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CHECK IT OUT!

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GOVERNMENT SCANDALS CONTINUE TO PILE UP

Trust matters. It is the cornerstone to every meaningful relationship. Strong friendships, prosperous business ventures, and fulfilling marriages rest on the foundation of trust between people. Likewise, trust matters between the government and those who call Canada home.

Philosophers have called it the social contract, where the people trust the government to work for their benefit, and the government in turn works to earn the trust of its people so it is allowed to continue pursuing its objectives.

A government that breaks the trust of the people is unlikely to maintain power.

The Liberal government finds itself in this position. Though Mr. Trudeau has been entangled in dozens of indignities over his eight years as Prime Minister, two significant scandals took the front page before Christmas.

Do you remember the ArriveCan app initiated during COVID? Back when the government placed massive restrictions on travel, they required travelers to log in and declare their vaccine status when returning to Canada.

The government spent a total of \$54 million on this simple app that was recreated by a single Canadian

"The government spent a total of \$54 million on this simple app that was recreated by a single Canadian programmer in a single weekend!"

programmer in a weekend! Worst yet, \$11 million of the total cost went to an organization that did absolutely no work on the app but passed the project along to others. And to add to all, there's missing money that cannot be accounted for!

When \$54 million taxpayer dollars are spent on a failed app without oversight or transparency, and money is missing, Canadians deserve to know what the Trudeau government is hiding.

The Liberals are refusing to be honest about the missing money and the secretive contracts, and they are sticking

"The Liberals are refusing to be honest about the missing money and the secretive contracts, and they are sticking Canadians with the bill."

Canadians with the bill.

Conservatives have been fighting

Continued...

hard to demand answers and get to the bottom of this, but we are not the only ones. The RCMP is also investigating this government-initiated cover-up.

Sadly, the ArriveCan scam is not the only scandal on the books!

Thanks to a courageous whistleblower, we know \$150 million has been misappropriated by the Liberal government in what has been termed the Green Slush Fund.

Both the CEO and the chair of Sustainable Development Technology Canada (SDTC) resigned after Con-

“Thanks to a courageous whistleblower, we know \$150 million has been misappropriated by the Liberal government in what has been termed the Green Slush Fund.”

servatives exposed that the CEO and at least two directors used the fund to direct money to their own firms.

The government sought to hide its involvement with how bad the corruption was. But thanks to credible testimony by brave witnesses who testified in Parliament, we know there was a

coordinated attempt by the Liberal Industry Minister to cover this up.

One must wonder, just how bad is the corruption the Liberals are so desperate to hide?

As we head back to Parliament at the end of January, Conservatives will continue to push for accountability and insist on answers for Canadians.

It has been eight years of scandal after scandal. Enough is enough. The Liberals have shattered the trust between their government and those who call Canada home. It is Canadians who will make their concerns felt in the next election.





YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD

ARE YOU

between the ages of 16 and 24,
curious about federal politics,
and want to grow as a leader?

The Member of Parliament's Youth
Advisory Board is a non-partisan group
of young Canadians who provide
feedback on issues of importance to
them. **Your voice is needed!**

APPLY BY
MARCH 15TH

SCAN ME

RachaelThomas.ca



I want to hear from you!

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____

☐ Please sign me up for email updates

Complete the survey
online here!



**DURING 2023, HOW DID YOU CONNECT
WITH MY OFFICE?**

(CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="radio"/> By Email | <input type="radio"/> Help with Federal Agencies |
| <input type="radio"/> By Mail | <input type="radio"/> Meeting |
| <input type="radio"/> By Phone | <input type="radio"/> Pancake Breakfast |
| <input type="radio"/> Canada Day Tent | <input type="radio"/> Surveys |
| <input type="radio"/> Christmas Open House | <input type="radio"/> Summer Parades |
| <input type="radio"/> Christmas Seniors' Tour | <input type="radio"/> Town Halls |
| <input type="radio"/> Community Builders Award | <input type="radio"/> Youth Advisory Board |
| <input type="radio"/> Community Events | <input type="radio"/> Other: _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> Congratulatory Messages | |

Are there additional ways you would love to connect
with my office?

Return the survey by folding and mailing. No envelope required.



FALL SURVEY RESULTS

What issues are top of mind
for you and your family?





REMEMBRANCE DAY



MAYOR'S PRAYER BREAKFAST



FALL TOWN HALL



YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD

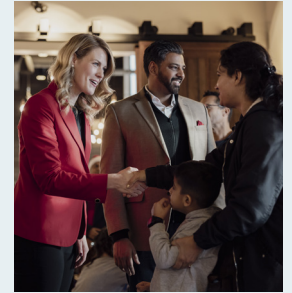


CHINOOK CHILD & YOUTH ADVOCACY CENTRE GRAND OPENING



AFRO FEST 2023

CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE



YOUTH MATTER!

I am excited to announce that applications for my 2024/2025 Youth Advisory Board are now open!

Today's youth are the innovators, problem solvers, and leaders of tomorrow. Their insights into the issues of the day are worth listening to and gleaning from.

Too often young people are overlooked, and their insight is deemed irrelevant, however, in my experience, I have found they offer unique perspectives and visionary ideas that are worth exploring.

When I was elected as the Member of Parliament for Lethbridge, I made it my mission to empower young people by giving them a voice at the table. Former Finance Minister, the late Jim Flaherty, once addressed a lecture hall packed with university students by talking about the benefits of public service. He stressed that Canada needed their idealism, combined with their selfless service. Today, I believe the same. We need young people to take responsibility for their communities, to dedicate themselves to service, and to offer their energy and idealism with unrelenting fervency.

For this reason, I founded a non-partisan Youth Advisory Board to provide a platform for regular monthly meetings with young individuals.

"I founded a non-partisan Youth Advisory Board to provide a platform for regular monthly meetings with young individuals."

They take the lead in shaping the agenda and selecting topics that resonate with them, thus allowing me to listen attentively as they share their perspectives. This interactive process extends to their inquiries and requests for my viewpoint, fostering a mutual exchange. This engagement not only facilitates my understanding of them and vice versa but also creates a mutually beneficial learning environment.

In addition to having the opportunity to interact with the Member of Parliament, youth are seated at the table with other young leaders from the community, which results in rich dialogue, thought-provoking questions, and strategic action.

The opportunity to apply is open to all youth between the ages of 16 and

24 who live in the City of Lethbridge, the County of Lethbridge, Coaldale, Picture Butte, Nobleford, Barons, or Coalhurst. Applicants do not need to be experts in policy! They just need to be curious and committed to learning. Eight young people will be selected for a one-year term starting in September.

This is a non-partisan opportunity, meaning that youth of all political backgrounds are welcome to apply.

"This is a non-partisan opportunity, meaning that youth of all political backgrounds are welcome to apply."

I look forward to receiving applications from those who wish to be part of this unique opportunity to have a strategic voice, learn about the federal government and policymaking, while connecting with other passionate young people from the community.

I would encourage you to take a moment to check out the link provided.

APPLY TODAY:

www.RachaelThomas.ca/constituency-events-1

THE GOVERNMENT IS FAILING FARMERS AND FAMILIES

In 1908, Theodore Roosevelt offered the follow celebration of farmers:

“No nation has ever achieved permanent greatness unless this greatness was based on the wellbeing of the great farmer class, the men who live on the soil; for it is upon their welfare, material and moral, that the welfare of the rest of the nation ultimately rests.”

Unlike our current Liberal government, Roosevelt recognized the flourishing of farmers as the driving force behind a nation’s greatness. Imagine for a moment how things would be if farmers stopped producing food. Farmers are the backbone of Canadian agriculture.

The value farmers provide Canadians is massive, necessary, and cannot be taken for granted. It concerns me that our federal government fails to see this.

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Across the country, farmers and food processors are working hard to ensure our shelves are stocked with food so Canadians have the luxury of going to the grocery store, putting their choice of food items in their cart, and taking them home to enjoy. We are incredibly fortunate!

As inflation spirals out of control due to the government’s extravagant spending, the government will further penalize Canadian farmers and families by increasing its punitive carbon tax on April 1st.

Why is the Prime Minister punishing those who care for the environment and who sequester carbon through crop growth and investing in advancements in science and technology? If the carbon tax really is about taking care of the environment, shouldn’t farmers be rewarded rather than punished?

It is clear the carbon tax is nothing more than a tax on everything and the hike is

simply an act of pure selfishness. Mr. Trudeau’s carbon tax hike will make everything more expensive and affect the entire supply chain from farm to plate. From the farmer who is taxed to grow the food, the trucker who transports it, and the store that sells it, the carbon tax accumulates through the system and lands on the shoulders of Canadians simply looking to feed themselves and their families.

I have heard from many of you that the government’s punitive measures are having a significant impact on your ability to heat your homes, put groceries in your fridge, and fuel up your car. Those living on a fixed income, such as seniors and people with a disability, are among the hardest hit.

This is why Conservatives proposed Bill C-234. Had this bill passed, it would have taken the tax off heating barns, drying grain, and other everyday farm operations. It would have delivered much needed relief to our farmers, allowing them to continue the important work they do at a lower rate, thus translating to lower food prices at the grocery store.

The Liberals’ decision to block this bill is another insult to Canadians who have already been left out in the cold.

We must axe the tax to make room for Canadians to thrive.

“We must axe the tax to make room for Canadians to thrive!”

No postage required

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FOLD

STAY CONNECTED!
Want more frequent updates?
Visit RachaelThomas.ca to be added to my email list!

LIBERALS OFFER ASSISTED DEATH AS AN ANSWER TO MENTAL ILLNESS

Mental illness transcends boundaries and affects all of us— directly or indirectly. Undoubtedly, most of us have accompanied a friend or family member on their journey through mental health challenges. By the age of 40, half of all Canadians encounter mental illness, and on an annual basis, one in five Canadians grapples with their own mental health struggles.

The prevalence of this issue is difficult to exaggerate. Those who suffer often do so in silence. These could be individuals within our families, friend groups, neighbours, or colleagues. People contending with mental illness constitute some of the most vulnerable members of our society, and I believe it is important for all of us to lend an attentive ear and offer support to those grappling with such burdens.

Unfortunately, the current federal government is choosing to take a different approach and it is scary.

“I believe it is important for all of us to lend an attentive ear and offer support to those grappling with such burdens. Unfortunately, the current federal government is choosing to take a different approach and it is scary.”

In March 2024, those suffering from mental illnesses, like depression, will have access to assisted death, even if their condition is treatable. This reckless decision by the Liberal government

ignores the growing number of experts who say this medical assistance in dying (MAID) expansion is risking the lives of the most vulnerable Canadians.

“Canadians struggling with mental health deserve hope and treatment,” said the Hon. Pierre Poilievre, leader of the Conservative Party. “Instead of working to provide Canadians with a life worth living, the Liberals have given up on the most vulnerable.”

Conservatives are calling for Justin Trudeau and his Liberal government to protect vulnerable Canadians and immediately end their expansion of MAID to those with mental illness. My colleague, MP Ed Fast, brought forward Bill C-314 to stop the Liberal’s careless extension of assisted death to vulnerable Canadians with mental illness. This common-sense Conservative bill was supported by the disability community and the heads of psychiatry at every Canadian medical school. Sadly, the bill was defeated by the Liberal government.

The federal government’s aggressive promotion of MAID is dangerous and irresponsible. This expansion was supposed to come into effect in March 2023, but thanks to experts speaking out against the Liberals’ intent and the pressure applied by Conservative MPs, the government de-

cided to delay the expansion of MAID by one year. One year later, it remains an extremely dangerous decision.

Experts have been clear that MAID for mental illness cannot be implemented safely. It is impossible to determine that an individual’s mental illness will never respond to treatment, which means peoples’ lives could be taken prematurely.

Conservatives do not believe MAID is an acceptable solution to mental illness and psychological suffering. It is worrying to imagine the tragic consequences that would occur if people who struggle with mental health thought their life held less value.

This expansion contradicts the significant efforts of suicide prevention campaigns and the activism working to end the stigma surrounding mental health issues. From the beginning, Conservatives raised serious concerns about the significant risks posed by this flawed legislation. This has been echoed by hundreds of organizations and medical experts across the country who are asking for this expansion to be terminated.

A flood of concerns has come into my office from constituents, and I would like you to know that your voice is heard, and I am actively working to defend the most vulnerable. Those struggling with mental illness need to know their lives are precious and of immeasurable value. I stand on the side of most vulnerable and their loved ones.

COMMUNITY 2023 BUILDER AWARDS

