

# Mike Bossio

Member of Parliament • Hastings—Lennox and Addington



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## PM Trudeau Visits Napanee



Prime Minister Trudeau visited an overflow crowd at Ellena's Café in Napanee in January during his cross-country tour to meet with Canadians. The public drop-in gave him a chance to hear from a range of constituents.

### Message from Mike

This year marks the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Canada's Confederation, so there is a lot to celebrate all year long! I hope that everyone will get out to the many events throughout our riding, especially this summer. I'll have more information about Canada 150 in our Canada Day edition of the newsletter.

It's been a busy few months since our winter newsletter, with several announcements in the riding, a visit from the Prime Minister to Napanee, and of course the launch of Budget 2017.

In Ottawa, I've spent a lot of time on the three major portfolios that I work on: Environment Committee, Indigenous Committee, and as Chair of the National Liberal Rural Caucus. We've seen some real movement on these files.

I've lobbied hard for Rural Canada, and in addition to the \$500 million for rural high-speed Internet in last year's budget, the government has agreed to invest \$2 billion in infrastructure uniquely for small rural communities, *in addition* to access to other funding programs. This will be great news for

our rural roads and bridges, which we know need improvement.

In the riding, I've been blessed to visit many local organizations and businesses and have countless meetings with constituents to discuss issues important to them.

I've used this newsletter to give you some details about what federal investments have been made in the riding in the past year, as well as what Budget 2017 is proposing to do at a national level, including historic and much-needed investments for Indigenous Peoples.

I hope that this information is useful for you, and if it spurs any questions, please reach out and ask! If you have any suggestions about how this newsletter can serve you better, I'd be happy to hear them!

Yours in service,  
Mike



CANADA 150  
1867-2017

### How Does Budget 2017 Help Canadians?



[www.budget.gc.ca](http://www.budget.gc.ca)

Budget 2016 laid a strong foundation with the middle class tax cut, our signature Canada Child Benefit, increased Guaranteed Income Supplement for low-income seniors, and historic infrastructure investments. The following (in alphabetical order) are some of the programs announced in Budget 2017. Of course, not everything can be listed in this newsletter. If you are looking for additional info, please don't hesitate to get in touch with our office or visit the budget website!

#### Businesses and Workers

- \$7 billion over 10 years to create more high-quality, affordable child care spaces.
- \$400 million over 3 years for a new Venture Capital Catalyst Initiative.
- \$2.7 billion over 6 years to boost skills training and support for unemployed and underemployed.
- Expansion of flexibilities within Employment Insurance.

#### Families

- New Canada Caregiver Credit to provide help for families with caregiving responsibilities.
- More flexible Employment Insurance Parental Benefits.

#### Farmers

- \$10.1 billion over 10 years to expand Canada's export gateways to reach our agri-food sector targets of \$75 billion/year in 2025.
- \$70 million over 6 years for agricultural discovery science and innovation.
- Launch of the next Agricultural Policy Framework to occur in 2018.

*Continued on page 2...*



## Federal Investments in Our Riding



As part of Canada 150, Mike announced \$118,250 to improve energy efficiency at the Tweed Arena.

There have been many federal investments in our riding since the last election. Here is a review of some of them. There is more to come!

### Canada Child Benefit

- **Total H-L&A**—in October 2016 alone, 9,270 payments were made in our riding for 16,820 children. The average payment was \$650 for a total of \$5,989,000.
- This happens *every month*. Our tax-free signature program is lifting kids out of poverty, including in our riding!

### Small Communities Fund

- **Deseronto**—\$2,448,333 to renew and upgrade the Deseronto Water Treatment Plant, also serving **Tyendinaga Mohawk Territory**.
- **Marmora**—\$236,538 to replace a sewage force main.

### Canada 150—Heritage

- **Bancroft**—the Bancroft Area Stewardship Council. \$67,300 for the “Eagles Nest Project—An Algonquin Story”.

### Canada 150—Infrastructure

- **Napanee**—Rotary Park Playground. \$125,000 to expand the playground.
- **Tweed**—Eastern Ontario Trails Alliance. \$119,347 to improve recreational trails.
- **Tweed**—the Tweed-Hungerford Community Centre. \$118,250 to improve energy efficiency.

- **Bancroft**—the Village Playhouse. \$50,000 to improve kitchen facilities.

### Enabling Accessibility Fund

Budget 2017 proposes \$77 million more over 10 years to renew funding for this program, so keep it in mind!

- **Madoc**—Centre Hastings Park. \$50,000 to pave parking lot, add accessible parking, and an exterior ramp.
- **Bancroft**—Community Care North Hastings. \$10,331 to construct exterior ramp, an accessible washroom, and automatic door openers.

### Canada Summer Jobs

This runs each year to help employers create summer job opportunities for students in their community, with applications from non-profits, businesses, and public sector due in January.

- **2016 Total H-L&A**—\$478,088 for 83 organizations.
- **2017** to be announced this spring!

### Community Futures Development (CFDC)

Our CFDCs are a very important source of funding for local businesses. I put contact info for them in my last newsletter. Contact my office if you need more information about them!

- **Madoc**—Wideman’s Farm Service. \$100,000 to integrate new technology to improve efficiency and productivity.

- **Napanee**—Vi-Lux Building Products. \$38,450 for equipment to increase productivity.
- **Napanee**—Mutch’s Auto Glass. \$26,018 to access new markets.
- **Napanee**—Napanee Beer Company. \$25,000 for equipment that will result in jobs creation.
- **Bancroft**—Old Tin Shed. \$14,212 to support an internet-based sales platform.
- **Tamworth**—Stinson Studios. \$10,400 for equipment to increase productivity.
- **Napanee**—JPLANT. \$9,150 for equipment to increase productivity.
- **Selby**—Mike’s Tire Service. \$7,300 for equipment to increase productivity.
- **Napanee**—Pro-Tech Transportation. \$6,958 to increase training options.
- **Napanee**—Garrow’s Car Care Centre. \$5,073 for equipment to increase service.
- *And more!*

### Public Transit Infrastructure Fund

- **Amherstview**—\$83,801 to replace a bus and create five new bus shelters.
- **Deseronto**—\$60,000 to replace a bus.

### Federal Gas Tax Funding

Each year gas tax funding goes to every municipality to support local infrastructure.

- **2016 Total H-L&A**: \$2,484,305, including:
  - **Loyalist Township**: \$493,170
  - **Greater Napanee**: \$471,584
  - **Stone Mills Township**: \$229,848
  - Contact us for other municipalities!

### New Horizons for Seniors

To empower seniors to share their knowledge, skills, and experience with others and support communities by increasing capacity to address local issues.

- **2016 Total H-L&A**: \$182,024 for 8 projects.
- **2017** to be announced this spring!

**Feel free to contact our office anytime to discuss programs you might be able to apply to!**

## Budget Cont’d

### Indigenous Peoples

- \$4 billion over 10 years to build and improve infrastructure (including water).
- \$828.2 million over 5 years to improve health outcomes.
- \$225 million over 11 years to improving housing not on-reserve.
- \$25 million over 5 years to launch a pilot Indigenous Guardians Program.
- Budget 2016 also announced \$8.4 billion over 5 years.

### LGBTQ2 Community

- \$3.6 million over 6 years for a new Secretariat in the Privy Council Office to support the Prime Minister’s Special Advisor on LGBTQ2 issues.

### Rural Communities

- \$2 billion over 11 years for infrastructure for small rural communities (in addition to other streams).
- Continued commitment of \$500 million over 5 years for rural broadband Internet.

### Seniors

- \$6 billion over 10 years to improve Home Care services.
- \$5 billion over 11 years for a new National Housing Fund.
- \$3.2 billion over 11 years for affordable housing initiatives.

### Veterans

- \$187.3 million over 6 years to create the Caregiver Recognition Benefit to provide \$1,000 per month to caregivers of ill and injured veterans.

- \$133.9 million over 6 years for new Veterans’ Education and Training Benefit.
- \$74.1 million over 6 years to enhance Career Transition Services.
- \$147 million over 6 years to expand access to Military Family Resource Centres.

### Youth and Students

- Expansion of eligibility for student financial assistance.
- \$50 million for a program to provide coding and digital skills education.
- \$38 million over 4 years to renew Pathways to Education Canada.

We are also investing \$5 billion over 10 years to support mental health initiatives for Canadians.

**Much more at [www.budget.gc.ca](http://www.budget.gc.ca)**





Mike joined meetings of the Beef Farmers of Hastings County (pictured) and the L&A Cattlemen's Assoc.



Mike continues to consult with our Constituency Youth Council in order to ensure that the priorities of young people are incorporated into his work as an MP. A new council will form each September.



Mike gave a keynote address at the invitation of the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities



Mike attended "100+ Women Who Care—Lennox & Addington" leading up to International Women's Day



Mike met with Stirling's Taylor Russett, who was named "Prime Minister" at a Youth Forum in Ottawa



Mike jokes with his old football buddy Bruce Cook at "Marmora's Got Talent"



Mike toured the Goodyear Plant in Napanee—the region's largest employer



Mike toured the Ivanhoe Cheese Factory to learn of Gay Lea Foods' recent \$2.9 million investment there

**Use this space to mail me your thoughts on any topic important to YOU!**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City & Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_ Ont. \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to be added to the non-partisan M.P. email list for updates

Not enough room to write here? You can always send me a full-length letter postage-free. I would be happy to receive it!



# Protecting Our Land and Water



Mike briefs the Parliamentary Press Gallery with his Liberal, Conservative, and NDP colleagues after they tabled their unanimous report entitled "Taking Action Today: Establishing Protected Areas for Canada's Future."

As a strong environmentalist who has fought to protect our community's water for many years, I am so proud to be part of the Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development!

We recently tabled a unanimous report calling on the federal government to lead an effort to rapidly establish more terrestrial and marine protected areas to safeguard biodiversity and Canada's natural heritage.

**"I'm really excited to see that Budget 2017 is launching a pilot Indigenous Guardians Program."**

Entitled "Taking Action Today: Establishing Protected Areas for Canada's Future," the report is centred on an international commitment Canada made in 2010 – known as "Aichi Target 11" – under the Convention on Biological Diversity to protect 17% of terrestrial and inland water and 10% of coastal and marine areas by 2020. To date, Canada has only protected 11% of its terrestrial areas and 1% of its marine areas.

We have a lot of work to do to meet and exceed our targets!

To help with these efforts, our committee of Liberals, Conservatives, and NDP unanimously made 36 recommendations to the federal government, including to lead the coordination and planning of a national network of protected areas; accelerate, coordinate, and fund the establishment of all types of federal protected areas; partner with Indigenous peoples in establishing protected areas; and ensure sufficient protection for federal protected areas.

I'm really excited to see that Budget 2017 is launching a pilot "Indigenous Guardians Program." When we were in Haida Gwaii on a research trip, I met with several Indigenous people who told me of the great benefits of "getting back to the land." This really rang a bell for me, because I have heard the same thing from the Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte! Getting back to the land not only helps culturally, it also helps with mental health and well-being. And of course, we have the great benefit of Indigenous knowledge of the land and water to help in efforts to protect it. It's a win-win, and I couldn't be happier!

**Your opinion means a lot to me.**

Send your postage-free letters on any topic important to you to:

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**1-866-471-3800**

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## Why Green?

I ran on a pledge to represent all my constituents if I was fortunate enough to be elected. So, while I am a proud member of the Liberal Caucus, I also want to make sure that my work as the Member of Parliament for Hastings—Lennox and Addington is done in as non-partisan a way as possible.

That's why I adopted the traditional House of Commons green colour scheme for all my work as your Member of Parliament.

I heard time and again that Canadians were frustrated with partisan newsletters full of misleading questionnaires. Better is always possible, so please never hesitate to reach out to me with your feedback and suggestions for how I can serve you better.

No  
postage  
required

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Seal here with one small piece of tape

Fold Here