

# MONTHLY UPDATE

A lot can happen in a year, and Stephanie expects 2020 to be action-packed and full of interesting events – in the riding and on Parliament Hill. She is focused on her new Shadow Ministry portfolio, and is excited to meet with stakeholders and constituents. Additionally, Stephanie and her caucus colleagues will be strategizing daily to make the case for why Canada needs a Conservative government. In between all of this, Stephanie is watching her 8-year old son grow up; driving him to hockey practices and cheering him on from the stands.

Stephanie knows how hard the people of Calgary Midnapore work and it inspires her every day as she enters the House of Commons as your representative. In this month's newsletter, you will see what Stephanie has been up to in January and what you can expect from her in the new Parliamentary session.



## NEW LOCATION

The Calgary Midnapore Constituency Office has moved to:  
**Suite 204 - 279 Midpark Way SE  
Calgary, AB T2X 1M2**

The phone number and email address remain unchanged.  
**403-225-3480  
stephanie.kusie.c1@parl.gc.ca**

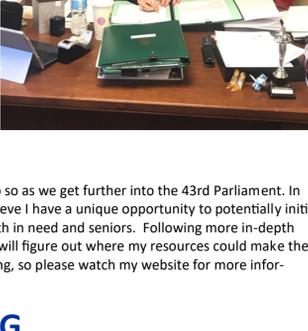
## A NOTE FROM STEPHANIE

I hope that the first month of 2020 has been good to residents of Calgary Midnapore—despite the cold!

As I'm sure you are aware, Parliament has resumed and the Official Opposition has been using this minority government status to ensure the Liberals are held to account. In the first week, in addition to the weekly obligations of caucus meetings, committee meetings, votes, etc., some of the highlights of the first five days include:

- being asked to be available on a regular basis to sit on the Canada-China Committee which had two sittings so far;
- speaking on our Opposition motion which pointed out that the Liberals' 2018 Budget doesn't provide sufficient details for their \$186.7 billion infrastructure spending plan *and* worked with the other Opposition parties to pass a motion to have the Auditor General investigate where this money is going;
- sharing my concerns in the House regarding the USMCA trade deal;
- several meetings with stakeholders; and
- participating remotely in Calgary's Bell Let's Talk Day.

I want to assure you that I am working hard on your behalf and will continue to do so as we get further into the 43rd Parliament. In my new role as Shadow Minister for Families, Youth and Social Development I believe I have a unique opportunity to potentially initiate policies which will benefit those who need it most; single-parent families, youth in need and seniors. Following more in-depth discussions with stakeholders, my colleagues and members of the other parties, I will figure out where my resources could make the most impact. As well, we have plans to host a pre-budget town hall later this spring, so please watch my website for more information on that if you are interested, [www.stephaniekusie.ca](http://www.stephaniekusie.ca).



## IN THE RIDING

### Open House

Constituents from all corners of the riding visited Stephanie and her Calgary team to help "warm" the new Constituency Office (right). It was a great opportunity for residents to meet Stephanie and connect with her staff. It's important to our team to meet with constituents, hear what's on your minds and help where we can.

You are always welcome to visit the new office in Mariner Place: #204-279 Midpark Way SE. If you have specific concerns to discuss and would like to spend some time with staff or Stephanie, please call us to make an appointment: 403-225-3480.



**Calgary Humane Society**  
Stephanie was pleased to accept an invitation from fellow animal lover, Lauren Harper, to join her for an information session at the Calgary Humane Society (CHS). Alongside City Councillors, MLA's, and other MP's, Stephanie learned more about how CHS has been connecting lives in the Calgary community for the past 100 years, and their plans to continue protecting and caring for Calgary's animals for the next century. Guests also had the chance to meet some of the furry friends there, which was an uplifting experience for all. There are many animals in need of a good home so if you are looking to add a pet to your family, please visit [www.calgaryhumane.ca](http://www.calgaryhumane.ca) to learn more.

### Fair Deal for Alberta Panel

Like so many Albertans, Stephanie is deeply frustrated by the Liberal government's legislative and ideological attack on our province. She continues to work on a federal level to ensure Alberta is able to profit from our resources and those who are attempting to landlock our industries are not successful.

She is pleased by the work that the United Conservative Party has done at the provincial level to achieve a fair deal for Alberta within the federation and attended a recent public engagement event, "Fair Deal for Alberta Panel" co-hosted by seven South Calgary MLA's (including Ministers Shandro and Shulz, right).

The Panel is set to conduct additional consultations in the province. For details, please visit <https://www.alberta.ca/fair-deal-panel>.



### Breakfast Club of Canada at work in Calgary Midnapore

Breakfast is the most important meal of the day – especially for children, whose bodies are growing and whose minds are being filled with information every day at school. Unfortunately, one out of every four students in Canada is going without breakfast. This is why programs like the Breakfast Club of Canada are so important.

To see the Club in action, Stephanie visited Don Bosco School. She witnessed the volunteer coordination and dedication that goes on behind the scenes as well as the happy faces of those who enjoyed a hearty breakfast. Ryan Baker, Programs Support Senior Advisor at the Breakfast Club of Canada remarked that when kids eat breakfast, their school attendance increases – as does their ability to focus in class.

Under this program, it takes as little as \$1.00 to feed one child breakfast every day. If you feel inclined to send support or would like to apply for the program, please visit [breakfastclubcanada.org](http://breakfastclubcanada.org)

Thank you to Don Bosco School for the great work you do to improve the lives of children in Calgary Midnapore!

(ABOVE (from left): Liz Grill, Principal, Don Bosco School; Mary Martin, School Trustee (Wards 13 & 14), Calgary Catholic School District; Barbara Duncan, Consultant, Comprehensive School Health, Calgary Catholic School District; Pamela Piques, Breakfast Coordinator and Teacher, Don Bosco School; Ryan Baker, Programs Support Senior Advisor, Breakfast Club of Canada; Stephanie Kusie, MP; Amanda Badi, Programs Support Advisor, Breakfast Club of Canada)



If you or someone you know needs help, please reach out. Help for addiction and mental health can be accessed through Alberta Health Services ([albertahealthservices.ca](http://albertahealthservices.ca)). There are also contact numbers available to you in an emergency situation:

**Police/Ambulance/Fire 911**  
**Mental Health Helpline 877-303-2642**  
**Health Link 811**  
**Distress Centre Help Line 403-266-HELP (4357)**  
**Family Violence Help Line 403-310-1818**  
**Police Non-Emergency 403-266-1234**

### Bell Let's Talk Day

Stephanie was pleased to contribute to the online conversation surrounding mental health on Bell Let's Talk Day. As a mom, and the Shadow Minister for Families, Children, and Social Development, it was important to her to emphasize how many Canadian children are living with mental illnesses: 1.2 million. Sadly, 5 out of 6 of them will not

receive the help they need. The good news is that it is within each of us to make a difference in the lives of the children and those around us who are suffering in silence. You can do something as simple as lend an ear, or perform a random act of kindness. Learn how you can help break the stigma surrounding mental health by visiting [letstalk.bell.ca](http://letstalk.bell.ca)

## ON THE HILL



### Parliament resumes

All Members of Parliament returned to Ottawa for the first sitting of 2020 on January 27. Each Party came equipped with their respective plans, strategies, and a focus for the new session. Stephanie attended the Conservative Party of Canada (CPC) caucus winter retreat on the Hill to discuss their priorities for the coming weeks and months.

Conservative MPs will continue to participate in the debates on the USMCA (new NAFTA) legislation. As mentioned above, Stephanie spoke on the bill the first week, and will watch for further opportunities as it moves through the Parliamentary process. The Official Opposition has made it clear that Canadians deserve to see the details of the agreement and will be following up on their previous request for specific clarifications regarding the impact of the new deal on key Canadian sectors, including aluminum, auto and agriculture, which the Liberal government was unable to provide at that time. A formal request for information was made and the CPC expects the Liberals to provide it. Although the Conservatives are the party of free trade, this does not mean that Stephanie and her colleagues will simply rubber stamp the legislation without having a fulsome debate on it in the House.

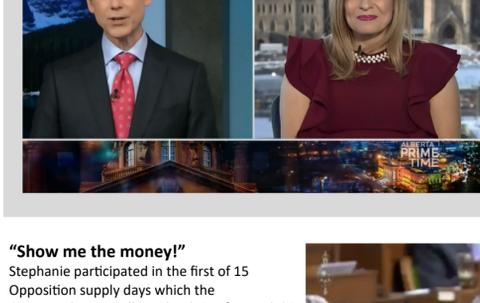
In the weeks ahead, the CPC will also challenge the Liberals on their **attack on law-abiding firearms owners**. The CPC does not believe that making law-abiding members of our communities follow even more rules will help to solve gun crime. The CPC will press the Liberals for a concrete plan that seeks to go after gangs and illegally trafficked firearms rather than farmers and hunters. Constituents of Calgary Midnapore who are interested in signing Conservative MP Glen Motz's (Medicine Hat-Cardston-Warner) e-Petition opposing the Liberals' plan to ban 'military-

style assault rifles" can find it here: <https://petitions.ourcommons.ca/en/Petition/Details?Petition=e-2341>

Canadians have lost confidence in Justin Trudeau on matters related to foreign affairs and nowhere has this been more evident than with the present diplomatic crisis with the Chinese government. Two Canadians have been detained in China for over a year, our farmers are losing billions of dollars in revenue as they are shut out of Chinese markets, and we are witnessing all kinds of atrocious human rights violations occurring there. This is why the Conservative Party put forward a motion to create a **Special Committee on Canada-China Relations**. Given her experience in the Canadian Foreign Service, Stephanie has been asked to be available to sit on this committee when required which she has done for every meeting so far.

Given their minority government status, Stephanie and her Conservative colleagues suspect that the Liberals will try and buy the votes of the other Opposition Parties, (NDP and the Bloc) in order to pass their next federal budget. If we've learned anything about the Liberals it's that their 'budgets' are anything but a budget – they are more like a spending guide. Stephanie will stand up for Calgary Midnapore taxpayers at every opportunity and advocate for fiscal responsibility. We do not need another recession – especially here, in Alberta, where our economy has been hurting for far too long.

To see Stephanie fight for you in the House of Commons, tune into Question Period on the Canadian Public Affairs Channel (CPAC) or online at [cpac.ca](http://cpac.ca). You can also follow her social media accounts, where she shares highlights from debate in the House.



### Alberta Primetime interview

Stephanie was pleased to speak with the host of Alberta Primetime, Michael Higgins, to share her insights on the CPC leadership race and the focus of the Conservative Party in this new Parliamentary session. You can watch the January 24th interview on the Alberta Primetime website: <https://alberta.ctvnews.ca/video?clipId=1876969&binId=1.3892985&playlistPageNum=1>

### "Show me the money!"

Stephanie participated in the first of 15 Opposition supply days which the Conservatives are allowed to bring forward this year. These days/motions are allocated to each party based on the number of seats they hold in the House of Commons.

The text of the January 28th motion was:

*"That, given the Parliamentary Budget Officer posted on March 15, 2018, that "Budget 2018 provides an incomplete account of the changes to the government's \$186.7 billion infrastructure spending plan" and that the "PBO requested the new plan but it does not exist", the House call on the Auditor General of Canada to immediately conduct an audit of the government's Investing in Canada Plan, including, but not be limited to, verifying whether the plan lives up to its stated goals and promises; and that the Auditor General of Canada report his findings to the House no later than one year following the adoption of this motion."*

Stephanie and her Conservative colleagues agree that the Liberals' infrastructure plan has been a failure since day one. There continue to be worrying economic signs, and the threat of a possible made-in-Canada recession grows every day. It is clear that the Liberals do not have a plan to get infrastructure projects built, or Canadians back to work. Given the lack of transparency and accountability coming from the Trudeau government, Stephanie and her colleagues were successful in having MPs vote in favour of having the Auditor General of Canada report on the government's Invest in Canada Plan. The AG must present his findings to the House within one year's time. Though it is a long time to wait, at least the government's mishandling of taxpayer dollars will be appropriately scrutinized by an objective third-party.

You can watch Stephanie's speech on the motion on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VQcIk633CO>.



### YMCA on the Hill

Engaging a two-way dialogue between key stakeholders in her portfolio is important to Stephanie. She had the chance to sit down with YMCA President and CEO Peter Dinsdale, and the organization's Government Relations Manager Jessica Stepic (left).

The YMCA message is one which resonates with Stephanie. It is a powerful association of people joined together by a shared passion to foster a sense of belonging for all. In an age of complex social challenges, the YMCA is steadfastly dedicated to joining healthy communities by inviting and encouraging Canadians to build in, give back, and to gain the connections, skills, and confidence they need to thrive. As one of Canada's largest and longest-standing charities, the YMCA is at the heart of communities serving over 2.28 million people, including over 716,000 young people, through 44 Member Associations across the country.

Stephanie believes the goals of community unity, support and dedication are ones which need to be prioritized at all levels of government as well.