

Actions Speak Louder than Words

By Maryam Monsef, MP for Peterborough-Kawartha.

Last year, Doug Ford came to Peterborough promising to be 'for the people.' But once in office, we've seen cuts to public health, cuts to municipalities, and cuts to education. Just this week, we've seen even more cuts to health care and essential childcare services. This is what Conservative politicians do. They say they're for the people, but then they cut services for everybody else.

Last month, Andrew Scheer came to Peterborough promising more of the same. But, he voted against giving more money to families with the Canada Child Benefit, voted against cutting taxes for the middle class, voted against increasing the GIS and CPP, and voted against the National Housing Strategy. Despite his record, he says he won't cut housing, or cut health funding, or cut transfers to seniors. His MPs attend anti-choice events, but he says he won't attack women's rights. He refuses to march in pride parades, but he says he'll support LGBTQ2 Canadians.

Canadians now know better, no matter what they promise today, we know that Conservative politicians will make painful cuts to services that we rely on. Their record shows that Andrew Scheer's policies are designed to benefit Conservative insiders, the wealthiest, and the most powerful. The middle class can't afford another Doug Ford.

Instead, our government has been focused on supporting the middle class and those working hard to join it. And our hard work has been paying off. Canadians have created more than one million jobs. Our plan has helped lift 825,000 Canadians out of poverty, including 300,000 children. The National Housing Strategy will invest \$55 billion to create more housing for those in need, lift more Canadians out of poverty, and cut homelessness in half.

In Peterborough-Kawartha, 18,000 children are benefiting from the Canada Child Benefit, and low income seniors are receiving up to \$2,000 more per year as a result of our investments in the OAS/GIS.

Four years ago under Stephen Harper, we had one of the highest unemployment rates in the country. Today, unemployment has been cut here by close to half of what it was. Like many communities, housing is a challenge for us, and we have a one per cent vacancy rate. But today, more than \$17 million has been invested in affordable housing here by our government, and over 1,400 families have a safe and affordable roof over their head because of our plan.

We know there's more to be done. That's why I look forward to sharing our positive, inclusive vision to continue investing in the middle class, supporting those in need, and lifting up the incredible people of Peterborough-Kawartha.





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