



Mike Lake, M.P.

Edmonton – Mill Woods – Beaumont

YOUR VOICE IN OTTAWA

Volume 27, Summer 2015

Dear Constituents,

On Saturday, June 20th, we'll be hosting our eighth annual pancake breakfast. This breakfast has special significance for me, as it'll be the last I'll host as MP for Edmonton - Mill Woods - Beaumont. The recent federal boundary changes have divided the riding, and the area south of Anthony Henday Drive will become part of a new constituency, Edmonton - Wetaskiwin. The new riding includes my current home, as well as Devon, the town in which I grew up. I have chosen to run there in the October federal election.

It has been an absolute pleasure for me to serve the diverse community of Mill Woods over the past decade and I'd be so pleased if you'd come out to say 'hello' at the breakfast! You can find the details on page three of this newsletter.

Before the election, work continues, and since I last connected, our government has tabled a balanced budget, a rare accomplishment in this global economy. Even more rare is the fact that we've managed to balance this budget while at the same time lowering taxes, the only country in the G20 to do both.

As always, I'd love to hear from you directly. You can reach me by sending an email, filling out the feedback form on the third page, or attending one of our constituent roundtable meetings. I look forward to hearing from you!

Mike.



Mike's son Jaden greets Prime Minister Stephen Harper with a high five for World Autism Awareness Day, an annual tradition.

Strong families make a strong country. And our goal as a Government has always been to make sure that Canada is the best country in the world in which to raise a family. That's why we work hard to support families in so many ways.

PM Stephen Harper



Supporting Canadian Students

Ottawa

To help ensure Canada's long-term economic prosperity, it is essential that Canadians have affordable access to the training and education they need to get well-paying jobs.

That's why, in 2009, we created Canada Student Grants. This program gives students in low- and middle-income families financial assistance so they can achieve their post-secondary education and training goals. Canada Student Grants provide up to \$250 per month for the duration of the skills training or education program, or, for disabled students, up to \$2,000 per academic year. And, because grants do not need to be repaid, this assistance will help keep them debt-free.

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Protecting Canadians from Online Crime

Ottawa

Cyberbullying is a sad reality faced by too many young Canadians across the country. It can destroy the lives of its victims and their families. That's why our government is pleased that the Protecting Canadians from Online Crime Act has now become law.

The legislation is helping to ensure Canadians are better protected from online criminal activity, including young Canadians from the dangers of cyberbullying. The new law is giving police the tools they need to investigate crime in today's high-tech environment while, at the same time, protecting Canadians' privacy.

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Supporting Canadian Students

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In 2012-2013, we increased the income eligibility threshold for part-time students so that more Canadians can take advantage of this assistance. In that same year, over 350,000 students received some form of assistance through Canada Student Grants.

Now, our government is building on that strong record of support by expanding the eligibility to include short-duration programs. Beginning next year, these changes will help roughly 42,000 additional students annually, including Canadians looking to upgrade their skills to land a new or better job.



Additionally, as a part of the Youth Employment Strategy (YES), our government is providing up to 3,000 post-secondary grads with real-world, paid experience in high-demand fields such as science, technology, engineering and the skilled trades. With these important investments, our government is helping Canadians achieve their goals.

For more information, please visit:
www.Canada.ca/TaxSavings

Protecting Canadians from Online Crime

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It is now an offence to share an intimate image without the consent of the person in the image. This includes when the photo is taken without the person in the photo realizing it, or if it is taken unwillingly. The new law also empowers the court to remove an intimate image from the internet, and order forfeiture of the device used to commit the offence.

Meanwhile, the new legislation will also take a strong stand for victims. Now, the courts will be empowered to provide for reimbursement to victims for costs incurred in removing intimate images from the internet and elsewhere.

If you, or someone you know, are being cyberbullied, talk about it with an adult you trust. Contact the police if the bullying is serious. And remember, you can always call the Kids Help Phone at 1-800-668-6868; it’s anonymous and confidential.

For more information, please visit:
www.Canada.ca/Cyberbullying

“To help families make ends meet, we brought in the Universal Child Care Benefit. It puts money directly into the hands of families with children.”

PM Stephen Harper

Family Tax Cuts and Benefits for Canadians

Prime Minister Stephen Harper has often said, “Strong families make a strong country.” It’s just one of the reasons why measures including cutting the GST, creating the Universal Child Care Benefit (UCCB), delivering the Children’s Fitness and Arts Tax Credits, and introducing the Tax Free Savings Account, have been enacted since 2006.

However, Canadian families who are struggling to make ends meet certainly know that there is always more that can be done.

That’s why we’ve kept our promise to introduce a number of new initiatives that will help all families with children, from coast to coast to coast. Every single family with children up to age six will receive an enhanced UCCB payment, up to \$1,920 per year. Also, new for families with children aged 6 to 17, our government is delivering a payment of up to \$720 per year. This direct support will continue to ensure that choice in child care is not laden in more bureaucracy, but left in the hands of the real experts – mom and dad.

Our government has also delivered the new Family Tax Cut. Available for the 2014 taxation year, the Family Tax Cut makes life more affordable for hundreds and hundreds of thousands of Canadian families. Under the new initiative, families with children under the age of 18 will be able to transfer up to \$50,000 of income from the higher earning spouse to the lower earning spouse, thereby saving up to \$2,000 per year in federal taxes.

We’re also increasing the amount families can claim for the cost of child care under the Child Care Expense Deduction by \$1,000. This is on top of the previously announced doubling of the Children’s Fitness Tax Credit. Parents are now able to take advantage of the new \$1,000 claim limit, and as of this year, the credit is now refundable.

For more information about Family Tax Cuts and Benefits, please visit: www.Canada.ca/TaxSavings

IF YOU HAVE CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 18 FOR WHOM YOU HAVE NEVER RECEIVED THE UNIVERSAL CHILD CARE BENEFIT, YOU MUST APPLY!

GO TO WWW.CANADA.CA/TAXSAVINGS TODAY AND MAKE SURE YOUR FAMILY IS GETTING THE SUPPORT YOU DESERVE.

UNIVERSAL CHILD CARE BENEFIT

\$1,920
A YEAR PER CHILD UNDER 6

\$720
A YEAR PER CHILD 6-17

Canada's Family Tax Cuts and Benefits Plan boosts those Universal Child Care cheques to almost \$2,000 per year for each pre-schooler and extends \$720 for every child 6 through 17.

If you've got kids under 18, you qualify. Period. No matter how much you make or what child care you choose.

CHILDREN'S FITNESS TAX CREDIT

DOUBLED TO **\$1,000** & MADE REFUNDABLE

We created the Children’s Fitness Tax Credit to help with the costs of sports.

We’ve increased the tax credit available, to help cover more of the cost, and we’ve made the credit refundable, so even more families can take advantage.

FAMILY TAX CUT

SAVE UP TO **\$2,000** THROUGH INCOME SPLITTING FOR FAMILIES WITH MINOR CHILDREN

The Family Tax Cut allows couples with kids to split their incomes to lower their tax bill by as much as \$2,000. That's only fair.

You sacrifice for your kids. You shouldn't pay more tax because of it.

CHILD CARE EXPENSE DEDUCTION

EACH CLAIM AMOUNT INCREASED BY **\$1,000**

Canada's Family Tax Cuts and Benefits Plan puts more money in the pockets of everyone with kids.

To help offset the cost of child care, we’ve increased each claim amount under the Child Care Expense Deduction by \$1,000.



You’re Invited to our Pancake Breakfast

WHEN: Saturday, June 20th - 9:00 AM to 11:30 AM

WHERE: 9225 - 28 Avenue NW (Long & McQuade Building)

In Support of the Autism Society of Edmonton Area.

For more information please visit:
www.MikeLake.ca

Diversity Day at Holy Family School

Edmonton

On March 19, Mill Woods’ Holy Family Elementary and Junior High School hosted Diversity Day to recognize and celebrate the uniqueness and diversity of the cultures that make Canada such a wonderful place to live.

The school’s junior high students marked the day by holding an exposition on Canada’s dynamic multiculturalism. Students created booths and displays to teach others about customs such as food, holidays, clothing, music and entertainment from their own family history, or those that they studied in the classroom.

Mike had the opportunity to visit the fair and learn, through the projects, some of the reasons why the students at Holy Family School are so proud to live in Canada.

The day was a great success in raising awareness and appreciation of the many cultural backgrounds represented at the school.



Mike, along with junior high students from Holy Family School, shared in the annual Diversity Day festivities.

To learn more about this event please visit:
www.MikeLake.ca/DiversityDay



More than 1,000 guests accessed 70 services, including the haircuts seen here, at Homeless Connect Edmonton in April.

Homeless Connect Edmonton

Edmonton

Homeless Connect Edmonton is a bi-annual, community-inspired event that provides free essential services to homeless and at-risk individuals on one day and at one location.

Homeless Connect’s mission is to:

- Provide services that open doors out of homelessness;
- Build lasting partnerships;
- Raise public awareness of homelessness in the community; and,
- Provide a vehicle for community involvement.

The event is managed through a partnership between Homeward Trust Edmonton, Edmonton Economic Development Corporation, Shaw Conference Centre and the United Way of the Alberta Capital Region. Additionally, the event is serviced by local community providers and staffed by enthusiastic and passionate volunteers. Each year, more than 1,000 guests come through the doors and Mike’s role is to personally greet each and every one of them.

For more information please visit:
www.MikeLake.ca/HomelessConnectApril2015

YOUR VOICE IN OTTAWA: MIKE WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU!

What are the most important issues facing Canada today?

How would you rate Mike’s performance as your Member of Parliament?

Excellent

Good

Fair

Poor

Please complete the survey and send it back to our office, *postage free*. Feel free to fold and tape to conceal personal information, but please do not staple.

Name:

Address:

City:

Province: Postal Code:

Phone Number:

E-mail:

CONSTITUENT SERVICES

Our offices are here to be of service to you.

We regularly help constituents:

- Navigate their way through federal government departments and services;
- Obtain Canadian flags and pins for travel abroad;
- Receive Congratulatory Certificates for milestone birthdays and anniversaries from the Member of Parliament, the Prime Minister, the Governor General, and Her Majesty the Queen;
- Get answers to immigration questions; and
- Find information on government policies and procedures.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with your comments or concerns and we would be more than happy to assist you.

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CIVIX Democracy Bootcamp

In April, Mike joined a panel of federal party representatives and welcomed teachers to kick-off a 'Democracy Bootcamp' teacher training conference on youth engagement in politics.



Mike Visits Google Canada

In April, Mike had the opportunity to tour Google Canada's office in Toronto. The office is one of Toronto's greenest, using recycled materials and clean, sustainable energy.



Job Fair at Millbourne Market Mall

On April 9, Mike visited a Spring Job Fair organized by Alberta Works in Edmonton. The event initiated connections between job seekers and more than 50 Capital Region employers.



Mike Meets University Presidents

As Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Industry, Mike met with the presidents of Concordia, McGill, Ryerson and York Universities to discuss Canadian research.



Constituent Roundtable Meetings

Mike regularly holds constituent roundtable meetings. Each meeting is designed to facilitate discussion about issues raised by those at the table. Call 780-495-2149 to book a spot.



Addressing Global Health Leaders

On April 14, McGill University held a global mental health workshop. Mike addressed attendees alongside Dr. Vikram Patel, one of Time Magazine's 100 most influential people.

FOLD ALONG LINE AND SEAL

No
Postage
Required



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