



# **JOBS FOR CANADIANS**

**and a HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT  
for FUTURE GENERATIONS**

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Since day one, I have had three top priorities in my work as an MP:

- Creating long-term, sustainable rural communities;
- Protecting our environment for future generations; and,
- Advancing reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples.

Our Government's hard work is paying off:

- Record investments in our rural communities for families, infrastructure, and economic development, along with historic levels of job growth to show for it;
- Canada's first real plan to fight climate change, protect our environment, and invest in the clean technology that powers a green economy; and,
- 85 long term boil water advisories ended, and record-setting investments in Indigenous Peoples and communities.

There is more work ahead of us, but together, we will work hard and get it done!



# Jobs created in Ontario since 2015



# 486,800

**207,400**

Total number of jobs  
filled by women

**381,500**

**Full-time jobs**

## Top Growing Sectors in Ontario



**67,300  
JOBS**

Professional,  
scientific, and  
technical services



**80,100  
JOBS**

Wholesale and  
retail trade



**61,700  
JOBS**

Healthcare and  
social assistance

Source: Labour Force Survey, Statistics Canada, April 2019

## 12 Canadian Companies

in the Global Cleantech Top 100 List for 2019

# Canada's middle class is growing

Canadians have created over **one million jobs** over the past 3 years!

**Under our government,  
Canada's unemployment rate  
has reached historic lows.**



**1,042,500**

TOTAL JOBS

**786,500**

FULL-TIME JOBS



Canada's unemployment rate is the lowest it has been in 40 years.

**825,000** fewer Canadians are living in poverty today compared to 2015.

In the same number of months with a majority government, we have created 413,000 more total jobs than the Harper government.

# Helping Canadians get the training they need

The new **Canada Training Benefit** gives working Canadians the time and money they need to keep their skills up-to-date and in-demand:

- **\$250 per year** - up to a lifetime of \$5,000 to help cover the cost of training.
- Up to **four weeks** of income support through Employment Insurance to help cover lost income while training.
- The security of knowing you'll have a job to come back to when your training is done.



Photo: Mike visited Canada Cordage in Deseronto late last year to announce a federal investment that supported product line expansion and the creation of five full-time jobs.

# Helping young Canadians get ahead

**We are helping students get the skills they need to launch their careers, tackle debt, and find good middle class jobs by:**

- Allowing students who are struggling with their loan to defer payments until they are financially in a place to pay them.
- **Lowering interest rates** on Canada Student Loans and Canada Apprentice Loans, and ensuring student loans don't accumulate interest for the first six months after graduating.
- Allowing students who have defaulted on their loan to apply for supports like the Repayment Assistance Program.
- Creating up to **60,000 student work placements** over the next 5 years.

**In Hastings—Lennox and Addington, our government has supported over 700 Canada Summer Jobs with over \$2 million.**

# SUMMER JOBS FOR YOUTH

**70,033**

Our Liberal government (2018)

**34,179**

Harper's Conservatives (2015)



Photo: Mike visited a summer camp in Tweed to see the impact that increased funding from Canada Summer Jobs was having on the program, which gives young counsellors vital skills training to build their careers.

# Investing in the skilled trades

- Supporting Canadians who face barriers in entering the skilled trades with access to information, skills training, and work experience through the Skilled Trades and Readiness Program.
- Helping unions purchase modern training equipment and tools to support the next generation of apprentices and tradespeople as they prepare to launch well-paying careers in the trades.
- Investing in Future Skills to help Canadians ensure their skills are up-to-date and in demand in a rapidly changing work environment—today and tomorrow.



Photo: Mike met with North Hastings Fire Services to discuss how the Canada Summer Jobs program was providing local young people the skills training they need to develop their careers, and do so locally.

Photo: Mike met with Dr. Kari Kramp at her lab in Loyalist College to learn about the cutting-edge cannabis research being done there, supporting a growing industry, job creation, and economic development.



## Supporting women in the workforce

Having more women in the workforce helps businesses succeed, boosts family incomes, and creates a strong middle class. To support women in the workforce we are:

- Making federal proactive pay equity a reality, so that men and women get equal pay for equal work.
- Providing up to **\$8,000** for training to become welders, pipefitters, or any other skilled trade worker.
- Providing women with mentoring, coaching, and tailored supports.

# Supporting Skills Training in Indigenous Communities



Chuck Commanda is a master craftsman, whom Mike met with in Maynooth in 2017. Chuck hopes to help Indigenous communities reclaim part of their culture and spread the knowledge to others, after so much of the art of building birch bark canoes was lost during the era of residential schools.



The Canada Summer Jobs (CSJ) program supported vital skills training and career-building for students among the Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte, whom Mike met with in 2018. Across the riding, our government has invested over \$2 million in the CSJ program.



Transport Minister and astronaut Marc Garneau joined Mike to hold an aviation roundtable at the First Nations Technical Institute in Tyendinaga. There is a pilot shortage, and we need to ensure not only that we fill that shortage, but do so by also including under-represented groups like Indigenous peoples and women.

# Connect to Innovate



Reliable highspeed internet is vital to rural job creation and connecting our increasingly digital global marketplace. We announced that our government is investing **\$10.8 million** to expand highspeed internet access in 14 municipalities in Hastings—Lennox and Addington and Bay of Quinte in partnership with Xplornet, which is investing now over \$32 million in private capital. In Budget 2019, we are committing an additional \$1.7 billion to expand the Connect to Innovate program and ensure that we reach our target of all Canadians having access to 50/10 mbps minimum internet speed.

## We introduced the new Canada Workers Benefit (CWB) –

a strengthened, more generous and more accessible benefit to help low-income Canadians who are working hard to join the middle class. **The new CWB is helping people who need it most:**

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**1.** If eligible for the CWB, you'll automatically receive it when you file your taxes.

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Providing up to \$2,335 for low income families.

**2.**

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**3.** About 300,000 low-income workers will automatically receive the CWB when they file their taxes this year, lifting about 70,000 Canadians out of poverty.

Photo: Mike and MP Neil Ellis held a Seniors Town Hall in Belleville with the Minister for Seniors Filomena Tassi to share the work being done for seniors by our government, and to receive feedback and more ideas.



## Providing seniors with financial security

We know that every Canadian deserves a secure and dignified retirement. We are working to help more seniors stay in their own homes and keep more money in their pockets by:

- Helping low-income seniors keep more of what they earn by enhancing the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) earnings exemption.
- Proactively enrolling Canada Pension Plan contributors 70 or older but who have not yet applied for their retirement benefits. Every Canadian should get the benefits they worked hard for.
- Ensuring that seniors benefit from a secure, stable, and dignified retirement after a lifetime of work by restoring the eligibility age for Old Age Security to 65 after the previous government's decision to raise it to 67.
- Compared to the Harper Conservatives, our government's changes to the GIS have resulted in over 50,000 fewer seniors living in poverty and over 900,000 vulnerable single seniors gaining greater financial security. This is \$1.7 million *more* each year to support low-income single seniors in Hastings—Lennox and Addington.



# PAN-CANADIAN Framework

## On Clean Growth and Climate Change

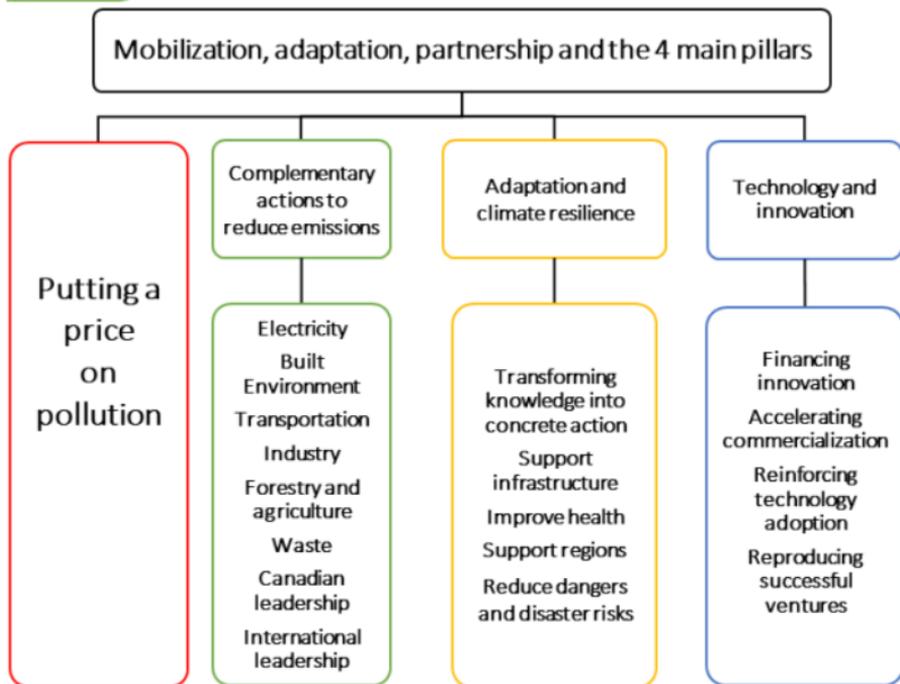


Photo: Mike held a Climate Change Town Hall in Greater Napanee to share some of the science behind climate change, as well as the more than fifty measures our government has put in place to fight climate change.

DECLARING A NATIONAL

# CLIMATE EMERGENCY

**Mike Bossio MP, Address to the House of Commons on the  
Declaration of a National Climate Emergency**

*Thursday, 16 May 2019*

*Abridged version. The full speech is available at [www.mikebossiomp.ca](http://www.mikebossiomp.ca)*

Mr. Speaker, let me tell you about five or six 100-year events in my rural community. I say 100-year events, but they actually all happened in the last six years.

It's 2013 in the beautiful town of Bancroft, and there was a state of emergency. Flood waters had risen and roads were washed out. Three schools had to shut their doors. The children's centre was shuttered. Arnold Creighton, an 83 year old, was quoted as saying he had lived there his whole life and had never seen anything like it.

It's 2014 in Corbyville and Foxboro, villages in my riding that fall under the city of Belleville. There was another state of emergency. The mayor at the time was my good friend, the member for Bay of Quinte, who was out there day after day sand-bagging and helping to coordinate the relief.

Now it is 2016 and our farmers are hurting. Sixty days without solid rainfall was producing burnt and premature crops, costing our farm families. It was the worst drought in my area since record keeping began in the 1800s.

In 2017, we started the year with Quinte Conservation warning residents of the Napanee River watershed that they would have worse floods than even 2014. I get almost daily updates from Chief R. Donald Maracle of the Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte, telling me of the devastating effects that flooding is having on homes in the Tyendinaga Mohawk Territory. Properties on Amherst Island and Hay Bay are under water, not just by inches, but by feet.

Those who have not experienced flooding themselves are not always aware of all the subsequent impacts. Rural properties are usually on septic and well systems, both of which can be compromised by floods.

However, 2017 was just getting started. It seemed that Mother Nature was playing a

cruel joke after all the flooding, but by summer and fall, the Moira River was experiencing the lowest water levels and droughts since record keeping began. It was even worse than 2016, when the drought had already exacted a terrible toll on our farming community.

This year, 2019, I recently visited properties in Bancroft, Hastings Highlands, and Corbyville. They were under water yet again. There were roads washed out in Tweed, and 21 roads washed out in North Hastings that they had to deal with. We do not have to look far to see the devastating toll right here in the Ottawa region.

Amid all this historic flooding and the hard work our conservation authorities have to do to help our communities, it is mind-boggling that the Ford government has cut flood prevention funding for our local conservation authorities in half. These are Conservative cuts, Conservatives who do not take climate change seriously.

Extreme weather events have a cost, a very human cost that we see on the faces of distraught homeowners who have lost everything. There is also a massive financial cost. Last year, extreme weather cost Canadians \$1.9 billion. From 1990 to 2009, the average was \$400 million a year. That number is only rising and is estimated to be as high as \$43 billion by 2050 if we do not act.

My constituents are awake to the impact of climate change in our rural communities. I heard from Louise at Harvest Hastings, who reminded me of the increase in diseases affecting trees due to the warming temperatures: emerald ash borer, Dutch elm disease, beech bark disease, ash wilt, and the list goes on and on. All of this leaves our forests more susceptible to the devastating impact of wildfires.

Climate change is also causing rural communities like mine to have a higher incidence of ticks, which is a cause of Lyme disease. This has devastating health impacts.

The fact is, the fight against climate change is one of the most important fights of our generation, and future generations depend on us.

As a lifelong environmentalist, from my days growing up learning good stewardship practices while hunting and fishing in Madoc in the 1960s and 1970s, to starting the first recycling program in my apartment building during my young professional days in Toronto in the 1980s, to fighting as a community activist in Tyendinaga to protect our community's drinking water from the mega-dump expansion in Napanee from the 1990s to this very day, one thing is clear: I will never stop fighting to protect our environment, our community and future generations.

Extreme weather events across Canada and the world are increasing: forest fires in the west, tornadoes in Ottawa and historic droughts and floods in my own rural community. The science is clear and the impact on human lives is clear. We cannot leave it to our children to pay the vastly higher, even existential, costs of climate change.

We know how to solve this. It is our duty as parents, citizens, and legislators to act.

This is a climate emergency.



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