

Kusie Update

June 2021



Dear Constituents,

As we approach the final session of the House of Commons until after the summer (also potentially the last sitting of the 43rd Parliament if we go to an election), there is no shortage of work to get done! As the Official Opposition, my colleagues and I have been working extremely hard and using every minute of time available to us in the House to advocate for all Canadians who feel left behind by Justin Trudeau. Too many Canadians have been ignored by the Liberal government, even before the pandemic began. Hardworking Canadian taxpayers are getting tired of watching the Liberal government take care of its powerful friends while they struggle to provide for their families.

In April, the Liberals released their long-awaited Budget. Nearly two years in the making, it was a massive letdown for every Canadian who was hoping to see a financial plan that would help steer our country out of this dark pit of debt and into recovery. The Federal Budget used to be an economics document...what Minister Freeland gave us was a 700+ page vote buying document. For a frank discussion on Budget 2021, you might like to watch my 1-hour conversation with Kim GC Moody of Moody's Tax (read on for details).



The leader of our country is *not* leading -- he is throwing money at problems without a solid plan. Due to Trudeau's unmitigated spending, we are beginning to see inflation take hold. Anyone who has gone to buy groceries in the last few weeks can likely attest to the exceptionally high prices. The Prime Minister continues to borrow money to pay for his out of control spending, and our dollar continues to fall. This will not put us on a path to recovery. Rather, it will strap the next generation with a completely unfair debt. As it stands, every man, woman, and child in this country already owes the government \$33,000 -- almost double what it was when Justin Trudeau was elected in 2015. Imagine what that number could reach if he was re-elected.

A strong energy sector could help the country get back on its feet, in terms of jobs, independence and economy stability however this Liberal government fails to see the value of our natural resources industry. The Liberals barely lifted a finger when it came to Keystone XL, Line 5, and most recently, the flight of capital from the Kitimat LNG project. Canada's Conservatives recognize the power of our resources and will continue to advocate for the sector. If you're interested in this subject, please watch the recent Q&A I hosted with the Hon. Sonya Savage and MP Greg McLean (read on for details).

You should be receiving my most recent householder in your mailbox any day now and I hope you will take a moment to read it and to fill out the reply card. I read every single response that is sent in and that feedback helps me better represent you in Parliament.

You can continue to count on me as both your Member of Parliament *and* Shadow Minister for Transport to hold this Liberal government to account, to advocate for our community, and to find solutions that make Canada a better place for us all.

Sincerely,

Stephanie

IN THE RIDING

Alberta Energy: What's Next?

To discuss the current state of Alberta's energy sector and what the future may hold for it, Stephanie invited Alberta's Minister of Energy, Hon. Sonya Savage, and the Shadow Minister for Natural Resources, MP Greg McLean, to join her for a Virtual Q&A. A recording of their conversation is available [here](#).



Forum de Discussion des Femmes Francophones

As part of their extended International Women's Day celebrations in March, PIA (Portail de l'Immigrant Association), a local organization that provides programming and assistance for francophone women and children, asked Stephanie to deliver a keynote speech (in French). She was pleased to participate and to engage with new Calgarians.



Budget 2021 Breakdown with Kim GC Moody

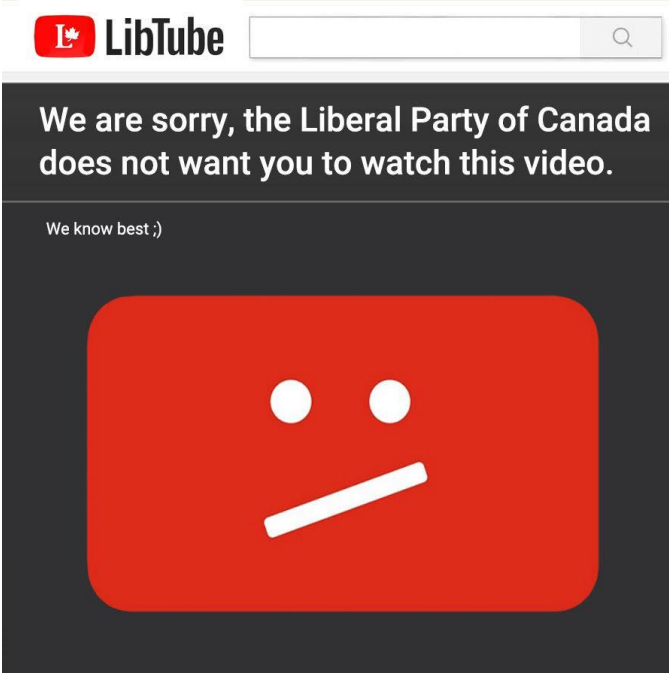
Stephanie asked renowned Calgary tax guru, Kim Moody, CEO of Moody's Tax, to join her on Facebook Live to discuss the Liberal Budget and how it will affect Canadian families and the country's financial future. If you weren't able to join the event live, you can still listen in on that frank conversation. Check it out [here](#).

Parenting a Teen in the Pandemic

Mental health matters! This is why Stephanie invited local registered psychologist, Chantal Côté of Pyramid Psychology to join her on Facebook Live for an important conversation on teen mental health. You can watch the full recording [here](#).

ON THE HILL

Canada's Conservatives are fighting for your freedom of expression



There is increasing controversy over the Liberals' Bill C-10, *An Act to amend the Broadcasting Act*, which will severely limit free speech for Canadians. Stephanie and her colleagues are very disappointed the Bloc has indicated they would be willing to work with the Liberals to pass this bill.

Conservatives support creating a level playing field between large foreign streaming services and Canadian broadcasters while protecting the individual rights and freedoms of Canadians. Unfortunately, Bill C-10 is another unacceptable attempt by the Liberals to target the freedoms of individual internet users in Canada.

This legislation gives sweeping power to the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) to regulate the internet, including individual users, with no clear guidelines for how that power will be used. The Liberals even voted against an amendment to make CBC/Radio-Canada respect their own mandate.

Conservatives proposed to protect individual users and smaller players in the market by exempting streaming services and social media users with lower revenues. The Liberals rejected this common-sense compromise and actually went further by promising to introduce a new amendment to regulate apps.

There could be no clearer proof the Liberals are targeting ordinary Canadians. This is unacceptable in a society that values its freedom. Along with many of my colleagues, I recently attended a meeting with some industry experts to ensure we remain briefed on the current situation and discuss possible next steps.

Conservatives will continue to stand up for the freedoms of Canadians who post their content online and oppose C-10 at every stage of the legislative process. As the Hon Erin O'Toole stated in May: "We are calling on Justin Trudeau to withdraw Bill C-10 today. If this is not done, a Conservative government will stand up for Canadians and repeal this deeply flawed legislation. While the NDP and the Bloc may look the other way on the freedom of expression, Canada's Conservatives will not."



Debating Budget 2021

The Budget Implementation Act (BIA) is currently being debated in the House of Commons. Stephanie participated in the debate and her resounding message was: **“We need to restart Canada”**. You can watch her full intervention [here](#).

Emergency Debate: COVID-19 Situation in Alberta

Stephanie participated in an Emergency Debate on May 5, 2021, called by an NDP MP, regarding Alberta's COVID-19 Situation. The theme of her speech: “How did we get to this place?” Watch her full intervention [here](#).

Debating C-11 - The Digital Charter Implementation Act

Stephanie also had the opportunity to speak on Bill C-11, the *Digital Charter Implementation Act*. C-11 is an Act to support and promote electronic commerce by protecting personal information that is collected, used or disclosed in the course of commercial activities. You can watch this intervention [here](#).

Presenting e-2559

Stephanie was pleased to [officially table e-2559 in the House of Commons](#). The petition, initiated by a Calgary Midnapore constituent, calls upon the government to safeguard Canada’s sovereignty, national interests, and core values from the Chinese Communist Party.

As we look back on the years of the Harper administration when foreign policy was led by the Canadian values of justice, democracy, human rights, and the rule of law, it is clear that this petition and those who have signed it are in support of seeing these values once again brought back to our government.



“Don’t import conflict”

As tensions in the Middle East have poured over into Canada, Stephanie urged all Canadians to keep Canada a peaceful and tolerant country. Check out this important message [here](#).

SHADOW MINISTRY UPDATE



The Transport file has kept Stephanie very busy over the past few weeks. Several serious transport-related issues have recently arisen, and Stephanie has taken every opportunity to voice her concerns and seek action.

- May 25: In [Question Period](#), Stephanie urged the Transport Minister to work with our southern neighbours to ensure Canada doesn't lose yet another industry to his government's inaction.
- May 25: [Joint statement](#) released regarding the Liberals' cruise ship ban.
- May 14: [Joint statement](#) released regarding Greyhound Canada's decision to permanently shut down all of its remaining bus routes in Canada.
- May 13: At TRAN committee, Stephanie [pressed the government for answers](#) regarding the tragic downing of Flight PS752.
- April 16: In [Question Period](#), Stephanie asked the Minister of Transport why his government chose to provide \$5.8B in financial assistance to only one of Canada's airlines.
- April 13: [Stephanie responds to the Government of Canada's deal with Air Canada.](#)
- April 12: [Stephanie and her colleagues joined representatives from Sunwing to call on the government to provide tangible support for the aviation sector in Budget 2021.](#)

STEPHANIE IN THE MEDIA



- May 10: ["Large-scale projects under Canada Infrastructure Bank's umbrella, 'take time,' says CEO, following PBO report outlining ongoing delays in project"](#)
- April 29: ["Government docs suggest months of inaction on 'gap' in passenger refund rules"](#)
- April 20: [Alberta Primetime MP Panel](#)
- April 14: ["Has the Hill changed for women in the workplace post-#MeToo?"](#)
- April 6: ["Government must step in to save aviation industry"](#)

CASEWORK CORNER

Update on Immigration and COVID By Sarah Watson | Case Manager



Many of the calls Stephanie's office in Calgary receives are from people looking for an update or a status report on their immigration files. This could include everything from Permanent Resident (PR) card renewals, citizenship ceremonies, sponsorships, temporary visitor visas (TRV), and work permits.

Immigration files have been significantly impacted by the pandemic. Previous timelines for processing are no longer being adhered to by the government,

and there is no information provided on target dates going forward. Understandably this is creating anxiety and uncertainty in many families who are at the mercy of what was already a lengthy process for reuniting families or waiting for their own applications to be approved.

As a result of this, we are receiving an increased number of requests to expedite applications. The following summary will help clarify what our office is and is not able to do with regards to immigration files.

Some of the things we can assist with are:

- ✓ enquire about the status of your application by phone or email. Although we cannot change the overall process, this allows us—with the appropriate permissions— to get a detailed description of what has been done on your application by the agent;
- ✓ in certain situations, ask that a note be sent to the agent working on your file to get an update;
- ✓ ask for urgent processing in the limited situations where this is allowed (reach out to our office directly to see if you qualify); and
- ✓ help you with advice before you apply for a temporary resident visa (TRV) with important information about what is often successful or why some applications are continuously denied. It goes without saying that we can't guarantee a TRV will be approved, but we may be able to point out extra factors that you may not have considered. We do not do the application for you.

Some of the things Stephanie is *not* able to assist with include:

- writing letters vouching for people who want to visit Canada;
- duplicating the work of an immigration consultant or lawyer; and
- demanding that the Minister or department approve an application.

Please don't hesitate to contact Stephanie's office about problems you may be having with federal departments either by phone, at **403-225-3480** (push 1), or by email at **stephanie.kusie.c1a@parl.gc.ca**. Please remember to include your name and a daytime phone number.

FEATURED PHOTO



Located on the southern edge of the city and bordered by the Bow River Valley, Walden is home to just under 1,000 constituents. Walden now links seamlessly to the communities of Wolf Willow and Silverado thanks to the new 194th Ave. connection. There are many great small businesses located in the Gates of Walden and surrounding area who would surely appreciate your support during this challenging time.

Fun fact: Did you know that this community was named after the book “Walden” by Henry David Thoreau?

Send us a photo of your favourite place in the riding!

We would love to feature it in an upcoming newsletter. Photo(s) can be submitted via email: stephanie.kusie.c1@parl.gc.ca