



July 30th, 2020



To My Constituents of Simcoe—Grey!

There has been plenty of activity in Simcoe—Grey over the last month, and it's great to see constituents safely coming together as businesses and public spaces are beginning to reopen. Our local businesses have faced very challenging times these past few months, so now more than ever, it is important to shop local, eat local, and vacation local! People from around the world typically come here to enjoy our services and hospitality, so let's help out and support our world-class businesses.

My congratulations again to the Class of 2020! Although graduation ceremonies this year were much different than what anyone could have envisioned, I think I can speak for everyone when I say how proud we are to acknowledge the efforts and sacrifices of all students. I was also honoured to recognize one student from each high school in our constituency through the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Terry Dowdall MP Youth Award. This award recognizes students who have proven exceptional commitment to academic achievement and leadership within their school community, and plan to attend a post-secondary institution to fulfill their academic goals.

Canada Day in Simcoe—Grey is usually quite a bustling affair. Like everything this year the events were different, and social distancing could not keep our spirit down and many did the best they could to celebrate. The Town of Collingwood and the Town of the Blue Mountains celebrated Canada Day with a 'Peak to Shore' virtual Canada Day celebration, and Clearview Township, in collaboration with the Stayner Kinsmen, held a Canada Day Window Decorating contest.



Grand opening of the Adjala-Tosorontio Farmers' Market

I was honoured to attend the very successful ribbon cutting and grand opening of Adjala-Tosorontio Farmers' Market on July 10<sup>th</sup>. The market will be open every other Friday – from July to September – at the upper parking lot of the Adjala-Tosorontio Municipal Grounds. There is a large variety of vendors selling high quality local produce and products. For more information [click here to visit its website](#).



Grand opening of Safe Disinfecting Solutions Inc. with owners Lana and Terry McDermott

Each day I try to get out and visit businesses in Simcoe—Grey in order to discuss with the owners how helpful they have found the federal government programs and what more needs to be done to support them. Additionally, it was encouraging to see the opening of a new business in Angus, Safe Disinfection Solutions Inc., providing hospital grade disinfecting and cleaning solutions for sale to businesses and residents.



Meeting with Rob Hart and Thomas Vincent of CACE Group at my Collingwood office

As many of us have been at home for the past few months, we have come to appreciate a night out at a concert or the theatre even more than ever. Rob Hart and Thomas Vincent from CACE Group (Collingwood Arts, Culture and Entertainment) have been diligently working on a beneficial initiative and are hoping to give us even more options. I met with them earlier this month to discuss CACE's proposal to build a world-class multipurpose arts, culture and entertainment centre in Collingwood. Once completed, this project will establish Collingwood as the hub for the arts in South Georgian Bay. It will allow local talent to be showcased and attract world-class performers. CACE Group is looking for partnerships to move forward with its proposed project. To learn more about CACE Group, [click here to visit its website](#) or send them an email at [info@collingwoodarts.com](mailto:info@collingwoodarts.com).

It is important to me that our local businesses and organizations feel supported by our government, especially during these times. If you have concerns about programs or want to discuss with me what more the federal government can be doing for you and your business or organization, please reach out to my office by email at [terry.dowdall@parl.gc.ca](mailto:terry.dowdall@parl.gc.ca), by phone at 1-866-435-1809, or in-person.



Attending the Town of the Blue Mountains' Lobsterfest

On top of meeting with businesses and organizations, I've had the opportunity to attend some community events that organizations have still been able to host. On July 25<sup>th</sup> I attended the Town of the Blue Mountains' Lobsterfest at the Clarksburg Royal Canadian Legion. The event, in support of the Marsh Street Community Centre, Beaver Valley Outreach and the Town of the Blue Mountains Grants and Donations Committee, was a major success! It was great to see other local representatives in attendance including MPP Lisa MacLeod, Grey County Warden Paul McQueen and Blue Mountains Mayor Alar Soever.



Mike Toukas' retirement celebration

I was honoured to attend the retirement celebration of Mike Toukas of Mike's Restaurant. Mike is an exemplary community member who has made major contributions to great causes. On top of running a successful restaurant in Alliston, Mike has held fundraisers for many causes over the years, including raising over \$50,000 for the Canadian Cancer Society, nearly \$10,000 for Stevenson's Memorial Hospital, and has supported additional local causes such as the Community Living Association of South Simcoe (CLASS) and Matthew's House Hospice. Mike's dedication to his community and generosity is an outstanding example of the people in Simcoe—Grey.

In Ottawa, my colleagues and I have been pushing to create and adapt government programs for businesses and individuals so that we can all get ahead, not just get by. Through committee meetings, discussions via Zoom and rotating MPs through a limited capacity in-person Parliament, we have made great strides toward pushing for more effective and comprehensive programs.

At the end of August, I will be back in Ottawa in the House of Commons to represent the many concerns expressed by constituents. If you have any issues relevant to federal programs that you feel would be beneficial to raise in Ottawa, please send an email to [terry.dowdall@parl.gc.ca](mailto:terry.dowdall@parl.gc.ca) sharing your concerns.

My offices in Alliston and Collingwood are open Monday through Friday 9:00 am to 4:30 pm to assist you in any way we can. I encourage you to follow my social media pages to stay up-to-date on my activities and for general information on federal programs and services.

Have a safe and healthy Civic Holiday weekend!

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Terry Dowdall". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Terry Dowdall  
Member of Parliament for Simcoe—Grey