

## MP's REPORT: Happy New Year!

By Leona Alleslev, MP

Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill

Best wishes to you and your family for a happy, healthy, and successful 2016.

### Constituency Office Now Open!

I am pleased to announce that my constituency office is now open to serve the people of Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill. We are located centrally in the riding at 12820 Yonge Street, Suite 202, in Richmond Hill.

We can be reached by phone at 905-773-8358. My staff and I are there to assist you with federal programs and services such as Old Age Security, Canada Pension Plan, Citizenship and Immigration, among others. We welcome you to our office and look forward to serving you.

### Pre-Budget Consultation

We want you to tell us how to spend your tax dollars. While this article will be published the day after my public pre-budget consultation meeting has taken place, input is needed on ways to help grow our economy and make our community an even better place. Your insights will guide our government's work as we prepare the 2016 Federal budget. You can email your comments to me on what your priorities for the upcoming federal budget are to [Leona.Alleslev@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Leona.Alleslev@parl.gc.ca). I look forward to submitting our pre-budget consultation report on behalf of Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill to Finance Minister Bill Morneau.

### Canada Summer Jobs Program

Are you interested in hiring students this coming summer? The Canada Summer Jobs (CSJ) application period is now open! I encourage not-for-profit organizations, public sector employers and small businesses to apply for funding through the CSJ. This unique federal funding initiative helps employers create summer job opportunities for students.

Faced with high unemployment and underemployment, many young people have difficulty finding valuable work experience. It is time to invest in young Canadians to ensure they can begin their careers and contribute fully to our economy.

Please note that the application period for employers will run from January 4 to February 26, 2016, which will allow students to be hired beginning May 2016. More information can be obtained by calling my office at 905-773-8358 or online at [www.servicecanada.gc.ca](http://www.servicecanada.gc.ca).

### CanExport

The Federal Government is introducing a new program called CanExport which will provide \$50 million to help small and medium sized enterprises across the country take advantage of global export opportunities. CanExport will benefit hundreds of Canadian small businesses each year through matching contributions of between \$10,000 and \$100,000 towards export development costs. This is a key part of our government's commitment to help Canadian companies succeed abroad while creating good-quality jobs and growth at home. Companies with fewer than 250 employees and between \$200,000 and \$50 million of annual revenue in Canada are eligible to apply for this initiative. Applications are available online at [international.gc.ca/canexport](http://international.gc.ca/canexport) and funding is available immediately.

### The Year Ahead

Like many of you, I have been thinking about this New Year and what it will entail. I look forward to 2016 with excitement because everyone I have met in our community is working hard to make Aurora-Oak Ridges- Richmond Hill a better place which will inevitably help make Canada a better country. So I thank you for your good work, I hope to see you at my office or in the community, and I wish you all the best in 2016!