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A PRUDENT FISCAL PLAN

Spending to fight COVID-19 and get the economy back on track is not infinite. Once the need to support the economy has passed, timelimited measures will be withdrawn.

The extraordinary spending needed to deal with the crisis will cause significant deficits in the short-term. but these are nothing like the structural deficits of the early 1990s. This is time-limited spending to prevent households from going bankrupt and businesses from permanently shutting their doors.

To ensure that Canada is prepared, our government is planning for different scenarios.

Given the current record-low interest rate environment, the COVID-19 debt is affordable. Federal debtservicing costs, relative to the size of our economy, are at a 100-year low. And we are locking in those low costs by issuing more debt into longer-term instruments at these historically low rates.

In doing so, we are taking on debt so Canadian households and families do not have to.

Experience suggests that economies that withdrew their fiscal support too quickly after the 2008-09 financial crisis experienced slower growth afterwards. Canada will follow the advice of the IMF and OECD which have urged governments to maintain substantial fiscal support over the recovery phase.

We are also improving tax fairness, by proposing that the GST/HST apply to digital corporations.

The government is also proposing to ensure that large digital corporations pay their fair share of taxes in Canada, limit stock option deductions in the largest companies, and tax the ownership of under-used housing by non-resident foreign owners.

2020-21 MAJOR FEDERAL TRANSFERS TO THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

\$5.7 billion through the Canada Health **Transfer**, an increase of \$204 million from the previous year

\$2 billion through the Canada Social **Transfer**, an increase of \$60 million from the previous year.

\$2 billion for British Columbia through the Safe Restart Agreement:

- \$404.5 million support with the costs of increasing testing capacity, perform contact tracing, and share public health data that will help fight the pandemic;
- \$161.8 million to support health care system capacity to respond to surges in COVID-19 cases and to support and protect people experiencing challenges related to mental health, substance use, or homelessness:
- \$99.8 million to address immediate needs and gaps in supportive care and provide health and social supports for other vulnerable groups;
- \$809.7 million to support municipalities with COVID-19 operating costs
- \$540 million to ensure critical transit services are maintained;
- \$404.5 million to ensure health and nonhealth workers have access to the personal protective equipment that they need; and
- \$82.8 million to address the reduced availability of child care spaces and the unique needs stemming from the pandemic.
- Up to \$242.4 million available through the Safe Return to Class Fund
- Up to \$400.7 million available through the Essential Workers Support Fund

Pillars of Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan by the Numbers for BC:

- Canada Emergency Business Account: as of December 1, 109,560 loans provided to businesses, worth a total of \$4.38 billion.
- Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance: as of December 1, 18,541 tenants, representing 139,781 employees, for a total funding of \$269.6 million.
- Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy: as of October 25, 218,450 applications, for a total of \$5.4 billion in subsidies paid out.
- Canada Emergency Response Benefit: as of October 4, nearly 1.2 million British Columbians supported. In a population of 5.1 million, this is nearly 1 out of every 4 people.
- Canada Recovery Benefit: as of November 23, \$386 million provided to 154,600 British Columbians.
- Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit: as of November 23, \$18 million provided to 21,310 British Columbians.
- Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit: as of November 23, \$38 million provided to 17,910 British Columbians.

Please continue to consult local COVID-19 public health recommendations. For more information please visit: **gov.bc.ca** and surrey.ca

> For more information on all COVID-19 support from the **Government of Canada** please visit:

canada.ca/coronavirus



A MESSAGE FROM YOUR MP

Hello Surrey Centre,

I hope you and your loved ones are keeping safe and well!

Over the holidays, I had the opportunity to meet with a couple of the many local organizations who are doing great work in our community: I joined the Guru Nanak Free Kitchen and West Coast Home & Truss for a toy drive for children in Surrey (pictured above) and delivered pizzas to the Lookout Housing & Health Society. Thank you to all the local organizations and volunteers who have been working hard to support our community during these challenging times!

In vaccines news, as of January 7th, we have delivered 548,950 vaccine doses to the provinces and territories, so they can administer them to Canadians.

Between the early doses we've already received, and the shipments now scheduled. we're on track to have at least 1.2 million doses from both Pfizer and Moderna delivered by January 31.

We will continue to work with all partners to ensure that all Canadians will have access to vaccines, starting with the most vulnerable.

Lets continue to look out for one another and get through this pandemic together.

Take care and stay safe.

Sincerely,

Randeep S. Sarai Member of Parliament Surrey Centre

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FALL ECONOMIC UPDATE

Last fall, Deputy Prime Minister and Minster of Finance, Chrystia Freeland presented the Fall Economic Update.

Canadians are in for a hard winter. But better days are coming. We have a plan to get through this and recover strongly. We will do whatever it takes to support Canadians and get the economy firmly back on track.

We don't know exactly how soon this pandemic will end, but we know it will end. Safe and effective vaccines are on the way.

Canada entered this crisis in a strong

fiscal position, allowing our government to take decisive action to provide the support people and businesses need to weather this

Total support so far includes \$322 billion in direct measures to fight the virus and help people; and \$85 billion in tax and duty deferrals. This is the largest economic relief package for our country since the Second World

The action we have taken will help Canada come roaring back from the COVID-19 recession and prevent the

long-term economic scarring that would weaken our post-pandemic recovery.

When the virus is under control and our economy is ready for new growth, we will deploy an ambitious stimulus package to jumpstart our recovery and support and grow the middle class.

This will include support for those hit hardest by the pandemic, including seniors, women, young people, Black and racialized Canadians, Indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities and new Canadians.



Delivering pizzas to the Lookout Housing + Health Society December 2020

SUPPORT FOR FIRST NATIONS

Minister Marc Miller announced \$1.2 billion through the Fall Economic Statement that will further support the First Nations, Inuit and Metis health response to COVID-19. \$631.6 million to support public health measures, including procuring PPE, adapt existing facilities, hiring more staff, and providing surge capacity

- 186.8 million to support elders and those in long term care facilities on reserve.
- \$380 million in additional funding through the Indigenous Community Support Fund.

This funding provides communities with the flexibility needed in order to adapt their pandemic response to the unique health and safety need of their community.

To date, and with these additional investments, our Government has made roughly \$4.2 billion available in COVID-19 supports for Indigenous individuals, families and communities since the beginning of the pandemic. We will continue to respond to emerging needs and remain committed to supporting Indigenous communities and families through this pandemic and beyond.

PROTECTING CANADIANS FROM COVID-19

Now that vaccines are available in Canada (with more shipment deliveries confirmed throughout January, February, and March!) it's crucial that the provinces and territories distribute these vaccines as quickly as possible to protect Canadians.

Because the provinces and territories are responsible for administering vaccines, we have been working with them on their vaccination plans.

Total COVID-19 vaccine confirmed distribution as of January 7, 2021:

	Distributed in all of Canada	Distributed in British Columbia
Pfizer/ BioNTech	380,250	50,700
Moderna	168,700	20,500
Total	548,950	71,200

VACCINE CONFIDENCE

Vaccines are the most safe and effective way to prevent disease and Health Canada uses all available data to before making decisions about vaccine safety and approvals in Canada.

When vaccines become widely available, it will be important that Canadians get immunized.

SUPPORTING CANADIANS THROUGHTHE PANDEMIC

Since this crisis began, our government has supported public health, provided direct income supports to Canadians, and bridged businesses through the crisis. We will continue to do so into 2021, and as long as Canadians need support.

Our actions have stabilized the economy. Almost 80% of the jobs lost at the outset of the pandemic have been recouped, compared with about half in the U.S.

The Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy has been extended until June 2021, and the government proposes to increase the maximum subsidy rate back to 75%. This will help workers keep their jobs.

The Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy and the Lockdown Support will provide direct rent and mortgage support (up to 90%) until June 2021 for organizations affected by COVID-19.

In August, the government announced the Canada Recovery Benefit, the Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit, the Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit and enhanced Employment Insurance. Each will be in place through the fall of 2021.

The Canada Emergency Business Account has been expanded to allow qualifying businesses access to an additional interest-free loan, helping small businesses cover their unavoidable costs at a time when their revenue has dropped

Our government is also putting in place further support for Canadian families and businesses as they fight the second wave of the virus. This includes:

- Providing immediate relief to low and middleincome families with young children by providing up to \$1,200 through the Canada Child Benefit for children under the age of 6.
- Creating a new stream of credit support for businesses in the tourism, hospitality, travel, and arts and culture sectors which have been particularly hard hit.
- Reducing student debt by **eliminating interest** on the federal portion of Canada Student Loans and Canada Apprentice Loans for 2021-22.

BUILDING A MORE RESILIENT ECONOMY

We are planning a program of meaningful, targeted stimulus – up to 3 to 4% of GDP, over 3 years – to foster a strong economic recovery. The stimulus will make the economy greener, more inclusive, more resilient and more competitive.

Measures in the fall economic statement are a down payment on this plan. In the months ahead we will consult broadly with Canadians on how and where these investments will take place.

Our recovery from COVID-19 must leave no one behind. Investments to build back a better economy include:

- Putting climate action at the centre of our plan to create a million jobs.
- Bolstering training support for those hit hardest by the pandemic, including marginalized and racialized

women, Indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities and new Canadians, including with an investment of \$274.2 million over 2 years, beginning in 2021-22.

 Proposing to provide up to 700,000 grants to homeowners to help them make energyefficient improvements to their

We recognize the extraordinary toll this pandemic has taken on women. We are moving forward with our plan to create a Canada-wide Early Learning and Child Care system, beginning with a federal secretariat to support this work and new investments to support early childhood educators.

To combat the she-cession caused by COVID-19, our federal government is laying the groundwork for a Canada-wide child care system in partnership with

provinces, territories and Indigenous peoples.

As we build back, we will tackle challenges that constrain far too many Canadians: Chronic homelessness. Systemic racism. Gender-based violence. Discrimination against LGBTQ2 communities. Barriers faced by people living with disabilities.

Our government is renewing its commitment to fight all forms of racism through meaningful investments in economic opportunity for all, greater diversity in government and throughout the public service, and modernization of equity legislation, among other measures.

We are committed to continuing on the path of reconciliation towards a healthier, safer and stronger future for Indigenous peoples.

1 BILLION TREE PROGRAMME

We remain strongly committed to meeting and exceeding Canada's Paris targets and achieving netzero emissions by 2050.

In December, our government announced an investment of \$3.1 Billion over the next ten years to plant 2 billion trees across Canada.

This initiative will lead to a healthier environment and happier communities. Some of the benefits include carbon sequestration, increases in bio-diversity, habitat restoration, climate adaptation and human wellbeing.



I want to hear from you!

- 1. Cut along the dotted line
- 2. Write your reply
- 3. Fold and tape
- needed

SUPPORT FOR MENTAL HEALTH

Taking care of our mental health is extremely important during times like this. Here are some important resources if you need help:

To help support Canadians, we have launched the Wellness Together Canada portal: wellnesstogether.ca

Kids Help Phone 1-800-668-6868 or Text CONNECT to 686868

Hope for Wellness Help Line 1-855-242-3310

Hope for Wellness Helpline (for Indigenous peoples) 1-855-242-3310

> Crisis Services Canada 1-833-456-4566

I WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU: WHAT ARE YOUR TOP PRIORITIES **FOR SURREY CENTRE?**

4. Drop it in the mailbox, no postage