

MP's REPORT: January Report

By Leona Alleslev, MP
Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill

I thought you may be interested in what my team and I have been up to this last month! January was a busy, but exciting month in the riding full of community events and in the new House of Commons in Ottawa.

In Ottawa

The House of Commons new home will reside in West Block for the next decade as Centre Block receives interior restoration. The renovation is quite impressive, and if you plan on visiting Ottawa, contact my constituency office so we can assist in setting up a tour!

Canada is currently experiencing one of the most challenging times with our diplomatic relationship with China. The Prime Minister has failed to protect the privacy and security of Canadians and our digital infrastructure from intelligence gathering, and the situation of Canadians being detained in China is rapidly deteriorating.

From speaking on CBC's Power and Politics, to asking the tough questions to our Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister of Public Safety ? as Shadow Minister for Global Security, I had several opportunities to speak to the federal government's failure to address the escalating situation with China.

On the first day back in the House, I asked the government what their plan is for China. I also had the opportunity to stand up for the privacy and security of Canadians and asked when the Prime Minister will ban Huawei from Canada's emerging 5G infrastructure. My colleagues and I in the opposition continue to question the government on their involvement in the Vice Admiral Mark Norman case. Evidence continues to mount that there has been an attempt to obstruct the Vice-Admiral's defence by withholding critical government documents.

Last week, I also asked questions, on the Globe and Mail's story alleging that there was pressure from the Prime Minister's office to make the Attorney General of Canada abandon the criminal case against SNC-Lavalin. If true, it is a threat to the independence of our judiciary and the very foundation of our democracy.

In Aurora?Oak Ridges?Richmond Hill

In December and January, I asked you to fill out a survey to rank Canada's Top 10 Federal Priorities. To those that filled out the survey, thank you. To see how the residents of Aurora?Oak Ridges?Richmond Hill ranked the priorities, please go to my website LeonaAlleslevMP.ca.

This month I attended the Aurora Chamber of Commerce's Breakfast with Finance Minister Bill Morneau. It was disconcerting that the Minister did not provide answers to questions from local business leaders regarding the lifting of punishing steel and aluminum tariffs, prevention of further losses of foreign capital, and measures to address challenges in Canada's competitiveness.

Recently, I visited local small businesses and community organizations across the riding. I stopped by Aurora Family Shoe Repair, a locally owned and operated business for 30 years. I also toured the Aurora Museum and Archive's Play Hard, Fight Hard Exhibit to learn more about the history of military in sport in Canada.

It was also great to visit the Canadian Mental Health Association York and South Simcoe Branch to discuss the organization's creation of a mental health and addictions crisis hub for York Region. Last but not least, I visited CosmoProf in Aurora, and stopped in to James Dimitri Hair Atelier for some pampering after a busy month!

Many thanks to everyone who braved the cold to join me at our New Year's Levee at my constituency office. Residents from across the riding came out to celebrate the New Year, meet my team and have conversations on how we can work to build a better Canada in 2019.

Upcoming Events

I am excited to be hosting two events in the riding ? a Town Hall on Taxes, Tariffs and Trade on February 24 and our Policy & Playtime event for families on March 1. To learn more and RSVP, visit my website www.LeonaAlleslevMP.ca.

As always, I encourage residents to engage with me as their federal representative. To share your feedback and concerns, contact my constituency office by e-mail at leona.alleslev@parl.gc.ca or by phone at 905-773-8358.