

Bob Dechert, MP
Mississauga-Erindale

SUMMER 2011

Thank you for your continued support!

Dear Friends,

After much hard work and time spent meeting with thousands of people in the riding, I am honoured and humbled to be representing you as your Member of Parliament in Ottawa. Thank you for putting your trust in me once again. I appreciate that you exercised your democratic right to stand up for the values and concerns of Canadians, and I will work every day to defend your interests in Ottawa.

I pledge to continue to focus on your priorities to keep our economy strong, reduce the federal tax burden on hard working people, make our streets safe and secure, and prudently manage our nation's finances.

On May 2, Canadians chose a stable, national Conservative Government focused on the top priorities of many families in Canada.

Recently, Prime Minister Harper gave me additional responsibilities as Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs. **It is a great honour and privilege to be involved in our great nation's leadership role in international affairs including helping to promote the Canadian values of freedom of conscience and belief through the creation of Canada's new office of Religious Freedom.**

Take a look inside these pages to learn more about some of the hard work our Government plans to do as part of the Next Phase of **Canada's Economic Action Plan.**

In the coming weeks and months, I urge you to contact my office with any questions or concerns you may have. Please take the time to send me your ideas and comments either by mail (see coupon attached) or email at bob.dechert@parl.gc.ca. Your feedback helps me to better represent you in Ottawa.

Sincerely,



Bob Dechert, MP

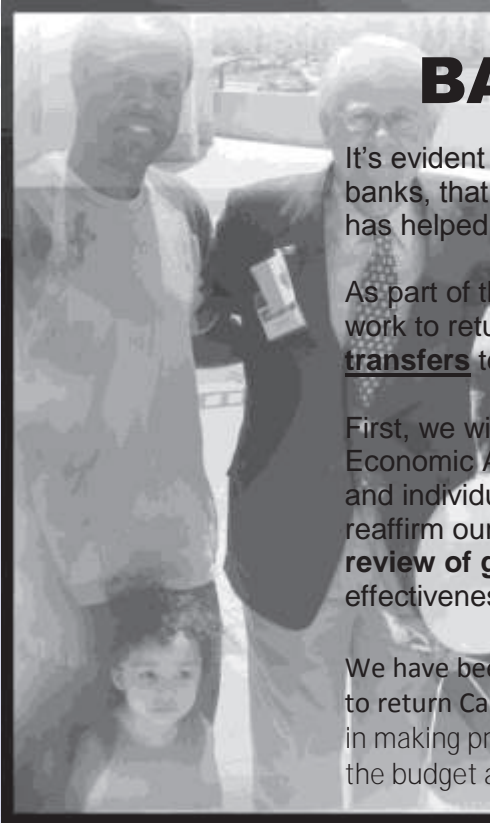
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BALANCING CANADA'S BUDGET

It's evident by the number of new jobs, growth in our economy, and the strength of our banks, that the strong fiscal management of Stephen Harper's Conservative Government has helped guide Canada through the global economic recession.

As part of the **Next Phase of Canada's Economic Action Plan**, our Government will work to return to a balanced budget **without raising taxes**, and **without cutting transfers** to the provinces.

First, we will **conclude the stimulus program** we have provided as part of Canada's Economic Action Plan. Second, we will **close tax loopholes** that allow some businesses and individuals to avoid paying their fair share of tax. This will help keep tax rates low and reaffirm our ongoing commitment to tax fairness. Third, we will launch a comprehensive **review of government operating spending**, aimed at improving the efficiency and effectiveness of government operations.

We have been clear: once the Economic Action Plan stimulus runs out, we'll take the right action to return Canada's budget to balance. Our Plan has helped Canada pull ahead of our G7 partners in making progress towards eliminating the deficit. And, these measures will allow us to balance the budget a year earlier than originally predicted, by 2014-15.



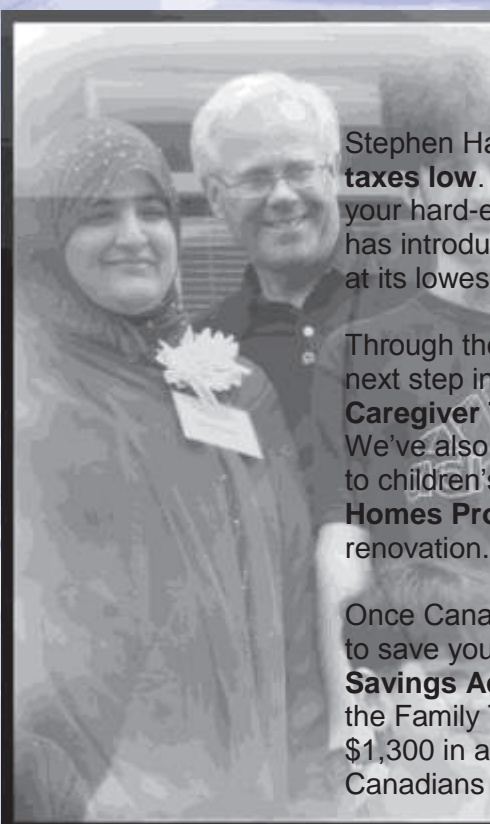
CREATING AND PROTECTING JOBS

Did you know that more Canadians are working now than before the global economic recession hit Canada?

Thanks in part to Canada's Economic Action Plan — the Conservative Government's low-tax plan for jobs and growth—our economy has created over **560,000 new jobs** since July 2009. In addition, our working-sharing agreements have helped save **277,000 already-existing jobs**. But we're not stopping there.

The **Next Phase of Canada's Economic Action Plan** delivers more measures to encourage job creation, including the Hiring Credit for Small Business. This credit will reduce the cost of Employment Insurance (EI) premiums for small businesses in the first year of a newly-created job. And, our Government has declared 2011 the Year of the Entrepreneur. Thanks to our plan, we're making it easier for young Canadians to start and operate their own businesses.

Stephen Harper's Conservative Government is taking action to help deliver **more jobs** for Canadians.



KEEPING TAXES LOW

Stephen Harper's Conservative Government has received a **strong mandate to keep taxes low**. Throughout our time in office, we've proven that it is our priority to keep more of your hard-earned dollars in your pockets — **where they belong**. In total, the Government has introduced close to 120 tax relief measures since 2006. The federal tax burden is now at its lowest level since 1961.

Through the Next Phase of Canada's Economic Action Plan, our Government is taking the next step in delivering real tax savings for Canadians. We're introducing the **Family Caregiver Tax Credit**, to provide relief for caregivers of all types of dependent relatives. We've also created the **Children's Arts Tax Credit**, available on eligible expenses related to children's artistic and cultural activities. And, we've extended the **ecoENERGY Retrofit-Homes Program**, to help families lower their energy bills and support jobs in home renovation.

Once Canada's budget is back to balance in 2014-15, our Government has additional plans to save you more. We're proposing to double the savings cap of our popular **Tax-Free Savings Account** to \$10,000. We will also introduce income splitting for families — called the Family Tax Cut. It is estimated that almost 1.8 million families will reap rewards of \$1,300 in annual savings. Finally, our **Adult Fitness Tax Credit** will help support Canadians who choose a healthy, active lifestyle.



SUPPORTING SENIORS

Canada's seniors deserve a secure and dignified retirement that reflects the contributions they have made for our great country.

Through Canada's Economic Action Plan, Stephen Harper's Conservative Government has taken action to better the lives of Canada's seniors. Although Canada's retirement income system has reduced the incidence of poverty among seniors, some remain at risk.

That's why, through the Next Phase of our Plan, we're doing more for Canada's seniors. We're:

- enhancing the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) for low-income seniors, providing an annual top-up amount that will benefit more than 680,000 seniors
- Increasing funding for the New Horizons for Seniors Program, ensuring seniors can benefit from active living and participation in their communities
- working to eliminate mandatory retirement, allowing Canadians to choose how long they wish to remain active in Canada's workforce
- Supporting a Pooled Retirement Pension Plan, a low-cost pension option to provide additional help to seniors saving for retirement



LEADING ON THE WORLD STAGE

Canada is no stranger to leading on the world stage. Our country's economic performance during the global recovery stands out among advanced countries. We have posted the **strongest employment growth** in the G7 since mid-2009, and the World Economic Forum cited us as having the **strongest banks in the world** for the third consecutive year.

Our Government knows that the global flow of goods and services creates jobs and economic growth for all Canadians. That's why we're negotiated **eight free-trade agreements** and are in talks towards many more. In May 2011, Prime Minister Harper was able to announce a bilateral agreement on **youth mobility with Greece** — empowering youth to broaden their horizons and develop a better understanding of each other's cultures.

In addition, the Prime Minister has been a strong advocate for maternal, newborn and child health initiatives on the world stage. The **'Muskoka Initiative,'** launched by G8 partners at the Muskoka G8 Summit in June 2010, supports initiatives to help save the lives of mothers and children in Africa and Asia.

As part of our ongoing efforts to promote human rights, our Government will create a new **Office of Religious Freedom** to help protect religious minorities and to promote the pluralism that is essential to the development of free and democratic societies.



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We want to know what you think...


COMMENTS _____



KEEPING COMMUNITIES SAFE

Our Government will introduce, within its first 100 sitting days, law-and-order legislation to combat crime and terrorism. These measures will protect children from sex offenders. They will eliminate house arrest and pardons for serious crimes. They will give law enforcement officials, courts and victims the legal tools they need to fight criminals and terrorists. Our Government will continue to protect the most vulnerable in society and work to prevent crime. It will propose tougher sentences for those who abuse seniors and will help at risk youth avoid gangs and criminal activity. It will address the problem of violence against women and girls.

Our Government has always believed the interests of law-abiding citizens should be placed ahead of those of criminals. Canadians who are victimized or threatened by crime deserve their government's support and protection, and they should have the right to take reasonable steps to defend themselves and their property when the police cannot be there to assist them. Our Government will reintroduce legislation to clarify and strengthen laws on self-defence, defence of property and citizen's arrest.



IMPROVING OUR IMMIGRATION SYSTEM

Our Government is committed to maintaining the integrity of our immigration system.

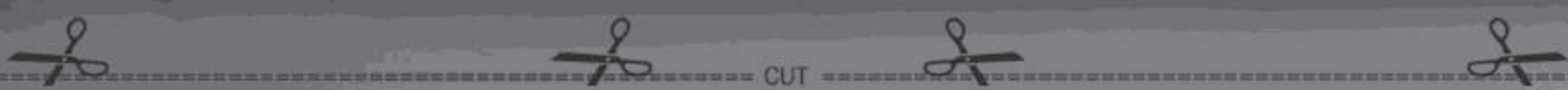
Since 2006, Canada has welcomed an average 254,000 immigrants every year. This is the highest average of any Government in Canadian history. Our Government wants to maintain historic levels of economic immigration however there are people out there who have been defrauding Canada's immigration system.

All Canadians, including new Canadians are deeply concerned about those who want to selfishly take advantage of Canada's generosity. These people cost taxpayers a lot of money (healthcare, consular services) and undermine public support for immigration. That is why our government is working to revoke approximately 1800 citizenships of individuals who did not chose Canada as home but as a pit-stop of convenience.

Our Government is also committed to fighting crooked consultants who have in some cases been instrumental in helping abuse Canada's immigration system. Our government is sending a global message - we will not allow such fraud.

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