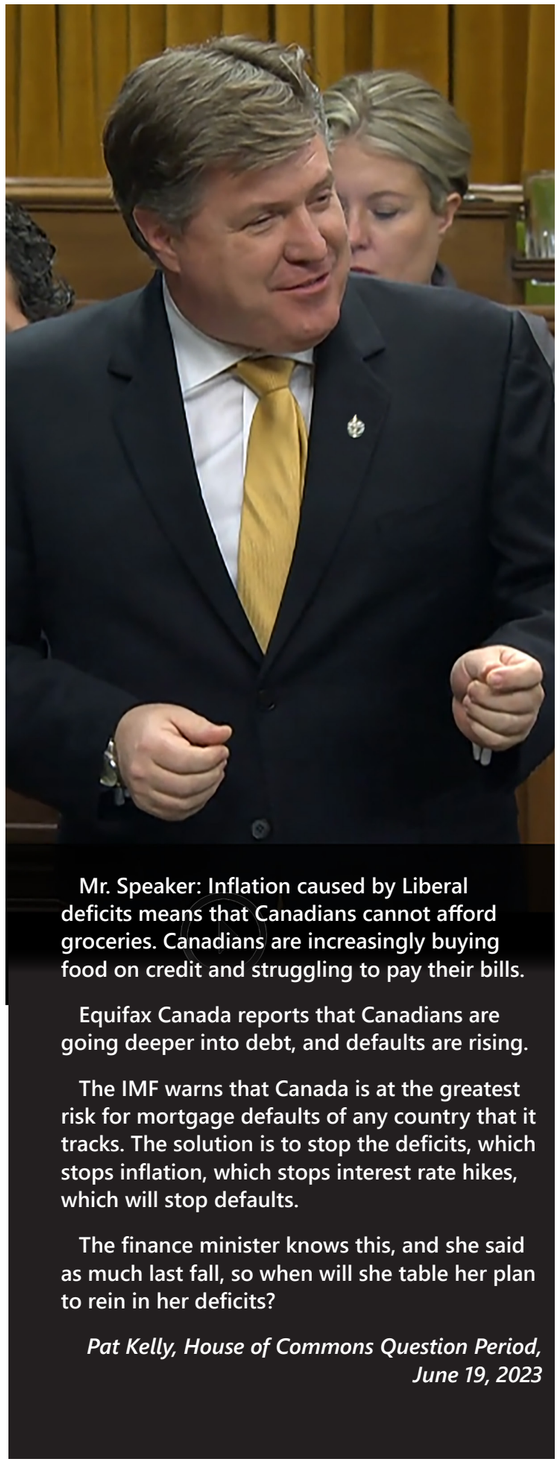
STANDING UP FOR ALBERTANS



Mr. Speaker: Inflation caused by Liberal deficits means that Canadians cannot afford groceries. Canadians are increasingly buying food on credit and struggling to pay their bills.

Equifax Canada reports that Canadians are going deeper into debt, and defaults are rising.

The IMF warns that Canada is at the greatest risk for mortgage defaults of any country that it tracks. The solution is to stop the deficits, which stops inflation, which stops interest rate hikes, which will stop defaults.

The finance minister knows this, and she said as much last fall, so when will she table her plan to rein in her deficits?

Pat Kelly, House of Commons Question Period, June 19, 2023

PROTECTING ACCESS TO MARKETS

Michelle Rempel-Garner, MP

Calgary Nose Hill

I am proud to stand up and be a loud voice for Alberta in Parliament. Albertans know that the Prime Minister's anti-energy agenda has cost Alberta jobs and valuable investments in our province.

That is why, when Alberta's highest court ruled Bill C-69 as unconstitutional, I sponsored a petition calling on the Prime Minister to respect the ruling of the Alberta Court of Appeal by not seeking further appeals, finally recognize that Bill C-69 is unconstitutional, and to repeal the legislation.

Thousands of Canadians signed their names in support and the petition was tabled in Parliament.

I won't stop standing up for our workers and am proud to be a strong voice for Alberta. Albertans know that we can protect our environment and still support our energy workers and I will always fight on their behalf.

YES, PM, THERE *IS* A CASE FOR LNG

Greg McLean, MP

Calgary Centre

Last August, Prime Minister Trudeau remarkably stated "there has never been a strong business case" for Liquified Natural Gas (LNG) exports from Canada to Europe. He was responding to requests from German Chancellor Olaf Schol for help with Europe's energy crisis.

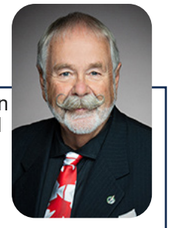
Bernard Shaw famously said, "People who say it cannot be done should not interrupt those who are doing it." Tourmaline Oil is doing it. Proving the Prime Minister wrong, Tourmaline began exporting Canadian natural gas to the U.S. Gulf Coast in January, for onward export to Europe and Asia. Tourmaline will double gas exports in the next three years.

This is the first significant volume of Canadian gas to be exported beyond North America and overcomes the price discount the Canadian product has struggled with. Step aside, Mr. Trudeau. Canadian entrepreneurs are getting it done.

FIGHTING RISING FOOD COSTS

Martin Shields, MP

Bow River



My Bow River riding is home to many irrigation districts that are primarily responsible for delivering water to agricultural land. Over 60 crop varieties are grown in the Bow River riding, and that is only possible because of irrigation.

In Alberta, 4% of the arable irrigated land equates to nearly 30% of agri-food GDP for a total of $5.4 billion to provincial GDP. Water conveyance infrastructure supports hydropower generation, municipalities, industry, businesses, drought and flood mitigation, and recreation opportunities. I will continue to advocate for the expansion of irrigation and the exemption of carbon tax on power to run irrigation, as that cost has run into the millions.

When food inflation has averaged 10%, the last thing Canadians need is higher food costs because the government is punishing producers with a tax on growing food.

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ALBERTA MPS COVERING THE ISSUES

Many Albertans see Parliament at work in the daily question period, or in media scrums on the hot button issues of the day.

Those issues are important. But the Alberta Conservative Caucus is also engaged daily on a multitude of issues important to people in their communities, people in Alberta, and people across Canada.

This issue highlights just some of the work done behind the scenes by my colleagues. They are engaged in a very wide range of important issues.

Most Caucus members are also members of Standing Committees which keep a watchful eye on government policy, spending, and - yes - mistakes and missteps. Sometimes we can influence course corrections. At least we can shine a spotlight on issues so that media and Canadians know what is happening in government.

I am a member of the *Standing Committee on National Defence* and was previously chair of the *Standing Committee on Information, Privacy and Ethics*.

The Ethics Committee produced reports, amongst others, on facial recognition technology, surveillance devices used by the RCMP, collection of mobility data by the government, and the state of access to information in Canada.

The National Defence committee recently produced reports on Arctic Security, the Cyber Defence of Canada; and is also looking at the troubled procurement process in the Armed Forces.

I am also the Shadow Cabinet Minister for Prairie Economic Development and advisor to Opposition Leader Pierre Poilievre on Economy. My colleagues and I are kept busy working hard on a range of issues. Please take a look inside.

Pat Kelly

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ALBERTA MPS AT WORK

Alberta Members of Parliament are engaged daily in policy development, critiques of government bills, and digging deep into issues of community concern. Our work isn't just what you see on TV during Question Period. Here are issues some of my colleagues are working on.

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ETHICS & OPEN GOVERNMENT

Damien Kurek, MP
Battle River—Crowfoot

Conservatives on the Ethics Committee have been holding the Liberal Government to account on many scandals over the past eight years. In addition to addressing issues like foreign interference and contracts to close friends of Liberals in Cabinet, this committee plays a key role in promoting openness in Government.

An open and transparent Government is key for our democracy. Under the *Access to Information Act*, Canadians can file information requests. This is an important accountability tool for Canadians, reporters, and Parliamentarians. Unfortunately, this system is broken.

Under the Liberals, the ATIP system has become slower and less transparent. The Ethics Committee has been working on this issue since October 2022, and I will continue fighting for the necessary changes to ensure the Government acts with transparency.

REPEALING THE ESCALATOR

Pat Kelly, MP
Calgary Rocky Ridge

Under this government, basic pleasures like sharing a bottle wine with a loved one or enjoying a beer with friends have become increasingly unaffordable.

Last year I tabled Bill C-266 to repeal the automatic annual tax increase on beer wine and spirits. While my bill has not yet passed, and the automatic escalator remains in place, sustained pressure on the Liberals forced them to reduce what would have been an automatic 6.3% tax increase, to only 2%.

The automatic tax escalator still needs to be repealed so that future governments have to ask Parliament before increasing the tax on beer wine and spirits, and Conservatives will continue to stand up for producers, consumers, and Parliamentary accountability, until Bill C-266 is fully implemented.

Cheers!

STANDING UP FOR AGRICULTURE

John Barlow, MP
Foothills

I am proud to be sponsoring and seconding three Bills to protect Canadian agriculture and farm families.

I have once again tabled my Private Member's Bill to amend the *Health of Animals Act*. This Bill is an important step in protecting biosecurity on farms, and fight for the mental health of our hardworking farm families.

I have also Seconded MP Ben Lobb's Bill C-234 which has just passed through the House. This will exempt farm fuel from the carbon tax. For too long, farmers have paid tens of thousands of dollars in carbon tax to produce food for Canadian families – we need to right that wrong.

In addition, I have Seconded MP Scot Davidson's Bill C-280, an Act to amend the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act,* providing financial protection for fruit and vegetable growers.

FATHER'S DAY ON THE HILL

Matt Jeneroux, MP
Edmonton Riverbend

Men's mental health is vital to families and communities alike, and yet it's not discussed nearly enough.

In Canada alone, 75% of people who die by suicide are men.

That's why, six years ago, I started *Father's Day on the Hill*. As we enter this year's event in June, we're bringing stakeholders and policymakers together to spark conversations, bring awareness and stamp out the stigma to show just how important the men in our lives are.

As we partner with organizations like the Mental Health Commission of Canada and HiDad Foundation, we continue to increase support and advocacy for ensuring men aren't suffering in silence.

For further resources and more information, consider visiting the Mental Health Commission of Canada's website at www.mentalhealthcommission.ca.

SUPPORTING JUROR MENTAL HEALTH

Michael Cooper, MP
St. Albert—Edmonton

I'm very pleased that Bill S-206, the Juror Mental Health Bill, of which I was the House of Commons sponsor, has now become law.

Jury duty can come at significant personal sacrifice. Jurors are often exposed to horrific evidence that can cause long-lasting mental health issues, including PTSD.

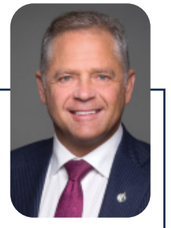
Since 2018, I worked across party lines to amend the Criminal Code so that former jurors experiencing mental health issues can disclose all aspects of their jury service with a mental health professional bound by confidentiality.

Prior to S-206, it was a Criminal Code offence for a former juror to disclose any aspect of the deliberation process, even to a mental health professional.

This small but important legislative change will go a long way to support the mental health of former jurors.

STANDING UP FOR SENIORS

Len Webber, MP
Calgary Confederation



Through a petition to Parliament, I raised national awareness about a serious threat facing many Seniors.

Canadians are concerned that people with a history of sexually inappropriate behaviours are permitted to live in close quarters with vulnerable Seniors in care homes.

The petition cited the tragic case of a Calgary Alzheimer's patient, Ruth, whose sex assault could've been prevented if care homes took these threats more seriously.

The inability to separate known sexual abusers from very vulnerable populations is allowing them to commit their crimes with little recourse. This violates the vulnerable and causes untold stress and anxiety for their families.

It's time the Liberal government table legislation to prevent known sex offenders from cohabitating in facilities with known vulnerable Seniors.

RECOVERY IS POSSIBLE

Laila Goodridge, MP
Fort McMurray—Cold Lake

Canadians are experiencing addiction within their communities with more and more people slipping through the cracks and losing their lives to this illness. Even though addiction-related crime and death continues to skyrocket, Budget 2023 allocated little to no money for treatment and recovery. Addiction policy is broken and we must fix it.

Conservatives want to see a firm, fair and compassionate approach giving Canadians living with addiction the opportunity to pursue recovery.

The Liberal-NDP coalition believe the answer is to flood the streets with opioids under the guise of so-called "safe supply".

Canada's Conservatives are calling on the Liberal government to commit to a recovery-focused approach that will improve the lives of Canadians with addictions, their families, and their communities, because recovery is possible.

SUPPORTING ADDICTIONS RECOVERY

Jasraj Singh Hallan, MP
Calgary Forest Lawn

Canada faces a significant addictions crisis in every community and across all demographics. Conservatives continue to focus on delivering common sense policies for the common people. Policies that will offer hope and treatment to Canadians, and their families, as they battle addiction. Hard-working organizations like the NAM Centre for Holistic Recovery, in my riding, are on the ground and in our communities, supporting people on their path to recovery. Instead of giving addicts access to more drugs, treatment organizations like NAM offer a brighter future by addressing the underlying addiction and helping people get healthy again.

A Conservative government will tackle the addictions crisis by building Canada's treatment capacity, ending easy access to hard drugs, and holding drug companies to account for the part they play in the addiction crisis. .

SUPPORTING UKRAINE

Shannon Stubbs, MP
Lakeland

Ukrainians first immigrated to Alberta in the early 1890s. Today, more than 345,000 people of Ukrainian heritage call Alberta home, and Lakeland is home to the highest percentage of Ukrainian Canadians.

This year, our community welcomed the Ukrainian National hockey team at the Psyanka, the second largest Ukrainian easter egg in the world, in Vegreville. I also spoke with displaced Ukrainian families who made their home in Vegreville, the local community organizers who support the families, and wished luck to the local Vegreville Vipers hockey team, whose entire staff is from Ukraine.

Our community also held a candlelight Vigil under the Pysanka this year to recognize 354 days since the war began in Ukraine. We will always support Ukrainians in Lakeland and across Canada, and for the territorial sovereignty of Ukraine and their right to live peacefully and securely.