

### CONTENTS

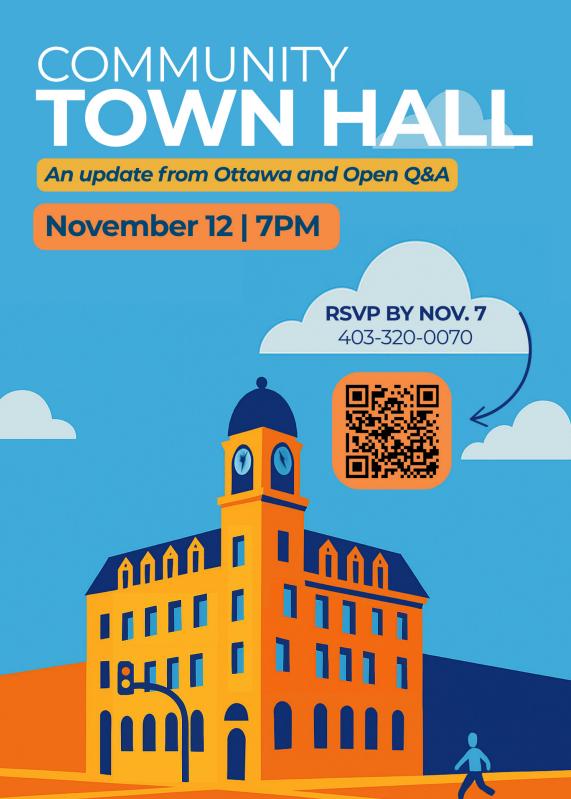
COMMUNITY TOWN HALL

MY FALL FOCUS

FIGHTING FOR CANADIANS LIVING WITH MENTAL ILLNESS

MY ROLE AS SHADOW MINISTER

I WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!



### **MY FALL FOCUS**

#### ADVOCATING FOR ALBERTA, RESTORING AFFORDABILITY, AND TACKLING CRIME

A fter a summer of pancake breakfasts, festivals, and kitchen-table conversations, one message stood out: Canadians are worried. Families are anxious about how Alberta is treated, the rising cost of living, and surging

As Parliament resumes, my priorities are clear: be Alberta's voice, fight for affordability, and tackle crime.

#### **ADVOCATING FOR ALBERTA**

Albertans have long felt ignored by Ottawa. We supply the country with energy, food, and innovation, yet federal policies strangle development, undercut agriculture, and dismiss our strengths. This fall, Conservatives are advancing a bold solution: the Canadian Sovereignty Act.

The need is urgent. Canada is losing ground on multiple fronts. President Trump's new tariffs are hammering workers and businesses on both sides

of the border. Beijing has now imposed a 75% tariff on Canadian canola seed, on top of 100% tariffs on canola meal, peas, pork, and seafood. That effectively locks Canadian producers out of a market worth \$5 billion in 2024.

Canadian agriculture is a superpower one of the few advantages that sets us apart in

a hungry world. Alberta farmers don't just feed Canadians; they help feed the globe. Yet instead of defending them, Prime Minister Mark Carney has failed to resolve disputes and left producers paying the price. He promised Canadians he was a master negotiator. Instead, he is losing trade wars across the world. The U.S. has doubled tariffs on softwood lumber. Mexico refuses to engage in bilateral deals. Europe has chosen to buy \$750 billion worth of U.S. — not Canadian — energy.

Canada cannot afford weakness. Conservatives believe ambition means rejecting the status quo and holding Mr. Carney to his promise to "think big and act bigger." That's why we are calling on Parliament to pass the **Canadian Sovereignty Act.** 

The Act will:

• Legalize rapid resource development by repealing Liberal laws like Bill C-69, Bill C-48, the

carbon tax, the oil and gas cap, the EV sales mandate, the plastics ban, and censorship rules that gag Canadian energy producers.

- Reward those who build with tax incentives that eliminate capital gains on reinvestments and bonuses for provinces that open markets to fellow Canadians.
- **Protect Canadian innovation** by by preventing the sell-off of Canadian intellectual property and ensuring our discoveries strengthen Canada, not our competitors.

## EVENTS IN THE COMMUNITY









This fall, Conservatives are putting forward a bold solution: the Canadian

Sovereignty Act.























Continued...

Conservatives are setting real targets: by March 14th, the one-year anniversary of Carney taking office, we are

demanding progress on two major pipelines, a road to the Ring of Fire, and a new LNG project—while respecting Indigenous rights

The Liberals' plan isn't working. All Canadians deserve a real strategy to unleash our economic potential, bring down costs, create jobs, and deliver a brighter future for the next generation.

next generation.

under Section 35 of the Constitution.

This is a test of leadership. Conservatives are ready to work collaboratively with the government to get it done. The Liberals have the tools and the power; what they lack is the will. Canada must be strong, united, and ready to build.

#### **RESTORING AFFORDABILITY**

Fall is usually a season of new beginnings—especially for students heading back to school. Yet for many families, even basic supplies are becoming unaffordable. From sky-high unemployment rates to the Liberals' cost-of-living crisis, Canadians are struggling more than ever as the back-to-school season approaches.

It doesn't stop there. According to Sun Youth, the cost of school supplies has jumped 17% since last year—on top of rising grocery bills, rent, and other essentials. The Liberals' plan isn't working. All Canadians deserve a The Liberal electric vehicle mandate is a clear example of policies that raise costs and reduce choice. EVs cost about \$20,000 more than gas-powered cars, and for rural Canadians—especially in the West—they are often impractical due to long distances, limited charging infrastructure, and harsh winters.

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As Canadians struggle to afford food, fuel, and housing, the Liberals are quietly sneaking yet another carbon tax into law. Framed as Clean Fuel Regulations (CFR), it will increase fuel prices by 17 cents per litre by 2030, adding up to \$136 more per household annually. Single mothers, seniors on

fixed incomes, rural households, and transit users will be hit hardest. Conservatives will fight against this stealth carbon tax, advocating instead for stronger take-

home pay, lower costs, and a growing economy.

#### **TACKLING CRIME**

Canada is less safe under the Liberals. Since 2015, gun crime has skyrocketed 130%, violent crime has risen almost 55%, homicides are up over 29%, and sexual assault has surged nearly 76%. Fraud has spiked 94%, while extortion has jumped 330%.

Yet, the Liberals insist on taking a soft-on-crime approach. Bills C-5 and C-75 have created a revolving door for repeat offenders, while soft sentences for serious crimes—including sexual exploitation and child pornography—leave communities at risk. Female victims of domestic violence continue to rise, with tragic cases such as the murder of an ex-wife just hours after her abuser's release.

The chief architect of this soft-oncrime agenda now advises Carney, ensuring Liberal policies continue to favour criminals over Canadians. Conservatives are ready to act. We will repeal reckless laws, strengthen bail rules, deport temporary residents convicted of crimes, and give law enforcement

Conservatives are ready to act. We will repeal reckless laws, strengthen bail rules, deport temporary residents convicted of crimes, and give law enforcement the tools to restore safety to our streets.

the tools to restore safety to our streets. Canadians deserve to walk their communities without fear.

## Celebrating CANADA DAY

























# FIGHTING FOR CANADIANS LIVING WITH MENTAL ILLNESS

When someone struggles with mental illness, it can feel as though the darkness will never lift. In those moments, hope seems distant, and life unbearably heavy. But these feelings are rarely permanent. With time, treatment, and support, people can—and do—get better. It's possible for people to heal and to flourish, but not if we give up on them.

My colleague, MP Andrew Lawton, knows this firsthand. He has courageously shared his own battle with depression, including several suicide attempts. One attempt could have ended his life

if not for the intervention of someone who

It's possible for people to heal and to flourish, but not if we give up on them.

connected him to medical care. Today, Andrew is thriving and using his story through his campaign, *I Got Better*, to give others the hope he once needed. His life is proof that recovery is possible—and that every single life has meaning.

That is why I cannot accept the planned expansion of Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) to include individuals suffering solely from mental illness. Unless Parliament intervenes, this change will take effect on March 17, 2027. Leading psychiatrists, Indigenous leaders, disability advocates, and even the United Nations have warned Canada not to take this path.

That is why I cannot accept the planned expansion of Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) to include individuals suffering solely from mental illness.

The *Right to Recover Act*, Bill C-218, is a private member's bill brought forward by Conservative MP Tamara Jansen and seconded by MP Andrew Lawton. If passed, this bill will amend the Criminal Code to permanently stop the 2027 expansion of MAiD solely for

mental illness. It makes clear: a mental disorder alone should never qualify as a "grievous and irremediable" condition for which assisted death is offered.

Every person is needed and hope always exists—sometimes we just need help finding it.

Responding to despair requires more than stopping MAiD—it demands that we invest in accessible, effective mental health care. Canadians struggling with mental illness need counselling, therapy, crisis supports, and community services that are easy to find and use.

Ensuring timely access to these services can mean the difference between recovery and tragedy.

When someone is in the grip of pain, they may believe the world would be better without them. That belief is a lie imposed by illness, not truth. Every life has purpose. Every person is needed and hope always exists—sometimes we just need help finding it.

Bill C-218 is about ensuring we offer life, not death, to Canadians in their darkest hour.

Bill C-218 is about ensuring we offer life, not death, to Canadians in their darkest hour. Let's show those living with mental illness that we believe in them, that we will walk with them through the storm, and that their story is far from over.

No postage required

#### RACHAEL THOMAS

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT 255 - 8 ST. S LETHBRIDGE, AB T1J 4Y1

FOLD

#### STAY CONNECTED!

Want more frequest updates? Visit **RachaelThomas.ca** to be added to my email list!

### MY ROLE AS SHADOW MINISTER

**DEFENDING CANADIAN IDENTITY AND CULTURE** 

I have recently been appointed Shadow Minister for Canadian Identity and Culture. At a

time when national pride

is being rediscovered, this

responsibility could not

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anada's parliamentary system is built on accountability. The Prime Minister chooses a select group of MPs to serve as cabinet ministers. Each cabinet minister manages a specific portfolio, such as finance, health, public safety, or the environment. For example, the Minister of Finance prepares the federal budget, while the Minister of Health is responsible for national health policies.

The Official Opposition mirrors this structure with shadow ministers. Our job is to study government decisions closely, ask

tough questions, and propose better solutions. Shadow ministers make sure the government is doing its job for Canadians.

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For years, Liberals chipped away at Canada's sense of self, famously describing the country as "the first post-national state" with "no core identity." Thankfully, Canadians haven't accepted this rhetoric. Across the coun-

try, Canadians are once again embracing their flag, their heritage, and their values. This

year's Canada Day was proof: neighbourhoods and businesses turned red

and white in a show of pride not seen in years.

My task is clear: to defend

Canadian culture and identity

against a government that too

often undermines them.

My task is clear: to defend Canadian culture and identity against a government that too often undermines them. That means three priorities:

First, ending Liberal censorship.

Bills C-11 and C-18 are classic examples of overreach. By dictating what Canadians can see, hear, and share online, the Liberals have intruded into free expression in a way that should alarm every citizen. These laws are not about fairness—they're about control. I will continue to press for their repeal.

Second, holding legacy media to account. Trustworthy journalism is essential in a democracy, but too much of our media—especially the CBC—has

abandoned impartiality. Taxpayers are forced to bankroll a broadcaster that increasingly acts as a government echo

chamber. On top of that, allegations of a toxic workplace and silenc-

ing Conservative voices have further damaged the CBC's credibility. Canadians expect and deserve a national broadcaster that serves the public, not one that operates as a government mouthpiece. I will continue to push for defunding the CBC so that public money is no longer wasted propping up a broken institution.

Third, preserving Canada's heritage. Our culture, history, and traditions are not relics of the past but the foundation of our future. They must be protected from revisionism and neglect. I will defend Canada's story—the values and achievements that built this country—so it can continue to inspire generations to come.

In Parliament, at committee, and in communities across the country, I will carry out this work. Canadians are reclaiming their national pride, and it is my privilege to help ensure that this cultural revival is not only protected but strengthened.

## EVENTS IN THE Community



































# MY 9THANNUAL WHOPPUPDAYS BREAKFAST

























#### I WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

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O Please sign me up for email updates	Scan to complete the survey online

# LAST SURVEY RESULTS

WHAT ISSUES ARE TOP
OF MIND FOR YOU
AND YOUR FAMILY?

## WHAT MATTERS MOST TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY?

COMMUNITY & SOCIAL SERVICES	NATIONAL IDENTITY & VALUES
COST OF LIVING	PUBLIC SAFETY & CRIME
ECONOMY & JOBS	TAXES & GOVERNMENT SPENDING
ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE	TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE
HEALTH & HEALTHCARE ACCESS	OTHER

