

REAL CHANGE FOR CANADIANS

HON. CARLA QUALTROUGH
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Dear friends,

It has been an incredible start to 2016 with much to look forward to in the year ahead.

As your newly elected Member of Parliament, it is my priority to meet with and listen to as many individuals, organizations, and businesses as I possibly can. Over the next four years, my staff and I will be there to support our community.

This spring, we will be opening our new office at #104 - 7511 120th Street. There, my staff and I will continue to act as your voice to the Government of Canada and assist you with immigration files, CPP, EI, OAS, GIS, and any other federal department, agency or crown corporation. We can also provide you with information on Government of Canada programs and services. We are happy to provide certificates recognition and achievement for your organization's members and volunteers, and Canada flags and flag pins to organizations and community groups. Stay tuned for information on the exact date of our move.

These updates are just one way that I will be sharing with you what I have been up to, who we've been meeting with, and what decisions are being made. I encourage you to also check out my website at www.cqualtrough.liberal.ca and follow me on social media for more regular updates.

With your help, we can grow our economy, build a transparent and open government, and support a society that is welcoming, equal, and fair. I welcome you to stop by my office, meet my staff, and share your ideas on how to make our community and our country stronger.

Sincerely,



A few of the wonderful groups I've met with over the past few months.

(Top to bottom: Delta BC Athletes at the Special Olympic Canada Winter Games in Cornerbrook, NL; Reach Child and Youth Development Society, Delta, BC; Analytic Systems Ware Ltd. with MLA Vicki Huntington.)

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Constituency Office

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(until mid-April)

104 - 7511 120th Street
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(after mid-April)



Building Trust through Consultations

Our government is committed to real change in Delta and across Canada. That means investing in middle class families and making sure they have every opportunity to succeed. It means creating jobs by making the right investments in roads, bridges, housing and green infrastructure. But it also means doing government differently.

As I look to the various challenges we face as a community and a country, I know the importance of being open and honest with our constituents. I also know the importance of providing adequate opportunities for Deltans to become knowledgeable about the work being done in our riding and in Ottawa. That is why our government is making it a priority to have an open-dialogue with all Canadians.

This is where you come in.

I believe every Deltan deserves a voice at the table when decisions are being made about our collective future. That is why I encourage you to take the opportunity to engage in the consultation process.

This process has already begun. As we prepared for our 2016 budget, I sat down with community and business leaders in Delta, to listen to their concerns and ideas on how to best approach the economic challenges ahead.

Across Canada, other Liberal MPs held similar consultations resulting in tens of thousands of Canadians sharing their thoughts on Budget 2016 through online channels, meetings, and events – the highest-ever turnout for pre-budget consultations on record.

If you want to get involved, here are a few ways:

You can visit our Open Government portal at: <http://open.canada.ca>

Send your opinions directly to me at: Carla.Qualtrough@parl.gc.ca

Engage in our various consultation processes in-person or on social media.

We will post future opportunities for input on government consultations on my website. Stay tuned to carlaqualtroughmp.ca for details.



Hon. Carla Qualtrough speaking with constituents at Baitur Rahman mosque in Delta on January 23, 2016.

Backing Infrastructure and Young Canadians

The Government of Canada recognizes the importance of new infrastructure development as a way to grow our economy. We further recognize the importance of investing in young Canadians so they can gain the skills and work experience needed to make a successful transition to the labour market.

Boosting Canada's Investments in Infrastructure

As part of our commitments, the government is increasing investment in public transit by nearly \$6 billion over four years, and almost \$20 billion over the next ten years. Under this plan, municipalities like Delta will be granted greater flexibility and access to the fund.

The plan also includes a substantial investment in social infrastructure. With interest rates at record lows, we will be investing nearly \$6 billion over four years, and almost \$20 billion over the next ten years, into a broader strategy that prioritizes affordable housing, seniors facilities, early learning and child care, and cultural and

recreational infrastructure. Our plan will renew federal leadership in affordable housing, helping to build more housing units, refurbish existing ones, renew existing co-operative agreements, and provide operational funding support for municipalities.



Hon. Carla Qualtrough announcing the 35,000 new jobs through the Canada Summer Jobs program.

A similar-sized investment will target green infrastructure, supporting clean energy projects, water facilities, wastewater facilities, and climate resilient infrastructure in our community and across our country.

Investing in infrastructure is vital to creating jobs as well as building a strong, vibrant Delta.

Investing in Jobs for Young Canadians

In February, I had the honour of announcing that our government will be doubling its investment in the Canada Summer Jobs program for 2016, offering an additional 35,000 jobs to young Canadians.

Approximately 150 students were hired in Delta by employers funded under the program last summer. More than 3,100 benefited from the same program across British Columbia.

I am excited that our government is investing more in young Canadians to help them start their careers and become active contributors to the Canadian economy.

"It is time to invest in young Canadians to help them develop the skills and acquire the critical work experience they need to successfully start their careers and contribute to the Canadian economy, right here in British Columbia."

— The Honourable Carla Qualtrough, Minister of Sport and Persons with Disabilities

Addressing Immigration Backlogs

Under the previous government, the wait time for reunification of parents and grandparents was upwards of four years. For spouses, many have had to wait up to two years to obtain permanent residency upon arrival. Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Minister John McCallum has deemed this “unacceptable” and has vowed to make this one of the top priorities of his department.

With this as a priority, our government will increase the number of accepted applications under the sponsorship program, from 5,000 to 10,000, and work towards the goal of admitting up to 305,000 new permanent residents in 2016. Over time, this reallocation of resources will improve processing times, allowing our government to address the many years of backlogged applications left behind by the previous government.

Additionally, Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada will also change the age range of those required pass a knowledge test and meet French or English language requirements to qualify for citizenship from ages 14-64 back to ages 18-54. The government will also reduce the time permanent residents must be physically present in Canada before qualifying for citizenship by a full year.

If you have any questions regarding an ongoing immigration application, or a specific immigration process please visit or contact my constituency office.

Hon. Carla Qualtrough and MP Sukh Dhaliwal (Surrey Newton) with a group of newly arrived Syrian refugees at the Baitur Rahman mosque on January 23, 2016.

WELCOMING REFUGEES IN DELTA

Here in Delta, I am proud of our various faith groups, volunteers, non-governmental organizations, and other orders of government who have stepped up to ensure that the newest members of our community are welcomed, resettled, and living as new Canadians.

On February 27, we welcomed our 25,000th Syrian refugee to Canada marking the successful completion of our government’s resettlement pledge.

How Are Our Newest Canadians Settling In?

Delta Safe Haven has resettled three Syrian families. According to leaders of this organization, the families are getting to know Ladner and engaging in English lessons. The children are at school and have had their first experiences ice skating, going to the Rec Center and visiting the local library.

This is just one of hundreds, if not thousands, of success stories across Canada.

Another coalition of community partners, the North Delta Refugee Project, has raised over 75 percent of their fundraising goal of \$32,000 towards submitting an application for a family sponsorship. The coalition has been prudent in waiting to submit its paperwork until all fundraising is complete, but is eager to begin the process of reuniting a family.

If you would like to get involved, please call my constituency office, and we will help you get in touch with one of the many organizations working with our newest Canadians.

I want to thank all those who have been involved in the resettlement of immigrant families here in the Delta region.



Investing in Jobs and the Middle Class

Our commitment to create jobs, strengthen the economy and grow the middle class has never been more imperative given our current economic challenges.

To address these challenges, the Government of Canada is implementing a three-point plan to provide Canadians with the support they need: cutting taxes for 9 million Canadians, supporting families through a new Canada Child Benefit program, and investing in new infrastructure nation-wide. The following is an update on these three initiatives.

Equal Opportunities for All Children and Families

In the 2016 budget, the Government of Canada introduced the new Canada Child Benefit (CCB) program — one simpler, tax-free, and more generous benefit to help those families in Delta who need it most. Ultimately, the new program will see nine out of ten Canadian families better off and lift hundreds of thousands of children out of poverty.

A Tax Cut for 9-Million Canadians

In December 2015, Finance Minister Bill Morneau introduced new legislation that will cut the second personal income tax bracket to 20.5 percent from 22 percent.

This means Canadians with taxable annual income between \$44,700 and \$89,401 will see their income tax rate fall, providing roughly \$3.4 billion in annual tax relief to nearly 9 million Canadians.

These tax changes took effect on January 1, 2016.

Investing in Infrastructure

The government has pledged nearly \$18 billion over four years and \$60 billion over 10 years to public transit, social infrastructure, and green infrastructure. In the short term, this means investing in and stimulating our economy during time of global economic uncertainty, and putting Canadians back to work.

On The Road

From Delta to St. Andrews to Iqaluit, I have had the opportunity to consult with Canadians from coast to coast to coast.

As we continue to forge our way ahead as a country, I look forward to meeting with new organizations, associations, businesses, and individuals like you so that I can be your voice in Ottawa and across our nation.

Moving forward, I encourage you to stay engaged, reach out to my office when necessary, and ask questions when you have them. Together, and only together, we can build a better community and country.



ST. ANDREWS, NEW BRUNSWICK



VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA



IQALUIT, NUNAVUT



VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA



OTTAWA, ONTARIO

Photo credit: Curling Canada

SET UP A MEETING TODAY

(778) 591-0549

What issues facing Canadians should the government focus on ?

Contact me directly at Carla.Qualtrough@parl.gc.ca

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