

Fall 2016

# JANE PHILPOTT

## MP FOR MARKHAM—STOUFFVILLE

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Dear Friends,

Just over one year ago, you gave me the great privilege of representing you in Ottawa. It has been an incredible year, a new opportunity to serve Canadians, including the people of Markham—Stouffville. I want to thank you for your expressions of encouragement – for sharing ideas through letters, phone calls and visits. You have participated in town hall discussions. You have sent petitions. You have volunteered at community events. Thanks for being engaged in democracy and civil society and for your desire to make our community and our country even better.

As we mark one year in government, I reflect on the promises we have fulfilled. Many Markham—Stouffville families have experienced a positive impact from the new Canada Child Benefit, which saw an increase in their monthly support. As a result, 300,000 fewer children are living in poverty across Canada. We cut taxes for the middle class and raised taxes on the wealthiest one percent of Canadians, which resulted in nearly nine million Canadians having more money on their paycheques starting last January. More recently, we reached an historic agreement to make meaningful changes to the Canada Pension Plan; it will allow Canadians to retire with more money in their pockets. These accomplishments have delivered Real Change for

Canadians and I look forward to continuing to work hard with my colleagues for the middle class.

Thank you to all the people in my life and in the community who help to support me in my work as a Member of Parliament. Politics is a team sport, and none of what we have accomplished so far would be possible without the fantastic teams of people around me. We pause only for a moment to celebrate the first year collectively. It's time to get started on the work ahead. I once learned an African proverb that says: "If enough people work together, they can carry an elephant into a house."

This is my hope for the months and years ahead – to work with wise and compassionate people; to believe we can make a difference; to work for causes of justice, peace and health for all.

Sincerely,



The Honourable Jane Philpott, M.P.

### My office is here to help you!

Some of the services we can assist you with are:

- Citizenship
- Immigration
- Passports
- CPP
- OAS
- Federal Taxes
- Service Canada
- Veterans Affairs
- Celebratory certificates from The Queen, Governor General and Prime Minister for certain landmark anniversaries and birthdays (Contact our office for further details)

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905.640.1125



# Strengthening the CPP: Because you deserve it



Today, middle class Canadians are working harder than ever, but many are worried that they simply won't have saved enough money to retire securely. What's even more startling is that one in four families approaching retirement—1.1 million families—are at risk of not saving enough.

Liberals made a commitment **to strengthen the CPP** and help the middle class achieve their goal of a strong, secure, and stable retirement.

A stronger CPP not only means more money for your retirement, it means more jobs for the middle class and those working hard to join it. When Canadian retirees have more money to spend on their needs, it leads to greater confidence in our economy and more jobs in Canada.

Calculate your Retirement Income at: [www.esdc.gc.ca/en/cpp/cric.page](http://www.esdc.gc.ca/en/cpp/cric.page)

## FRIENDS AND FAMILY VISITING FROM ABROAD? Do they have an eTA?

Do you have family or friends visiting you from Europe, Australia, New Zealand or Asia this fall? They should be aware that Canada's entry rules have changed and they may need an Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA).

Starting November 10, 2016, travellers will need valid travel documents (e.g. passport, visa or eTA) to board their flight when flying to or transiting through Canada.

The eTA is a simple, inexpensive online process that typically takes just minutes to complete. Some applications, however, could take days to process, so it is best to plan ahead.

Use only the official Government of Canada website: [Canada.ca/eTA](http://Canada.ca/eTA)

## Ensuring your secure retirement: Enhanced Old Age Security (OAS) and Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS)

The Government of Canada is making sure that you have better access to a secure retirement. This is why we have restored the age of eligibility for **OAS** from 67 to 65.

Low-income Canadian seniors who live alone now receive a boost in their **GIS** top-up of up to \$ 947 per year. This will support over 900,000 vulnerable seniors and improve their quality of life.



## Resources for Seniors

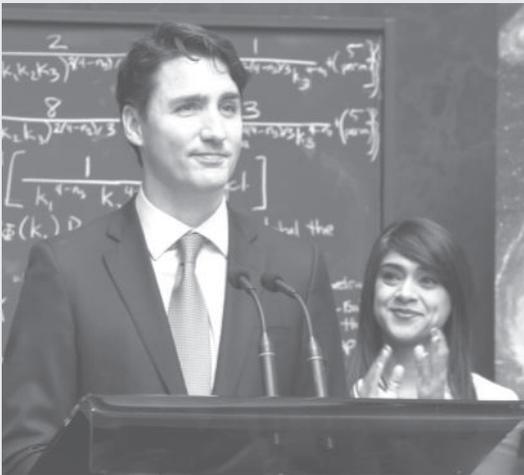
Our office in Markham—Stouffville has put together a resource guide for seniors containing helpful information collected from federal, provincial, and local sources.

If you would like a copy mailed to you, please call us at 905-640-1125, or stop by 6060 Main Street in Stouffville to pick one up.

## Quick Tips & Facts

- An eTA is valid for 5 years or until the passport expires, whichever comes first
- Travellers can allow someone else such as a family member or friend to apply on their behalf
- An eTA is only for foreign nationals, and is not used for Canadian citizens or permanent residents
- US citizens and travellers with valid Canadian visas do not need an eTA

## Educating the next generation of leaders!



### Real benefits for students

**UP TO \$3,000**  
FOR FULL-TIME STUDENTS

FROM  
LOW-INCOME  
FAMILIES

**UP TO \$1,200**  
FOR FULL-TIME STUDENTS

FROM  
MIDDLE-INCOME  
FAMILIES

**UP TO \$1,800**  
FOR PART-TIME STUDENTS

FROM  
LOW-INCOME  
FAMILIES

We're growing the Middle Class by making post-secondary education more affordable and accessible. **Canada Student Grants have increased by 50% to help young people build their best futures.** For example, for full-time students from low-income families, the grant has been increased from \$2000 to \$3000. These enhancements to student financial assistance will help 270,000 students in Ontario alone.

**Find out how you can apply here:** [www.esdc.gc.ca/en/student\\_grants/csg/index.page](http://www.esdc.gc.ca/en/student_grants/csg/index.page)

## Eligible educators: you can now claim your school supplies!

The Government of Canada values the contribution teachers make. The new Eligible Educator School Supply Tax Credit is in place for 2016 and beyond. All certified teachers can receive a 15% refundable tax credit for the purchase of up to \$1,000 worth of school supplies each year. This means teachers can provide students with more and better school supplies that can be used to enrich and support learning.

**Find out more details here:** <http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/nwsrm/txtps/2016/tt160906-eng.html>

## A YEAR OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

As we look back on the past year, I wanted to update you on some of what we've done so far to grow the middle class and to help those working hard to join it.

### Lowered taxes for the middle class

At the beginning of this year we put in place the middle class tax cut - because we know when middle class Canadians have more money in their pockets to save, invest, and grow the economy, we all benefit. We cut the middle income tax bracket to 20.5 percent from 22 percent - a seven percent reduction. This tax relief is worth up to \$670 per person, per year - or \$1,340 for a two-income household.

### Canada Child Benefit

In July, families started receiving the Canada Child Benefit (CCB) to help with the high cost of raising their kids. Here in Ontario, over 2 million children are now receiving an average monthly installment of \$580, tax free. Right across our country, the CCB is helping to lift 300,000 kids out of poverty. Think about what that means for their future: as they grow, it will be easier for them to stay healthy, to succeed in school, and to plan for tomorrow.

And this fall, we are strengthening the Canada Pension Plan (CPP) to provide a more secure retirement and better quality of life for Canadians.

Now more than ever, we're committed to making life better for each and every Canadian family, with a long term vision to grow the middle class and create a strong economy for future generations.

## ARE YOU A DUAL CANADIAN CITIZEN? Make sure to fly with a valid Canadian Passport

If you are a dual citizen and your other citizenship is from a country whose citizens do not need a visa to enter Canada, such as the United Kingdom, France or Germany, you may be used to flying to Canada using your other passport.

Starting November 10, 2016, Canadian citizens, including dual citizens, will need to show proof they are Canadian to board their flight to Canada. The only acceptable proof that you are a Canadian citizen is a valid Canadian passport, a Canadian temporary passport, or a Canadian emergency travel document.

Without one of these documents, you may not be able to board your flight. To ensure travelling to Canada remains easy and stress free, travel with a valid Canadian passport!

## PAGE Program



Starting university in 2017?

Speak both official languages?

Interested in the work of Parliament?



LEARN ABOUT the House of Commons PAGE PROGRAM!

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[hoc\\_pages\\_cdc](https://www.instagram.com/hoc_pages_cdc)

or visit online at: [parl.gc.ca/hocpage](http://parl.gc.ca/hocpage)

# Consulting our Community

MPs across Canada have been working hard to consult with constituents to hear your perspectives, gather your opinions and ideas, and ensure that your collective views as Canadians are heard in Ottawa.

I have hosted a number of town halls this year to consult with you, the constituents of Markham—Stouffville, on a broad range of topics. These included: Climate Change, Defence Policy and Veterans Affairs, Canada Post, Electoral Reform and National Housing Strategy.

We have had strong turnout and engaging conversations. Constituents have valued the opportunity to not only share their own viewpoints, but also to dialogue with others in their community on important issues. All the feedback has been used to inform the national strategies and plans being developed.

To ensure that you don't miss out on any events, you can request to be added to our email distribution list by contacting my office at: [jane.philpott@parl.gc.ca](mailto:jane.philpott@parl.gc.ca).



Markham—Stouffville MP Jane Philpott and Markham—Thornhill MP John McCallum host a town hall meeting on electoral reform

## Celebrating our Rio 2016 Athletes



Jane joins Mayor Frank Scarpitti at a ceremony celebrating Markham's athletes and officials from the 2016 summer games in Rio. Way to go Team Canada! Left to Right: Maxime Brinck-Croteau (Fencing), Rose Labreche (Women's Rugby Referee), Mayor Frank Scarpitti, MP Jane Philpott, Andre De Grasse (Athletics)

-Photo courtesy of the City of Markham



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## In Ottawa and Around the Community...



Jane speaks with Michaëlle Jean, former Governor General of Canada and current Secretary General of the International Organisation of La Francophonie at the Global Fund Fifth Replenishment Conference to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.



Speaking in the House of Commons about the importance of new investments in home care, and making sure Canadians have access to mental health care services.



Welcoming Chinese Premier Li Keqiang and his wife Cheng Hong to Ottawa on behalf of the Government of Canada.



Jane joins members of the community at a ribbon cutting ceremony for a brand new ramp at Wesley United Church in Gormley. The ramp was funded under the federal government's New Horizons for Seniors program.



Celebrating Navratri at an event hosted by the Indo-Canadians of Stouffville organization.



Jane meets some local students at the Centre of Dreams in Markham after announcing local funding contributions by the federal government in support of youth employment. This summer, the Canada Summer Jobs program made it possible for over 250 students in Markham—Stouffville to gain valuable work experience while also supporting our local economy.

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