

Delivering Results for all Canadians

Bob Dechert, MP

YOUR CONSERVATIVE MEMBER OF
PARLIAMENT FOR MISSISSAUGA-ERINDALE

MESSAGE FROM BOB

Dear Friends,

As you know, our Government recently marked its fifth anniversary.

Although I have only been your representative in Ottawa for approximately half of that time, I thought you might be interested to read about some of the Harper Government's achievements over the last 5 years.

The following report outlines the highlights of our Government's actions on behalf of all Canadians. As the space here is limited, more detail on all of these accomplishments may be found on my website at www.bobdechertmp.ca.

When Prime Minister Harper first formed a Government in 2006, he outlined a number of priorities for Canada including substantially decreasing the tax burden on hard working Canadians, protecting families and communities by strengthening our justice system, supporting families and delivering the health care that Canadians need, when they need it.

Our Government has been hard at work over the last 5 years delivering on these priorities. As we look back on the last 5 years and take stock, we can see that the tax burden on an average family of four has been reduced by over \$3,000 annually by reducing the GST from 7% to 5%, reducing the personal income tax rate and providing targeted tax credits for families, seniors, low income Canadians and tradespeople.

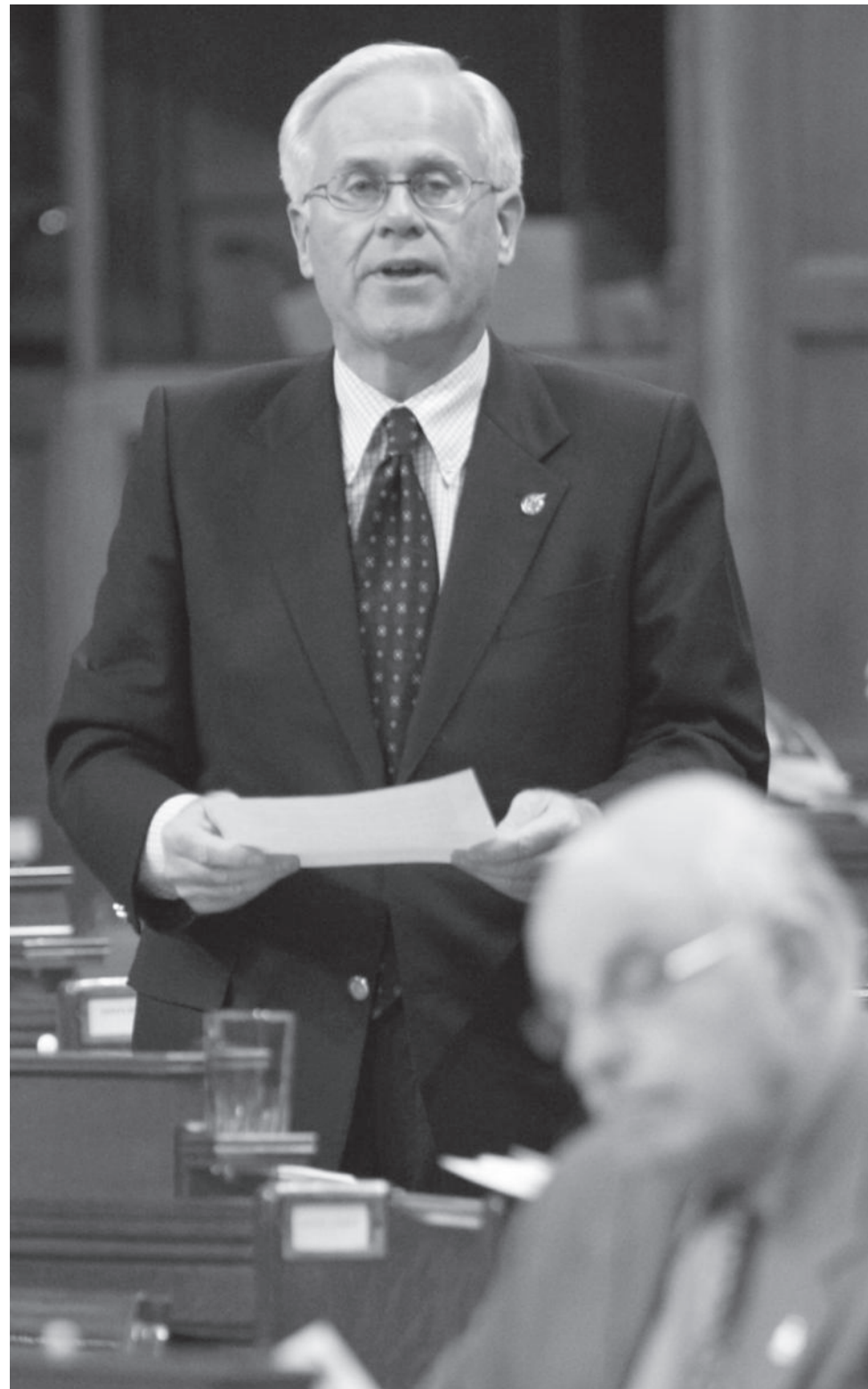
And we have reduced the tax burden on job creators including small business people. These personal and business tax measures created the circumstances that prevented our economy from going into recession sooner, caused the loss of jobs to be less severe and allowed jobs and growth to recover faster than any other G7 nation.

The good news is that our economy has created over 460,000 jobs since the bottom of the recession in 2009, but given the state of the world economy, we still face uncertain times ahead.

That is why I believe that holding an election this spring would not be in Canada's best interests. We will stay focussed on jobs and economic growth and I hope that the Opposition parties will work together with us for the good of all Canadians.

I also hope that you will find the information in this report to be useful and, as always, I look forward to receiving your suggestions and comments.

Regards,
Bob Dechert, MP



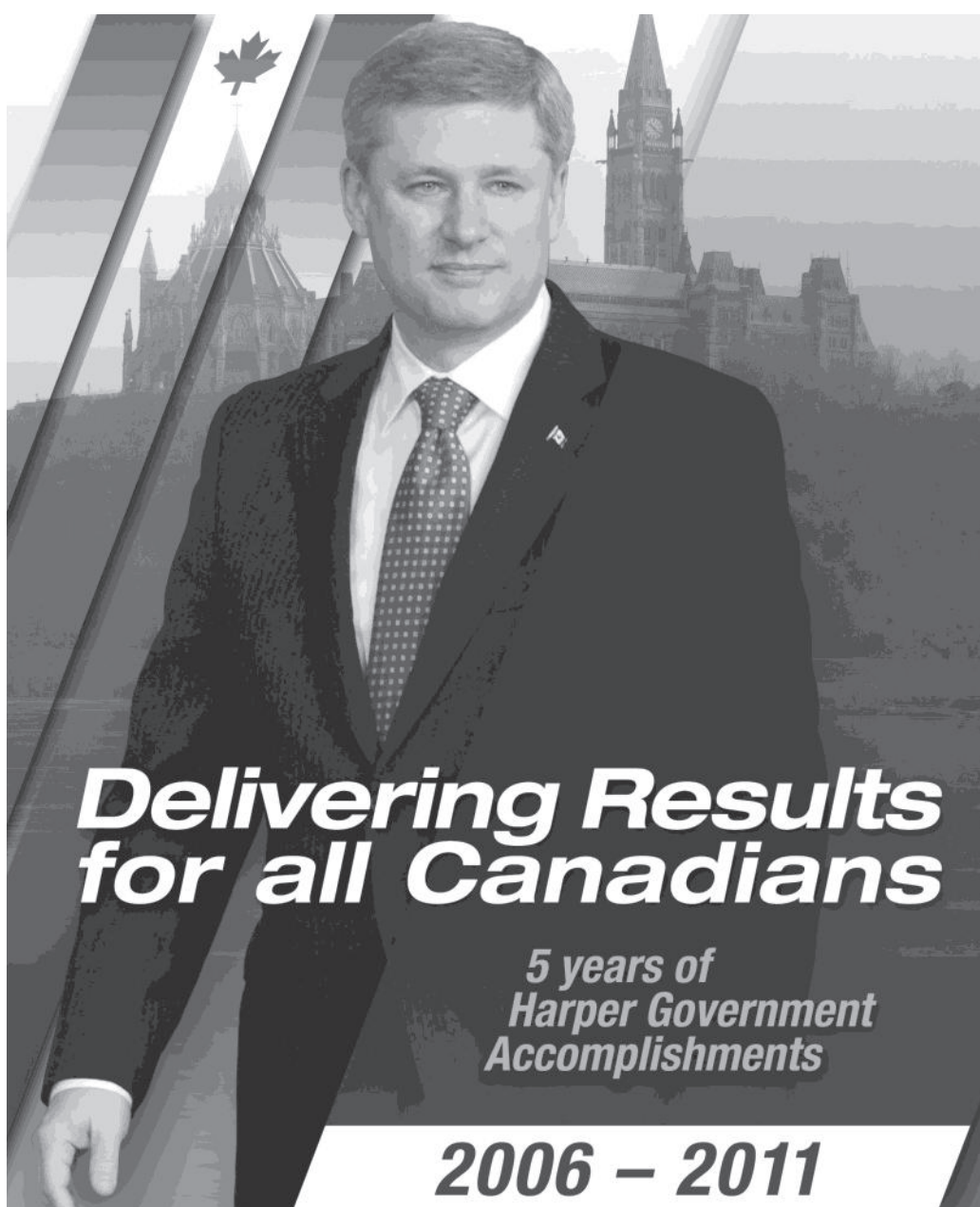
Bob Dechert, MP for Mississauga-Erindale and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Justice speaking in the House of Commons in Ottawa on Oct. 19, 2010.

INSIDE

On February 6th, 2006, a new Government was sworn in. Stephen Harper's Conservative Government stood for sound, stable and secure governing, a concept that had been lacking in Ottawa for too long. And since that first day in office, we've delivered.

When the global economic recession threatened the economies of countless countries around the world, the Harper Government delivered strong, stable economic leadership. Canada's Economic Action Plan helped create new jobs, saved many already existing ones, and helped struggling industries find their footing. The result is 460,000 net new jobs since July 2009 as of January 2011, a sound financial sector, the lowest deficit and debt among the G8, and a strong economy to attract new investors. While this is great news for Canada, the global recovery is still fragile. That's why our Government is committed to staying the course, remaining focussed on job creation and economic growth to ensure Canada continues to pull through this recession in a strong position.

For five years, Stephen Harper's Conservative Government has made Canada more united, stronger, more prosperous, and safer. This is no time to change course. We will not raise taxes that hurt Canadians' pocketbooks. We will not spend more money than we can afford. But we will continue to deliver the action that is making a difference for Canadians and their families. Our Conservative Government is working to deliver a country of hope, an example to the world, and a Canada that is all it can be.



House of Commons
Room 810 Justice Building
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6
(613) 995-7321
www.bobdechertmp.ca

Constituency Office
108-1300 Central Parkway W
Mississauga, Ontario L5C 4G8
(905) 897-1952
dechert@parl.gc.ca

5 years of Harper Government

ECONOMY & FAMILIES

Supporting Hard-Working and Healthy Families, including:

- Our Government believes parents know best and we are supporting families through the Universal Child Care Benefit by providing all parents with \$100 per month/\$1,200 per year for each child under six to help with the cost of the child care they choose. Each year, the Universal Child Care Benefit is provided to parents on behalf of over two million children in Canada.
- Delivering the health care Canadians need, when they need it, by addressing the fiscal imbalance and establishing a patient wait times guarantee with the provinces. We delivered. In Budget 2007, we restored fiscal balance with the provinces and our Government has ensured patients in every province and territory are covered by a Patient Wait Time Guarantee in a priority area.

Introduced a number of tax credits, including:

- The Children's Fitness Tax Credit (2006) for parents who enrol their children in sports.
- The Public Transit Tax Credit (2006) to help the environment by encouraging people to use public transit.
- The Canada Employment Credit (2006) to give a tax break to working Canadians.
- The Working Income Tax Benefit (2007) to help Canadians get over the "welfare wall." We effectively doubled this in the Economic Action Plan.
- The Child Tax Credit (2007), a new non-refundable child tax credit for parents based on an amount of \$2,000 (indexed) for each child under the age of 18.
- The temporary Home Renovation Tax Credit (which was available for the 2009 taxation year), a timely and effective stimulus to the Canadian economy which boosted energy efficiency and the value of Canada's housing stock introduced in the Economic Action Plan.
- As part of the Economic Action Plan, we raised the level at which the National Child Benefit supplement for low-income families and the Canada Child Tax Benefit are phased out, providing a benefit of up to \$436 for a family with two children.
- Doubled the Pension Income Credit amount to \$2,000 from \$1,000 and increased the Age Credit amount by \$2,000 over the past five years.
- Introduced pension income splitting in 2007, which reduces income tax for a pensioner couple by allowing the higher-income spouse to allocate an amount of income to a lower-income spouse for tax purposes.
- Increased the spousal and eligible dependant amounts to equal the basic personal amount, effective 2007.

Introduced a number of savings plans including:

- The Registered Disability Savings Plan (2007), which helps parents and others save to ensure the long-term financial security of a child with a severe disability.
- The Tax-Free Savings Account (2008), which provides a flexible, registered, general-purpose account that allows Canadians to maximize their savings by earning tax-free investment income.
- The proposed Pooled Registered Pension Plan (2010) to allow businesses to team up and pool their resources using a registered financial institution that will allow the self-employed to participate.
- As part of the Economic Action Plan, froze Employment Insurance premium rates at \$1.73 per \$100 of insurable earnings for two years (2009 and 2010). And in the fall of 2010, we reduced a planned increase to EI premiums from 15¢ per \$100 of insurable earnings to 5¢ per \$100 of insurable earnings.
- Tax freedom day is nearly three weeks earlier in 2010 than 2005.

Canada's new, tough consumer product safety legislation will:

- Prohibit the manufacture, importation, advertisement or sale of any consumer products that pose an unreasonable danger to human health or safety.
- Require industry to report when they know about a serious incident or death related to their product to provide government with timely information about important product safety issues, requiring manufacturers or importers to provide test/study results on products when asked.
- Allow the Minister of Health to recall dangerous consumer products.
- Raise fines and penalties for non-compliance.
- We also introduced new regulations to strengthen the testing standards of child car seats, making Canada's testing among the toughest in the world.

Taking action to deliver results on energy and the environment, including:

- Combating greenhouse gas emissions, and aligning our target of 17 per cent below 2020 levels by 2015, a target which is aligned with the Obama Administration.



On Nov. 19, 2010, MP Bob Dechert, along with the Rowlands family, participated in seasonal festivities during Mississauga's Tree Lighting ceremony at the Living Arts Centre.

We have supported self-employed Canadians by:

- Providing 2.6 million self-employed Canadians with access to EI special benefits, including parental leave, on a voluntary basis so they no longer have to choose between family and work responsibilities.

Since 2006, we have supported Canada's aerospace sector by:

- Creating the Strategic Aerospace Defence Initiative program and investing \$468 million in Canadian aerospace companies and leveraged an additional \$943 million in R&D investments.
- Ensuring Canadian companies receive economic benefits from the acquisition of military aircraft such as the CC-177s, CH-147D Chinooks, Hercules and Joint Strike Fighters (F-35).
- Supporting research and development initiatives such as the Bombardier C-Series commercial aircraft program.
- Investing \$300 million for advanced gas turbine aviation engine research and development at Pratt & Whitney Canada in Mississauga and Montreal.

Since 2006, we have supported Canada's auto sector by:

- Creating the Auto Innovation Fund that provides automotive firms \$250 million over five years.
- Supporting research and development in the auto sector through the Automotive Partnership Canada program.
- Providing support, in partnership with the Obama Administration, to GM and Chrysler Canada to restructure their operations during the global economic recession. This action saved thousands of jobs in the Greater Toronto area.



Left: On Feb. 22, 2011, MP Bob Dechert and the Honourable Ted Menzies, Minister of State (Finance) highlighted the Government's tax relief for job creators at Multiurethanes Limited in Mississauga.

Right: On Nov. 3, 2010, MP Bob Dechert and other Conservative MP colleagues, met with employees of Atomic Energy of Canada Limited and CANDU Industries to discuss the issues regarding AECL and its future. These consultations are ongoing.



Government Accomplishments

ECONOMY & STUDENTS

Stephen Harper's Government is committed to having the most educated, most skilled workforce in the world — it is vital to our economic recovery and success.

We created the Knowledge Information Program and together with the province, have invested \$31.2 million for the Sheridan Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning's new Mississauga campus and \$70 million for a new Instructional and Laboratory Complex at the University of Toronto Mississauga.

Increasing Accessibility to Education for Canadian Students

- Our Government increased transfers to the provinces by 40 per cent. This is in stark contrast to the previous Liberal Government which slashed transfers to provinces by \$25 billion dollars.
- We introduced a new and improved system of grants. The Canada Student Grants Program was introduced in August 2009 and provides grants for students from low- and middle- income families, part-time students, students with permanent disabilities and students with dependants. In 2009-2010 alone, grants were disbursed to 290,000 students, more than double the number of students that received grants under the previous Liberal Government's program. This is money that students do not have to pay back so they have less debt when they graduate.
- In August 2009, our Government also introduced the new Repayment Assistance Plan which increases the flexibility in how and when students repay their loans.
- Our Government made scholarships and bursaries tax free.
- We introduced a textbook tax credit.
- Our Government has increased investments in the Canada Graduate Scholarships program.
- We have enabled Canadians to save more for a child's education by increasing the lifetime limit on RESP contributions, increasing the annual Canada Education Savings Grant amount, and expanding RESP access to part-time and apprenticeship students.
- Our Government extended the maximum lifespan of RESPs from 25 to 35 years to provide additional flexibility to students who use these savings.
- We increased accessibility to RESP savings by introducing a 6-month grace period for students to apply for Educational Assistance Payments.
- Our Government increased investments in the new Canada Summer Jobs program, which provides funding to help employers create summer job opportunities for students to help them pay for their tuition.
- Part-time students are no longer required to make Canada Student Loan payments while in-study (however interest accrues) and the maximum part-time loan balance was raised from \$4,000 to \$10,000.

Our investments are making a real difference for Canadian students: a 2009-2010 Conference Board of Canada report gives Canada an "A" grade on education and skills training. Canadian families can rest assured that our Government will continue to invest in education to ensure the success of our students.



On Dec. 2, 2010, Prime Minister Stephen Harper joined MP Bob Dechert and Sheridan President Jeff Zabudsky to tour Sheridan College's new Mississauga campus along with the project's construction workers.



On Feb. 24, 2011 (left to right) Eric Zvaniga, Project Manager, Eastern Construction; MP Bob Dechert; Hon. Gary Goodyear, Minister of State (Science and Technology); Tim McTiernan, Assistant VP of Gov't, Institutional and Community Relations UTM; Deep Saini, VP and Principal of UTM toured the University's new Instructional Centre.

TACKLING CRIME

Stephen Harper's Government is committed to making our streets and communities safer by getting tough on crime. As a result of our legislation, there are tougher laws to crack down on gun and gang crime, violent and repeat offenders, identity theft, sex offenders, street racing, impaired driving and car thieves.

Lately, our government has proposed Bill S-10 to impose tougher penalties on drug dealers who commit these especially serious drug crimes and on dealers involved with organized crime. Bizarrely, after originally supporting this legislation, Michael Ignatieff's Liberals and are now saying that they will vote against this important initiative to crackdown of criminals who sell drugs to our children.

It's deeply unfortunate that the Ignatieff/NDP/Bloc Québécois Coalition is stalling our efforts. Their soft-on-crime approach has already been tried and was a failure. It's time that MPs of all parties support Conservative legislation to protect our communities.

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY/TOWN

PROVINCE

POSTAL CODE

TELEPHONE

EMAIL



Bob Dechert, MP for Mississauga-Erindale and Stephen Harper, Prime Minister of Canada prepare for a meeting in May 2010

Do you think you're better off staying the course with Prime Minister Stephen Harper and Member of Parliament Bob Dechert? Yes No

COMMENTS

5 years of Harper Government Accomplishments

STRENGTHENING CANADA'S IMMIGRATION SYSTEM



Feb. 4, 2011—Audrey Chiang, Kathy Zhao, Citizenship and Immigration Minister Jason Kenney, MP Bob Dechert, Stephen Chu and many others celebrated the Lunar New Year at Square One Adult Centre hosted by the Mississauga Mandarin Association

Foreign Credential Recognition

Our Economic Action Plan invested \$50 million to work with the provinces and territories and key stakeholders to develop a common approach to improve foreign credential recognition. Under the Framework, our Government cooperated with partners to speed up (qualifications assessed within one year) foreign credential recognition for eight priority occupations, including engineers and pharmacists, helping skilled newcomers get jobs in their fields. The next phase of the Framework will focus on improving foreign credential recognition for six more target occupations, including dentists and physicians.

Stephen Harper's Government appreciates that we are a country of immigrants whose identities are bound up in the stories of ancestors from hundreds of lands. In 2010, Canada welcomed the highest number of legal immigrants in more than 50 years, at 280,636 permanent residents.

The success of Canada's economy depends on a skilled and educated workforce. The Harper Government has introduced a number of measures to help newcomers to Canada and to better protect Canada's immigration system.

The Harper Government has:

- Cut the Right of Landing Fee for new immigrants in half, saving a family of four more than \$2,000.
- Welcomed the highest levels of immigration in 70 years, significantly more than Canada accepted under the Trudeau, Chrétien, and Martin Liberal governments.
- Reformed our refugee system, so that real refugees fleeing persecution get protection faster, while bogus asylum seekers are deported before they become a burden on Canadian taxpayers.
- Increased protection for caregivers and nannies, including implementing the Juana Tejada Law.
- Introduced tough measures to prevent human smugglers from abusing our immigration system.
- Cracked down on crooked immigration consultants who victimise those who dream of immigrating to Canada, all the while abusing our immigration system.

SENIORS



On Feb. 25, 2011, MP Bob Dechert welcomed the Hon. Julian Fantino, Minister of State (Seniors) to listen at a round table discussion with retiring workers and senior citizens. VIVA Mississauga Retirement Community hosted the venue. VIVA's Danny Joseph (far right) was among the participants.

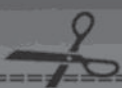
Stephen Harper's Government is committed to enhancing the well-being of Canada's seniors during the retirement they have earned.

That is why since 2006 the Harper Government has:

- Introduced tax relief measures specifically for seniors such as pension income splitting, twice increasing the Age Credit amount, and increasing GIS benefits for recipients who choose to work.
- Introduced legislation to make our streets and communities safer so that seniors feel safe in their own homes and communities.
- Taken a strong stand against elder abuse, raising awareness to recognize the signs of elder abuse and deal with those who abuse seniors physically, financially and mentally.
- Created a dedicated Minister of State for Seniors bringing seniors issues directly to the Cabinet table.
- Established October 1 as National Seniors Day.
- On May 3, 2010, Bill C-21, the *Standing up for Victims of White Collar Crime Act*, was introduced. This bill would provide tougher sentences for fraud, helping to combat white-collar crime. It has been referred to the Senate (formerly Bill C-52).

www.BobDechert

(905) 897-1982



CUT



NO
POSTAGE
REQUIRED

Bob Dechert, MP
MISSISSAUGA-ERINDALE

Bob Dechert, MP
108-1300 Central Parkway West
Mississauga ON L5C 4G8

FOLD



TAPE