



John
NATER, MP
 Perth—Wellington

Here to Serve

Fall 2017



What a great summer it was taking part in many events throughout Perth—Wellington. From Homecoming Weekends in Clifford and Mount Forest, plowing matches in Perth and Wellington Counties, and arts festivals and agriculture fairs, the riding was booming! With such a diversity of activities there was something for everyone.

Of course the highlight of the summer was the many events which took place in celebration of Canada's 150th birthday. My family and I enjoyed taking part in the many celebrations and, during the week leading up to July 1st, we had a wonderful time visiting with seniors in long-term care homes all across the riding to wish the residents a Happy Canada Day—truly a great way to celebrate our country's Sesquicentennial!

Through meetings with stakeholders, small businesses, not-for-profit organizations, and many individuals, I know the economy continues to be on the top of everyone's mind. I heard repeatedly that the issues surrounding a shortage of

labour, including skilled labour, as well as an uncertain economic future are having a significant effect on families and small businesses.

Parliament has now resumed and there are several significant issues and bills for the House of Commons to address and debate during the autumn sitting, including proposed tax changes which will have a major impact on small businesses and farmers.

I welcome and appreciate hearing your views on these or any other issues, and I hope you will take the time to complete the response form included in this newsletter and provide your feedback on the key issues affecting your family and our communities.

As always, if I can be of assistance on any federal matter, please contact one of my offices. Contact information is located on the last page.

Visiting Ottawa?

If you are planning a trip to Ottawa and are interested in attending a session of Question Period, please contact my office for details and to arrange passes.



Information on tours of Centre Block and East Block can be found at:
<http://www.lop.parl.gc.ca/Visitors/visit-e.html>

****Please note that Centre Block is scheduled to close for repairs in 2018, potentially for as long as ten years

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Small Business and Agriculture Sector Consultations Spring/Summer 2017

Over the past several months I have gathered comments and feedback from stakeholders, small businesses, and individuals across Perth-Wellington on the status of the economy in our communities. Through letters, questionnaires, roundtable discussions, and face-to-face meetings I have received valuable information on how current policies and proposed changes to legislation are affecting all aspects of local businesses and the economy.

The proposed tax changes announced by the Finance Minister in July generated hundreds of phone calls, letters, and emails, and was a major concern raised during meetings I held with small business owners across Perth-Wellington. I will continue to make these views known in Ottawa.

Early in the summer, I mailed over 1500 letters and questionnaires to small businesses and the agricultural sector in order to gather vital information on the challenges facing these businesses. The responses I received not only outlined the concerns and issues, but also offered recommendations which could assist in alleviating some of the strain small businesses are facing in several areas, including:

- ◆ The tax burden
- ◆ Skilled labour shortages and labour availability
- ◆ Transportation and infrastructure costs
- ◆ Technological change in the agricultural sector
- ◆ Red tape for small businesses

The information I received was diverse and often unique to each small business, however two major themes emerged:

- ◆ Skills training must be more accessible, affordable, and readily available; and
- ◆ Small businesses and the agricultural sector face many costs and hurdles which negatively affect their bottom line.



Dairy Day at the Shantz Farm, Wallenstein



In August I was very pleased to co-host a roundtable on small business with my colleague the Honourable Erin O'Toole, Member of Parliament for Durham. A variety of local businesses were represented, from livestock transporters, to manufacturers, to retail owners. The imposition of a carbon tax and changes to the Canadian Controlled Private Corporation Framework are just two of the many issues discussed.

If you would like to participate in a future discussion please let me know. I always welcome a diversity of views.

I also received comments and suggestions regarding issues which fall under provincial jurisdiction. I shared these comments with my Provincial colleague MPP Randy Pettapiece.

I have brought the information, concerns and recommendations I have gathered back to Ottawa to share with my colleagues, including a report I am preparing to submit to the Minister of Finance which will outline the needs and concerns of my constituents in advance of the 2018 Budget.

I will continue to defend our local small businesses and agricultural producers in the House of Commons, and I will fight for policy changes which encourage focused and effective investment here in Perth-Wellington.

Canadian Agriculture Partner Framework

On July 21, 2017 the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, announced the next phase of the agriculture policy framework. The Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP) replaces the current Growing Forward (GF) 2 program. This \$3 billion five year funding agreement takes effect on April 1, 2018.

CAP maintains the same overall funding as Growing Forward 2 which included support for three key areas: Science, Research and Innovation, Markets and Trade, and Risk Management. However, without additional funding, it is unclear how the federal government will maintain the current programs while adding the three new pillars of Environmental Sustainability and Climate Change, Value-added agriculture and agri-food processing, and Public Trust.

Another significant change is the one year review of the Business Risk Management (BRM) programs, which will begin this year. This means that the suite of programs under BRM—AgriStability, AgriRecovery, AgriInsurance, and AgriInvest—will no longer be in tandem with the government's overall agricultural framework.

One major concern already expressed involves the government's decision to cut federal contributions to AgriInvest even before the review was started. During my consultations with farmers and farm families, AgriInvest was noted as one of the most popular and effective business risk management programs. As such, it is disappointing that this unilateral action has been taken.

If you have any questions or concerns about the new Canadian Agriculture Partnership please do not hesitate to contact me at john.nater@parl.gc.ca or by phone at 519-273-1400.

Around Perth-Wellington



Clifford



Drayton



Stratford



Stratford



Wallenstein



Listowel



2017 International Plowing Match



Stratford



St. Marys

Make your voice heard

I appreciate hearing from constituents and would like to know your thoughts on matters before the House of Commons. Please indicate which of the topics below are most important to you and your family.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environment & Climate Change | <input type="checkbox"/> Small Business taxes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marijuana Legislation | <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural Priorities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> International Trade | <input type="checkbox"/> The Economy |

Additional Comments: _____

Contact Information:

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____
 Postal Code: _____
 Telephone: _____
 Email: _____

Direct Deposit & My Account

The Government of Canada is switching to direct deposit for all payments it issues including, OAS and CPP, Canada Child Benefit, Tax Refunds, and GST Rebates. Direct deposit is a way to receive your payments without any postal delay. Not only will you be able to access your payments more quickly, but you can also be sure they will never be lost, stolen, or damaged. For more information, to sign up, or set up **My Account**:

<http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/directdeposit>

My Account allows you to track your tax refund, view or change your return, check your benefit and credit payments, view your RRSP limit, set up direct deposit, and receive online mail.

Old Age Security

The month after you turned 64 years old, you should receive from Service Canada one of the following:

- ◆ a letter informing you that you could be eligible for the OAS pension. You will need to apply for your OAS pension as soon as possible by completing and mailing the application form enclosed in your letter
- Or**
- ◆ a letter informing you that you were selected for automatic enrolment. You will not have to apply for your OAS pension if the information in your letter is accurate. If you wish to defer your OAS pension you may do so by: accessing your My Service Canada Account and following the directions; or signing and returning the automatic enrolment letter by mail.

If you do not receive a letter the month after you turn 64, you should contact Service Canada. For more information:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/publicpensions/cpp/old-age-security.html>

Contact John

www.johnnater.ca

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Find me on YouTube!

For Your Information

***NEW: Electronic Travel Authorization

An Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA) is a new entry requirement for visa-exempt foreign nationals flying to, or transiting through, Canada. The authorization is electronically linked to your passport and is valid for five years or until your passport expires, whichever comes first.

Who needs an Electronic Travel Authorization?

Citizens from countries other than the United States (U.S.) who do not need a visa to enter Canada will need to obtain an eTA before flying to Canada. Travellers do not need an eTA when entering Canada by land or sea.

Applying for an eTA takes just a few minutes. You need your passport, a credit or debit card and an email address. The cost of an eTA is CAD \$7. For more information:

<http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/eta-facts-en.asp>

Travelling?

Permanent Resident Card renewal: Current processing time is approximately 4-6 months depending on volume of work and the complexity of the application. More information can be found at: www.cic.gc.ca/english/helpcentre

Medical/Travel Insurance: If you travel abroad you should obtain medical/travel insurance, no matter where you are going or how long you will be away.

Passports: Passports can be renewed through a simplified renewal process within one year of expiry. Identification requirements can be challenging. Please see www.cic.gc.ca/english/passport for clarity

For travel advisories and country-by-country visitor requirements: www.voyage.gc.ca

Congratulatory Messages and Certificates

MP John Nater

I would be pleased to provide congratulatory certificates for birthdays and wedding anniversaries. As well, written greetings and congratulatory messages for community events, commemorations, and special milestones can be arranged.

I welcome the opportunity to extend greetings on behalf of Parliament at community events as my schedule permits. Invitations/requests can be forwarded to my office.

To arrange for congratulatory messages from other government officials for constituents please note the requirements which follow and contact my office to make arrangements.

Leader of the Official Opposition

- ◆ 65th Birthday and up (at 5 year intervals)
- ◆ 25th Wedding Anniversary and up (at 5year intervals)

Prime Minister

- ◆ 25th Wedding Anniversary and up (at 5-year intervals)
- ◆ 65th Birthday and up (at 5-year intervals)
- ◆ 100th Birthday and every year thereafter

Governor General

- ◆ 50th Wedding Anniversary (at 5 year intervals)
- ◆ 90th Birthdays and up (at 5 year intervals)

Her Majesty the Queen

- ◆ 60th Wedding Anniversary and up (at 5 year intervals)
- ◆ 100th Birthday and every year thereafter

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No Postage Required

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K1A 0A6