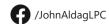




JOHN ALDAG

Member of Parliament (MP) Cloverdale—Langley City







@johnaldag

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR MP

Welcome to my first newsletter of 2023, and Happy Lunar New Year! This Holiday is celebrated by Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese, and many other Asian communities in Canada and around the world. 2023 is the Year of the Rabbit, a symbol of longevity, peace, and prosperity.

Our government has been hard at work and delivering on programs for workers and families. The Canada Dental Benefit is now available for families with children under 12 who have an adjusted net income of less than \$90,000, and who do not have access to private dental insurance. This benefit will grant eligible families up-front, direct

payments totaling up to \$1,300 per child (up to \$650 per year, for two years) to access dental care services. Please visit Canada.ca/dental for more details.

Affordability remains a key priority as we weather this inflationary period. With the cost of living rising, we passed legislation to help low-income renters in Canada. As of December 12, 2022, low-income renters can apply for a one-time, \$500 rental benefit, which will help almost 2 million Canadians struggling to make ends meet. More information, including eligibility, can be found at: canada.ca/one-time-housingbenefit

INFO

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CONSTITUENCY FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

As part of the Highway 1 Widening Project, the Glover Road overpass in Langley is going to be replaced. This widening of the road will ease traffic woes, as well as trucking industry incidents. The minimum height of the overpass will be raised to 5.2 meters.

Valued at \$345 million, the federal government has contributed nearly \$96

million to The Highway 1 Widening Project. It is great to see both federal and provincial governments partner together to deliver results for those of us who live in the Fraser Valley.

Federal funding has also been awarded to a project at Willoughby Community Park. Kwantlen First Nation and the Township of Langley are partnering to create an immersive artistic Plaza that will be built between the Langlev Events Centre and the soccer field. It will showcase local First Nations artists and will commemorate the shared history between Kwantlen First Nation and the Township of Langley. Thank you to Kwantlen First Nation and the Township of Langley for working to create beautiful spaces within our community.





CHILDCARE

With the current labour shortage across Canada, our childcare agreements with the Provinces are bringing more women back into the workforce. Almost 82% of women in their prime working years (25-54) had jobs in November 2022, the most on record according to Stats Canada. When women are able to work without having to put full paycheques toward childcare, more women return to the workforce. This benefits our economy, local

businesses, and the fight for gender equality.

The federal government provided \$3.2 billion to BC to create more childcare spaces and cut childcare fees in half on average at the end of 2022. We are on track to implement \$10-aday child care across the province by 2026.

To protect access to affordable child care for years to come, our government has introduced Bill C-35. This will make it harder for any future governments to cancel or cut child care and undo the progress we've made. Whether it be the Canada Child Benefit or Childcare, the Conservative Party has a track record of voting against these important initiatives for families. As Canadians feel the impact of inflation, our government continues to work hard to address these impacts without cutting or cancelling programs for families.



PRE-BUDGET CONSULTATIONS



Canadians should be confident in the resilience of Canada's economy.
Canada is facing a slowing global economy from a position of fundamental economic strength. In fact, Canada is faring better than the rest of the G7—the world's leading democratic economies.

However, I know this has been a difficult time for many Canadians feeling the bite of global inflation and higher interest rates. That's why our government is providing targeted inflation relief to Canadians who need it the most.

As we prepare the next federal budget, our government is listening directly to Canadians to ensure that we continue to build an economy that works for everyone. We want to hear about what you think are the best ways to support Canadians and Canadian businesses.

What is most important to you and to our community? What challenges do you see ahead? How can the federal government continue to make life more affordable for Canadians?

I encourage you to visit letstalkbudget2023.ca to fill out an online questionnaire and share your ideas. So, let's get started!

This is your budget, and I want to hear what matters most to you.

THE INDO-PACIFIC STRATEGY

Canada is investing \$2.3 billion in the Indo-Pacific Strategy over the next five years. This Strategy has five core objectives: promoting peace and security, expanding trade and investment, investing in and connecting people, building a green future, and being an engaged partner to the Indo-Pacific.

Canada is deeply connected to the Indo-Pacific region economically and through people. The Indo-Pacific is Canada's second-largest regional export market, with annual 2-way trade valued at \$226 billion. Almost 20% of new Canadians come from this region. Close to 18% of Canadians have family ties, and 60% of the international students come to Canada from the Indo-Pacific.

This strategy brings significant new funding to help boost Canada's visa application processing capacity at home and abroad, including in New Delhi, Chandigarh, Islamabad, and Manila.

The Indo-Pacific is part of Canada's DNA and is the epicentre of a generational global shift, and its decisions will impact Canadians' lives for generations. The Indo-Pacific Strategy sends a clear message to the region that Canada is here as a core partner with the Indo-Pacific region.

