card. A driver's licence and birth certificate are acceptable in most provinces and territories. However, you should contact the provincial or territorial government department responsible for health directly to confirm which forms of identification are acceptable. www.ontario.ca

8. Replace Your Passport

As soon as you think your passport has been lost or stolen, you are required to report the circumstances of the loss or theft to the local police and to Passport Canada. The request for a replacement passport can be made in Canada at any service location or at the nearest Canadian Government office abroad. However, before the documentation can be replaced, Canadian authorities will conduct an investigation into the circumstances of the lost or stolen passport. This investigation may lead to delays in processing the replacement passport. www.ppt.gc.ca

A replacement passport (which may be valid for a limited period only) may be authorized, provided strict requirements are met. These include the submission of:

- ✓ A completed application form,
- ✓ Two identical current passport photos,
- ✓ The appropriate fee,
- ✓ Documentary proof of Canadian citizenship, and
- ✓ Statutory Declaration concerning a lost, stolen, damaged, destroyed or inaccessible Canadian passport (PPTC 203) (PDF version, 76.4 kb) if the passport is still valid.

9. Replace Your Social Insurance Number (SIN) Card

If your Social Insurance Number card is lost or stolen, you need to report it to the appropriate authorities to avoid identity theft. To apply for a replacement Social Insurance Card, you must complete an application form, which is available online or from your local office. For faster and more convenient service, we encourage you to apply in person as it does not require you to part with your valuable identity documents. However, you may also apply by mail.

You must provide a primary document that proves your identity and status in Canada. If the name on your primary document is different from the one you are currently using, you must also provide a supporting document. These documents must be originals and written in English or French. www.servicecanada.gc.ca

Keep your Social Insurance Number with your Passport.

Upfront Events

Veterans Affairs Information Session

Wednesday, October 12, 2011
2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Royal Canadian Legion
828 Legion Road
Burlington, Ontario

Please join Mike Wallace, MP with representatives from Veterans Affairs Canada who will speak about the benefits and services available to Veterans.

To register, please call our constituency office at 905-639-5757 or e-mail at mike.wallace.c1@parl.gc.ca

Second Annual Pre-Retirement Information Session

Thursday, October 13, 2011
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Burlington Seniors' Centre
2285 New Street, Burlington, Ontario

Are you planning to retire soon? If so, this session is for you!

A representative from Service Canada will provide participants with the information they need to know from the Federal Government when planning for retirement.

To register, please call our constituency office 905-639-5757 or email at mike.wallace.c1@parl.gc.ca

Town Hall Meeting with Mike Wallace, MP

Wednesday, November 9, 2011
7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Burlington Seniors' Centre
2285 New Street, Burlington, Ontario

Mike will provide an update on Federal issues being debated in the House of Commons. Participants are encouraged to ask questions.

No Postage
Required

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