

MP's REPORT: Great work in our community

By Kyle Peterson, MP
Newmarket-Aurora

I have had the honour of being the Member of Parliament for Newmarket-Aurora for six months now. In this role, I have had the opportunity to learn much about many organizations. These organizations really show the dedication, hard work, and innovation of many people in Aurora.

In April, I had the pleasure to meet with the five recipient organizations of the New Horizons for Seniors Program funding. The CARP Newmarket Aurora Chapter, Girls Incorporated of York Region, the Holy Cross Church, the Newmarket Seniors' Meeting Place, the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 385, and York Region were all recipients of this grant. This funding was allocated for projects and programs that would improve the lives of seniors and get local community projects off the ground. Through the hard work of these recipients in particular, nearly \$138,000 will be invested into our community.

In May, two more organizations were awarded the Youth Employment Grant for their innovative programs helping Canadians in our community get the skills needed to overcome barriers to employment and join the middle class. Job Skills' Newmarket has developed a unique Youth Entrepreneurship Program which will use the funding to provide resources and skills to youth starting new businesses; and, Brain Power Studio Inc. will use the funding to create interactive children's programming in partnership with CBC Kids. The funding to these recipients represents an investment of nearly \$605,000 into our community to support our youth in gaining job skills and employment opportunities. Through the Youth Employment Grant, the federal government has allocated \$65 million to 198 new training projects across Canada.

I am also pleased to announce that through Canada Summer Jobs, we were able to fund 275 jobs for youth. This grant will provide many local businesses with additional funding to hire more people in our community.

A few local events that I have had the pleasure of attending in recent weeks have also marked important fundraising in our community. A few weeks ago, I participated in the Southlake Foundation annual Run or Walk for Southlake, an event for our world-class health centre which has raised \$125,000 (and counting). I was happy to attend Southlake's Run or Walk event this year alongside 900 other participants.

On May 1st, I had the pleasure of attending the 60th anniversary of Our Lady of Grace elementary school. I always enjoy any opportunity to be out in the community of Aurora. On this day, I attended Mass at Our Lady of Grace church and was able to speak with many parents during the reception that followed at the school.

In closing, I am so proud to represent our amazing community. Our community is working hard each and every day, and it shows. As always, you can reach out to my office and my staff at any time. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you need any information or help.

We are located at 16600 Bayview Avenue, Suite 202. You can reach us at 905-953-7515 or by email at kyle.peterson@parl.gc.ca.