

Lambton - Kent - Middlesex



**December 12, 2011**

### **Bev's Christmas Open Houses**

This year, as in year's past, I will be hosting a couple of Christmas Open Houses and you're all invited! The first is set for Monday, December 19<sup>th</sup> and it's being held at the Gemini Sportsplex in Strathroy. There's a free public skate from 4-5pm and refreshments and Christmas Carols sung by Strathroy's own Shelly Rastin, from 5-6pm in the Westcast Room at the Gemini.

The following day, Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup> is our Wallaceburg Christmas Open House. It's at First Baptist Church in Wallaceburg from 4-6pm. Come and enjoy the musical entertainment of the Dave Babbit Brass Ensemble while enjoying some festive refreshments.

If you need more information about either open house, you can call my Strathroy Constituency office at 519-245-6561 (toll-free 1-800-586-4614) or my Wallaceburg Constituency office at 519-627-4899 (toll-free 1-800-585-2640)

### **Pre-Budget Input**

Some of you have been asking about my pre-budget questionnaire. It's available on my website [www.bevshipley.ca](http://www.bevshipley.ca) I will also be writing to each of you in the coming weeks asking the same three questions. It's up to you how you provide your feedback, whether online or through my website, I'm just hoping that you do. Budget 2012 is just a few months away and your input is very important to me. The three questions focus on what you think our government can do to promote job creation, spur economic growth, return to balanced budgets and cut down on wasteful government spending. The survey should only take a couple of minutes and again, I truly appreciate your feedback.

### **New Border Agreement**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper and U.S. President Barack Obama announced last week that Canada and the United States have agreed to implement two action plans designed to speed up legitimate trade and travel, improve security in North America, and align regulatory approaches between the two countries. Billions of dollars worth of goods and hundreds of thousands of people cross the Canada-U.S. border every day. The new measures will help reverse the trend seen since the 9/11 attacks, of slower trade and travel between the two countries while at the same time ensuring the security of our perimeter. This will transform our border and create jobs and growth in Canada by improving the flow of goods and people between our two countries. This move is supported by manufacturing, industry, tourism and agriculture as a way to move goods more freely and still ensure Canada's sovereignty is protected.

### **The Kyoto Protocol**

You've likely been hearing about the Kyoto Protocol in the news lately and I'd like to share my feelings on the topic. Our government takes very seriously the challenge of climate change. However, the Kyoto Protocol, signed by the former Liberal government in 1998, led to an increase in greenhouse gases by over 24 percent because they chose not to act on it. Canada represents a little less than 2 percent of the world's greenhouse gas production so it would be irresponsible to devastate our fragile economy if we were to act alone without having the inclusion of the world's largest emitters like the U.S., China, India and Russia. Canada remains willing to act on climate change and will be part of the solution along with these other major countries that are responsible for most of the world's greenhouse gas emissions.

## **A New Community Centre in the Riding**

I recently had the pleasure of attending the opening ceremonies for the Middlesex Wellness and Recreation Centre in Komoka, this region's newest multi-use facility...and what a facility it is! What started as a land acquisition when I was still Mayor of Middlesex Centre has become a reality. The centre is a community meeting place, sports and activity centre all in one, with a YMCA and Library. My sincere congratulations to everyone who was involved in this amazing project. It will serve not only the residents of Middlesex Centre but the surrounding area for many, many years to come.

Until next time.



Bev Shipley, M.P.  
Lambton-Kent-Middlesex