






Hon. Tim Hodgson

Member of Parliament
Markham-Thornhill

 /Tim Hodgson

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A MESSAGE FROM YOUR MP

Dear Constituents,

Prime Minister Carney has set a clear mandate: deliver transformative change at a scale and pace not seen in generations. We are starting with what we can control—attracting investment, fostering partnerships, securing trade deals, and building an economy that delivers affordability for Canadians.

Our new government has eliminated the consumer carbon tax, delivered a middle-class tax cut, and removed the GST for first-time home buyers on homes up to \$1 million, and will deliver immediate relief through the new proposed **Canada Groceries and Essentials Benefit**, which replaces and builds on the existing GST Credit. This spring, eligible Canadians will receive a one-time 50% boost, followed by a permanent 25% increase starting July 2026 for the next five years (subject to Royal Assent). Which means more money in over 12 million Canadians' pockets.

We are also addressing food insecurity and helping businesses manage supply chain disruptions, so they don't pass those costs on to Canadians at the checkout line, and we are developing a strategy to strengthen our food systems, build resilient supply chains, and ensure Canadians have access to affordable, nutritious food.

In Markham-Thornhill and across Canada, we're not just managing global uncertainty – our new government is building the foundation for lasting prosperity for every Canadian family while staying true to what makes Canada the greatest country in the world: our democratic values, our courage, and our compassion. That's how we keep building Canada Strong.

Sincerely,


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KEEPING OUR COMMUNITIES SAFE

Assault-style weapons designed for maximum harm don't belong in Canadian homes—or on our streets. That's why our government is expanding the national **Assault-Style Firearms Compensation Program** to individual owners. This program will remove these prohibited weapons from circulation and help keep our communities safer.

We've already collected over 12,000 firearms from gun shops and licensed dealers—which means over 12,000 fewer guns in our neighbourhoods.

Responsible gun owners deserve fair compensation for turning in these weapons. If you're in possession of prohibited firearms, you'll receive compensation developed in partnership with the firearms industry. We're grateful to everyone doing their part to make Canada safer.

We can't be tough on crime without being tough on guns—and we're committed to both.

A NEW CHAPTER IN CANADA-CHINA RELATIONS

The world is changing fast and Canada needs a balanced, clear-eyed approach to our international partnerships—one that protects our interests while recognizing the realities of our world. We need to diversify trade and find more partners to do business and attract investment. Our new government is doing just that. We are working strategically to ensure that Canada is positioned to thrive in this new world order.

In January, I joined Prime Minister Carney in The People’s Republic of China to re-set our relationship with the world’s second largest economy—and Canada’s second biggest single-country trading partner.

Prime Minister Carney and President Xi announced landmark measures that will remove trade barriers and reduce tariffs. This strategic partnership prioritizes energy, agri-food, and trade—reopening corridors for Canadian exports, unlocking access to a \$4B canola market for our farmers, and establishing new partnerships in energy, forestry, clean technology, and advanced manufacturing.

Our efforts in China will foster people-to-people ties and enable visa-free travel for all Canadians, including the more than 2 million Canadians of Chinese descent.



STRONG GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS DELIVERING FOR CANADIANS

Canada has what the world needs—from conventional and clean energy to critical minerals. We are building international partnerships that create economic opportunities for Canadian workers and businesses. By diversifying trade and attracting investment, we’re strengthening Canada’s economy and supporting the public services Canadians rely on.

In January, I joined Prime Minister Carney in Doha, Qatar—the first-ever visit by a sitting Canadian Prime Minister to the state—to discuss increasing trade, commerce, investment, and security cooperation. Qatar committed to making significant strategic investments in Canadian nation-building projects that will get major projects built faster, create thousands of well-paying jobs, and supercharge our clean energy, health, AI, and defence industries.

After Qatar, I attended India Energy Week, where I met with leaders of major Indian energy companies and my counterparts to discuss deepening our bilateral trade and investment. India is one of the world’s largest and fastest-growing economies, and presents a significant opportunity for Canada to supply high-quality, affordable, clean energy resources.

While there, we relaunched the Canada-India Ministerial Energy Dialogue and endorsed a new Action Plan for cooperation in energy and critical minerals. This marks an important first step toward a stronger partnership and will advance trade, investment, and supply agreements—bringing good jobs and economic opportunities home to Canadians while strengthening ties with one of the world’s fastest-growing economies.



Upcoming Federal Benefits 2026

Feb 2026

March 2026

Feb 19 Canada Disability Benefit (CDB)

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Feb 20 Canada Child Benefit (CCB)

March 20 Canada Child Benefit (CCB)

Feb 25 CPP/OAS/GIS

March 27 CPP/OAS/GIS

