



HOUSE OF COMMONS  
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES  
CANADA

# STEPHANIE KUSIE

Member of Parliament  
Calgary Midnapore



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# A MESSAGE FROM YOUR MP

As my team and I prepare this newsletter for you, we are getting ready for the resumption of Parliament under a new Conservative Leader. (And, like many of you, our household is dealing with the new school year as well.)

Undoubtedly there will also be significant changes in the Official Opposition Shadow Cabinet, as the new Leader chooses his or her team to counterbalance the Liberal/NDP government.

In this publication, I have outlined some of the legislation which will come before the House of Commons and, although space does not allow that here, I will continue to highlight one or more of these in my electronic newsletter. If you are interested in receiving that, please subscribe at [www.stephaniekusiemp.ca](http://www.stephaniekusiemp.ca).

We have seen increasingly disturbing evidence of Justin Trudeau's obsession with power over principled leadership over the summer months, not least of which is the growing divisiveness he chooses to stoke in order to remain Prime Minister. This is not the Canada I want to leave to

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## MAKING CRISIS HELP MORE ACCESSIBLE

*In December 2020, MPs from all parties unanimously passed a Conservative motion to immediately consolidate all suicide crisis numbers across Canada into one three digit code. While it has taken the government over 600 days to act, the CRTC has announced the 9-8-8 help line will be available to Canadians in crisis as of November 2023.*





"MY YEARS OF CONSULAR SERVICE STRENGTHENED MY BELIEF IN THE POWER OF DEMOCRACY AND (SOMETIMES FIRM) DIPLOMACY, AND I BELIEVE THESE ARE SADLY LACKING IN OUR GOVERNMENT TODAY. THIS NEEDS TO CHANGE."

**STEPHANIE KUSIE**  
MP | CALGARY MIDNAPORE

my son. My years of consular service strengthened my belief in the power of democracy and (sometimes firm) diplomacy, and I believe these are sadly lacking in our government today. This needs to change.

Since I took my seat as your Member of Parliament in May 2017, there have been three more federal elections, and four changes in our leadership. While this fall promises to be another demanding period of adjustment and transition, I *am* looking forward to a new continuity in our caucus as we work towards a change in government.

-Stephanie

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Stephanie will be hosting another Virtual Town Hall this fall, and a Christmas Meet & Greet in December. Subscribe to her email list today to receive an invitation:

[www.stephaniekusiemp.ca](http://www.stephaniekusiemp.ca)



# KEY BILLS BEFORE PARLIAMENT

When the House of Commons recessed for the summer months, there were ten Government bills and 29 Private Members' Bills (PMBs) before the House of Commons at Second Reading and a number of both Government bills and PMB's currently at Committee. Progress (and details) of all legislation can be monitored at <https://www.parl.ca/legisinfo/en/bills>. A brief outline of some of the key legislation which could be debated this fall is below.

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**S-6** *An Act Respecting Regulatory Modernization* proposes 46 (mostly minor and sometimes inconsequential) changes to 29 acts that are administered by the following 12 organizations:

- Canadian Food Inspection Agency
- Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada
- Natural Resources Canada
- Environment and Climate Change Canada
- Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada
- Canada Border Services Agency
- Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
- Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada
- Health Canada
- Transport Canada
- Parks Canada

*(Current stage: Second Reading)*

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**C-7** The Bill—which the government has left off the House schedule since it was tabled in December 2021—seeks to codify a multiparty system in the Senate, and includes pay raises for Senate Officers (ie. Leaders, Whips, Caucus Chairs) for all recognized parties in the Senate. Stephanie opposes the legislation for two main reasons. First, now is not the time to hand certain Senators pay increases while many workers struggle to keep their jobs and small business owners struggle

*...continued on page 8*

# RECENT ACTIVITIES

As soon as the Parliamentary session ended, Stephanie's summer work began! It started out with a sod turning ceremony at the **Alberta Tennis Centre** followed by the breaking of a Guinness Record (*top right*) for the World's Largest Cuba Libre Cocktail at **Romero Distilling Co.** (both located in Fairview).

Ahead of July 1st, Stephanie hosted a Canada Flag draw. There were 70 winners across the riding (to mark 70 years of Her Late Majesty's years on the Throne). A few days later, Stephanie



dusted off her cowboy boots to participate in the **Stampede Parade**, attend pancake breakfasts, BBQ's, and stakeholder events across the city (*below left*). The best part of these events was re-connecting with constituents and once again witnessing a strong sense of community spirit in Calgary Midnapore!

None of these events would have been possible without the hard work of volunteers. Whether it was flipping pancakes, or helping with the set-up/tear down, Stephanie was incredibly impressed with the teamwork and dedication of Community Association members and neighbours across the riding. Thank you, and well done!

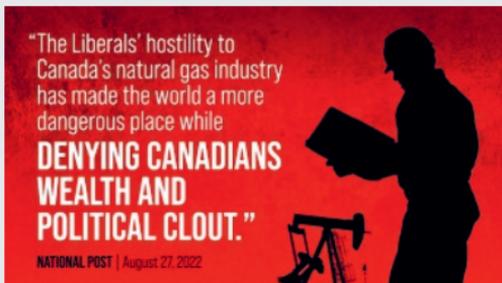
On a gorgeous sunny day in early August, Stephanie hosted an Ice Cream Social outside of **Annie's Café** (*lower right*) in Fish Creek Park, where constituents had the oppor-



tunity to have one-on-one conversations with their MP. Thank you to all who stopped by!

Stephanie closed out a busy summer by recognizing community members hosting a special Platinum Jubilee High Tea – *more about this event on page 12.*

## DIRTY OIL OR RESPONSIBLE ENERGY?



*Stephanie made the following statement in the House of Commons during the first week of the fall Parliamentary session:*

Conservatives believe the government should put people first: their retirement; their paycheques; their homes; and their country. Right now, we lose wages because we import 130,000 barrels of overseas oil every day, mostly from dictators—even though we have the third-largest supply right here in Canada—because Justin Trudeau prefers dirty dictator oil to responsible Canadian energy.

A Conservative government will: repeal this government's anti-energy laws and replace them with a law that protects our environment, consults First Nations, and gets things built; green light Newfoundland and Labrador's planned increase in oil production, which will allow us to fully replace every single barrel oil we're importing from abroad; and within five years, we will set the goal to end dictator oil in Canada altogether.

And, instead of helping Putin sell his natural gas to Europe to finance his war against Ukraine, a CPC government will support projects like GNL Québec. We all know that Quebecers have a clean source of energy: hydroelectricity, which they can use to liquefy natural gas without emissions. Europe needs to buy gas. The choice is clear— buying natural gas to help finance Putin's weapons of war, or creating clean energy here at home an finance paycheques for our energy workers across the country.

*Let Stephanie know your stance on this issue by completing and returning the questionnaire found on the insert in this publication.*

**C-7** to keep their businesses afloat. Second, Justin Trudeau has made a mess of the Senate, so Stephanie does not support codifying it in law. *(Current stage: Second Reading)*

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**C-9** A bill which will amend the *Judges Act* by replacing the process through which the conduct of federally-appointed judges is reviewed by the Canadian Judicial Council. This legislation was tabled the day Parliament recessed and will be carefully evaluated by the Shadow Minister for Justice. *(Current stage: Second Reading)*

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**C-17** This enactment amends the *Federal-Provincial Fiscal Arrangements Act* to authorize additional payments to the provinces and territories. It also authorizes payments to be made out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the purpose of addressing transit shortfalls and needs and improving housing supply and affordability. *(Current stage: Second Reading)*

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**C-20** This Act would replace the Civilian Review and Complaints Commission for the RCMP with an independent body which would also be responsible to review and investigate complaints involvement CBSA personnel. *(Current stage: Second Reading)*

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**C-22** The stated intent of this bill is “to reduce poverty and to support the financial security of persons with disabilities” by establishing the Canada disability benefit and making a consequential amendment to the Income Tax Act. *(Current stage: Second Reading debate first day of Parliament)*

...continued on page 9 after insert

# CASEWORK CORNER

Our office continues to work hard for our constituents on a variety of issues that people in Calgary Midnapore are facing daily. Two files which continue to generate requests for assistance are Immigration and Passports.

We receive numerous calls and emails asking us to check on Temporary Resident Visas (TRVs) for family members wanting to visit Canada. It is important to note that **wait times have not been restored back to pre-pandemic levels and the wait time is the *current* date** on the website—not what was available at the time of application.

It is also important to note that our office cannot intervene until the application has exceeded the time stated on the website. If there is an emergency we *can* request urgent processing however there is no guarantee that the decision will be favourable. There are also a handful of countries around Ukraine

that are not processing any TRVs at this time due to the work of the crisis in Ukraine. Please check for the expected wait times by country here: <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/application/check-processing-times.html>

Passport requests are still coming into the office regularly and we are still requesting transfers for files within 20 days of travel. Service Canada however is making it a bit easier now as the Sundance office is back to doing applications and you can also request the transfer yourself to that office. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have urgent travel and have not yet received your passport.

We are as always available to work on other issues that come up for our residents. Feel free to reach out to [stephanie.kusie.c1a@parl.gc.ca](mailto:stephanie.kusie.c1a@parl.gc.ca) or by phone at 403-225-3480 ext. 1

**RIGHT:** *Stephanie continues to point out how the Liberals' high-spending and high-tax policies are hurting constituents and Canadians.*



## RISING INFLATION

Inflation is at its highest rate since 1983. Interest rates have jumped to their highest levels since 1998. Six in ten Canadians say they're already feeling the effects of these hikes. Over a quarter of Canadians are cutting back on essentials like food, housing, and utilities.

As we hear reports of Justin Trudeau's taxpayer provided monthly grocery bills—during COVID lockdowns—hitting well into the six figures, seventy-two percent of families with kids are worried about putting food on the table, and nearly half of Canadians are doing worse financially than they were last year.

This is a full-blown affordability crisis, created by an extremely out of touch Prime Minister.

The Liberals and their NDP allies have spent the cupboards bare with their reckless fiscal agenda. **Justin Trudeau has already spent more than every previous Canadian Prime Minister combined.** This has caused tremendous inflationary pressures leaving every Canadian family worse off.

After seven long years, Trudeau's legacy is nothing more than record-high inflation, skyrocketing housing costs, and an affordability crisis that has led to higher grocery and gas prices, all fueled by his out-of-control spending.

Time and time again, Stephanie and her Conservative colleagues have proposed common-sense solutions to help address the affordability crisis, and time and time again, the Liberals and NDP have voted against them. In the last parliamentary session, Conservatives proposed measures to remove the GST and carbon tax from fuel to give Canadians a break at the pumps. The Official Opposition also suggested ways that the government could increase the housing supply for those struggling to find a home. As food prices rise, we worked to bring costs down for farmers, who are facing shortages of the tools they need to keep prices low. Unfortunately, the Liberals voted against every one of these policies and the NDP backed them up.

This is Justin Trudeau's mess, and he has done nothing to clean it up. As Parliament is underway for the fall session, Conservatives, under a new leader, remain laser-focused on standing up for those who are suffering the most from the rising cost-of-living.

# HAVE YOUR SAY:

Rate your (or your family's) financial situation compared to the last two years.

- BETTER    WORSE    SAME    UNSURE

What issues do you want to see me focus on in Parliament as your representative?

- JOBS    HOUSING    COST OF LIVING

- SENIORS    GOV'T SPENDING/DEFICIT

- OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Do you believe Canada should prioritize generating clean energy for domestic use and export, rather than continue to import 130,000 barrels of oil daily from countries with little to no environmental controls?

- YES    NO    UNSURE

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Postal code: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

.....  
DETACH HERE  
.....



**STEPHANIE KUSIE, MP**  
**818 JUSTICE BUILDING**  
**HOUSE OF COMMONS**  
**OTTAWA ON K1A 0A6**

**C-23** This legislation would enact the *Historic Places of Canada Act*, which provides for the designation of places, persons and events that are of national historic significance or national interest and fosters the protection and conservation of the heritage value of the designated places. (Current stage: Second Reading)

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**C-26** Part I adds the promotion of the security of the Canadian telecommunications system as an objective of telecommunications policy and gives additional powers to the Minister.  
Part II enacts the *Critical Cyber Systems Protection Act* to provide a framework for the protection of the critical cyber systems of services and systems that are vital to national security or public safety. (Current stage: Second Reading)

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**C-27** Part I governs the protection of personal information of individuals while taking into account the need of organizations to collect, use or disclose personal information in the course of commercial activities. .  
Part II establishes an administrative tribunal to hear appeals of certain decisions made by the Privacy Commissioner and to impose penalties.  
Part III enacts the *Artificial Intelligence and Data Act* to regulate international and interprovincial trade and commerce in artificial intelligence systems. (Current stage: Second Reading)

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**C-29** This legislation would establish a national council for reconciliation as an independent, non-political, permanent and Indigenous-led organization whose purpose is to advance efforts for reconciliation with Indigenous peoples. (Current stage: Second Reading)

# DISCUSSING AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Since the Liberals formed government in 2015, the average price of a home has nearly doubled. In the last year alone, prices have jumped by nearly 20 per cent, making the dream of home ownership unattainable for families and young people across Canada, and driving the sky-high rent costs we are seeing in cities across the country.

Conservatives have been listening to Canadians and are committed to finding solutions to the housing crisis. In June, Stephanie hosted a roundtable discussion and invited several local industry stakeholders to attend and share their perspectives.

The main points of discussion circled around **supply, affordability, innovation, choice, front-end infrastructure, financing, and skilled labour shortages.**



***Top row, L-R:** Craig Dickie – United Anthem; Kory Zwack – Calgary Housing Company; Stephanie Kusie – MP Calgary Midnapore; Darren Garlough – Office of Ward 12; Michele Ward – Homes by Avi; Richard Gotfried – MLA Calgary Fish Creek. **Seated, L-R:** Cliff Stevenson, CREA; Jackie Stewart – BILD Calgary; Brian Hahn – BILD Calgary; Chad Barber – Office of Ward 13; Dan McLean – Councillor, Ward 13.*

## Some of the challenges identified:

- Lack of supply, lack of options (housing type).
- Rent prices people out of the market.
- Approval timing – there is not enough lead time or certainty for developers.
- An overwhelming system of levies, red tape, and gatekeepers slowing down processes.
- “Sprawl” has become a bad word.

*(HOUSING—con't page 14)*



*LEFT: At the time of writing, Stephanie's portfolio remains in place. However, as the new CPC Leader is expected to announce a new Shadow Cabinet in the coming weeks, her role in caucus may have changed by the time this publication is received.*

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## WHAT IS A SHADOW MINISTER?

Since Stephanie Kusie was elected as the Member of Parliament for Calgary-Midnapore in 2017, she has been fortunate to be asked to serve as a Shadow Minister for numerous portfolios including Democratic Institutions; Families, Children and Social Development; Transport; and Employment, Future Workforce Development and Disability Inclusion. When Stephanie is assigned a new portfolio our office is often asked what a Shadow Minister role entails. The primary function of the Shadow Minister (or Critic) role is to hold the Liberal government accountable for their assigned portfolio area. This includes exposing errors made by the government, amplifying the voices of those who may be falling between the cracks and ensuring that the Liberal government is being

transparent with Canadians about their work.

Another key responsibility of Shadow Ministers is the development and promotion of the Conservative Party policies in their respective portfolio. The policy development process includes consulting with relevant stakeholders, other caucus members and the Shadow Cabinet. This is to ensure that new policies are sound and reflective of the needs of Canadians. Policy decisions have to be made on everything from small issues of the day to legislation in the House of Commons to the policies that are to be included in platforms for upcoming elections. Because of their extensive policy work in their file, they are also considered the primary point of reference for other caucus members on issues and



## PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATION IN CALGARY MIDNAPORE

This year, citizens across the Commonwealth celebrated the Queen's Platinum Jubilee – including right here in Calgary Midnapore.

On August 21<sup>st</sup>, Stephanie hosted a Platinum Jubilee High Tea, where 70 of her constituents were officially recognized for the positive impact they've made within the community.

These individuals were nominated by their friends, families, and neighbours for demonstrating qualities extolled by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, such as public service, dedication, and sacrifice. Stephanie honoured each recipi-

ent with a special Platinum Jubilee commemorative pin and shared highlights of their personal achievements with those in attendance.

After two very difficult years, constituents were pleased to celebrate some good news and to share in one another's' success.

Little did we know that just two weeks later, we would be mourning the loss of our gracious and beloved Queen.

Stephanie believes Her Late Majesty would have been happy to see our community celebrating her Platinum Jubilee by recognizing the outstanding work of her

**OPPOSITE PAGE:**

*Group photo of all the proud Platinum Jubilee pin recipients at August's High Tea celebration event.*

**TOP RIGHT:** *Stephanie addresses guests and thanked her Majesty the Queen for her 70 years of service, duty, and sacrifice.*

**BOTTOM RIGHT:** *Stephanie congratulates recipients from the Calgary Police Service, District 8.*

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subjects in the Commonwealth.

We will always look back on this event with tender hearts and gratitude for having had the opportunity to properly honour Her Majesty.

As one recipient wrote in a thank you note to Stephanie following the August 21st: , *"the entire event has even more meaning now with the passing of the Queen... little did we know it would be the last time most of us would sing God Save the Queen."*



*(PORTFOLIO —con't from page 11)*

concerns within the portfolio.

Furthermore, Shadow Ministers have responsibilities associated with the Standing Committee they are a member of.

Shadow Ministers must work to hold their Minister accountable on key parts of their files during Committee appearances. Often, Shadow Ministers are also given the role of Vice-Chair of their respective

Committee. This role involves coordinating the strategy for the Conservative Party at Committee and ensuring that a wide variety of witnesses and perspectives are heard during any study. At the end of the day, it is up to the Shadow Minister, through their role, to ensure that the Liberal Government and Canadians are aware of their shortcoming and provide effective solutions.

*(HOUSING—con't from page 10)*

- The cost of utilities is high.
- AESO supply
- Lots of people are moving to Alberta and many will work from home.

Potential solutions/recommendations

- Have a permanent National Housing Roundtable.
- De-risk projects – investors want to come to Alberta – let's remove the uncertainty.
- With funding and financing in support of infrastructure, the private sector will step up to the plate.
- Make it less prescriptive. Currently units are tied to the program, not the person.
- All levels of government should work together.

- Re-purpose old builds.
- Municipal bonds to help fund the infrastructure. Provide tax relief for the interest.
- “Net Zero”/Green initiatives should be done in pieces.
- Alberta is well positioned to play a leading role in Housing. We could have a “made in Alberta solution”.
- Create more partnerships and cross-section integration.

Stephanie has shared her findings with the Shadow Minister for Housing, MP Matt Jeneroux, and her CPC colleagues.

Conservatives will continue to fight for families and young people across Canada who are struggling to afford rent and are giving up on homeownership.



**STEPHANIE KUSIE**

MP | CALGARY MIDNAPORE

## HERE TO HELP WITH FEDERAL SERVICES!

- Pandemic supports
- Service Canada (EI, CPP, OAS, CRA)
- Immigration
- Veterans' Affairs
- Passport Canada
- Grants & Funding Opportunities

For assistance, please make an appointment:

[stephanie.kusie.c1a@parl.gc.ca](mailto:stephanie.kusie.c1a@parl.gc.ca)

403-225-3480



# YOUR VOICE IN OTTAWA

**STEPHANIE  
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Member of Parliament

CALGARY MIDNAPORE