

# JOHN BAIRD

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT



## Getting Things Done

Volume 2, Issue 1

Wednesday, January 29, 2010

### COMMUNITY UPDATE—CRISIS IN HAITI

Welcome to 2010. I hope that both you and your family and friends were able to enjoy a safe and happy holiday season, and that this new year greets you with good health and prosperity.

Unfortunately, 2010 has already been a very troubling year for Haiti. All Canadians are deeply concerned about the impact of the recent 7.0 magnitude earthquake that has destroyed their country. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Haitian people, as well as those who are worried about the safety and security of loved ones.

Here in Ottawa West-Nepean, we have many friends and neighbours personally experiencing a loss from this earthquake. On Saturday, I met with Senior Pastor Floyd Spence of Seventh Day Adventist Church on Benjamin Avenue, who noted that there are 50 members of his congregation alone that have either lost a loved one, or are waiting to hear if loved ones are safe. I offer my most sincere condolences to those who have lost family and friends in this terrible event.

Canada is providing a rapid response to the situation in Haiti. For regularly updated information on our Government's response to the earthquake, please visit:

[www.international.gc.ca/humanitarian-humanitaire/earthquake\\_seisme\\_haiti.aspx](http://www.international.gc.ca/humanitarian-humanitaire/earthquake_seisme_haiti.aspx)

Friends and relatives in Ottawa seeking information on Canadian citizens believed to be in Haiti should contact the Emergency Operations Centre:

1-800-387-3124 or 613-943-1055

E-mail: [sos@international.gc.ca](mailto:sos@international.gc.ca)

If you are able to make a donation to the relief effort, please visit: <http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/>, and follow the link.

If you require additional assistance, please do not hesitate to contact my office: 613-990-7720.

### *New Cancer Survivorship Centre in Ottawa*

I was honoured to be part of the Ottawa Regional Cancer Foundation (ORCF) Telethon that raised \$4,362,615.

Provincial Minister Madeleine Meilleur and I announced a combined federal-provincial total of \$1.7 million for a new cancer survivorship centre to be called Wellspring Ottawa.

*Photo L-R: Rabbi Bulka, Guy Legault and Linda Eagen from the ORCF, Minister Meilleur and I with the artist rendering of the new Wellspring Centre.*



### *\$35 million federal investment in the National Capital Commission*

MP Pierre Poilievre and I were pleased to make a \$35 million announcement in the National Capital Commission (NCC), with CEO Marie Lemay.

Some of the projects receiving stimulus funding from this announcement include replacing existing public skateway facilities along the historic Rideau Canal (\$3.75 million), repairs to the Portage Bridge (\$4.05 million), and rehabilitating the Rockcliffe Parkway retaining wall (\$6.3 million).

### *Investing in Ottawa's Youth Services Bureau*

I was pleased to stop-by the Ottawa Youth Services Bureau Headquarters in Ottawa West-Nepean to make a special announcement with the province of Ontario.

I was pleased to stop-by the Ottawa Youth Services Bureau Headquarters in Ottawa West-Nepean to make a special announcement with the province of Ontario.

Together, our Governments are investing over \$533,000 for much needed repairs to their downtown location.

I would like to thank Alex Munter, Executive Director, and Jane Fjeld, Associate Executive Director, for their leadership with Ottawa's youth and for their work on this file.

#### ***Royal Canadian Legion Poster and Literary Awards***

I would like to thank the Bells Corners Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion, in particular Bob Harkness and Shawn Taillon, for once again inviting me to attend and present awards at the Royal Canadian Legion's Annual National Remembrance Day Poster and Literary Awards Ceremony last week.

The thought that these youth put into their posters and poems every Remembrance Day always impresses me. Their words and artistic interpretations of Canadian soldiers speaks to the commitment of our teachers to ensure that students both respect and understand how Canadian's have come to enjoy the rights and freedoms we have today. Lest we forget.



#### ***Visit to the Seventh Day Adventist Church***

I was pleased to visit the Seventh Day Adventist Church, where I met with Pastors Floyd Spence and Lyle Notice and the Pathfinders. These young people work hard to give back to our community and I was impressed by our thoughtful discussion.

#### ***Meeting with the Deputy Secretary of Homeland Security and Ambassador Jacobson***

Yesterday I had the opportunity to meet with the Deputy Secretary of Homeland Security, Jane Holl Lute as well as the United States' Ambassador to Canada with my colleague the Honourable Vic Toews, Minister of Public Safety to discuss issues of mutual concern including aviation security. Our government is committed to working with the United States, especially after the recent terrorist event on Christmas Day.



#### ***Roundtable with Ottawa West-Nepean City Councillors***

This morning I met with the city councillors in my riding to discuss the upcoming federal budget and local issues including wastewater and transit. I was pleased that Councillors Chiarelli, Hunter, Cullen and McCrae made time in their schedules for this meeting and they gave me some food for thought as our government moves forward with Canada's Economic Action Plan.



### *National Capital Commission Open House on The Greenbelt Master Plan Review*

I had the opportunity to attend one of the National Capital Commission's Public Open House this week to discuss the Greenbelt Master Plan and what it means to residents of Ottawa. It was an informative open house and I look forward to the completion of the review.



### *Visit to Castlefrank Public School*

I was happy to bring the Olympic Torch to Castlefrank Public School where I visited with my niece and nephew's class. I was very impressed by the excellent questions asked by the students and everyone shared in the excitement of the upcoming Olympics!

### **LOOKING AHEAD:**

- Winter National Caucus Meeting
- Royal Ottawa Hospital Comedy Night at CentrepoinTE
- "An evening with Barry Hobin and the Ottawa Humane Society"
- Wastewater event with the City of Ottawa
- Ontario Road Builders Association Conference
- Greeting our newest Canadians from Haiti
- Winterlude Kickoff on February 5th
- Community Booth at Carlingwood Mall—early February
- Nortel Meeting
- Meeting with the Transport Minister of Slovenia
- ...and many exciting announcements for the City of Ottawa in the coming weeks ahead!

### **CAN I HELP YOU?**

Do you have a question or issue that you think I can help you with? Please give my constituency office a call at **613-990-7720**, or visit my online office at [www.johnbaird.com](http://www.johnbaird.com)





