



Roxanne James

Member of Parliament
Scarborough Centre



PARLIAMENTARY UPDATE

WINTER 2011

A Message from Roxanne James

I would like to thank all of my constituents for taking the time away from their busy schedules to review my previous Parliamentary Update.

The response from the mail-in comment section was overwhelming and I was thrilled to see so many constituents who wanted to express their thoughts and really engage in the political process with their Member of Parliament. I have read each and every mail-in response and I particularly enjoyed following up with many of you via telephone, at my office and out in the community.

Many of you expressed concern for the global economy and how you wanted our Government, here in Canada, to *stay the course*.

Please be assured that the Conservative Government will stay focused on the economy and job creation, despite the opposition parties fighting us on every tax relief measure and job creation initiative we put forward. The last thing Canada needs right now is the opposition parties' massive tax hikes that will kill jobs and stall the economy.

Under the Leadership of our Prime Minister, Stephen Harper, the Next Phase of Canada's Economic Action Plan will keep Canada on track.

Sincerely,

Roxanne James
M.P. Scarborough Centre

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Safe Streets and Communities Act (Bill C-10)

Canadians want to feel safe in their homes and in their communities. In fact, one of the top priorities of any Government should be the safety and security of its citizens. That is why we introduced the *Safe Streets and Communities Act*.

This *Act* re-introduces important reforms which were debated by Parliament during the previous session but never became law.

- The Protecting Children from Sexual Predators Act (former Bill C-54)
- The Penalties for Organized Drug Crime Act (former Bill S-10)
- Sébastien's Law (Protecting the Public from Violent Young Offenders) (former Bill C-4)
- The Ending House Arrest for Property & Other Serious Crimes by Serious & Violent Offenders Act (former Bill C-16)
- The Increasing Offender Accountability Act (former Bill C-39)
- The Eliminating Pardons for Serious Crimes Act (former Bill C-23B)
- The Keeping Canadians Safe (International Transfer of Offenders) Act (former Bill C-5)
- The Justice for Victims of Terrorism Act & related amendments to the State Immunity Act (former Bill S-7)
- The Preventing the Trafficking, Abuse and Exploitation of Vulnerable Immigrants Act (former Bill C-56)

Unlike the Liberals and the NDP, who oppose this Bill, the Conservative Government is committed to providing safer communities for all law-abiding Canadians.

Supporting our Seniors

The Next Phase of Canada's Economic Action Plan (Budget 2011) announced the following new measures to support our senior community.

- New Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) top-up benefit to help our most vulnerable seniors
- Additional \$10 million over two years for the New Horizons for Seniors Program
- \$50 million over two years to extend the Targeted Initiative for Older Workers

As a result of actions taken, seniors and pensioners will receive about \$2.3 billion annually in additional targeted tax relief for the 2011-12 fiscal year. In particular, since 2006, the Government has:

- Increased the Age Credit amount by \$1,000 in 2006, and by another \$1,000 in 2009
- Doubled the maximum amount of income eligible for the Pension Income Credit to \$2,000.
- Introduced pension income splitting
- Increased the age limit for maturing pensions and RRSPs to 71 from 69 years of age

Did you know?

There is now a Minister of State for Seniors
There is now a National Seniors Council
October 1st is now National Senior's Day

Learn more @ roxannejames.ca

Roxanne Introduces Private Member's Bill

On September 28th, Roxanne introduced her first Private Member's Bill, Bill C-293: An Act to amend the Corrections and Conditional Release Act (vexatious complainants). The bill was seconded by The Member of Parliament from Don Valley East, Joe Daniel, and given its first reading.

Correctional Service Canada (CSC) receives thousands of complaints per year from offenders. A small group of convicts account for about 15% of all complaints filed. Bill C-293 seeks to address those inmates who have made a hobby of issuing complaints, whom abuse the grievance process and whom waste correctional institutional resources by filing numerous complaints that are vexatious or frivolous in nature.

Standing Committees

Roxanne was pleased and honoured to be selected to sit on the Standing Committees for *The Status of Women* (FEWO), and for *Citizenship and Immigration* (CIMM). Both committees meet twice weekly for 2 hours each meeting. The Committees hear from witnesses in the areas of study and provide an avenue for Members of Parliament to ask questions directed to the witnesses.

Standing Committee on the Status of Women

- Study of Abuse of Older Women
- Met Delegation from the Republic of Kenya
- Studying the Health of Aboriginal Women

Standing Committee on Citizenship and Immigration

- Studying Immigration Application Backlogs
- Met delegation from Germany
- Briefing session with Minister Jason Kenney, Minister of Citizenship and Immigration

Your Comments Matter!

CONTACT INFORMATION

First Name:

Last Name:

Address:

City & Postal Code:

Phone Number:

Email:

Additional Comments

Do you feel Roxanne is on the Right Track ?

Yes! **No!**

Do you support the Conservative Government's Safe Streets and Communities Act?

Yes! **No!**

What Party do you think is best to handle our Economy?

Conservatives **NDP**
 Liberals **Green**

Attention Parents and Guardians! A Call to all Young Artists

As an artist myself, I am inspired to see young children getting involved in the arts and I was thrilled that the Conservative Government introduced a new Children's Arts Tax Credit in Budget 2011. As such, I would like to encourage the "up and coming" young artists of Scarborough Centre by showcasing some of their work in my 2012 Parliamentary Calendar. The calendar will be distributed to every household within the constituency and only the child's first name and age will be published beside their artwork.

Attention Children ages 12 and under. It's a Contest!

The suggested themes for submissions are "my favourite month, season, or holiday", but all submissions of any content will be welcomed. Here is how the contest works:



1. Create your masterpiece with pencil, paint or crayons (or other medium) on paper or canvass no bigger than 8 1/2 x 11.
2. Have your parents write your first name, age, AND your parents contact information (name, telephone #,) on the back of your picture.
3. Have your parents mail the submission (in envelope) OR ask them to drop it off at 1450 Midland Avenue, Suite 211, Monday through Friday, between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.
4. All submissions MUST be received prior to December 10th and must have parent's or legal guardian's permission.

In addition to winners artwork appearing in my calendar, your masterpiece will also be displayed in my constituency office. Winners to receive fun prizes and a special invitation to the VIP Unveiling Party! I can't wait to see the work of Scarborough Centre's young artists!

NO
POSTAGE
REQUIRED

ROXANNE JAMES, MP

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Roxanne James, MP
Scarborough Centre

