



December 2023

Dear Constituent,

Merry Christmas! With all the challenges that many Canadians have faced this year, I hope that you are able to take some time with family this holiday season and recharge for the new year.

Last week, the House of Commons rose for the winter break. It will resume in January. Much like last year, the fall session was a very busy one that contained numerous divisive and contentious pieces of legislation, all on the heels of the biggest inflation crisis in 40 years. Canadians continue to face difficult times. Conservatives successfully pressured the government to cut the carbon tax on some home heating fuel but were defeated by the Liberals and Bloc when we tried to have it extended to all forms of home heating. We have also pushed the government to take some action on housing and the cost of groceries, but the actions it took can probably be summarized as too little too late for people facing hardships today.

I have stood up for Simcoe—Grey in Ottawa where my colleagues and I have been pushing the government to reduce spending, and to reduce the taxes you pay. Over-spending has helped to fuel the inflation problem we face. The government needs to spend less and take less from Canadians. The government announced another \$20.7 billion in inflationary debt this fall, throwing more fuel on the fire of inflation. On top of this, Liberal-appointed Senators blocked the common-sense Conservative Bill, C-234, which would have taken the Carbon Tax off our farmers and provided relief for Canadians at the grocery store. If you have not heard yet, the government is also raising the tax on alcohol by 4.7% this April. This is an unnecessary tax when Canadians are feeling the pinch and producers are already facing smaller margins thanks to inflation and the Carbon Tax. My colleagues and I will oppose this as best we can, considering it isn't even coming to the House for a vote.

As always, I will continue to support the government when I believe it is on the right track and oppose it when I think it is on the wrong one. I believe that government spending needs to go down and that you deserve to keep more of what you make. Thank you for your support this past year. Never hesitate to reach out to one of my offices with questions or concerns.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Sincerely,



Terry Dowdall
Member of Parliament for Simcoe—Grey

RIDING EVENTS & NEWS

Remembrance Day Ceremonies & Dinners



Thank you to Collingwood Legion Branch #63, President Rob Graham, 1st Vice and Poppy Chair Hans Muller and the Ladies Auxiliary for all your hard work putting together this Remembrance Dinner each year. It is always something I look forward to attending. The support for this Legion in the community and the support it provides is incredible.

Thank you also to Alliston Legion Branch #171 President Russ Nesbitt for the invitation to the Legions Remembrance Day Dinner. What I enjoy most about Legion events is the opportunity to listen to real stories from veterans and their families. It was a great evening of conversation and a delicious meal provided by the Ladies Auxiliary. Our riding is fortunate to have many Legions in the riding that provide valuable support to our veterans, their families and the community they are located in.



It was great to see so many people out for this year's Remembrance Day Ceremonies. There are fifteen ceremonies across the riding, making it impossible for me to attend them all. Thank you to the volunteers who attended as my representative, to lay the wreath on behalf of the Government of Canada. Below are pictures of some of the services held in Simcoe—Grey.

We owe so much to our Veterans – past and present – for the sacrifices they make. As a member on the Standing Committee of Veterans Affairs, I was even more proud than usual to participate in ceremonies across the riding to say thank you. Lest We Forget.



Wasaga Beach Remembrance Day Ceremony



Collingwood Remembrance Day Ceremony



MP Dowdall representative Sandy Kursis at Base Borden Ceremony

Ravenna Remembrance Day Ceremony



MP Dowdall representative Jean Marie Stetler at Everett Ceremony



MP Dowdall representative Ken Burns at Alliston Ceremony



MP Dowdall representative Nikki Masters at Tottenham Ceremony



Creemore Service represented by Joy Tatham



Beeton Service represented by Mayor Richard Norcross



Angus Ceremony represented by Mayor Sandie Macdonald



Stayner Ceremony represented by Joan Keutsch



New Lowell Ceremony represented by



Thornbury Ceremony represented by John Leckie

George Watson

Santa Claus Parades

For the last several weekends while home in the riding, my team and I have been very busy preparing and handing out candy canes at the Santa Parades throughout the riding.

Thank you to the many organizers, volunteers and participants in each of the parades for all your hard work each year organizing these events. It is evident your hard work pays off, as each parade we participated in it was so well attended, it is always great to see so much support in each community.

Although the numerous constituents I spoke with along the way expressed their concern with government spending and the increase in the cost of living, they didn't let it dampen their Christmas spirit. We have remarkable people in this riding, and it is one of the things that brings me great pride in being your representative.



Angus Santa Parade

Special thanks to Ron Pridham for my ride



Collingwood Santa Parade



Wasaga Beach Santa Parade



Stayner Santa Parade



Creemore Santa Parade



Lisle Santa Parade



Beeton Santa Parade

Annual Food Drive

The Annual Food Drive hosted by the Everett Fire Fighter's Association with the support of the Alliston Lions Club, was a great success again this year. This year's weight was 6,520 lbs. This is always a worthwhile event put on by two great organizations in support of a great cause. I thoroughly enjoy my time meeting everyone and participating every year. Thank you to Jim Stewart, your team of EFAA volunteers and the Alliston Lions Club for your continued efforts to keep this event going year after year.



3rd Annual Diwali Gala

Congratulations to Anjana Thom and her team at the South Asian Network of Simcoe on their 3rd Annual Diwali Gala held in Alliston. Diwali, the Festival of Lights is a celebration of the spiritual victory of light over darkness and good over evil. For more information on The South Asian Network of Simcoe or one of our many upcoming events for 2024, contact sanofsimcoe@gmail.com



Inaugural Chanukah Menorah Lighting

This month was the Inaugural Chanukah Menorah Lighting in Blue Mountain Village. There was a fine turnout to honour this event and observe the lighting of the Menorah. Thank you to Rabbi Shur and those involved in organizing this celebration.



Canada Summer Jobs

Reminder that the employer application period for Canada Summer Jobs 2024 is open until Wednesday, January 10, 2024.

Not-for-profit organizations, public-sector employers, and private-sector employers with 50 or fewer full-time employees can submit applications to hire youth through the CSJ program.

For more information please visit: [Canada Summer Jobs applicant guide Screening for eligibility - Canada.ca](https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/funding/canada-summer-jobs/apply.html)

2024 Canada Summer Jobs Program

Application deadline:
January 10, 2024

TO APPLY, VISIT:
[canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/funding/canada-summer-jobs/apply.html](https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/funding/canada-summer-jobs/apply.html)

RIDING MEETINGS & VISITS



It was my pleasure to visit Creedan Valley Care Community in Creemore to meet Nadia, Yevhenia, Olha and Anna, to thank them for their courage coming from Ukraine and for their hard work, dedication, and contributions to the community. This opportunity would not have been available without the hard work and support of Executive Director of Creedan Valley, Punnapa Hartley and the personal support of Joan Gordon. Punnapa and Joan shared how fortunate the community is to have these four join their team!

Earlier this month, I met with Robert Ketchin and John Ardiel, Partners in Georgian Hills Vineyards; Andrew Howard, President and CEO of Diamond Estate Wines & Spirit and Jim Clark, President of Colio Estate Wines. All with several years experience in the Beer and Wine Industry.



We discussed their very real concerns about their industry being in distress stating that their biggest challenge right now is government.

For many communities' business like this should be looked at as economic drivers not taxation centres. Carbon tax is affecting their bottom line significantly. 800 million in tax goes to the government from the Wine Industry alone. It is in everything they purchase to produce and to ship their products. From glass bottles and labels purchased, to the products themselves to grow and produce the wines, to cardboard purchased for boxes. As an Agri-Tourism industry they are truly economic drivers as they bring people to the area and should be taxed accordingly.

RIDING CELEBRATIONS



It was an honour to attend the 100th Birthday Celebration of long time Stayner resident, David Allister (Al) MacDonald.

The celebration included congratulations from members of the Royal Canadian Legion, Members of Royal Canadian Armed Forces as well as an introduction from the RCAF Colour Guard; a fitting tribute to a remarkable person. Al was a WWII veteran and was the Mayor of Stayner for 2 terms, prior to the formation of Clearview Township.

It was a great pleasure to attend the presentation of awards to the 2023 winners of the Annual Remembrance Day Literacy and Program Contest. The event is held yearly by Angus Branch #499. Thank you to Heather Jordan for your hard work and dedication in organizing this event each year. And a special congratulations to not only this year's winners but also to everyone that submitted an entry in the contest. Your artwork and poems honouring our Veterans was amazing, there was a great deal of talent and thought that went into each entry.





Each year I do a call out for submissions for my annual Simcoe—Grey Christmas Card Contest. Any child aged 12 and under who lives in Simcoe—Grey is welcome to submit a design to either my Alliston or Collingwood Constituency Office, and the artwork chosen will be on the cover of my Christmas Card which is sent to every single household and business in Simcoe—Grey. Choosing the winner is getting more and more difficult each year, we have a lot of young talent in the riding. This year we had two winners, Chloe M and Gianluca R. Both Chloe and Gianluca were also invited to join my team and I handing out candy canes in one of the Santa Parades in the riding. Please join me in congratulating them both on a job well done!



Beaver Valley Outreach (BVO) celebrated the Finale of its 40th Year Anniversary with a lowering of their anniversary flag and the sealing of a time capsule to be opened in 2023. I was pleased to be asked to include a letter for the time capsule.

Beaver Valley Outreach (BVO) is truly a success story which has done so much to improve the lives of so many people. The organization really does touch people from all backgrounds in all stages of their lives. If one were to begin in their pre-school program, take some summer camps, volunteer some time, and then participate in their excellent seniors' initiatives, it is quite possible to spend a lifetime involved with BVO, its people, and its programs.

Congratulations again on your 40th Anniversary. I have every confidence that there are 40 more years of excellent dedication to the community ahead of you. And thank you, to the Board Members, Staff, and all of your tireless volunteers. For more information on the good work that BVO does for the community or to volunteer check out their website at [Celebrating 40 years - Beaver Valley Outreach \(bvo.ca\)](http://Celebrating 40 years - Beaver Valley Outreach (bvo.ca))



Welcoming New Canadian Citizens to Simcoe—Grey 🇨🇦



Congratulations
Amandeep Lamb ! 🇨🇦



Congratulations
Ana Sanchez! 🇨🇦



Congratulations
Viny Sindu! 🇨🇦



Congratulations
Liudmila Babik! 🇨🇦



Congratulations
Rosemarie & Rommel
Santiago! 🇨🇦



Congratulations
Ofeelya Salma! 🇨🇦

On the Hill



It was a pleasure to welcome constituents Ulrich and Carol Rath of Collingwood to Parliament Hill. Both worked at Parliament years ago. Ulrich for former PC Leader and Nova Scotia Premier Robert Stanfield and Carol for Edmonton East MP Bill Skoreyko.

I had two of my East Coast colleagues join the conversation. Dr. Stephen Ellis who currently represents the riding Robert Stanfield was from and Jake Stewart whose grandfather knocked doors for Stanfield.

If you are planning a trip to Ottawa please contact my office or go to my website to request a tour
[Tours of Parliament Hill - Terry Dowdall \(terrydowdallmp.ca\)](http://terrydowdallmp.ca)

It was great to sit down with Everett resident, Major (Ret'd) Lisa Burton to discuss the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs study on the Experience of Women Veterans and other issues concerning support for our Canadian Armed Forces and our Veterans. It was a great conversation and a wealth of information.



I was proud to join a group of Conservative MPs supporting farmers that were in Ottawa asking the Senate to speed passage of my colleague Ben Lobb's Bill C-234.

Two short weeks later, The Prime Minister pressured Liberal-appointed Senators to gut this Common-Sense Conservative Bill that would have taken the tax off our famers and help reduce costs for people who are wondering how they'll put food on the table. Click [HERE](#) to watch when I rose in the House of Commons asking the Prime Minister to explain why he would put a Carbon Tax on the farmers who grow the food and the truckers who bring us our food.

How can we help?

My offices are open to help the constituents of Simcoe—Grey with any questions about any new announcements on programs, funding, and services. If you have any issues with the CRA,

Employment Insurance, Pensions, Passports, Veteran Affairs or Citizenship and Immigration, my staff and I are here to assist you. My offices in Alliston and Collingwood are open Monday to Friday, 9:00 am to 4:30 pm. We are located at 503 Hume St. Unit 4, Collingwood and 452 Victoria St. East, Alliston. You can call any time at 1-866-435-1809.



If your family and friends want to receive our newsletter, please direct them to www.TerryDowdallMP.ca where they can sign up to our mailing list.