



RAY BOUGHEN, MP  
Palliser

October 2011 | Our First e-Newsletter

## A Note From Your Member of Parliament

To begin, I want to thank voters for the renewed mandate I have been given to represent you for a second term. It is a privilege to serve in public office, and I commit to working hard for your interests in Parliament.

Even though there are nearly 600,000 net new jobs since July 2009, too many Canadians are still looking for work and we empathize with them. Our Government's top priority is creating jobs and economic growth.

Sadly, Parliament reconvened this fall without one of its best advocates – the Hon. Jack Layton. His presence will be missed not only by his family, and colleagues on the Hill, but all Canadians. May he rest in peace.

For any federally-related issues, please do not hesitate to communicate with me as we move forward on the road to economic recovery. I always appreciate hearing your thoughts and concerns about issues that are important to you.

During the recent election, we heard that you wanted to know more about what your federal representative was doing. This monthly e-Newsletter is one tool to help remedy that situation. We intend to provide helpful, interesting and informative content about topics that are important to Palliser residents.

**Important note:** If you do not wish to receive these e-Newsletters, please let us know so that we can remove you from the list. Please email [ray.boughen.a1@parl.gc.ca](mailto:ray.boughen.a1@parl.gc.ca) to let us know if that is the case.

Yours sincerely,

Ray Boughen  
Member of Parliament, Palliser



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## Get to know Your Government

[Parliament of Canada](#) – a recently revamped site designed to be user-friendly. A great resource!

[CPAC](#) - a non-partisan politics television station with a great website!

[Service Canada](#) – make Service Canada your first stop for information on federal government services to help parents, seniors, jobseekers, veterans, students, immigrants, aboriginals, and much more.



**“It’s Game On at Mosaic Place!”** announced Palliser MP Ray Boughen to his colleagues in the House of Commons.

He furthered that the Moose Jaw Warriors would play their home opener at Mosaic Place on September 22<sup>nd</sup>, and commended the community for making this project a reality.

Visit [www.rayboughen.ca](http://www.rayboughen.ca) to watch the video.



## Governments of Canada and Saskatchewan Team Up to Help Unemployed Older Workers

Unemployed older workers in Regina will get help to develop their skills and re-enter the workforce thanks to a project jointly funded by the Governments of Canada and Saskatchewan.

The Targeted Initiative for Older Workers is part of the Government of Canada’s strategy to create the best educated, most skilled and most flexible workforce in the world. Read [more](#)....For more information, visit [here](#).

## Minister Shea promotes Children’s Arts Tax Credit



The Honourable Gail Shea, Minister of National Revenue, Palliser MP Ray Boughen and City Councillor Mike O’Donnell, visited the Neil Balkwill Civic Arts Centre to promote the Children’s Arts Tax Credit on August 24, 2011.

This new tax credit, passed in Budget 2011, is available to parents whose children participate in artistic, cultural, recreational, and developmental programs. Click [here](#) for Leader-Post article.

**Is your child eligible for the Children’s Arts Tax credit?** Find out [here](#)....



## Plumber apprentices can now study in Regina

On behalf of the Federal Government, Palliser MP Ray Boughen joined his provincial counterparts for a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the newly renovated training space for plumbing apprentices at SIAST Wascana Campus on June 17<sup>th</sup>.

The project marks a significant expansion of training for plumbing apprentices – until now, all SIAST training for plumbers was conducted in Saskatoon. The new shop will accommodate 140 apprentices per year. Read [more](#)....



## Improving the Playing Field for athletes in Regina

Over the summer, Leibel Field was upgraded thanks to funding from the three levels of Government plus two local sports organizations.

Palliser MP Ray Boughen joined representatives from the City of Regina, Government of Saskatchewan, Regina Soccer Association, and Regina Minor Football on August 16, 2011 to

unveil the major upgrades to Leibel Field in Douglas Park. Click [here](#) for Leader-Post article.

*(Above: Ray encourages Wascana MLA Christine Tell to play ball at Leibel Field on August 16, 2011. Bring it, Ms. Tell!)*



## Bridges and Trails in Wakamow Valley officially open for enjoying!

Wakamow Valley Authority officially opened the new Assiniboine Pedestrian Bridge, the retrofitted

Cree Pedestrian Bridge and the new trail that links both bridges on September 15<sup>th</sup>.

This project was funded in part by the Recreational Infrastructure Canada program, a major infrastructure investment from Canada's Economic Action Plan.

The upgrades will increase trail usage and accessibility, and provide safer pedestrian access, while meeting the need for economic growth and job creation. Read [more](#)....

## Red Tape Anyone?

No thanks!

Prime Minister Stephen Harper created the **Red Tape Commission** in January 2011 to listen to small business leaders about government Red Tape that they face, and address ways to reduce these hindrances that impede productivity.

The Hon. Maxime Bernier announced the findings in September 2011 in the 'What Was Heard' report.

Currently, federal departments and agencies are analyzing and addressing the 2,300 suggestions and comments that were heard. The final report will be released later in 2011 including recommendations for the government to reduce Red Tape.

Clearly, reducing Red Tape is good for everyone. It will help our businesses compete and create jobs for Canadians.

[www.reduceredtape.gc.ca](http://www.reduceredtape.gc.ca)



## Supporting youth in South Central Saskatchewan to prepare for workforce

Ray Boughen, Member of Parliament for Palliser, made the announcement on behalf of the

Honourable Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development on September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

With the help of the Awareness program, up to 300 youth will learn about career options and employment opportunities, while 50 rural employers will get help developing workforce planning strategies to address their current and future human resource needs through the Moose Jaw Chamber of Commerce. Read [more](#)....

## Let's Talk Money! Budget 2011 Highlights

The focus of the Next Phase of Canada's Economic Action Plan will invest in the key drivers of economic growth: Innovation, Investment and Education / Training. In doing so, the Government will strengthen Canada's fiscal advantage.

**Supporting Job Creation** by helping businesses and entrepreneurs succeed, keeping taxes low, investing in projects of national importance, and maintaining Canada's reputation as one of the best places to invest. We will support Job Creation by:

- providing a temporary Hiring Credit for Small Business to encourage additional hiring;
- renewing the Best 14 Weeks and Working While on Claim EI pilot projects for one year; and
- extending the temporary 15-per-cent Mineral Exploration Tax Credit for an additional year (until March 31, 2012) to help companies raise capital for mineral exploration.

**Supporting Families and Communities** so that all

Canadians enjoy a high standard of living and our communities stay vibrant and safe. We will support Families and Communities by:

- enhancing the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) for those seniors who rely almost exclusively on their Old Age Security and the GIS and may therefore be at risk of experiencing financial difficulties;
- introducing a Family Caregiver Tax Credit and Children's Arts Tax Credit to support Canadian families; and
- providing nearly \$870 million over two years to address climate change and air quality, including the extension of the ecoENERGY Retrofit to help homeowners make their homes more energy efficient and reduce the burden of high energy costs.

**Investing in Innovation, Education and Training** to promote research in leading-edge technologies and to provide Canadians with the opportunity and incentives to acquire the skills needed for jobs in today's labour market. We will invest in Innovation, Education and Training by:

- helping small and medium-sized businesses speed along collaborative projects through the Industrial Research Assistance Program through funding over the next three years;
- establishing 10 new Canada Excellence Research Chairs;
- enhancing and expanding eligibility for the Canada Student Loan and Grant Program for part-time and full-time post-secondary students; and
- helping apprentices in the skilled trades and workers in regulated professions by making occupational, trade and professional examination fees eligible for the Tuition Tax Credit.



Investing in Canada's long-term prosperity will increase the well-being of all Canadians while preserving the public services and culture that define us as a nation.

**Preserving Canada's Fiscal Advantage** in order to be able to invest in the priorities of Canadians, to keep Canada's economy growing strongly, and to maintain low interest rates. We will preserve Canada's Fiscal Advantage by:

- reaffirming the Government's plan to return to balanced budgets without raising taxes, without cutting programs for seniors, children, or the unemployed, without cutting transfers to other levels of government that support health care and social services, and without cutting the gas tax transfer to municipalities; and
- identifying savings of more than \$500 million annually from the 2010 round of strategic reviews. Together with measures to restrain the growth of National Defence spending, the first cycle of strategic reviews has resulted in \$11 billion in savings over seven years and more than \$2.8 billion in ongoing savings.

Improving the efficiency and effectiveness of government operations and programs will ensure value for taxpayer money.

Our Government will complete a comprehensive Strategic and Operating Review of direct program spending by the end of 2012. Our Government remains committed to balancing the budget by 2014 partly through reducing expenses learned from this Review. Without including any targeted savings from this Review, the Government is projected to return to balanced budgets by 2015-16.


For more information visit: [www.actionplan.gc.ca](http://www.actionplan.gc.ca).

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### Helpful links for Seniors:



Learn ways to celebrate Seniors!



Learn facts about Elder Abuse.

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### Helpful links for Students:



Apply for up to \$4,000 in grants!



Learn about Student Loans, Programs and more!