

MP's Report: From Ottawa to Aurora

By Leona Alleslev, MP

Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill

Canada will be celebrating its 150th Anniversary of Confederation in 2017!

Canadian Heritage has introduced a fund that will support regional and local projects that celebrate our shared values, our achievements, our natural environment and our place in the world. I encourage local organizations in Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill to work together and apply for the Canada 150 fund so our community can participate in this momentous national project.

Let's see your big ideas and ways of incorporating all aspects of what it means to be Canadian. Let's be part of something that will last for the next 150 years! The deadline to submit your project proposals is May 31. Please email info@Canada150.gc.ca to receive an application kit, or contact my office if you have further questions.

Canada Summer Jobs Program

The Canada Summer Jobs program received an additional \$100 million in funding from the Federal Budget for more youth jobs this year. I am excited to announce that employers who applied for the Canada Summer Jobs funding in the riding of Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill will be contacted within the first of week of May to be notified of the funding for their organization.

New Horizons for Seniors Program

I am happy to announce that six organizations in our community will be receiving funding through the New Horizons for Seniors Program (NHSP). The Government of Canada's NHSP plays an important role in supporting partnerships that provide older Canadians with opportunities to share their knowledge, skills and experiences with others in their community. Thank you to everyone involved with these organizations as the work you do contributes to our community in such a meaningful way.

Aerospace Innovation Forum with Aéro Montréal

I was honoured to give a presentation at the Aerospace Innovation Forum on behalf of the Government of Canada in Montréal on April 25th. This forum is a gathering of leading global aerospace companies which encourages and explores innovation in the aerospace industry. It is important because the Canadian aerospace industry generates revenues of over \$28 billion a year, and provides over 180,000 jobs to Canadians.

As someone who has spent over 25 years in the aerospace industry, including our Air Force, I am proud to be part of a government which encourages innovation and economic growth, particularly in this industry.

Bill C-14 Medical Assistance in Dying

On April 30, my fellow York Region MPs and I hosted a discussion on Bill C-14 (Medical Assistance in Dying) at the York Region Headquarters in Newmarket. Sincere thanks to all who attended this very important and sensitive discussion.

We heard from those of you who felt this legislation went too far and others who would have liked for it to be broader. It is important to note that Bill C-14 was created in response to the Supreme Court's ruling in Carter vs. Canada which stated that "the prohibition on physician-assisted dying infringes the right to life, liberty and security of the person in a manner that is not in accordance with the principles of fundamental justice."

The Supreme Court has given Parliament until June 6 to create legislation.

Regardless of whether or not we pass Bill C-14, medically assisted dying will be legal on June 6. It is for this reason that there is such a sense of urgency to develop a legislative framework around this issue.

Our society is constantly evolving and therefore our laws need to reflect that. I was inspired to see that our community of York Region could host open, honest and respectful dialogue on this issue. People from both sides of the argument voiced their opinions and Members of Parliament, including the Minister of Health, were there to listen.

If you were not able to attend and would like to add your voice to this conversation please contact me.

Contact Me!

Please feel free to reach out to me and my team at any time with your concerns for our community and our country. We are happy to help you.

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