

# Kusie Update

May 2023



Apple blossoms in Somerset

Submit your photos of the riding to:  
[stephanie.kusie.c1@parl.gc.ca](mailto:stephanie.kusie.c1@parl.gc.ca)

## MESSAGE FROM STEPHANIE

*Dear Constituents,*



The scent of lilac is in the air, the sun is shining, and kids across the riding are counting down the days until school is out for the summer. Though it's normally a happy season for most, the cost-of-living crisis continues to rage on and is hampering many constituents' summer plans.

Family road trips are becoming more expensive as the price of fuel continues to increase under Trudeau's carbon tax increase (and there's a second carbon tax on the way – outlined in this newsletter). According to a recent Angus Reid poll, 43% of families planning a

road trip say rising gas prices have impacted their plans. Another poll from Ipsos indicates that six out of ten Canadians are canceling their travel plans altogether due to inflation and economic uncertainty. What about families who want to go out for dinner, or even host a BBQ at home? StatsCan is telling us that the Food consumer price index is up 31.3% since April 2015, and we know one in five Canadians are now relying on food banks. Some families are just trying to survive the month, with skyrocketing household debt and interest payments. This is not what prosperity looks like.

It's obvious that Canadians are struggling. The irresponsible Liberal budget is adding \$67 billion in inflationary new spending, and their inflationary carbon tax hikes will make the cost of everything more expensive. For months, my Conservative colleagues and I have been urging the government to scale back their spending and work to balance the budget – but they refuse to listen. Now, as Parliament is nearing the end of session, and the Liberals seek approval on their Budget, Conservatives have made it clear we will not support Justin Trudeau's inflationary budget until his government does two things: 1) he must give us a plan to end his inflationary deficits and spending to bring down inflation and interest rates; and 2) he must cancel all his carbon tax hikes.

Canada is in a cost-of-living crisis and Conservatives will not stand idly by while Canadians suffer. I want the constituents of Calgary Midnapore to enjoy life and reap the rewards of their hard work. Only a common-sense Conservative plan can bring home lower prices and powerful paycheques, and you can count on me to advocate for this every step of the way.

Though times are tough for many, we do have beautiful weather, Canada Day, and Stampede to look forward to – and you will definitely see me out in the community celebrating with constituents. Please come and say hello!

I look forward to reading all of the reply cards from my most recent mailer – thank you to all who shared their feedback with me. It's invaluable to me as I represent your views in Ottawa.

Wishing you a lovely rest of the month.

Sincerely,

*Stephanie*

## BILLS BEFORE PARLIAMENT

The Liberal government will seek to push through as much of their legislation as possible prior to the end of this Parliamentary session later this month.

Here is an update on a few key pieces of legislation you can expect to see debated in the House. As always, Stephanie encourages you to share your views on proposed legislation prior to a vote.

### C-18

*An Act respecting online communications platforms that make news content available to persons in Canada – The Online News Act.*

After passing through the House of Commons, as well as first and second reading in the Senate, this legislation is being studied at the Senate Standing Committee on Transport and Communications.

In response to Bill C-18, which will require tech giants to pay publishers for linking to or otherwise repurposing their content online, Meta announced it will block news for randomly selected Canadians on Facebook and Instagram for the month of June, and warned of a larger roll-out if the legislation passes.

Stephanie and her colleagues continue to oppose Bill C-18 as they believe the current version gives far too much power to the CRTC to regulate without limitation (meaning changes would be implemented without Parliamentary scrutiny and approval). Canadians, journalists, and digital platforms deserve clarity.

As is, the Bill will give the CRTC the ability to pick winners and losers by determining which news businesses are included and which news outlets are left in the cold.

The Official Opposition put forward amendments that would fix these issues, however unfortunately they were voted down by the Liberals and NDP.

*Stephanie has provided details on C-18 in previous publications, including in her most recent household mailing. The online version can be accessed [here](#).*

## C-21

*An Act to amend certain Acts and to make certain consequential amendments (firearms)*

After limiting debate in the House of Commons and ramming the legislation through at committee with the support of the NDP, Bill C-21 passed through the last stages in the House of Commons on May 18th and is now at second reading in the Senate.

Although the Prime Minister has – temporarily – rescinded his latest attack on law-abiding firearms owners contained in C-21, his Public Safety Minister Marco Mendicino has announced the formation of a Firearms Advisory Committee. This Committee will determine what additional firearms will be banned in future.

Stephanie and her Conservative colleagues support common-sense firearms policies that keep guns out of the hands of dangerous criminals. The Official Opposition will continue to urge the Liberal government to focus on targeting the illegal guns used by criminals and street gangs, instead of those used by law abiding hunters and farmers.

## C-35

*An Act respecting early learning and child care in Canada*

The Liberal government brought in a national childcare plan that proposes to cut daycare fees by an average of 50 per cent by the end of 2022— down to an average of \$10 per day by 2026. Earlier this year, Minister of Families, Children, and Social Development, Karina Gould said the bill would “enshrine the principles that provinces and territories agreed to in funding agreements with Ottawa, including the pledge to cut parent fees and create more spaces.”

Affordable, quality childcare is critical but it’s useless if you can’t access it and Bill C-35 does nothing to address accessibility. The legislation is not providing a childcare strategy, it is a headline marketing plan in which we see the Liberals promising what they cannot deliver.

Bill C-35 is good for families who *already* have a childcare space, but it doesn't help the thousands of families on childcare waitlists or the operators who do not have the staff or infrastructure to offer more spaces.

In a recent meeting with the Association of Alberta Childcare Entrepreneurs, Stephanie heard that Bill C-35 will only help 33% of operators in Alberta. The rest will not fit into the government’s cookie-cutter legislation.

Conservatives recognize that Canadian families should have access to affordable and quality childcare and should be able to choose childcare providers that best suit their family's needs.

Stephanie participated in debate in the House of Commons on Bill C-35.

You can watch her full intervention [here](#).

Bill C-35 is currently at the Report Stage in the House of Commons.

## CARBON TAX 2



As if the first one wasn't bad enough, now the Liberals plan to bring in a *second* hidden carbon tax that will further hike the price of gas, heat, and groceries.

Conservatives have been urging the Liberals for months to stop their reckless spending, but they continue to pour fuel on their inflationary fire. Recently, Conservatives used one of their limited

Opposition Days to put forward a motion calling on the federal government to acknowledge the failures of the first Liberal carbon tax and immediately cancel their second carbon tax.

The motion reads as follows:

That, given that,

- (i) the first carbon tax, including sales tax, will add 41 cents to a litre of gas,
- (ii) the second carbon tax, including sales tax, will add 20 cents to a litre of gas,
- (iii) the combination of carbon tax one and carbon tax two will mean that Canadians pay an extra 61 cents for each litre of gas,
- (iv) making life more expensive for Canadians in a cost of living crisis by implementing a second carbon tax demonstrates how out of touch this Liberal Prime Minister is,
- (v) the Parliamentary Budget Officer confirmed that both carbon taxes will have a net cost of up to \$4,000, depending on the province in which they live,

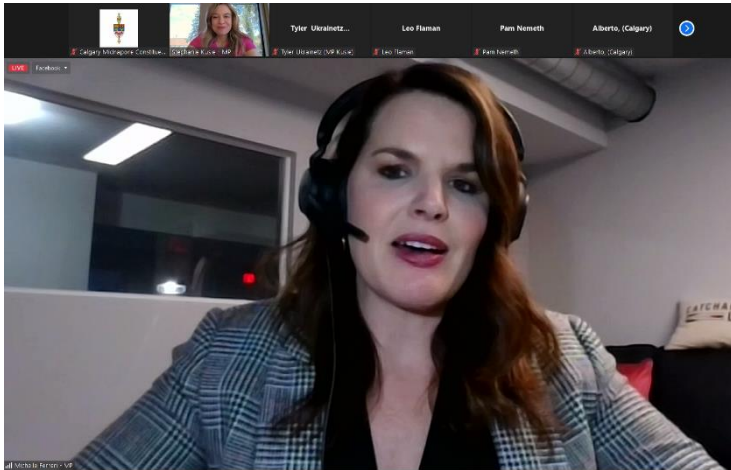
the House recognize the failure of carbon tax one and call on the government to immediately cancel carbon tax two (the "Clean Fuel Regulations").

According to the Parliamentary Budget Officer, Carbon Tax 2 will cost the average Canadian household an extra \$573 per year without any rebate. Albertans and Saskatchewanians will pay the most with costs as high as \$1,157. **The combined impact of the two Trudeau carbon taxes will be an extra 61 cents for every litre of gasoline!**

The first carbon tax did not succeed in reducing emissions, and this second one will not either. The Liberals have not hit a single climate target since they brought in their carbon tax.

Conservatives will axe these taxes and bring home affordability for Canadians. We will protect our environment through technology, not taxes. See Pierre Poilievre's remarks on Carbon Tax 2 [here](#).

## MOTHER'S DAY Q&A



Stephanie hears daily about the struggles of moms and dads across Calgary Midnapore. Families are in a cost-of-living crisis and the Prime Minister's inflationary spending is only making matters worse.

Stephanie felt it important to share these concerns with the Shadow Minister for Families, Children, and Social Development, MP Michelle Ferreri (pictured at left), so she

invited her to take part in a live virtual town hall.

The MPs answered questions regarding carbon tax increases, the price of groceries, and public safety. Conservatives believe families are the foundation of our country and will continue to work hard to ensure they get the quality of life they deserve as Canadians.

You can watch the full conversation [here](#).

## SHADOW MINISTRY UPDATE

During the last four weeks of the Parliamentary session, the agenda both in the House of Commons and at Committees is heavier than usual as the Government pushes to have their legislation passed and the Opposition works to ensure proper scrutiny.

The Government Operations and Estimates Committee (OGGO), on which Stephanie sits as the Shadow Minister for Treasury Board, is no different. Currently the Committee has several studies underway, including one into the spending by the Governor General, the ongoing McKinsey & Company study, scrutiny of C-290 (the Whistleblower Bill), and regular hearings on



*Stephanie at OGGO on May 31*

budget-related issues, the latest being questioning the Minister on the Supplementary Estimates (A) on [31 May](#).

Stephanie also intends to request the Committee hear from experts on how to strengthen the Integrity Regime, however this may have to wait until the fall session given the already scheduled meetings leave little room for additional topics.

You can follow upcoming meetings of OGGO – as well as access minutes and evidence from previous sittings – [here](#).

## STEPHANIE'S LATEST VIDEOS



*Featured Video: By the Numbers: Budget Bonanza 2023*

[McKinsey and Company passed the Integrity Regime...?](#)

[Stephanie Kusie speaks on Bill C-35 \(An Act respecting early learning and child care in Canada\)](#)

[Congratulations to Premier Danielle Smith and the UCP!](#)

[Government Operations Committee was cancelled today. Mike Barrett and I aren't happy. Find out why.](#)

[Trudeau government continues to break promises to the weak and the vulnerable -- at home and abroad](#)

## CASEWORK CORNER

Tax season is over but if any recalculations are applicable based on changes in income or marital status, this will happen in July.

Constituents often contact our office when an amount that was expected -- and had been previously deposited monthly -- changes. Here is a helpful link that will have information on benefits and any debt repayment currently underway after a hold on those payments due to COVID: <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/taxes/child-and-family-benefits.html>

As always, feel free to reach out if you have a complex issue that you cannot resolve through the main phone line at CRA. 403-225-3480 | [stephanie.kusie.c1a@parl.gc.ca](mailto:stephanie.kusie.c1a@parl.gc.ca)

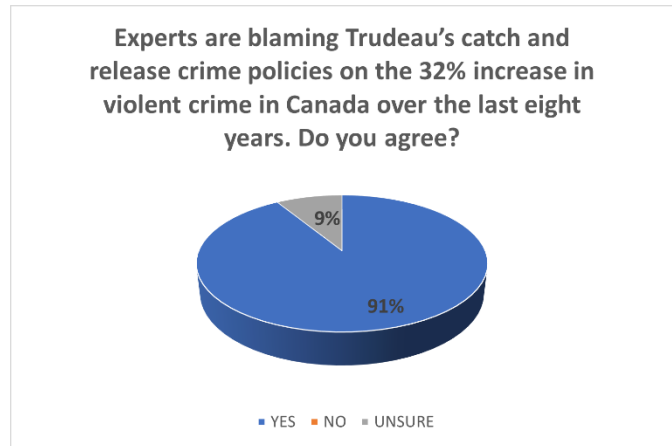
## WEBSITE SURVEY

In May, Stephanie asked constituents about the influx of violent crimes being committed across Canada...The results are presented at right. **The winner of the House of Commons travel mug is Darlene M.** Congratulations!

The survey question for the month of June is:

***The Liberals have arbitrarily decided to [change Canada's Passport](#) and remove references from our history such as Vimy Ridge and Terry Fox. Do you agree with Trudeau's erasure of our past?***

**[Click here to participate in this month's survey.](#)**



## CANADA FLAG DRAW

In Stephanie's last Householder, she invited all constituents of Calgary Midnapore to enter to win one of 50 Canada flags. If you haven't entered yet, [please be sure to do so by June 23<sup>rd</sup>.](#)

If you no longer have your copy of the Householder, you can [download it here](#), print the insert and mail it to our Ottawa office (postage-free):

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