



Delivering Results for all Canadians

***5 years of
Harper Government
Accomplishments***

2006 – 2011



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“I have believed from the outset that this election would be about a choice. A choice between a government in power so long that it is now interested only in what it can take, and a new team that must focus on gaining public office for what we can give. Integrity, family, respect for work, achievement and a Canada strong and free.”

Stephen Harper, Prime Minister of Canada

January 13, 2006
Oakville, Ontario

5 years of Harper Government Accomplishments

2006 – 2011

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THE FIRST FIVE PRIORITIES

Stephen Harper's Government came to power promising change and clear priorities.

Gone were the days of limitless priorities. Our Government set five clear priorities and we delivered on them.

We committed to:

- Cleaning up government and weeding out corruption due to the sponsorship scandal by enacting and enforcing the Federal Accountability Act. We delivered. The Federal Accountability Act became law in December 2006.
- Lowering taxes for working Canadians, starting with the reduction of the GST. We delivered. The GST was reduced to 6 per cent in 2006 and 5 per cent in 2007. And we have reduced taxes 120 times in our five years in government. An ordinary family of four is saving nearly \$3,000 per year as a result of the tax cuts the Harper Government has made since 2006.
- Protecting Canadian families and communities by strengthening the justice system. We delivered. Our Government passed 12 bills into law to tackle crime, including the Tackling Violent Crime Act and the Truth in Sentencing Act.
- Support parents' child care choices through direct assistance and by creating more daycare spaces. We delivered. Parents now receive \$100 per month for every child under the age of six.
- Delivering the health care Canadians need, when they need it, by addressing the fiscal imbalance and establishing a patient wait times guarantee with the provinces. We delivered. In Budget 2007, we restored fiscal balance with the provinces and our Government has ensured patients in every province and territory are covered by a Patient Wait Time Guarantee in a priority area.

Since 2006, we have delivered real results for all Canadians and we will continue to do so.

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ECONOMY

ECONOMIC ACTION PLAN

Over the past two years, Canada has weathered the worst global economic downturn since the Second World War — a downturn that was started by the financial crisis on Wall Street and soon spread throughout the world.

Our Government met the challenge of the global economic crisis head-on with the Economic Action Plan.

The Economic Action Plan was a temporary, targeted and timely plan designed to create jobs and economic growth during the worst of the global downturn.

The Plan had five components:

- Improving Access to Financing and Strengthening Canada's Financial System
- Action to Help Canadians and Stimulate Spending
- Action to Stimulate Housing Construction
- Immediate Action to Build Infrastructure
- Action to Support Businesses and Communities

As we approach the two-year anniversary of the Economic Action Plan, it is clear that our plan is working.

Funds have been committed to over 23,000 projects and, since July 2009, over 460,000 jobs have been created in Canada.

The Canadian economy has grown for the past five quarters and our economy has recovered more jobs than were lost during the global recession.

The Harper Government will finish implementing the stimulus measures in the Economic Action Plan and is currently consulting with Canadians on the next phase of the Economic Action Plan.

Our Government has also begun implementing a three-point plan for returning to budgetary balance:

1. Winding down the temporary measures in the Economic Action Plan.

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2. Restraining growth in spending through targeted measures, including \$17.6 billion in savings over five years committed to in Budget 2010.
3. Undertaking a comprehensive review of government operations and costs to identify opportunities for additional savings and improve service delivery.

KEEPING TAXES LOW FOR ALL CANADIANS

The Harper Government firmly believes that individual Canadians and businesses will spend their hard-earned money better than the government.

That is why we believe in keeping taxes as low as possible for all Canadians.

When we formed Government, we knew that Canadians paid too much in tax.

We started to reduce taxes for all Canadians in our first Budget and haven't stopped. In total, our Government has reduced taxes 120 times.

Our tax reductions have done what they were designed to do. They have put more money in the pockets of hard-working Canadian families and have made Canada one of the most competitive countries in the world in terms of new business investments.

Background

Reducing the GST

- Our Government reduced the GST from 7 per cent to 6 per cent on July 1, 2006, and to 5 per cent on January 1, 2008.
- The GST credit for low- and modest-income Canadians was maintained even though the GST rate was reduced. Maintaining the credit, while reducing the GST rate to 5 per cent from 7 per cent, translated into more than \$1.1 billion in benefits annually for low- and modest-income Canadians.

Personal Income Tax Relief

Since forming Government, we have:

- Reduced the lowest personal income tax rate from 16 per cent to 15 per cent.



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- Increased the basic personal amount — the amount of income that all Canadians can earn without paying federal income tax — to \$10,527.
- Introduced a number of tax credits, including:
 - The Children’s Fitness Tax Credit (2006) for parents who enrol their children in sports.
 - The Public Transit Tax Credit (2006) to help the environment by encouraging people to use public transit.
 - The Canada Employment Credit (2006) to give a tax break to working Canadians.
 - The Working Income Tax Benefit (2007) to help Canadians get over the “welfare wall.” We effectively doubled this in the Economic Action Plan.
 - The Child Tax Credit (2007), a new non-refundable child tax credit for parents based on an amount of \$2,000 (indexed) for each child under the age of 18.
 - The temporary Home Renovation Tax Credit (which was available for the 2009 taxation year), a timely and effective stimulus to the Canadian economy which boosted energy efficiency and the value of Canada’s housing stock introduced in the Economic Action Plan.
- As part of the Economic Action Plan, raised the level at which the National Child Benefit supplement for low-income families and the Canada Child Tax Benefit are phased out, providing a benefit of up to \$436 for a family with two children.
- Doubled the Pension Income Credit amount to \$2,000 from \$1,000 and increased the Age Credit amount by \$2,000 over the past five years.
- Introduced pension income splitting in 2007, which reduces income tax for a pensioner couple by allowing the higher-income spouse to allocate an amount of income to a lower-income spouse for tax purposes.
- Increased the spousal and eligible dependant amounts to equal the basic personal amount, effective 2007.
- Introduced a number of savings plans including:
 - The Registered Disability Savings Plan (2007), which helps parents and others save to ensure the long-term financial security of a child with a severe disability.



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- The Tax-Free Savings Account (2008), which provides a flexible, registered, general-purpose account that allows Canadians to maximize their savings by earning tax-free investment income.
- The proposed Pooled Registered Pension Plan (2010) to allow businesses to team up and pool their resources using a registered financial institution that will allow the self-employed to participate.
- As part of the Economic Action Plan, froze Employment Insurance premium rates at \$1.73 per \$100 of insurable earnings for two years (2009 and 2010). And in the fall of 2010, we reduced a planned increase to EI premiums from 15¢ per \$100 of insurable earnings to 5¢ per \$100 of insurable earnings.
- Tax freedom day is nearly three weeks earlier in 2010 than 2005.



TAX RELIEF FOR JOB CREATORS

- Since 2006, our Government has reduced the income tax rate for job creators from 21 per cent to 16.5 per cent. By 2012, under current law, it will be reduced to 15 per cent putting Canada on track to achieve the lowest overall tax rate on new business investment in the G-7.
- The corporate surtax for all corporations was eliminated as of January 1, 2008.
- The federal capital tax was eliminated as of January 1, 2006.
- Our Government increased the income limit for the small business tax rate to \$500,000 from \$300,000.
- We reduced the small business tax rate from 12 per cent to 11 per cent.
- Our Government was the first government in the G-20 to oppose the global bank tax and was successful in preventing it from being adopted at the G-20 summit in Toronto.
- In 2007, we introduced a temporary 50-per-cent straight-line accelerated capital cost allowance rate for investment in eligible machinery and equipment in recognition of the economic challenges facing the manufacturing and processing sector. This was then extended through 2011 as part of the Economic Action Plan.

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- Canada's Economic Action Plan introduced a two-year 100-per-cent capital cost allowance rate for computers acquired after January 27, 2009, and before February 1, 2011.

SUPPORTING KEY SECTORS OF THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

Stephen Harper's Government is committed to supporting key sectors of the Canadian economy.

Our Government has taken action to support Canada's aerospace, auto, forestry and tourism industries.

Since 2006, we have supported Canada's aerospace sector by:

- Creating the Strategic Aerospace Defence Initiative program.
- Ensuring Canadian companies receive economic benefits from the acquisition of military aircraft such as the CC-177s, CH-147D Chinooks, Hercules and Joint Strike Fighters (F-35).
- Supporting research and development initiatives such as the Bombardier C-Series commercial aircraft program.

Since 2006, we have supported Canada's auto sector by:

- Creating the Auto Innovation Fund.
- Supporting research and development in the auto sector through the Automotive Partnership Canada program.
- Providing support, in partnership with the Obama Administration, to GM and Chrysler Canada to restructure their operations during the global economic recession.

Since 2006, we have supported Canada's tourism sector by:

- Investing significant long-term funding in the Canadian Tourism Commission.
- Launching the Marquee Tourism Events Program as part of the Economic Action



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Plan to boost Canada as an international tourist destination.

- Announcing the development of the Federal Tourism Strategy.

Under the strong leadership of Prime Minister Harper, Canadians can count on our Government to protect and create high-quality and well-paying jobs for Canadian industries and businesses.

Background

Auto

- Created a new Automotive Innovation Fund (AIF) that provides automotive firms \$250 million over five years to support strategic, large-scale research and development projects to build innovative, greener and more fuel-efficient vehicles.
- Invested \$145 million over five years for Automotive Partnership Canada program that invests in collaborative research projects to keep the Canadian auto industry competitive and sustainable.
- Announced that the Governments of Canada and Ontario would provide \$4 billion in loans to Chrysler Canada and up to \$9.5 billion to GM Canada and GM Corporation. These loans assisted the companies' restructuring, renewed their competitive positions, supported auto parts suppliers across the country and maintained as many as 52,000 jobs.

Aerospace

- Announced a commitment of up to \$350 million in support of research and development of Bombardier Incorporated's C-Series commercial aircraft program to create opportunities for firms throughout the aerospace industry to participate in this new advanced aircraft family.
- Launched the Strategic Aerospace and Defence Initiative (SADI), a program designed to leverage private sector investment in research and development. To date, the Government has announced 19 SADI projects that have received a total of \$468 million and leveraged an additional \$943 million in research and development investments.
- Invested a \$270-million repayable contribution to Héroux-Devtek for the development of innovative landing gear technologies.
- Providing a total of \$497 million over five years to develop the RADARSAT



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Constellation mission.

- Highlighted the economic benefits created in regions across the country as a result of Canada's participation in the JSF program, the single largest fighter aircraft program in history.
- The procurement of the F-35s is an investment in the long-term future of the Canadian Armed Forces, in the safety of our nation and in the economies of communities across Canada that are already benefiting from the production and maintenance of these state-of-the-art fighter jets.
- Signed a contract with CAE to establish a world-class aircrew training capability for Canada's new fleet C130J Hercules aircraft.

Tourism

- In 2007, the Secretary of State announced \$26 million over five years for the Canadian Tourism Commission (CTC) to maximize the opportunities presented by Vancouver hosting the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games.
- In 2009, we provided \$40 million to the Canadian Tourism Commission over two years to support marketing activities, such as the Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games.
- In 2009, the Prime Minister announced that the Minister of State (Small Business and Tourism) would lead development of a Federal Tourism Strategy to bring greater coherence to federal policies and programs that support tourism.
- Our Government launched the Marquee Tourism Events Program as part of the Economic Action Plan. It was designed to boost Canada as an international tourist destination. Some \$48.7 million was committed to 60 projects, including the Calgary Stampede, the Toronto International Film Festival and the Festival International de Jazz de Montréal, among others.



INVESTING IN RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

The Harper Government is committed to building a competitive advantage for Canada based on excellence in science and technology.

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Our Government understands that investing in science and technology is crucial for developing highly-skilled people and improving the long-term competitiveness of Canada's economy.

Since 2006, the Harper Government has:

- Launched Canada's science and technology strategy, Mobilizing Science and Technology to Canada's Advantage, which is helping to create an entrepreneurial advantage, a knowledge advantage and a skills advantage.
- Invested significant funding in research and development through the granting councils and other organizations.
- Launched the Canada Excellence Research Chairs Program to attract and retain the world's top researchers.
- Launched the Research and Development Review Panel in 2010, which will conduct a comprehensive review of all existing federal support for business research and development to look for ways to better support innovation.

Stephen Harper's Government recognizes that to create better jobs for all Canadians we must invest in the talented, skilled and creative people whose research and innovative ideas will lead to those better jobs.

Background

Since forming government, the Harper Government has made significant investments in research and development.

2007

- Provided \$510 million for the Canada Foundation for Innovation to undertake another competition before 2010.
- Provided \$120 million in 2006-2007 to Canada's Advanced Research and Innovation Network (CANARIE).
- Invested \$85 million per year through the federal granting councils for research targeting priorities like health sciences, energy, the environment, ICTs, management and business.
- Provided \$5 million for indirect costs of research, supporting leading Centres of Excellence in Commercialization and Research with an investment of \$350 million over 2006-2007 and the next two years.



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- Provided Genome Canada with an additional \$100 million in 2006-2007 to extend promising research projects and sustain regional genome centres.
- Created the Science, Technology and Innovation Council.
- Announced \$105 million to seven centres of excellence focussed on priority areas in research and commercialization for Canada (Budget commitment 2007).

2008

- Launched the Canada Excellence Research Chairs Program (CERC), to invest up to \$200 million over seven years to attract and retain the world's top researchers.
- Provided an additional \$80 million per year to granting councils: \$34 million for the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) for collaborative research directly contributing to the auto, manufacturing, forestry and fishing industries; \$34 million for the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) for research addressing health issues; and \$12 million per year for the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) for research that contributes to better understanding of how the environment affects Canadians' lives.
- Provided an additional \$15 million for the Indirect Costs of Research program.
- Allocated an additional \$140 million in Genome Canada, an independent non-profit organization designed to support large-scale genomics research.

2009

- Provided \$750 million for leading-edge research infrastructure through the Canada Foundation for Innovation.
- Provided \$50 million to the Institute for Quantum Computing in Waterloo, Ontario, to build a new world-class research facility.
- Provided \$110 million over three years to the Canadian Space Agency to support the development of advanced robotics and other space technologies.
- Allocated \$200 million over two years to the National Research Council's Industrial Research Assistance Program to enable it to temporarily expand its initiatives for small and medium-sized businesses.

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2010

- Delivering \$222 million in funding over five years to strengthen world-leading research taking place at TRIUMF, Canada's premier national laboratory for nuclear and particle physics research.
- Increasing the combined annual budgets of the granting councils by an additional \$32 million per year, plus an additional \$8 million per year to the Indirect Costs of Research Program.
- Providing Genome Canada with an additional \$75 million for genomics research.
- Providing \$135 million over two years to the National Research Council of Canada's regional innovation clusters program.
- The Minister of State (Science and Technology) (Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario) launched the Research and Development Review Panel, which will conduct a comprehensive review of all existing federal support for business research and development to look for ways to better support innovation.

SUPPORTING SMALL BUSINESSES AND ENTREPRENEURS

The Harper Government knows that the vast majority of jobs are created by small businesses and entrepreneurs.

As the primary job creators in Canada, small businesses need all the help they can get.

Our Government is committed to doing everything it can to support small businesses and entrepreneurs do what they do best, recognizing market needs and creating goods and services to meet those needs.

Since forming Government, we have:

- Reduced taxes for small businesses by reducing the small business tax rate from 12 per cent to 11 per cent and increasing the income limit for the small business tax rate to \$500,000 from \$300,000.

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- Taken action to reduce red tape for job creators by 20 per cent and launched the Red Tape Reduction Commission to go even further.
- Created a new late-stage venture capital fund in Canada to support entrepreneurs.
- Help small business job creation with the Apprenticeship Job Creation Tax Credit (AJCTC), a non-refundable tax credit equal to 10 per cent of the eligible salaries and wages payable to eligible apprentices.

Our Government's support for small businesses and entrepreneurs has paid dividends. Since July 2009, Canada's economy has created over 460,000 new jobs.

We will continue our efforts to create jobs and economic growth by supporting small businesses and entrepreneurs.

Background

- Our Government increased the income limit for the small business tax rate to \$500,000 from \$300,000.
- We reduced the small business tax rate from 12 per cent to 11 per cent.
- Froze EI rates for 2009 and 2010 and went further by limiting any hike in EI premiums in 2011. This will save employers and employees \$1.2 billion relative to what they would have paid in 2011.
- Our Government achieved its goal of reducing red tape by 20 per cent for job creators.
- Increasing access to credit for small businesses through the Canada Small Business Financing Program and the Business Development Bank of Canada.
- In 2009, we invested \$450 million in the Business Development Bank of Canada in support of small and medium-sized enterprises and innovative firms.
- Launching the Small Business and Internship Program (SBIP) to help small and medium-sized enterprises grow in the knowledge economy and to help students get jobs in the field of information and communication technologies.
- Providing \$30 million over two years for the Canada Business Network and \$10 million to the Canadian Youth Business Foundation.
- Invested an additional \$75 million in the Business Development Bank of Canada (BDC) to support the formation of a new late-stage venture capital fund in Canada.

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SUPPORTING AND PROTECTING CONSUMERS

Stephen Harper's Government understands the importance of supporting and protecting consumers.

Our Government recognizes that consumers pay too much tax, need a more competitive market place and need protection from abusive, anti-consumer behaviours.

Since 2006, the Harper Government has:

- Reduced taxes for all consumers.
- Encouraged competition, including in the wireless telecommunications sector.
- Cracked down on abusive, anti-consumer behaviours such as price gouging and spam.

We will continue to take action to protect and support Canadian consumers.

Background

Reducing Taxes on Consumers:

- Our Government reduced the GST from 7 per cent to 6 per cent on July 1, 2006, and to 5 per cent on January 1, 2008.

Encouraged Competition, including in the Wireless Sector:

- On June 13, 2006, we tabled policy direction to the CRTC, calling for greater reliance on market forces in response to the final report of the Telecommunications Policy Review Panel. The policy direction came into force in December.
- On November 15, 2006, we announced our Government had varied a decision by the CRTC to encourage more deregulation in the telecommunications sector. Also called on the Commission to refrain from economic regulation of certain Voice-over-Internet protocol (VoIP) services.
- On July 12, 2007, our Government created the Competition Policy Review Panel with a mandate to review the Competition Act and the Investment Canada Act.



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- On November 28, 2007, we released the policy framework for the Advanced Wireless Services (AWS) spectrum auction, which was held on May 27, 2008.
- On July 21, 2008, our Government announced the results of the Advanced Wireless Services spectrum auction: 282 licences assigned to 15 companies and generating almost \$4.3 billion in revenue. The auction set aside 40 MHz of AWS spectrum exclusively for new entrants to bid on with the goal of creating greater competition and more consumer choice.
- In Summer 2008, we implemented a new policy on tower sharing and roaming in anticipation of an increase in cellular infrastructure as a result of the new licences.
- On December 11, 2009, we varied a CRTC decision regarding Globalive Wireless Management Corporation, concluding that it is a Canadian company that meets the Canadian ownership and control requirements under the Telecommunications Act. The decision allowed Globalive to enter Canada's wireless telecommunications services market.

Cracking Down on Anti-Consumer Behaviour:

- On April 15, 2010, our Government introduced the Fairness at the Pumps Act, designed to make retailers more accountable for the accuracy of their gas pumps and other measuring devices, and to increase fines to ensure appropriate deterrence against measurement inaccuracy.
- On May 25, 2010, we introduced Bill C-28, Fighting Internet and Wireless Spam Act, designed to deter spam and other online threats to electronic commerce, and to regulate certain activities that discourage e-commerce. The bill has received Royal Assent.
- On May 25, 2010, our Government introduced Bill C-29 Safeguarding Canadians' Personal Information Act, designed to protect consumers, improve law enforcement and streamline the rules for business by amending the Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act. Bill C-29 is currently at debate at second reading in the House of Commons.
- On May 21, 2009, our Government released new proposed regulations aimed at limiting business practices that are not beneficial to consumers and providing clear and timely information to Canadians about credit cards.

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BUILDING WORLD CLASS INFRASTRUCTURE

Stephen Harper's Government knows that the construction of public infrastructure such as roads, bridges and water systems creates jobs and helps our businesses prosper now and into the future.

Since 2006, our Government has invested heavily in infrastructure.

The Harper Government has:

- Created the Building Canada Fund.
- Invested significantly in infrastructure through the Economic Action Plan.
- Made the Gas Tax transfer to municipalities permanent.

Our Government will continue to invest in world class infrastructure projects that will improve the lives of Canadians while creating jobs and economic growth.

Background

Economic Action Plan

- In 2009, our Government promised to take immediate action to build Canada through new investment in infrastructure as a centerpiece of Canada's Economic Action Plan.
- Budget 2009 provided \$5.5 billion in new timely, targeted and temporary funding for which Infrastructure Canada is responsible:
 - \$4-billion Infrastructure Stimulus Fund.
 - \$1-billion Green Infrastructure Fund.
 - \$500-million Top-Up to the Building Canada Fund-Communities Component.
- Our Government streamlined federal approval processes for infrastructure projects to get shovels in the ground faster.
- Within months of announcing the Economic Action Plan, the \$4-billion Infrastructure Stimulus Fund, \$1-billion Green Infrastructure Fund, and the



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\$500-million Building Canada Fund Communities Component Top-Up were launched, necessary agreements with funding partners were signed and projects began.

- Our Government announced that the first payment of the Gas Tax Fund for 2009/2010 would be accelerated, making up to \$1 billion available to municipalities three months sooner than usual in April 2009. The total annual transfer under the fund also doubled to \$2 billion that year.
- As reported in March 2010, all EAP funding under ISF and the BCF-CC Top-Up (announced Budget 2009) had been committed by the January 29, 2010 deadline to projects across the country.
- On October 26, 2010, the Auditor General Report on the Economic Action Plan included a positive assessment of the design and launch of the Economic Action Plan.

Building Canada Fund

- Budget 2007 delivered on the commitment made in Advantage Canada by announcing the Building Canada Plan, a historic \$33-billion long-term plan, including:
 - An estimated \$17.6 billion in municipal base funding (Gas Tax Fund and GST rebate).
 - \$8.8 billion for the Building Canada Fund.
 - \$2.275 billion for the equal per jurisdiction funding (the Provincial-Territorial Base Fund).
- By the end of 2008, the Government of Canada had signed long-term infrastructure agreements under the Building Canada Plan with every province and territory. As a result, infrastructure programs were launched and major infrastructure projects began to be announced and implemented across the country.

Gas Tax Fund

- Budget 2008 announces that the Gas Tax Fund will be extended at \$2 billion per year beyond 2013-14, and become permanent.
- In April 2009, for the second year, the Harper Government announced that the first payment of the Gas Tax Fund was accelerated, providing up to \$1 billion



Delivering Results for all Canadians

available to municipalities three months sooner than usual.

Communities Component

- Budget 2008 launched the Communities Component of the Building Canada Fund in several provinces, moving forward on projects in smaller municipalities.
- The Communities Component of the Building Canada Fund recognizes that smaller communities have unique infrastructure needs, and therefore targets projects in communities with populations of less than 100,000. Projects are selected through an application-based process.
- An additional \$500 million has been committed over the next two years, which will be allocated to projects that are ready to get started, and will be completed in the next two construction seasons.



PROMOTING TRADE AND OPENING NEW MARKETS FOR CANADIAN BUSINESSES

Stephen Harper's Government is committed to opening new markets for Canadian goods and services and avoiding protectionism.

We know that the free flow of goods and services creates jobs and economic growth for all Canadians.

When we formed Government, there was a distinct lack of progress in promoting trade.

In the previous 13 years, only three free trade agreements were signed by the federal government and none since 2002.

Canada was in the midst of a devastating softwood lumber dispute with the United States.

Since 2006, our Government has made promoting trade and opening markets for Canadian businesses a priority.

We have signed free trade agreements with eight countries and have launched negotiations with forty-five countries.



Delivering Results for all Canadians

The Prime Minister himself has launched negotiations towards trade agreements with two of the leading economies in the world, the European Union and India.

We have signed numerous bilateral air, foreign investment, and science and technology agreements with countries around the world.

When the global financial crisis hit, Canada led the charge worldwide calling on countries to avoid the mistakes of the Great Depression and reject the urge towards protectionism.

The Harper Government is just getting started. We will continue to promote trade, avoid protectionism and open markets for Canadian businesses because we know it is the key to long-term growth and prosperity for Canada.

Background

Our Government has signed Free Trade Agreements with eight countries:

- European Free Trade Association (came into Force on July 1, 2009)
- Peru (came into Force on August 1, 2009)
- Columbia (signed November 2008; received Royal Assent on June 2010)
- Jordan (signed June 2009; introduced legislation in March 2010)
- Panama (signed May 2010)

Our Government has launched negotiations on free trade agreements or Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreements with:

- Dominican Republic (June 2007)
- Caribbean Community (July 2007)
- European Union (May 2009)
- India (November 2010)
- Ukraine (May 2010)

Exploratory Discussions towards the launch of a free trade agreement have started with:

- Morocco (June 2009)
- Turkey (February 2010)

Trade Agreements:

- In 2006, the Softwood Lumber Agreement between Canada and the United States was signed, establishing a secure and predictable commercial environment for the Canadian lumber industry.
- The Track II package of liberalizing NAFTA (North American Free Trade Agreement) rules of origin changes, estimated to represent about US\$20 billion in trilateral trade in goods, was implemented by all three NAFTA countries in July 2006.
- In 2010, Canada and the United States concluded the Canada-United States Agreement on Government Procurement, allowing Canadian companies to participate in United States infrastructure projects financed under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.
- In 2010, Prime Minister Stephen Harper finalized an agreement with President Hu of China to grant Canada Approved Destination Status, a designation that makes it easier for Chinese nationals to visit Canada.

Foreign Investment and Promotion Agreements:

- In 2006, Canada signed a Foreign Investment Protection and Promotion Agreement (FIPA) with Peru.
- Successfully concluded FIPA negotiations with Jordan, Kuwait, Madagascar, the Czech Republic, the Slovak Republic, Latvia and Romania.
- Initiated FIPA negotiations with Bahrain and Tunisia.

Air Agreements:

- In 2007, Canada concluded new or expanded air agreements with Ireland, Kuwait, Jordan, Iceland, New Zealand, Singapore, Mexico and Barbados, and launched negotiations with the European Union for an open skies framework covering 27 countries.
- In 2010, air transport agreements were signed with the European Union, Japan, South Africa, Cuba, Morocco, Ethiopia, Tunisia and El Salvador.

Science and Technology Cooperation Agreements:

- In 2006, Canada signed a letter of intent with Brazil on negotiation of a bilateral science and technology agreement.



Delivering Results for all Canadians

- In 2006, Canada negotiated and arranged the signing of a science and technology co-operation agreement with China.
- In 2008, Canada concluded science and technology cooperation agreements with Brazil and Chile.

Trade Offices:

- Our Government opened six new trade offices in China and opened new missions in Ahmedabad, India and in Porto Alegre, Brazil.
- We established a network of Canadian trade and policy officials in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

Avoiding Protectionism:

- Launched a Made in Canada tariff-free zone for industrial manufacturers by eliminating all remaining tariffs on machinery and equipment and goods imported for further manufacturing. When fully implemented, this will provide \$300 million in annual duty savings for Canadian business to support investment and growth and create jobs.



STRENGTHENING CANADA'S FINANCIAL SYSTEM

Stephen Harper's Government is committed to a strong, well-regulated privately-run financial system in Canada.

The global financial crisis revealed serious weaknesses in the international financial system.

Canada had shown exceptional resilience throughout the financial crisis but our financial system was not immune to it.

In response to the global financial crisis, we introduced a number of prudent market-based measures to minimize the impact of the global credit crunch on Canadian financial institutions so that they could continue lending money to Canadian businesses and families.



Delivering Results for all Canadians

The result was that we did not have to bail out a single bank. And Canada's banking system continues to be ranked as the soundest in the world by the World Economic Forum.

Our Government will continue to take action to ensure a stable financial system in Canada that provides economic certainty to all Canadians.

Background

In response to the global financial crisis, our Government introduced a number of market-based programs to ensure that financial institutions continued to lend money to Canadian businesses and families. These programs included the:

- Insured Mortgage Purchase Program, which purchased insured mortgage pools from registered financial institutions.
- Canadian Secured Credit Facility, which purchased term asset-backed securities (ABS) backed by loans and leases on vehicles and equipment.
- Canadian Lenders Assurance Facility, which allowed Canada's deposit-taking financial institutions to access competitive global credit markets by providing a guarantee on their term debt similar to those offered to banks in other countries.
- Canadian Life Insurers Assurance Facility, which provided insurance on the wholesale term borrowing of federally regulated life insurance companies.

We increased the maximum eligible loan amount a small business can access under the Canada Small Business Financing Program.

Our Government also enhanced the resources and scope of action available to the financial Crown corporations and provided \$13 billion in incremental financing to support lending to Canadian businesses.



ENHANCING CANADA'S TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS



Stephen Harper's Government is committed to protecting the safety and security of Canadians.

5 years of Harper Government Accomplishments

2006 – 2011



Delivering Results for all Canadians

Our Government is always looking for new technology and methods to further improve the security of the transportation system and travellers.

It is vital to ensure that Canada's transportation system meets the highest standards in the world.

Our Government will continue to ensure that Canadian officials have the tools they need to protect the safety and security of air travellers.

Our Government is unwavering in our determination to keep Canadians and those who use our airways safe and secure.

That is why, since 2006 we have been taking all the necessary steps to meet this goal including:

- A new Passenger Protect Program to keep people who may pose an immediate security threat from boarding commercial flights.
- More extensive criminal background checks for workers with access to secure areas at Canada's airports.
- Strengthening explosive trace detection, introducing full body scanners and taking steps to develop a passenger behaviour observation program.
- Funding of \$1.5 billion over five years to help the Canadian Air Transport Security Authority strengthen the security of our aviation system and protect air travellers.
- Legislation to help starve terrorists of financing.
- Openly condemning groups with links to terrorism and working with the United Nations and our allies to resist and prevent terrorism.

Background

Air

Air Security

- Following the attempted terrorist attack on December 25, 2009, our Government took additional steps to strengthen aviation security by announcing new explosive trace detection, full body scanners and the intention to develop a passenger behaviour observation program.
- Budget 2010 implemented the purchase and installation by the Canadian Air Transport Security Authority of Full Body Scanners at Canadian airports.

Air Cargo Security

- Budget 2006 provided \$39 million over three years for air cargo security (Transport Canada as the lead department was allocated \$26.9 million with the Canada Border Services Agency receiving \$12.1 million).
- Budget 2006 provided \$133 million over two years to support Canadian Air Transport Security Authority operations.
- Budget 2010 provided \$95.7 million over five years (ongoing) to implement a comprehensive air cargo security program and committed \$1.5 billion over five years to the Canadian Air Transport Security Authority and Transport Canada to offset the rising cost of passenger screening, as well as to replace aging and obsolete technology and invest in the newest, most effective machines for screening passengers and baggage.
- New security measures for air cargo came into effect February 1, 2010.

Blue Skies Agreement

- On November 27, 2006, the Minister of Transport, Infrastructure and Communities announced a new international air policy for Canada called the Blue Sky policy supporting a liberalized approach to Canada's international air transportation negotiations.
- Under Blue Sky, Canada will proactively pursue further liberalization of air transportation agreements and, as a primary objective, seek to negotiate reciprocal Open Skies-type agreements when it is in Canada's overall interest to do so.
- Since the launch of the Blue Sky policy in November 2006, the Harper Government has negotiated air service agreements covering more than 55 countries, including:
 - Open Skies-type agreements with twelve countries: Ireland, Iceland, New Zealand, Barbados, the Dominican Republic, Costa Rica, South Korea, Jamaica, Switzerland, Trinidad and Tobago, and El Salvador.
 - Expanded agreements with ten countries: Portugal, Brazil, Mexico, Japan, Jordan, Singapore, the Philippines, Morocco, Egypt and Cuba.
 - New first-time agreements with nine countries: Kuwait, Serbia, Croatia, Panama, Turkey, South Africa, Ethiopia and Tunisia.



Delivering Results for all Canadians

- A comprehensive air transport agreement between Canada and the European Union's 27 member states. This includes Cyprus, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Slovakia and Slovenia, with whom Canada did not previously have air agreements.

Canadian Air Transportation Securities Authority

- Budget 2008 provided funding of \$147 million in 2008-09 to help CATSA address significant operational pressures and including continuous growth in air traffic.
- Budget 2009 provided \$358.7 million for 2009-2010 for measures to support the development of aviation security plans, strengthen and improve operations of the Canadian Air Transportation Security Authority, and implement a new passenger assessment system. These measures include new, advanced, internationally-compatible screening equipment and other technology and training for the screening workforce to increase levels of security and efficiency.
- Transport Canada stabilized the funding for CATSA's core programs in Budget 2010 with a five-year investment of \$1.5 billion.
- Our Government launched a full review of CATSA with the goal of enhancing safety and security of air travellers.

Rail

- In Budget 2006, the Transit-Secure Contribution Program provided more than \$63 million, over three years to rapidly enhance the security of Canada's high-volume passenger rail and urban transit systems.
 - A total of 115 projects funded the development of security plans, risk assessments, training, access control measures, surveillance technologies, communication equipment and public awareness.
- *The Railway Safety Act (RSA) Review Report, Stronger Ties: A Shared Commitment to Railway Safety*, was tabled on March 7, 2008, in the House of Commons by the Minister of Transport, Infrastructure and Communities. The report presents the findings, including more than 50 recommendations, to improve rail safety in Canada. *The Railway Safety Act* review presents concrete ideas to improve railway safety.
- Fulfilling our 2007 commitment to initiate a review of rail freight service upon the passage of Bill C-8, our Government launched the Rail Freight Service Review in



Delivering Results for all Canadians

2008 to identify ways to improve the efficiency, effectiveness and reliability of the rail-based logistics system in Canada.

- Budget 2009 identified approximately \$72 million over five years to improve rail safety in Canada. This included \$43.4 million over five years and \$8.5 million ongoing to strengthen regulatory compliance and enforcement; improve regulatory development and consultations with stakeholders; enhance safety management systems, risk assessment and performance measurement; and support research and development to advance new rail safety technologies.

Marine

- Between 2006 and 2009, the Marine Security Contribution Program provided over \$61.4 million to assist ports, marine facilities and domestic ferries with important security enhancements.
 - Over the Program's life it helped 297 recipients complete 1266 projects by contributing a 75 per cent share to security enhancements called for in their security plans, as well as to extend and build on these security enhancements for the future.
- On June 18, 2008, Bill C-23 (*Act to Amend the Canada Marine Act*) received Royal Assent. Through this Bill, the Government of Canada amended the Canada Marine Act and related policy initiatives developed to enhance the governance framework of Canada's port authorities, increase financial flexibility and establish eligibility for capital infrastructure, environmental sustainability and security funding.
- As part of its Infrastructure Stimulus Fund, the federal government awarded \$12.5 million to Marine Atlantic Inc. for two capital projects: \$3 million for improvements to the Corporation main terminal at Port aux Basques, Newfoundland and Labrador, and \$9.5 million for the alternate terminal at North Sydney, Nova Scotia.
- The *Arctic Waters Pollution Prevention Act* amendment received Royal Assent on June 11, 2009.
- Amendments to the *Navigable Waters Protection Act* — providing for specific revisions to expedite the review and processing of applications for the construction, repair and alteration of infrastructure impacting navigable waters in Canada — First Reading February 6, 2009; Second Reading February 12, 2009; Third Reading March 4, 2009; and Royal Assent March 12, 2009.
- On June 10, 2010, the Order in Council that expands the boundaries of the



Delivering Results for all Canadians

Shipping Safety Control Zones to the limits of Canada's economic exclusion zone came into force.

- On July 1, 2010, the Northern Canada Vessel Traffic Services Zones (NORDREG) Regulations came into force under the *Canada Shipping Act (2001)*.

Auto

- Budget 2007 introduced the ecoAUTO Rebate Program, an initiative under the Government's ecoTRANSPORT Strategy. The program encourages Canadians to buy new fuel-efficient vehicles as part of our Government's plan to protect the environment. The ecoAUTO Rebate Program concluded its two-year mandate on March 31, 2009, receiving over 182,300 applications and issuing over 169,800 rebates totalling \$191.2 million.
- Budget 2009 provided \$14 million to Transport Canada to modernize the Motor Vehicle Test Centre in Blainville, Quebec. The project will expand the capability of the Centre to conduct collision tests at various angles and to test large vehicles like buses and tractor-trailers. A new lab is also being constructed. The work will be completed by March 2011.
- In December 2009, our Government mandated Electronic Stability Control, which is projected to save about 225 lives a year in Canada when it is implemented across the fleet.
- In May 2010, our Government announced the publication of new testing requirements for child car seats that are the most extensive in North America. These standards come into force in January 2012.

Gateways

- In October 2006, the Asia Pacific Gateway and Corridor Initiative was signed by the Prime Minister to establish the Gateway and Corridor as the best transportation network facilitating supply chains between North America and Asia.
- In October 2007, the Atlantic Gateway Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Government of Canada and Atlantic provincial governments, committing to develop an Atlantic Gateway Strategy.
- Budget 2007 launched the National Policy Framework for Strategic Gateways and Trade Corridors, which also provided the implementation platform for the Asia Pacific Gateway and Corridor Initiative. The first International Conference on Gateways and Corridors was held in Vancouver.



Delivering Results for all Canadians

- On July 30, 2007, the governments of Canada, Ontario and Quebec signed a Memorandum of Understanding to develop an Ontario-Quebec Continental Gateway and Trade Corridor strategy in order to establish the Continental Gateway as a strategic, integrated and globally-competitive transportation system supporting international trade, and to facilitate the movement of international trade as well as for domestic inputs toward foreign trade.
- In 2008, one agreement was signed under the Gateway Border Crossing Fund worth \$20 million; three agreements signed under Asia Pacific Gateway Corridor Initiative worth \$375 million; one agreement signed under Building Canada Fund worth \$622 million; and five agreements signed worth \$445 million from Canada Strategic Infrastructure Fund.
- In 2008, eight projects totalling an estimated \$433 million in federal contributions were announced for funding under the Gateway Border Crossing Fund, including the \$100-million Trans-Canada Highway twinning project in Banff National Park, for which a Memorandum of Understanding with Parks Canada was negotiated and signed.
- In 2009, nine agreements were signed worth \$260 million from the Gateway Border Crossing Fund; nine agreements signed worth \$48 million from the Asia Pacific Gateway and Corridor Initiative; six agreements signed worth \$306 million from the Building Canada Fund; and one agreement signed worth \$6.5 million under the Canada Strategic Infrastructure Fund.
- In 2010, three agreements were signed worth \$225 million under the Gateway and Borders Crossing Fund; four agreements were signed worth \$68 million under the Asia-Pacific Gateway and Corridor Initiative; forty-nine agreements were signed worth \$513 million under the Building Canada Fund; and 11 agreements were signed worth \$230 million under the Canada Strategic Infrastructure Fund.
- The Asia-Pacific Gateway and Corridor Initiative reached an important milestone in 2010, having reached the mid-point of the initiative. The entire Asia-Pacific Gateway and Corridor Initiative Transportation Infrastructure Fund was fully committed, leveraging project investments worth over \$3.5 billion dollars. The President of the Treasury Board and Minister for the Asia-Pacific Gateway released a mid-term report to Canadians on the success of the initiative. In addition, the second International Conference on Gateways and Corridors was held in Vancouver.



TACKLING CRIME





TOUGHENING OUR LAWS



Stephen Harper's Government is committed to making our streets and communities safer by getting tough on crime.

For over 40 years, our criminal justice system was going in the wrong direction — focussed more on the rights of criminals instead of the rights of victims.

We committed to change things.

In our first Throne Speech, we said, "This Government will tackle crime. It will propose changes to the Criminal Code to provide tougher sentences for violent and repeat offenders, particularly those involved in weapons-related crimes."

We have delivered on our commitment.

Over the past five years we have passed 18 laws (12 Justice, 6 Public Safety) that have toughened the rules and made our streets and communities safer.

As a result of our legislation, there are tougher laws to crack down on:

- Gun and gang crime
- Violent and repeat offenders
- Identity theft
- Sex offenders
- Street racing, impaired driving and car thieves

We also eliminated the outrageous practices of routinely giving convicted criminals two-for-one credit for time served prior to trial and Old Age Security payments to prisoners.

While we have made significant progress, there is still much more to be done. There are currently 22 important bills before Parliament to crack down on crime.

The Harper Government will continue our efforts to pass this important legislation to toughen our laws to make our streets and communities safer.

Background

Our Government has passed the following bills into law to make our streets and communities safer:

- On December 15, 2006, Bill C-19, *Street Racing*, came into force. It included both new street-racing offences and a gradual increase in the length of the driving prohibition for repeat offences.
- On May 31, 2007, Bill C-48, *An Act to Amend the Criminal Code in Order to Implement the United Nations Convention Against Corruption*, received Royal Assent.
- On June 22, 2007, Bill C-18, *An Act to Amend Certain Acts in Relation to DNA Identification*, received Royal Assent. It contained amendments to strengthen Canada's DNA data bank laws and to make DNA data bank procedures more effective.
- On November 30, 2007, Bill C-9, *An Act to Amend the Criminal Code (conditional sentence of imprisonment)*, came into force. This bill eliminated the use of conditional sentences for indictable offences punishable by 10 years or more that qualify as either serious personal injury offences, terrorism offences or criminal organization offences.
- On February 28, 2008, Bill C-2, the *Tackling Violent Crime Act*, received Royal Assent. On May 1, 2008, the first section came into force providing better protection for youth from adult sexual predators by increasing the age of protection for sexual activity from 14 years to 16 years, tougher mandatory jail time for serious gun crimes and stricter bail provisions for those accused of serious gun crimes. On July 2, 2008, the second section came into force providing for new ways to detect and investigate drug-impaired driving and stronger penalties for alcohol impaired driving.
- On May 29, 2008, Bill C-13, *An Act to Amend the Criminal Code (Criminal Procedure, Language of the Accused, Sentencing and Other Amendments)*, an omnibus bill to improve and update Canada's criminal law, received Royal Assent.
- On Oct. 2, 2009, Bill C-14, the *Organized Crime and Protection of Justice System Participants Act*, came into force. This bill provides police and justice officials with important new tools in the fight against organized crime, including a new offence addressing drive-by and other reckless shootings.
- On October 23, 2009, Bill C-25, the *Truth in Sentencing Act*, which strictly limits the amount of credit granted for time served in custody prior to conviction and

sentencing, received Royal Assent.

- On October 27, 2009, Bill S-4, the *Identity Theft and Related Misconduct Act*, received Royal Assent. This bill provides police and the courts with new ways to fight against identity theft and to support victims of this growing crime (formerly Bill C-27).
- On June 29, 2010, Bill C-23A, *Limiting Pardons for Serious Crimes Act*, which overhauled the system of pardons to ensure that the rights of victims and law-abiding Canadians are properly balanced with those of offenders, received Royal Assent.
- On Nov. 18, 2010, Bill S-9, *Tackling Auto Theft and Property Crime Act*, which cracked down on property crime including auto theft and trafficking in property obtained by crime, received Royal Assent.
- On December 15, 2010, Bill S-2, *Protecting Victims from Sex Offenders Act*, which strengthened the National Sex Offender Registry and National DNA Data bank, received Royal Assent.
- On December 15, 2010, Bill C-31, *Ending Entitlements for Prisoners Act*, which precludes incarcerated persons from receiving Old Age Security benefits while maintaining entitlement to benefits for their spouses or common-law partners, received Royal Assent.

Our Government currently has the following bills before Parliament:

- On March 16, 2010, Bill C-4, *Sébastien's Law (Protecting the Public from Violent Young Offenders Act)*, aimed at strengthening the handling of violent and repeat young offenders, was introduced. It is currently awaiting further study by the House of Commons Justice and Human Rights Committee.
- On March 18, 2010, the *International Transfer of Offenders Act* (Bill C-5), was introduced to enhance the protection of society and strengthen the rights of victims. This bill is currently awaiting further study by the House of Commons Public Safety and Security Committee.
- On April 20, 2010, Bill S-6, the *Serious Time for the Most Serious Crime Act*, was introduced in the Senate. This bill would repeal the "faint-hope clause" that allows murderers to obtain early parole. It currently sits at Third Reading in the House of Commons.
- On April 21, 2010, Bill S-7, *An Act to Deter Terrorism and to Amend the State Immunity Act (Justice for Victims of Terrorism Act)*, was introduced in the Senate.



Delivering Results for all Canadians

This bill would allow victims of terrorism to sue perpetrators of terrorism and their supporters.

- May 5, 2010, Bill S-10, the *Penalties for Organized Drug Crime Act*, was introduced in the Senate. It currently sits at Second Reading in the House of Commons.
- On April 22, 2010 Bill C-16, the *Ending House Arrest for Property and Other Serious Crimes by Serious and Violent Offenders Act*, was introduced. It is awaiting study by the House of Commons Justice and Human Rights Committee (formerly Bill C-42).
- On April 23, 2010, Bill C-17, the *Combating Terrorism Act*, was introduced with an aim to provide police and prosecutors with more tools to prevent and investigate terrorist activities. It is currently being studied by the Public Safety and National Security Committee (formerly Bill C-17, then S-3).
- On May 3, 2010, Bill C-21, the *Standing up for Victims of White Collar Crime Act*, was introduced. This bill would provide tougher sentences for fraud, helping to combat white-collar crime. It has been referred to the Senate (formerly Bill C-52).
- On May 5, 2010, Bill S-10, the *Penalties for Organized Drug Crime Act*, was introduced in the Senate. It targets gangs and other organized criminal groups who participate in the illegal drug trade. It currently sits at Second Reading in the House of Commons (formerly Bill C-15, then C-26).
- On May 6, 2010, Bill C-22, the *Protecting Children from Online Sexual Exploitation Act*, was introduced. This bill would help protect children from online sexual exploitation by requiring suppliers of Internet services to report online child pornography. It currently sits at Second Reading in the Senate.
- On May 11, 2010, C-23B, the *Eliminating Pardons for Serious Crimes Act*, was introduced. The bill would eliminate pardons for serious criminals and is awaiting further study by the House of Commons Public Safety and National Security Committee.
- On May 31, 2010, Bill C-30, the *Response to the Supreme Court of Canada Decision in R. V. Shoker Act*, was introduced. This bill would help control repeat criminal behaviour by ensuring that individuals comply with court orders prohibiting drug and alcohol use. It currently sits at Second Reading in the Senate.
- On June 15, 2010, Bill C-39, *Ending Early Release for Criminals and Increasing Offender Accountability Act*, was introduced. The bill is currently awaiting study



Delivering Results for all Canadians

at the House of Commons Public Safety and National Security Committee.

- On October 5, 2010, Bill C-48, the *Protecting Canadians by Ending Sentence Discounts for Multiple Murders Act*, was introduced. This bill would allow judges to impose consecutive parole ineligibility periods on individuals convicted of more than one first- or second-degree murder. It is currently at report stage in the House of Commons.
- On October 20, 2010, Bill S-12, the *Federal Law-Civil Law Harmonization Act, No. 3*, was introduced in the Senate. This bill would harmonize federal legislation to ensure that it takes into account both civil law and common law. It currently sits at Second Reading in the House of Commons.
- On October 29, 2010, Bill C-50, the *Improving Access to Investigative Tools for Serious Crimes Act*, was introduced to streamline the application process when specific court orders or warrants need to be issued in relation to an investigation for which a judge has given a wiretap authorization. It currently sits at Second Reading in the House of Commons.
- On November 1, 2010, Bill C-51, the *Investigative Powers for the 21st Century Act*, was introduced. This bill would provide law enforcement and national security agencies with up-to-date tools to fight crimes such as gang- and terrorism-related offences. It currently sits at Second Reading in the House of Commons.
- Introduced Bill C-52, the *Investigating and Preventing Criminal Electronic Communications Act*, in November 2010, to allow law enforcement and national security agencies to execute authorizations for interception in a more timely and efficient manner with a warrant.
- On November 2, 2010, Bill C-53, the *Fair and Efficient Criminal Trials Act*, was introduced. The Bill would improve criminal procedures, especially with regards to long and complex trials, to ensure that justice is delivered swiftly and effectively. It currently sits at Second Reading in the House of Commons.
- On November 4, 2010, Bill C-54, the *Protecting Children from Sexual Predators Act*, was introduced. This bill would, among other things, establish mandatory prison sentences for seven existing Criminal Code offences such as luring a child, sexual assault and aggravated assault. It has been referred to the the Justice and Human Rights Committee for further study.

Focussing on the Rights of Victims

Stephen Harper's Government is committed to standing up for the rights of victims.



Delivering Results for all Canadians

For too long, the criminal justice system in Canada was focussed on the rights of criminals and too often ignored the rights of victims.

In 2006, we committed to change things.

Over the past five years, we have taken numerous steps to directly support victims of crime and reorient the criminal justice system to focus on their rights.

The Harper Government has:

- Established the Federal Ombudsman for Victims of Crime.
- Provided victims and their families with a greater voice in the federal corrections and justice system and given them greater access to services so that they can, for example, travel to appear at parole hearings.
- Launched the National Victims of Crime Awareness Week in 2006 to raise awareness of victims' issues and built on those efforts with the launch of the Victims Matter campaign in 2010 to raise awareness and reach out to victims of crime to let them know what resources are available to them.
- Significantly increased funding for victims to respond to a variety of needs, including the creation and enhancement of Child Advocacy Centres across Canada to help better serve young victims and witnesses of crime.

While we have made progress on behalf of victims and their families, there is much more to be done.

The Harper Government will continue to take action to stand up for the rights of victims. We will never allow the rights of criminals to supersede the rights of victims ever again.

Background

- In April 2006, the Harper Government also launched the first annual National Victims of Crime Awareness week. During Victims of Crime Awareness week, events and activities are held by communities across Canada to raise awareness about victims' issues, the services that are available to victims and their families and laws intended to help victims.
- Budget 2006 provided \$26 million over two years to give victims a more effective voice in the federal corrections and justice system, and to give victims greater access to services such as travel to appear at parole hearings.
- On March 16, 2007, an office for a Federal Ombudsman for Victims of Crime was established, as well as funding for programs and services to support Canada's



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victims of crimes. The funding totalled \$52 million over four years to help the federal government, provinces and territories respond to a variety of needs facing victims of crime across the continuum of the justice system and federal corrections. This funding fulfilled a promise made by our Government to better meet the needs of victims of crime in matters of federal jurisdiction.

- Justice Canada hosted a three-day Northern Victims of Crime Conference in collaboration with federal, provincial and territorial partners. This was the first conference of its kind in Canada's North.
- On October 7, 2010, \$5.25 million over five years in funding was announced for the creation and enhancement of Child Advocacy Centres across Canada to help better serve young victims and witnesses of crime.
- In October 2010, our Government launched the Victims Matter campaign to raise awareness and reach out to victims of crime to let them know what resources are available to them. The goal of the campaign is to increase awareness and uptake of the services and programs available to victims of crime through the National Victims Fund.
- In September 2007, the National Victim Services Program was launched by Correctional Services Canada, which provided 30 new dedicated staff positions, 24 of which are responsible for direct service delivery.
- In 2009-2010, Correctional Services Canada contacted victims more than 37,500 times to provide information, and as of November 14, 2010, the number of registered victims had increased by 48 per cent to 67,211.



GIVING POLICE AND PROSECUTORS THE TOOLS AND RESOURCES THEY NEED TO DO THEIR JOB

Stephen Harper's Government understands the important role that the police and prosecutors play in keeping our streets and communities safe.

However, they did not always receive the tools and resources they needed to do their jobs.



Delivering Results for all Canadians

When we formed Government, we committed to giving them what they needed to do their jobs.

We have delivered on that commitment. Since 2006, we have:

- Created the Police Officer Recruitment Fund and invested \$400 million to recruit 2,500 police officers across Canada.
- Hired additional prosecutors.
- Increased the number of RCMP officers across the country by 1,000. The RCMP reported that 2009 was the most successful recruitment year in its history.
- Expanded the RCMP Depot to accommodate new officers and build the capacity to train more officers in the future.
- Approved an allowance of \$500 per week for the duration of the 24-week training period for new RCMP recruits to support RCMP recruitment efforts.
- Taken steps to modernize the RCMP.
- Introduced legislation to:
 - Give police up-to-date tools to fight organized crime and terrorism.
 - Streamline the application process when specific court orders or warrants need to be issued in relation to an investigation for which a judge has given a wiretap authorization.

While we have made progress in giving police and prosecutors the tools they need to do their jobs, much more needs to be done.

The Harper Government will continue to take action to support our police officers and prosecutors across the country.

Background

- Supported the national effort to recruit 2,500 police officers and provide flexibility to the provinces and territories in hiring additional personnel across the country as part of the \$400-million Police Officer Recruitment Fund.
- Tabled Bill C-38, *Ensuring the Effective Review of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Civilian Complaints Act*, in June 2010 to modernize external oversight of the RCMP (also reflected in Budget 2010). The bill is currently at first reading.



Delivering Results for all Canadians

- On October 29, 2010, Bill C-50, the *Improving Access to Investigative Tools for Serious Crimes Act*, was introduced to streamline the application process when specific court orders or warrants need to be issued in relation to an investigation for which a judge has given a wiretap authorization. It currently sits at Second Reading in the House of Commons.
- On November 1, 2010, Bill C-51, the *Investigative Powers for the 21st Century Act*, was introduced. This bill would provide law enforcement and national security agencies with up-to-date tools to fight crimes such as gang- and terrorism-related offences. It currently sits at Second Reading in the House of Commons.
- Budget 2006 provided \$161 million over two years for the RCMP to expand the number of federal police officers across the country (1,000 RCMP officers), and funding to hire additional federal prosecutors.
- Budget 2006 provided \$37 million over two years for the RCMP to expand the Depot to accommodate new officers and build the capacity to train more officers in the future.
- Cadet Pay – Initiative designed to support RCMP recruitment efforts, and addresses related recommendations of Brown Task Force. An allowance of \$500 per week for the duration of their 24-week training period was approved.
- Supported the independent investigation into matters relating to RCMP pension and insurance plans, as announced by the Minister of Public Safety. The Report of the Independent Investigator was released on June 15, 2007. It established the Task Force on Governance and Cultural Change in the RCMP to consider the challenges faced by the RCMP and make recommendations to transform it according to modern governance principles of accountability and transparency.
- Developed the Terms of Reference and provided support to the establishment of the RCMP Reform Implementation Council.
- Delivered commitment of \$8 million over two years to fund a new civilian independent review and complaints commission for the RCMP, which will contribute to the overall reform and modernization efforts underway at the RCMP.



Delivering Results for all Canadians



HELPING PREVENT CRIME BEFORE IT HAPPENS



Stephen Harper's Government is committed to the safety and security of law-abiding Canadian families.

Since taking office, we have worked to keep our streets and communities safer by keeping dangerous criminals behind bars.

At the same time, we recognize that there are those who, while at risk, still have time to make the right choice and stay away from a serious life of crime.

For those youth who are at risk, the Harper Government has been working to deliver the kind of action that will help them choose to stay on the right side of the law.

The Harper Government is:

- Helping to prevent youth involved in or at risk of being involved in a life of gang related activities spiral into a life of crime.
- Working to educate youth against drug use, as well as give options for those who genuinely want help with addiction, in addition to cracking down on drugs at the source.
- Helping provide at-risk youth with the skills and support to make choices that will keep them on the right side of the law.

Today, as a result of Harper Government action, many more youth who were at-risk of becoming serious offenders are instead becoming meaningfully and responsibly involved in their local communities as law-abiding citizens.

Background

Helping Kids Stay Away From Gangs:

Youth Justice Fund

- In December 2006, the Guns, Gangs and Drugs (GGD) component of the Youth Justice Fund was launched to focus on the rehabilitation of youth in conflict with the law. This fund responds to youth involved in the justice system and involved in, or vulnerable to, gun, gang and drug activities.

Youth Gang Prevention Fund

- Our Government created the Youth Gang Prevention Fund in 2006 for a period of five years. This Fund supports community groups that work with troubled youth to prevent them from becoming involved in gangs by addressing the known risk factors associated with gang involvement and by promoting positive alternatives to gangs.

Helping Crack Down on Drug Use and Crime

National Anti-Drug Strategy

- On October 4, 2007, the Prime Minister unveiled Canada's new National Anti-Drug Strategy. The Strategy provided funding to prevent illicit drug use, treat those with illicit drug dependencies and combat the production and distribution of illicit drugs. More than \$230 million has been allocated nationally, over five years, in three priority areas: preventing illicit drug use (\$30 million), treating illicit drug dependency (\$100 million), and combating the production and distribution of illicit drugs (\$102 million). The National Anti-Drug Strategy is a collaborative effort involving the Departments of Justice, Health and Public Safety.

Helping Youth Choose to be Law-abiding Citizens

National Crime Prevention Strategy

We supported crime prevention initiatives across the country in order to advance Canada's crime prevention and safer communities objectives under the National Crime Prevention Strategy. It is projected that Public Safety Canada will spend \$34.7 million by end of 2010.

- Our Government will also ensure the youth criminal justice system responds strongly to those few who commit serious and violent crimes, while focussing on the rehabilitation of all young offenders.
- In 2006, our Government provided over \$21.5 million in funding to support crime prevention initiatives across the country in order to advance Canada's crime prevention and safer communities objectives under the National Crime Prevention Strategy.
- In 2007, our Government provided over \$19 million in funding to support crime prevention initiatives across the country in order to advance Canada's crime prevention and safer communities objectives under the National Crime Prevention Strategy.



Delivering Results for all Canadians

- In 2008, we provided over \$20 million in funding to support crime prevention initiatives across the country in order to advance Canada's crime prevention and safer communities objectives through the National Crime Prevention Strategy.
- As approved in Budget 2008, the Harper Government provided \$30 million in ongoing funding for crime prevention through the National Crime Prevention Strategy, in addition to the already existing \$33 million in permanent funding.
- Created the Northern and Aboriginal Crime Prevention Fund through the National Crime Prevention Strategy in recognition of the specific needs of Aboriginal communities and Northern communities in relation to crime and community safety issues.
- In 2009, we provided over \$23 million to support crime prevention initiatives across the country in order to advance Canada's crime prevention and safer communities objectives under the National Crime Prevention Strategy.

Provincial Crime Prevention Initiatives

- On July 4, 2007, we announced \$6.8 million in funding to support 27 crime prevention initiatives in local communities across the province of Quebec as part of our Government's commitment to address youth crime through evidence-based initiatives that result in local solutions to local issues.
- On January 10, 2008, our Government announced \$7.7 million in funding for 15 crime prevention projects across Ontario and one national research project at Queen's University. Priorities for funding include support for vulnerable families and children at risk, preventing youth violence, youth gangs and drug-related crime, as well as crime prevention in Aboriginal communities in Hamilton.
- On January 28, 2008, we announced \$2.3 million in funding for six crime prevention projects in Quebec to help thousands of youth at risk from falling into a lifestyle of violence, gangs and crime in Montreal.
- On September 10, 2007, our Government announced \$2.5 million in funding to support eight crime prevention projects in local communities to help curb problems such as youth gang violence and drug abuse in Saskatoon.
- On July 10, 2009, our Government announced \$9.3 million in funding to support five crime prevention projects that will provide at-risk youth with alternatives to a life of crime, and provide professionals who work with them the tools they need to address crime prevention needs in their communities in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories.



Delivering Results for all Canadians

- On August 18, 2009, our Government announced \$5.6 million in funding to support four crime prevention projects offering training to equip youth with the life skills needed to make smart choices and avoid negative influences in Edmonton.
- On October 15, 2009, we announced \$5.1 million in funding to support two projects which will implement programs for youth at risk of delinquency in Toronto.
- On May 7, 2010, our Government announced \$7 million in funding support for four projects aimed at providing youth at-risk and their families with the tools and strategies needed to prevent crime and build safer communities in Abbotsford, British Columbia.
- On July 6, 2010, we announced \$7.5 million in funding under the National Crime Prevention Strategy to support a gang crime prevention project geared towards at-risk youth aged 15-25 who are members of gangs or involved in gang-related criminal activities in Montreal.
- On December 2, 2010, our Government announced \$7.8 million in funding on December 2, 2010, to support crime prevention projects in several Northwest Territories communities aimed at helping at-risk children and youth avoid criminal activity.



DELIVERING SAFER STREETS AND COMMUNITIES BY KEEPING DANGEROUS CRIMINALS BEHIND BARS

The Stephen Harper Government understands that one of the best ways to keep Canadian streets and communities safer is to keep dangerous criminals behind bars.

During the 13 years of the previous Liberal Government's inaction on crime, neglect failed to put the rights of victims and law-abiding Canadians first. Today, it is clear that nothing has changed and that they continue favouring criminals.

The Harper Government understands that there is a cost to having safe and secure communities and that cost includes prisons capable of doing what they are intended to do: keep dangerous criminals behind bars.

5 years of Harper Government Accomplishments

2006 – 2011



Delivering Results for all Canadians

That's why, since taking office, the Harper Government has:

- Delivered robust investments in 23 Canadian prisons in order to increase their capacity to keep criminals off the streets and away from law-abiding Canadians until they have served their debt to society.
- Strengthened the ability of Corrections Services Canada to maintain a modern, professional and safe prison environment for both staff and prisoners.
- Cracked down on drug use and trafficking within the Canadian prison system.

In addition, the Harper Government is proud that Canadian prison system expertise is currently helping to train Afghan guards and restructure the Afghan prisons system in Kandahar Province, Afghanistan.

While there is still more to do to ensure Canadian streets and communities are safe, thanks to Harper Government action, Canadian prisons will once more be ready to perform the job for which they were intended: keeping dangerous criminals behind bars and away from law-abiding Canadians until they have served their debt to society.

Background:

Investing in the Bricks and Mortar of Canada's Prisons:

- As of December 10, 2010, our Government has announced institutional expansions for 23 facilities, representing an additional capacity of 1,928 beds across the country and an overall economic investment of \$443 million.

Those prisons include:

- Matsqui Institution
- Pacific Institution
- Fraser Valley Institution for Women
- Kent Institution
- Mission Institution
- Ferndale Institution
- Drumheller Institution
- Edmonton Institution



Delivering Results for all Canadians

- Bowden Institution
- River Bend Institution
- Willow Cree Institution
- Stony Mountain Institution
- Rockwood Institution
- Fenbrook Institution
- Bath Institution
- Collins Bay Institution
- Frontenac Institution
- Pittsburgh Institution
- Millhaven Institution
- Montee St Francois
- Sainte Anne des Plaines
- Federal Training Centre (Laval)
- Cowansville Institution
- Donnacona Institution
- Springhill Institution
- Nova Institution for Women
- Renous Institution
- Dorchester Institution
- Beaver Creek Institution

Ensuring a Secure Prison Environment:

- In February 2008, the Correctional Service of Canada implemented a number of initiatives under its Transformation Agenda with the goal of enhancing public safety for Canadians using \$122 million allocated for that purpose in Budget

2008. These initiatives include the following:

- Enhancing offender accountability
- Eliminating drugs
- Enhancing correctional programs and interventions
- Modernizing physical infrastructure
- Strengthening community corrections

Cracking Down on Drug Crime Within Prisons:

- In August 2008, our Government announced a new anti-drug strategy using \$120 million in funding over five years to help eliminate drugs in federal prisons.
- This prison anti-drug policy helped:
 - Expand significantly the drug detector dog program at all federal prisons.
 - Increase security intelligence capacity in institutions and the surrounding communities.
 - Purchase new ION scanners, X-Ray machines and other security equipment for maximum and medium-security federal prisons.
 - Enhance perimeter security around institutions as well as technology support.
 - Implement a scheduled visits policy and better identify and control drug entry points into federal prisons.
 - Introduce a new zero-tolerance drug searching policy at federal prisons.
 - Protect children from being used to traffic drugs into institutions.

Delivering Results for all Canadians

STANDING ON GUARD AGAINST THREATS AGAINST CANADA

Stephen Harper's Government understands that the protection of Canadian families is among its most important responsibilities.

While Canada is safer than many nations around the world, we know that we are not immune to threats to our national security.

Whether from outside our borders or from within, as a government, as a country and as individuals, we all have a part to play in keeping Canada safe.

Since taking office in 2006, the Harper Government has worked to stand on guard against threats to Canada by:

- Boosting the ability of key security agencies to protect Canadian families and national security.
- Working to ensure that organizations linked to terrorism cannot profit or raise funds through Canadian banks, charities or businesses.
- Strengthening the Government's ability to lawfully remove known terrorists or criminals from Canada.
- Helping ensure international criminals cannot take refuge in Canada.
- Strengthening Canada's legal and operational ability to respond to terrorist threats.
- Enhancing Canada's sovereign ability, as well as our shared ability with the United States, to respond to attacks to power grids, nuclear power plants and other infrastructure that is essential to day to day safety, security and quality of life.
- Helping ensure Canada is ready in the event of a national emergency or disaster or terrorist attack by working with the United States, as well as with the provinces and territories on comprehensive emergency management strategies.
- Strengthening security along the Great Lakes by introducing legislation to have Canadian and United States law-enforcement teams working together to protect our shared border.



Delivering Results for all Canadians

- Bolstering Canada's cyber security against foreign, domestic and terrorist threats.
- Keeping trade and people flowing between the shared Canada-United States border while strengthening the capacity of our law-enforcement officers to do their job and protect the integrity of our borders.
- Protecting the health and safety of Canadian families by delivering a comprehensive action plan for pandemic preparedness.

While constant vigilance against new threats is the price of freedom, Canadians can feel confident that under the Harper Government's watch, Canadian families are now safer and more secure than they were prior to 2006.

Background:

Sharing Responsibility for the Security Along our Shared Maritime Border

- Our Government established the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Seaway Marine Security Operations Centre.
- We introduced the 'Shiprider' Framework Agreement. The Minister of Public Safety and the United States Secretary of Homeland Security signed an Agreement to make the Shiprider program permanent, having joint law enforcement teams stationed along the international maritime border.
- We tabled S-13, the *Keeping Canadians Safe (Protecting Borders) Act (Shiprider)* in October 2010. It is a joint Canada-United States initiative to govern the deployment of regularized integrated cross-border maritime law enforcement operations. The bill is currently at second reading in Senate.

Keeping Vigilant against Terrorist Entities Profiting in Canada

- Listing of Terrorist Entities:
 - Hezb-e Islami Gulbuddin (2006)
 - Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (2006)
 - World Tamil Movement (2008)
 - Al Shabaab (2010)
- *The Budget Implementation Act* (Royal Assent on March 12, 2009) included legislation to amend the Investment Canada Act and provided for the establishment of a mechanism to review foreign investments by a non-Canadian

investor on national security grounds (a response to a 2008 Speech from the Throne commitment).

Ensuring Emergency Readiness

- Our Government finalized the Domestic Plan for the Movement of Goods and People Across the Border During and Following Emergencies in conjunction with the Canada Border Services Agency in 2009. The plan helps ensure that first responders and critical goods and services will not be delayed at the border when emergency assistance is needed.
- We signed the Canada-United States Agreement on Emergency Management Cooperation in December 2008, renewing the cross border framework for the provision of assistance and collaboration on critical infrastructure, cyber security, and joint training and exercises.
- Our Government implemented the Federal Emergency Response Plan (2008), which guides the federal response to emergencies, such as natural disasters or terrorism.
- Our Government launched the Canada's National Disaster Mitigation Strategy in collaboration with the provinces and territories. The strategy recognizes that all levels of government play an important part of a robust emergency management framework, and that all stakeholders are committed to working together to support disaster mitigation in Canada.
- We announced the Canada-United States Framework for the Movement of People and Goods Across the Border During and Following an Emergency on May 27, 2009, establishing a collaborative process for restoring normal border operations as quickly as possible following a border disruption.
- We announced the Maritime Annex to the Canada-United States Framework for the Movement of People and Goods Across the Border During and Following an Emergency on November 24, 2009, establishing a process for guiding cross border communication and coordination during incidents that affect ports and shared waterways.

Strengthening our Response Against Foreign Criminals

- Provided funding to implement Bill C-3 which amended the security certificates process provided for in the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act*. Funding was renewed in 2009.
- Our Government contributed to additional amendments to the *International*



Delivering Results for all Canadians

Transfer of Offenders Act (Bill C-5) and the Corrections and Conditional Release Act (Bill C-39), which continue to work their way through Parliament.

Protecting Canada's Cyber Security

- Our Government launched Canada's Cyber Security Strategy on October 3, 2010. The strategy is a whole-of-Government approach to addressing cyber threats to government, critical assets and information, and to Canadians.
 - It will protect the most vulnerable members of society: our children. It will introduce legislation to increase the penalties for sexual offences against children as well as legislation to strengthen the sex offender registry. It will protect children from Internet luring and cyber abuse.

Anti-Terrorism

- Our Government introduced Bill S-7, *An Act to Deter Terrorism and to Amend the State Immunity Act (Justice for Victims of Terrorism Act)*.
- Our Government introduced Bill C-51, the *Investigative Powers for the 21st Century Act*, in November 2010 to provide law enforcement agencies with new, specialized investigative powers to prevent terrorism.
- We introduced Bill C-52, the *Investigating and Preventing Criminal Electronic Communications Act*, in November 2010 to allow law enforcement and national security agencies to execute authorizations for interception in a more timely and efficient manner with a warrant.
- We released the *Government Response to the Commission of Inquiry into the Bombing and Investigation of Air India Flight 182*.

Critical Infrastructure

- Announced the National Strategy and Action Plan for Critical Infrastructure on May 28, 2010, and established Canada's plan to confront the full range of risks and threats to vital assets and systems, such as electricity grids, transportation networks and financial systems.
- Announced the Canada-United States Action Plan for Critical Infrastructure on July 13, 2010, which established a cross border approach to sharing information, managing risks, and enhancing both nations' ability to prepare for and respond to disasters.

CSIS

- The March 2007 Federal Budget committed \$80 million over two years to CSIS to assist in maintaining operational capacity.
- Our Government introduced Bill C-3 (Security Certificates under the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act). This new legislation adds a special advocate regime to security certificate and related proceedings under the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act. It strikes a balance between protecting the rights of persons named in a certificate and ensuring the confidentiality of information which, if disclosed, would be injurious to national security or endanger a person's safety.

Strengthening Border Security without Thickening the Border

- We launched the Pilot Project to Enhance Border Security (Quebec), an RCMP and Canada Border Services Agency cooperative effort designed to further strengthen the integrity of the border without impeding the flow of legitimate trade and travel (2010).
- We armed Border officers and created a safer working environment by eliminating "work-alone" situations. The total investment is \$101 million.
- Our Government is implementing a border strategy to promote the movement of low-risk trade and travellers within North America while protecting Canadians from security threats. The total investment is \$303 million.
- Our Government implemented the United States Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI) and established NEXUS membership as an approved complement to the passport.
- Our Government created a sophisticated automated tool to assess the risk of cargo shipments destined for Canada before their arrival at the border (The Canada Border Services Agency received the Public Service Award of Excellence in the Innovation category).
- Facilitating the flow of people by managing low risk travellers through the investment of \$14 million for the further development of NEXUS (as part of a \$75-million investment over two years to maintain existing levels of border service).
- In 2007, the Canada Border Services Agency and Canadian Transit Company announced a joint initiative that enhances security controls and expedites the processing of commercial trucks entering Canada at the Ambassador Bridge; thus, improving efficiency and reducing congestion.



Delivering Results for all Canadians

- In 2007-2008, the Canada Border Services Agency removed over 12,000 inadmissible people for the second consecutive year. Further, 14 per cent of the removals were high-priority individuals including those involved in criminality, organized crime, war crimes or terrorism.
- Our Government is modernizing border infrastructure to improve border efficiency by investing \$80 million for the expansion and modernization of four border facilities and the construction of additional housing in the remote ports of entry in Beaver Creek and Little Gold in the Yukon and in Pleasant Camp, British Columbia.
- Successful completion of the expansion of the NEXUS program in the air mode to eight international airports six months ahead of schedule and in the land mode to 14 land-border locations across Canada.
- We implemented the new IPIL Highway software with document readers and new license plate equipment, including state-of-the-art touch screen technology at 138 lanes across the country.
- In June 2009, Bill S-2, *An Act to Amend the Customs Act*, received Royal Assent. The bill brought about amendments to the *Customs Act* to enhance the Canada Border Services Agency's ability to interdict contraband and other illegal items in customs-controlled areas, such as on airport tarmacs and seaport docks.
- In August 2009, the Minister of International Trade officially opened the new Douglas, British Columbia, port of entry, confirming our Government's commitment to keeping Canadians safe from potential security and health threats while ensuring that trade and travel flow smoothly and securely into Canada.
- In January 2010, Prime Minister Stephen Harper officially opened the new St. Stephen, New Brunswick, port of entry. The modern and expanded facility has improved service to the public and commercial clients and is in line with our Government's Budget 2009 commitment to improve border efficiency.

Ensuring Pandemic Preparedness

- Security Prosperity Partnership, North American Plan for Avian and Pandemic Influenza, a trilateral approach to pandemic preparedness (2007).



FAMILIES

Delivering Results for all Canadians

BUILDING STRONG CANADIAN FAMILIES

Stephen Harper's Government supports working families and children to improve the quality of life of all Canadians.

Under the strong leadership of Prime Minister Harper, Canadians can count on our Government to support choice in child care, put more money in the pockets of hard-working Canadians and invest in training for workers to help them get back into the workforce.

Supporting Hard-Working Families

- Our Government believes parents know best and we are supporting families through the Universal Child Care Benefit by providing all parents with \$100 per month/\$1,200 per year for each child under six to help with the cost of the child care they choose. Each year, the Universal Child Care Benefit is provided to parents on behalf of over two million children in Canada.
- Our Government provides a Child Tax Credit for each child under 18, which means over three million families per year keep more of their money to spend on what is important.
- We have enhanced the National Child Benefit and the Canada Child Tax Benefit to enable low-income families to earn more and still be able to receive the benefits.
- We increased the amount families in the two lowest personal income tax brackets can earn before paying income taxes.
- We are enabling Canadians to save more for a child's education by increasing the lifetime limit on RESP contributions, increasing the annual Canada Education Savings Grant amount, and expanding RESP access to part-time and apprenticeship students.
- Our Government is providing 2.6 million self-employed Canadians with access to EI special benefits on a voluntary basis so they no longer have to choose between family and work responsibilities.
- Our Government has improved the Work-Sharing program which has helped protect the jobs of over 260,000 Canadians since February 2009.



Delivering Results for all Canadians

- We introduced the Working Income Tax Benefit which helped close to one million Canadians in its first year. WITB helps low-income Canadians get over the 'welfare wall' and makes work pay by allowing them to keep more of their hard-earned money without it being clawed back.
- We capped EI premiums for 2011, meaning employers are able to maintain and create jobs, and Canadians are able to keep more of their hard-earned money to take care of their families.
- We introduced the Wage Earner Protection Program, a statutory payment program to improve conditions for wage earners by guaranteeing payment of unpaid salary up to the equivalent of four weeks of insurable Employment Insurance (EI) earnings in the event that their employer goes bankrupt.

Training for Working Families

- Our Government has an unwavering focus on Canada's economic recovery, job creation, and getting Canadians back to work. We have made many investments toward that goal:
 - Canada's Economic Action Plan included unprecedented investments for skills training for Canadians whether or not they are eligible for EI, resulting in over one million Canadians receiving skills training last year alone.
 - We provided an additional federal investment for the Targeted Initiative for Older Workers, helping unemployed older workers in communities experiencing persistent high unemployment and/or with a high reliance on a single industry.
 - Career Transition Assistance is a temporary initiative to support long-tenured workers taking longer-term training.
 - Up to \$4,000 to encourage young Canadians to pursue skilled trades. The Apprenticeship Completion Grant provides \$2,000 to each Canadian who completes Red Seal Trade training and the Apprenticeship Incentive Grant provides up to \$2,000 to Canadians while they are in training for Red Seal trade.

Canadian families and workers can be assured that under the strong leadership of Prime Minister Harper, our Government will invest in their future.

Delivering Results for all Canadians

INVESTING IN STUDENTS AND CANADA'S FUTURE

Stephen Harper's Government is committed to having the most educated, most skilled workforce in the world — it is vital to our economic recovery and success.

Under the strong leadership of Prime Minister Harper, Canadians can count on our Government to support students by investing in scholarships and grants, which students do not have to pay back so they are able to access an education while having less student debt to repay.

Increasing Accessibility to Education for Canadian Students

- Our Government increased transfers to the provinces by 40 per cent. This is in stark contrast to the previous Liberal Government which slashed transfers to provinces by \$25 billion dollars.
- We introduced a new and improved system of grants. The Canada Student Grants Program was introduced in August 2009 and provides grants for students from low- and middle- income families, part-time students, students with permanent disabilities and students with dependants. In 2009-2010 alone, grants were disbursed to 290,000 students, more than double the number of students that received grants under the previous Liberal Government's program. This is money that students do not have to pay back so they have less debt when they graduate.
- In August 2009, our Government also introduced the new Repayment Assistance Plan which increases the flexibility in how and when students repay their loans. It is now easier for borrowers to manage their loans by ensuring affordable repayment amount on a reasonable schedule.
- Our Government made scholarships and bursaries tax free.
- We introduced a textbook tax credit.
- Our Government has increased investments in the Canada Graduate Scholarships program.
- We have enabled Canadians to save more for a child's education by increasing the lifetime limit on RESP contributions, increasing the annual Canada



Delivering Results for all Canadians

Education Savings Grant amount, and expanding RESP access to part-time and apprenticeship students

- Our Government extended the maximum lifespan of RESPs from 25 to 35 years to provide additional flexibility to students who use these savings.
- We increased accessibility to RESP savings by introducing a 6-month grace period for students to apply for Educational Assistance Payments.
- Our Government increased investments in the new Canada Summer Jobs program, which provides funding to help employers create summer job opportunities for students to help them pay for their tuition.
- We have provided additional support for part-time students. Part-time students are no longer required to make Canada Student Loan payments while in-study (however interest accrues) and the maximum part-time loan balance was raised from \$4,000 to \$10,000.

Our investments are making a real difference for Canadian students: a 2009-2010 Conference Board of Canada report gives Canada an “A” grade on education and skills training.

Canadian families can rest assured that our Government will continue to invest in education to ensure the success of our students.



CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY



The Harper Government is committed to protecting Canadian families.

This fall, Canadians entered into a new era of consumer protection. Until December 2010, Canada’s consumer legislation had not been updated in more than 40 years. We did not have the power to order the mandatory recall of dangerous products, nor did we have the power to force stores to take dangerous products off the shelves.

Our newly-passed Consumer Product Safety legislation will allow Canadian consumers to have new confidence in the goods that are for sale in the marketplace.

Background

Safety for Canadians and their Families

Canada's new, tough consumer product safety legislation will:

- Prohibit the manufacture, importation, advertisement or sale of any consumer products that pose an unreasonable danger to human health or safety.
- Require industry to report when they know about a serious incident or death related to their product to provide government with timely information about important product safety issues, requiring manufacturers or importers to provide test/study results on products when asked.
- Allow the Minister of Health to recall dangerous consumer products.
- Raise fines and penalties for non-compliance.

Product Recalls

- In 2010 alone, our Government declared bisphenol-A (commonly known as BPA), a chemical found in baby bottles and sippy cups, as toxic; announced the toughest regulations in the world for lead reduction in children's toys; and drastically improved standards for cribs to keep infants and toddlers safe.
- Our Government also asked for a voluntary recall of the use of cadmium in children's costume jewellery.
- The launch of **healthycanadians.gc.ca/kids** now makes product recalls as easy as signing up for e-mail info-alerts that can either be sent to smart phones or personal e-mail accounts. Canadians can select what type of product recall alert they would like to receive, including info-alerts on a variety of topics from car recalls to food recalls and toy recalls.

Stronger Labelling on Tobacco Packaging

- Part of consumer product safety is ensuring that consumers are fully aware of the product they are purchasing. This is why our Government has introduced new, updated and larger health warning messages for cigarette and little cigar packages that will be complemented and strengthened by a social marketing campaign targeted in particular at young Canadians.



Delivering Results for all Canadians

- The Harper Government has taken other anti-smoking measures which include the *Cracking Down on Tobacco Marketing Aimed at Youth Act (C-32)*, which is now law. The new law cracks down on tobacco marketing aimed at youth, bans flavours that would appeal to children, sets minimum package sizes and bans all tobacco advertising. We have also invested funds in preventing contraband tobacco.

Child Car Seat Testing

- Introduced new regulations to strengthen the testing standards of child car seats, making Canada's testing among the toughest in the world.

Environmental Measures

- In 2008, our Government announced that it had proposed to amend regulations to reduce the amount of phosphates added to laundry detergents, and, for the first time in Canadian history, limit the amount of phosphates found in dishwasher detergents and general purpose cleaners.
- In 2008, our Government announced it was introducing new emissions standards for volatile organic compounds, which contribute to smog in consumer and commercial products, such as paints, varnishes, adhesives and vehicle repair cleaners.
- In 2008, we announced the publication of final regulations to reduce the levels of Polybrominated Diphenyl Ethers (PBDEs) that could be entering the environment. PBDEs are used to slow the spread of fire in a wide variety of plastics, fabrics, glues, sealants and foams. While they were not found to be harmful to human health, they are toxic to the environment because they build up and last a long time in the environment.
- In 2008, our Government announced it would take action to limit the amount of bisphenol A that is being released into the environment. The combination of the slow breakdown of bisphenol A and its wide use in Canada means that over time this chemical could build up in our waters and harm fish and other organisms. Our Government allocated an additional \$1.7 million over the following three years to fund research projects on bisphenol A. The Regulations came into effect in 2009.
- In 2008, our Government, along with the governments of the United States and Mexico, signed a joint Statement of Intent affirming our commitment to developing a regional framework for the safe management of harmful chemicals.
- In 2009, new regulations were announced to reduce Volatile Organic Compounds



Delivering Results for all Canadians

(VOC) in automotive refinishing products. VOCs found in these products contribute to the creation of smog, which is harmful to both human health and the environment. The regulations introduce VOC concentration limits for coatings and surface cleaners, which are used for refinishing or repairing the painted surfaces of automobiles, trucks and other mobile equipment.

- In 2009, our Government announced new regulations to reduce emissions of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) from the architectural coatings sector through products such as paints, finishes, dyes and varnishes.
- In 2010, Canada accepted the International Star (I-Star) of Energy Efficiency Award from the Washington D.C.-based Alliance to Save Energy. Environment Canada and Efficiency New Brunswick were jointly awarded the I-Star award for pioneering creative energy efficiency programs and solutions throughout Canada.



SUPPORTING CANADA'S SENIORS

Stephen Harper's Government is committed to enhancing the well-being of Canada's seniors during the retirement they have earned.

That is why since 2006 the Harper Government has:

- Introduced tax relief measures specifically for seniors such as pension income splitting, twice increasing the Age Credit amount, and increasing GIS benefits for recipients who choose to work.
- Introduced legislation to make our streets and communities safer so that seniors feel safe in their own homes and communities.
- Taken a strong stand against elder abuse, raising awareness to recognize the signs of elder abuse and deal with those who abuse seniors physically, financially and mentally.
- Created a dedicated Minister of State for Seniors bringing seniors issues directly to the Cabinet table.
- Established October 1 as National Seniors Day.



Delivering Results for all Canadians

The Harper Government will continue to stand up for seniors, strengthen pensions and provide much needed tax relief.

Background

Our Government has delivered real results and introduced new measures for Canada's seniors.

Tax Measures

- The Tax Fairness Plan of October 2006 increased the Age Credit amount by \$1,000 beginning in 2006 and announced pension income splitting beginning in 2007. Pension income splitting reduces income tax for a pensioner couple by allowing the higher-income spouse to allocate an amount of income to a lower-income spouse for tax purposes.
- The Age Credit amount was increased again in 2009 by another \$1,000 to provide tax relief to low- and middle-income seniors. With indexation, this means additional tax savings of up to \$151 for low-income seniors in 2010.
- In Budget 2008, our Government increased the GIS earnings exemption from \$500 to \$3,500, meaning that a GIS recipient with employment income is now able to keep more of his or her hard-earned money without any reduction in GIS benefits.
 - A single pensioner earning \$3,500 or more can keep an additional \$1,500 in annual GIS benefits. Nearly 100,000 low-income seniors benefit from this measure.
- On November 18, 2010, Bill C-40, *An Act to Establish National Seniors Day*, received Royal Assent, recognizing October 1 as a day for all Canadians to recognize and celebrate the countless and valuable contributions that seniors made in building our country and continue to make in their communities.



***CANADA – STRONG,
UNITED & FREE***



Delivering Results for all Canadians



STANDING UP FOR CANADA'S ARMED FORCES

The Stephen Harper Government is committed to supporting our brave men and women in the Canadian Armed Forces in getting the job done.

Under the previous Liberal Government's "Decade of Darkness", our men and women in uniform were disrespected, stripped of funding, stripped of personnel and stripped of resources. They were sent to desert missions in green uniforms and were expected to do their challenging jobs without the right equipment.

Today, thanks to landmark investments and renewed respect for the essential work of our brave men and women in uniform, our Canadian Armed Forces are a stronger, better equipped and more mission-ready team than ever before.

Thanks to the Harper Government's leadership, our Canadian Armed Forces have successfully:

- Boosted their level of readiness to protect Canada through more modern, capable equipment procurement.
- Responded to humanitarian crises in Canada and around the world, such as in Newfoundland and Labrador in the wake of Hurricane Igor and in Haiti following the devastating earthquake in January 2010.
- Increased the capacity to deliver better health and medical care to our Canadian Armed Forces members and their families.

While the hard work, skills and determination of our brave men and women in uniform have always done Canada proud, thanks to Harper Government action, the Canadian Armed Forces are once again a modern, well-equipped and respected force on the world stage.

Background

In the last five years, the Harper Government has helped to boost the Canadian Armed Forces capabilities and readiness by:

- Announcing a series of Canada First defence procurement investments to support a multi-role, combat-capable force.



Delivering Results for all Canadians

- Transforming force structures and improving the effectiveness of the Canadian Armed Forces.
- Renewing the NORAD agreement in perpetuity in May 2006 and added maritime warning mission to the mandate of the bi-national Canada-United States command.
- Announcing over \$1 billion in infrastructure in Canadian Armed Forces bases and stations in communities from coast to coast to coast, including:
 - \$146 million for projects in the Atlantic region
 - \$108.8 million in defence infrastructure in Quebec
 - \$880 million for a Communications Security Establishment Canada building
 - \$300 million for CFB Kingston and Royal Military College Kingston, Ontario
 - \$175 million in construction and infrastructure projects in Alberta
 - \$313 million for facility creation and improvements at CFB Esquimalt, British Columbia
 - \$442.5 million for infrastructure and construction projects at 8 Wing/CFB Trenton, Ontario, and CFB Gaagetown, New Brunswick
 - \$134.8 million to construct a Chinook hangar at CFB Petawawa, Ontario
 - \$205 million to improve infrastructure at CFB Borden, Ontario.
- Receiving the first of Canada's four CC-177 Globemaster III strategic lift aircraft, which delivered supplies to Jamaica 12 days following Hurricane Dean. The remaining three aircraft were delivered by April 2008.
- Re-opening the Collège militaire royal de Saint-Jean in Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu, Quebec, with an investment of \$200 million in funding over the next 20 years.
- In response to recommendations in the Manley Report, planning the purchase and lease of helicopters and Unmanned Aerial Vehicles to help provide Canadians, allies and Afghans with the security and support needed to rebuild Afghanistan with a financial commitment of up to \$437 million.
- Obtaining a number of key equipment requirements ahead of schedule, including the high-performance Unmanned Aerial Vehicle, used Chinook-D helicopters,



Delivering Results for all Canadians

Leopard II main battle-tanks, mission-modified Griffon helicopters for deployment to Afghanistan, and interim and longer-term Army Small UAVs.

- Initiating the procurement process for new trucks and armoured vehicles to modernize our land forces.
- Launching a national shipbuilding procurement strategy worth \$40 billion over 30 years to ensure long-term certainty for Canada's naval and Coast Guard procurement in the years and decades ahead.
- Purchased 100 Leopard tanks to support our mission in Afghanistan, through a commitment of \$650 million.
- Supported the environment through a \$300-million funding commitment to the 5 Wing Goose Bay Remediation Project.
- Achieved Arctic surveillance capability through Project Polar Epsilon which provides DND/CF with enhanced surveillance capabilities in Canada's Arctic region. The project uses Canada's RADARSAT-2 to provide all-weather day/night surveillance in areas where other sensors are limited or unable to operate.
- The procurement of the F-35s is an investment in the long-term future of the Canadian Armed Forces, in the safety of our nation and in the economies of communities across Canada which are already benefitting from the production and maintenance of these state-of-the-art fighter jets.

In the last five years, the Canadian Armed Forces has successfully responded to Humanitarian Crises in Canada and around the world:

- Joined the large-scale rescue operation to evacuate 40 forestry workers stranded by a snowstorm in Northern British Columbia and Alberta.
- 130 Canadian Armed Forces personnel assisted DFAIT with the evacuation of more than 14,000 Canadians from Lebanon in July and August.
- Deployed approximately 2,000 Canadian Armed Forces personnel, helicopters and two ships to aid in the rescue, recovery and reconstruction efforts in Haiti.
- Evacuated approximately 1,000 residents from the First Nations communities of Kashechewan, Fort Albany and Attiwapiskat after heavy flooding.
- Supported the 2010 Olympics by deploying 4,500 Canadian Armed Forces personnel, providing air support to move personnel and equipment, medical evacuation, air patrols and area surveillance, as well as land support teams.



Delivering Results for all Canadians

- Deployed a CC-177 Globemaster transport aircraft to Louisiana to assist with the evacuation of people threatened by Hurricane Gustav.
- The Canadian Navy escorted World Food Program ships to safely deliver food aid to Somalia and Haiti.
- Stood up 1st Canadian Division Headquarters, the 130-member unit that can rapidly deploy at home or around the globe in response to a variety of crises including humanitarian operations.
- Assisted in hurricane-relief operations in Newfoundland and Labrador by deploying more than 1,000 Canadian Armed Forces personnel.

In the last five years, the Harper Government has taken action to improve the health and well-being of Canadian Armed Forces members and their families by:

- Establishing a network of Integrated Personnel Support Centres dedicated to the care of ill and injured Canadian Armed Forces personnel, former personnel and their families.
- Announcing \$140 million to create a CF Health Information System project, which will enable Canadian Armed Forces healthcare professionals to securely share information and coordinate patient care.
- Increasing the number of mental health practitioners from 229 to 320 at Canadian Armed Forces clinics across the country.
- Improving funding for Canadian Armed Forces members' long-term disability insurance with an investment of \$356 million over four years.
- Creating the Soldier On program to help ill and severely-injured Canadian Armed Forces members and Veterans become independent by giving them the tools for better physical fitness, health promotion and involvement in sports.



PROMOTING CANADA'S ARCTIC SOVEREIGNTY

Gone are the days of Canada's North being ignored by Ottawa. Over the past five years, the Harper Government has demonstrated international leadership and

5 years of Harper Government Accomplishments

2006 – 2011



Delivering Results for all Canadians

stewardship in the Arctic while promoting Canada's vision of Arctic sovereignty for the North.

This vision includes a stable region with clearly defined boundaries, dynamic economic growth and trade, vibrant Northern communities, and healthy and productive ecosystems.

Our Government believes that Canada's interests in the North have never been greater.

That is why we have significantly enhanced our presence in the North. We are making new and targeted investments, be they patrol ships, a new polar-class icebreaker, reinforcements to our Canadian Rangers, better monitoring of our airspace and seas, and the release of Canada's Statement on Arctic Foreign Policy.

Our Statement on Arctic Foreign Policy defines Canada's Arctic priorities by four key pillars moving forward:

1. Exercising our sovereignty
2. Promoting economic and social development
3. Protecting our environmental heritage
4. Improving good governance and greater local control

To reach this point, our Government has already committed significant resources towards these four cornerstones of our Arctic sovereignty.

Background

Exercising Canada's Arctic Sovereignty

- Announcement of significant new commitments to allow Canada to better monitor, protect and patrol its Arctic land, sea and sky and to keep pace with changes in the region.
- Within the next decade, Canada will launch a new polar icebreaker. This will be the largest and most powerful icebreaker ever in the Canadian Coast Guard fleet.
- The Canada First Defence Strategy will give the Canadian Armed Forces the tools they need to provide an increased presence in the Arctic.
- Canada is investing in new patrol ships that will be capable of sustained operation in first-year ice to ensure we can closely monitor our waters as they gradually open up and maritime activity increases. In order to support these and



Delivering Results for all Canadians

other Government of Canada vessels operating in the North, Canada is investing in a berthing and refuelling facility in Nanisivik.

- Canada is also expanding the size and capabilities of the Canadian Rangers, drawn primarily from indigenous communities, who provide a military presence and Canada's "eyes and ears" in remote parts of Canada. A new Canadian Armed Forces Arctic Training Centre is also being established in Resolute Bay.
- Canada is working together with the United States to better monitor and control Northern airspace through our cooperation in NORAD, the North American Aerospace Defence Command. The Canadian Armed Forces will also take advantage of new technologies to enhance surveillance capacity of our territory and its approaches.
- The Canadian Armed Forces Operation Nanook, an annual sovereignty operation that takes place in Canada's Arctic, shows our Government's commitment to protecting and demonstrating control over the air, land and sea within our jurisdiction. In 2010, Operation Nanook included collaboration with the United States and Denmark in order to increase interoperability and exercise a collective response to emerging cross-border challenges. This increased Canadian capacity demonstrates Canada's presence in the region and will also ensure that we are better prepared to respond to unforeseen events.

Promoting Economic and Social Development

- Our Government has made significant investments in mapping the energy and mineral potential of the North. This includes measures to improve regulatory systems across the North, address infrastructure needs including housing, create the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency, and support improvement in indigenous skills and employment.

Protecting the Arctic Environment

- Our Government was the first country to pass legislation to protect our Arctic waters.
- We recently finalized and put into force new regulations that require vessels to report when they are entering and operating within Canadian Arctic waters. The goal of these regulations is not to interfere with navigation but to protect sensitive ecosystems and our Northern communities. They are an indication of Canada's resolve to exercise its stewardship over Canadian lands and waters.
- Strong commitment to Arctic science — the foundation for sound policy and decision making on the environment. Indeed, Canada was the single largest



Delivering Results for all Canadians

contributor to the International Polar Year, taking partnerships in circumpolar research to new levels.

- Expansion of Northern national parks, including the proposed expansion of Lancaster Sound National Marine Park.

Improving Good Governance and Greater Local Control

- Our Government recognizes and values the important role Northern governments, Arctic Indigenous organizations at the Arctic Council (known as the Permanent Participants organizations) and other Northerners have played, and will continue to play, in shaping Canada's international actions. Canada continues to support Indigenous Permanent Participant organizations in Canada, including financially, to contribute to strengthening their capacity to fully participate in the activities of the Arctic Council.



STANDING UP FOR OUR VETERANS

Stephen Harper's Government is determined to see that our military personnel, past and present, and their families receive all the care, the services and the financial support they need and deserve.

Veterans Affairs Canada has transitioned from a department focussed on Veterans of the Second World War to also focus on modern day Veterans who served in Afghanistan.

The New Veterans Charter is truly a living document. Canadian Armed Forces members, Veterans, their families and families of the deceased have provided recommendations to address their concerns and priorities, which is why we are introducing the *Enhanced New Veterans Charter Act*, Bill C-55.

The Enhanced New Veterans Charter Act will improve access to monthly benefits for seriously-injured Veterans, introduce a monthly \$1,000 supplement for life to help our most seriously-injured or ill Veterans, as well as provide flexible options for receiving a Disability Award by choosing either a lump-sum payment, annual instalments over a number of years or a combination of both.

The Harper Government has:

- Announced a Legacy of Care for seriously-injured military personnel and their



Delivering Results for all Canadians

families and pledged \$52.5 million over five years in additional support.

- Announced improved support for Veterans with ALS. These Veterans can now receive disability benefits, treatments and home care support.
- Extended the deadline for applications to June 20, 2011, for the one-time, tax-free *ex-gratia* payment of \$20,000 related to the testing of unregistered United States military herbicides, including Agent Orange, at CFB Gagetown in New Brunswick during the summers of 1966 and 1967.
- Announced the Atomic Veterans Recognition program to provide one-time *ex-gratia* payments of \$24,000 to veterans who participated in nuclear weapons tests following the Second World War, and in the Chalk River nuclear decontamination at key points in the 1950s.
- Announced the Community War Memorial Program that will support the construction of new war memorials and \$1 million per year over five years.
- Provided GST relief for Royal Canadian Legion purchases of Remembrance Day poppies and wreaths.

Our Government is committed to the men and women of the Canadian Armed Forces and we will continue to work with Veterans and their families to ensure they receive the support they need and deserve.

Background

The Enhanced New Veterans Charter Act

- This legislation would:
 - Improve access to monthly benefits for seriously-injured Veterans (up to \$1,609 per month, for life).
 - Introduce a monthly \$1,000 supplement for life to help our most seriously-injured or ill Veterans.
 - Provide flexible options for receiving a Disability Award by choosing either a lump sum payment, equal annual instalments over a number of years or a combination of both.
 - The regulations which govern the New Veterans Charter will be amended to include a minimum annual, pre-tax income of \$40,000 for Veterans who receive the monthly Earnings Loss Benefit.



Delivering Results for all Canadians

Legacy of Care

- On September 28, 2010, the Harper Government announced a Legacy of Care for seriously-injured military personnel and their families, pledging \$52.5 million over five years in additional support.
- To help them as they are undergoing rehabilitation, our Government will provide access to accommodation, transportation to medical appointments, financial support for caregivers, educational opportunities for spouses, and increased one-on-one attention for Veterans when they need information and help.
- These recent measures total over \$ 2 billion dedicated to caring for our Veterans because they deserve our full support.

Supporting Veterans with ALS

- In October 2010, our Government announced improved support for Veterans with ALS. These Veterans can now receive disability benefits, treatments and home care support.
- Based on the latest medical research, our Government has made changes so that Veterans affected by ALS obtain the help and support they need and deserve faster than ever before.
- These Veterans will now be able to receive disability benefits, treatments and home care support.
- These services are greatly needed by Veterans and their families who are affected by this devastating disease.
- For example, they will now be eligible for adapted wheelchairs, medical resources, housekeeping services and more.

Agent Orange *ex-gratia* Payments

- In September 2007, the Harper Government announced a one-time, tax-free *ex-gratia* payment of \$20,000 related to the testing of unregistered United States military herbicides, including Agent Orange, at CFB Gagetown in New Brunswick during the summers of 1966 and 1967.
- In December 2010, our Government extended the deadline to June 2011 and widened eligibility criteria.
- We estimate that these changes will allow approximately 1,140 people to receive the *ex-gratia* payment, for a total of approximately \$24 million dollars.



Delivering Results for all Canadians

- Veterans Affairs Canada will be communicating shortly with individuals whose applications were previously declined in order to see if they meet the new criteria.

Community War Memorial Program

- Our Government announced the Community War Memorial Program, a five-year funding initiative to support the construction of new war memorials with \$1 million per year over five years.
- With help from the Community War Memorial Program, communities and organizations across Canada will be able to build cenotaphs/monuments or major additions to existing ones, that promote and preserve the memory of all those who have served Canada since 1867.

GST Relief for Royal Canadian Legion Remembrance Day Poppies and Wreaths

- In October 2010, the Government of Canada announced a 100-per-cent rebate of GST for Royal Canadian Legion purchases of Remembrance Day poppies and wreaths.



STRENGTHENING CANADA'S IMMIGRATION SYSTEM



Stephen Harper's Government appreciates that we are a country of immigrants whose identities are bound up in the stories of ancestors from hundreds of lands.

The success of Canada's economy depends on a skilled and educated workforce.

Our objective is clear: we must combine the best of our intellectual and natural resources to create jobs, growth and opportunity.

The Harper Government has introduced a number of measures to help newcomers to Canada and to better protect Canada's immigration system.

The Harper Government has:

- Cut the Right of Landing Fee for new immigrants in half, saving a family of four more than \$2,000.



Delivering Results for all Canadians

- Welcomed the highest levels of immigration in 70 years, significantly more than Canada accepted under the Trudeau, Chrétien, and Martin Liberal governments.
- Reformed our refugee system, so that real refugees fleeing persecution get protection faster, while bogus asylum seekers are deported before they become a burden on Canadian taxpayers.
- Brought in a new citizenship study guide, *Discover Canada: The Rights and Responsibilities of Citizenship*, that includes more meaningful content than its predecessor about Canadian history, the military sacrifice and heroism of our Veterans, and the contributions of Canada's diverse ethnic communities.
- Stood tall against racism by boycotting the irredeemably anti-Semitic Durban 2 and Durban 3 conferences.
- Increased protection for caregivers and nannies, including implementing the *Juana Tejada Law*.
- Cracked down on crooked immigration consultants who victimise those who dream of immigrating to Canada, all the while abusing our immigration system.
- Introduced tough measures to prevent human smugglers from abusing our immigration system.
- Responded quickly to humanitarian and natural disasters in Haiti, the Philippines, and elsewhere with generous special measures programs to reunite families quickly.

Background

Refugee Reform

- On March 30, 2010, Bill C-11, the *Balanced Refugee Reform Act*, was introduced. The legislation will improve Canada's asylum system, deliver quicker decisions on asylum claims and provide faster protection to those in need and faster removal of those who don't need Canada's protection. On June 29, 2010, it received Royal Assent.

Resettlement Program

- On June 29, 2010, an expansion of the resettlement program was announced, increasing the resettlement target by 2,500, which means that up to 500 more government-assisted refugees and 2,000 privately-sponsored refugees would be resettled on an annual basis.



Delivering Results for all Canadians

- In addition, funding for the Resettlement Assistance Program, which offers income support and immediate and essential services to resettled government-assisted refugees from overseas, would be increased for the first time in ten years — by about \$9 million a year. This was linked to Refugee Reform.

Citizenship Guide

- On November 12, 2009, a new, more comprehensive study guide for Canadian citizenship was launched. Called *Discover Canada: The Rights and Responsibilities of Citizenship*, it includes information on common values such as freedom, democracy, human rights, the rule of law and the equality of men and women.
- In March 2010, our Government implemented a new citizenship test based on the new study guide for Canadian citizenship. While maintaining its 20 question and multiple choice format, the pass threshold for the test was raised from 60 per cent to 75 per cent.
- These changes were undertaken to ensure that new citizens could demonstrate a thorough knowledge of Canada's history, symbols, institutions and values, and a thorough understanding of the fundamental concepts of meaningful citizenship.
- In October 2010, the citizenship test was further changed with the removal of mandatory questions.

Human Smuggling

- On May 11, 2006, new measures were adopted that help victims of human trafficking in Canada. Working within Canada's existing legislative framework, immigration officers could issue Temporary Resident Permits (TRPs) for up to 120 days to victims of human trafficking. In 2007, this was extended to 180 days and also allowed them to apply for work permits. The permit enabled victims to begin to recover from the impact of this crime.
- On October 22, 2010, Bill C-49, *Preventing Human Smugglers from Abusing Canada's Immigration System Act*, was introduced. The legislation is designed to crack down on human smugglers who seek to abuse Canada's immigration system.

Immigration System Changes

- On May 15, 2006, Bill C-14 was introduced to amend the *Citizenship Act*. The legislation which received Royal Assent, allowed children adopted abroad by Canadian citizens to obtain Canadian citizenship without first having to become permanent residents.



Delivering Results for all Canadians

- On April 16, 2008, Bill C-37, *An Act to Amend the Citizenship Act*, passed, taking “lost Canadians” one giant step closer to enjoying Canadian citizenship. The *Citizenship Act* was amended to give Canadian citizenship to those who lost or never had it due to outdated provisions in existing and former legislation. It was implemented in April 2009.
- On June 10, 2010, Bill C-37, *Strengthening the Value of Canadian Citizenship Act*, was introduced. It will streamline the citizenship revocation process, crack down on crooked citizenship consultants and better protect the value of Canadian citizenship. It has received first reading.
- On June 8, 2010, Bill C-35, *Cracking Down on Crooked Consultants Act*, was introduced in the House of Commons. It aims to crack down on crooked immigration consultants who exploit prospective immigrants and undermine the integrity of Canada’s immigration system. The Bill received House of Commons approval on December 7, 2010, and moves to the Senate next for consideration.

Outreach

- On behalf of the Government of Canada, Prime Minister Harper apologised for the Chinese Head Tax and other racially-based immigration restrictions.
- Rescued the stateless Vietnamese “boat people” living in the Philippines.
- Responded quickly and generously to Typhoon Ketsana (Ondoy) with a generous aid package and special immigration measures for Filipinos affected by the disaster.
- Officially recognised the Holodomor as a genocide, one perpetrated in pursuit of the evil ideology of communism.
- On September 27, 2006, Canada lifted the visa requirement on Estonian citizens.
- On June 26, 2008, services offered by the visa office in Beirut, Lebanon, were enhanced so that permanent resident applicants from Lebanon could choose to be interviewed by immigration officers in Beirut and not have to travel to Syria.
- Brought in a redress package to commemorate wartime immigration restrictions.
- Amended the War Veterans Allowance Act to provide more support to Allied Veterans of the Second World War and Korean War and their family members.
- Supported a parliamentary motion in support of a “formal and sincere apology” for the comfort women.



Delivering Results for all Canadians

- On March 1, 2008, Canada lifted the visa requirement on citizens of Poland, Slovakia, Lithuania and Hungary.
- On March 29, 2009, Canada lifted the visa requirement on citizens of Croatia.
- On April 9, 2010, Canada's visa office in Mexico City established a special visa application program for Mexican business travellers. The new Business Express Program was created to provide qualified businesses and their employees with a number of service advantages, including less paperwork, priority processing of visa applications, and a dedicated service to respond to the needs of those within the program.
- On November 22, 2010, Canada lifted the visa requirement on travellers with ordinary Taiwan passports issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Taiwan.



SUPPORTING FOREIGN CREDENTIAL RECOGNITION



Stephen Harper's Government is committed to attracting the best international talent to address existing and future labour market challenges, which is critical to Canada's long-term economic success.

Our Economic Action Plan invested \$50 million to work with the provinces and territories and key stakeholders to develop a common approach to improve foreign credential recognition.

This partnership has led to the implementation of the Pan-Canadian Framework for the Assessment and Recognition of Foreign Qualifications.

Under the Framework, our Government cooperated with partners to speed up foreign credential recognition for eight priority occupations, including engineers and pharmacists, helping skilled newcomers get jobs in their fields.

New Canadians in these key professions can now expect to have their qualifications assessed within one year.

The next phase of the Framework will focus on improving foreign credential recognition for six more target occupations, including dentists and physicians.



Delivering Results for all Canadians

Projects like these help newcomers put their knowledge and skills to work sooner in communities across Canada.

The Harper Government is committed to helping newcomers maximize their talents. For Canada to achieve its economic potential, immigrants and newcomers must have the opportunity to find work that best suits their skills and qualifications.

Background

- In 2006, the Harper Government committed to take the necessary steps to create a Canadian agency for assessment and recognition of foreign credentials. The Budget allocated \$18 million over the years 2006-2007 and 2008-2009 to facilitate the consultation process.
- In Budget 2007, the Harper Government allocated \$37.2 million over five years to the Foreign Credentials Referral Office.
- In May 2007, the Foreign Credentials Referral Office was launched. The Foreign Credentials Referral Office was mandated to provide integrated and authoritative foreign credentials information, path-finding and referral services to newcomers, prospective immigrants and employers through:
 - Toll-free telephone and in-person services delivered through 320 Service Canada centres across the country.
 - Internet services inside and outside Canada through the Foreign Credentials Referral Office Web site (www.credentials.gc.ca).
- In 2008, two separate innovative pilot programs were created: the Young Newcomers Internship Program, initiated by Citizenship and Immigration Canada, and the Immigrant Internship Pilot Project, initiated by Human Resources and Skills Development Canada.
 - These initiatives represented an important first step in providing newcomers with the necessary work experience to improve labour market integration while supporting the Harper Government's public service renewal agenda and the achievement of employment equity and diversity.
- Budget 2009 announced \$50 million in funding over two years as part of the Government of Canada's contributions towards improving Foreign Qualification Recognition in Canada and achieving the objectives of the forthcoming Foreign Qualification Recognition Framework.
- In November 2009, we announced that an agreement has been reached on



Delivering Results for all Canadians

The Pan-Canadian Framework for the Assessment and Recognition of Foreign Qualifications.

- The Framework calls for improvements across the entire Foreign Qualification Recognition process, beginning with overseas supports, continuing through the assessment and recognition stages, and concluding with workplace supports to ensure successful integration into the Canadian labour market.
- In 2009, the Harper Government launched *The Employer's Roadmap: Hiring and Retaining Internationally Trained Workers*, to provide information, tools and resources for successful recruitment, assessment of foreign qualifications, integration and retention of internationally-trained workers.
- In 2009, The Foreign Credentials Referral Office also developed and designed the *Planning to Work in Canada? An Essential Workbook for Newcomers* that provides step-by-step information on housing, accessing settlement services, official languages, finding a job and the credential recognition process.
- Through a contribution agreement signed with the Association of Canadian Community Colleges on April 1, 2010, the Foreign Credential Referral Office has funded the provision of in-person labour market orientation services (a Canadian Immigration Integration Project) in India, China and the Philippines, which began in October 2010. In 2011, an additional office will be launched in London, the United Kingdom.
- Through the Framework, federal, provincial and territorial governments have identified the regulated target occupations. This represents areas that governments agree to collectively focus their efforts to improve foreign qualification recognition. These lists were established through an analysis of indicators of labour market supply and demand (sector and region-specific), as well as through consultations with federal, provincial and territorial governments to consider issues and criteria not captured in available data.
- Target Occupations for December 31, 2010:
 - Architects
 - Engineers
 - Financial Auditors and Accountants
 - Medical Laboratory Technologists



Delivering Results for all Canadians

- Occupational Therapists
- Pharmacists
- Physiotherapists
- Registered Nurses
- Target Occupations for December 31, 2012:
 - Dentists
 - Engineering Technicians
 - Licensed Practical Nurses
 - Medical Radiation Technologists
 - Physicians
 - Teachers (K-12)



IMPROVING THE LIVES OF CANADA'S ABORIGINAL PEOPLES

The Harper Government remains committed to improving the lives of Canada's Aboriginal People.

That is why in 2006, our Government committed to improve living conditions for First Nations and Inuit by supporting priority areas in education, women, children and families, water and housing.

The Harper Government has:

- Concluded a final settlement on Indian Residential Schools and launched a commission for truth and reconciliation. Prime Minister Stephen Harper offered a historic formal apology to former students of Indian Residential Schools and sought forgiveness for the students' suffering and for the damaging impact the schools had on Aboriginal culture, heritage and language.



Delivering Results for all Canadians

- We reintroduced legislation to guarantee to people living on reserve the same protections other Canadians enjoy under the *Canadian Human Rights Act*.
- Our Government formed the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency and introduced measures that will bring jobs to Northern Canada and create employment across the country, just as they will bring new energy supplies to markets in Southern Canada and throughout the world.
- To further protect the rights of Aboriginal people, particularly women living on-reserve, our Government has taken steps to ensure the equitable distribution of real property assets in the event of death, divorce or separation.
- Support First Nation communities with urgent on-reserve infrastructure needs, concentrating on school construction, improving access to safe drinking water, and the remediation and replacement of crucial health and policing infrastructure.
- Issued an apology for the Inuit High Arctic relocation and the extreme hardship and suffering that it caused.

The Harper Government is making significant progress on Aboriginal and northern issues and is achieving concrete results in areas such as economic development, construction of new schools and housing, safe drinking water and land claims.

Background

Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement

- Budget 2006 confirmed \$2.2 billion for the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement and announced almost \$200 million to support implementation of the Agreement.
- On June 11, 2008, Prime Minister Stephen Harper offered a historic formal apology to former students of Indian Residential Schools and sought forgiveness for the students' suffering and for the damaging impact the schools had on Aboriginal culture, heritage and language.
- Our Government achieved a fair resolution to the legacy of the Indian Residential School System and implemented the settlement agreement, including the establishment of the Indian Residential Schools Truth and Reconciliation Commission. To date, over \$1.57 billion has been distributed to over 76,000 former residential school students.
- On June 16, 2010, our Government announced its intention to repeal old provisions of the Indian Act that provide the authority to establish Indian



Delivering Results for all Canadians

Residential Schools and remove children from their homes and communities. The announcement was made on the occasion of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's first national event on Indian Residential Schools.

Human Rights on Reserves

- Legislation to guarantee to people living on reserve the same protections other Canadians enjoy under the *Canadian Human Rights Act* came into law on June 18, 2008.

United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

- On November 12, 2010, the Government formally endorsed the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) in a manner fully consistent with Canada's Constitution and laws.
- Canada's endorsement builds upon numerous other government initiatives for Aboriginal peoples on education, economic development, housing, child and family services, access to safe drinking water, and the extension of human rights protection and matrimonial real property protection to First Nations on reserve.

Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency

- The formation of the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency, a new stand-alone regional economic development agency for the North with \$50 million in funding over five years, was formally announced in Iqaluit by the Prime Minister in August of 2009.
- Some recent investments through Strategic Investments in Northern Economic Development (SINED) include:
 - \$8 million for Geoscience data collection.
 - \$800,000 for the mine training simulators at Aurora College.
 - \$400,000 towards a mobile trades training unit to teach trades to individuals throughout the Beaufort Delta.
 - \$470,000 for an interactive and interpretive diamond display at the Northern Frontiers Visitors Centre.
 - \$1.6 million for the Northwest Territories Métis-Dene Development Fund to expand business development lending to Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal businesses throughout the NWT.



Delivering Results for all Canadians

- \$2.1 million in a Pooled Capital Fund (PCF) for Community Futures Development Corporations (CFDCs) in the Northwest Territories that will improve their ability to provide local businesses and entrepreneurs with lines of credit, business loans and loan guarantees.

Matrimonial Rights

- On July 6, 2010, the Senate passed Bill S-4, the *Family Homes on Reserves and Matrimonial Interests or Rights Act*. Bill S-4 received first reading in the House of Commons on September 22, 2010. The proposed legislation is intended to remedy a long-standing legislative gap regarding on-reserve matrimonial rights or interests.

Improving Reserves

- In Budget 2008, our Government committed \$43 million over two years for prevention-based models of child and family services on reserve.
- In Budget 2009, our Government committed \$400 million to address First Nation on-reserve housing by supporting construction, remediation and complementary activities, such as lot servicing.
- In 2009, \$515 million was allocated to support First Nation communities with urgent on-reserve infrastructure needs, concentrating on school construction, improving access to safe drinking water, and the remediation and replacement of crucial health and policing infrastructure.
- This support is over and above the federal government's annual investments of about \$270 million for on-reserve housing needs (\$142 million through Indian and Northern Affairs Canada; about \$134 million from the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation).
- Canada's Economic Action Plan includes \$400 million over two years (2009-2011) to build new and to renovate social housing on-reserve, and to support complementary housing activities.
- Canada's Economic Action Plan included \$185.8 million for water and wastewater projects across Canada. With those funds, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada is investing in 18 water and wastewater projects for First Nation communities. These investments on reserve will directly benefit approximately 44,000 First Nations residents.
- In Budget 2010, \$330 million was committed to continue the First Nations Water and Wastewater Action Plan to improve access to safe drinking water on reserve.



Delivering Results for all Canadians

- In 2010, the Harper Government committed to continue to implement an Enhanced Prevention-Focussed approach to First Nations Child and Family Services on a province-by-province basis. This will ensure that more First Nations children and parents get the help they need to prevent the types of crises that lead to intervention and family breakdown. To date, six Tripartite Frameworks have been signed with Alberta, Saskatchewan, Quebec, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Manitoba, covering about 68 per cent of First Nations children living on-reserve in Canada.
- As of September 2010, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada is forecasting \$174.3 million over two years for school infrastructure projects on reserve. As a result, we are building 10 new schools and making major renovations to two others under Canada's Economic Action Plan. All projects have been announced, 11 are underway and one school, the Birch Narrows First Nation School in Saskatchewan, is completed. Under the Building Canada Plan, the Government is also investing in an additional eight new schools or school renovation projects.
- In December 2010, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada and the Assembly of First Nations announced that a Panel of Experts will be created to explore and advise on the development of options, including legislation, to improve elementary and secondary education for First Nation children who live on-reserve. The Panel will be tasked with the mandate to lead an engagement process to hear from all who have an interest or view on how to enhance the education system and outcomes for First Nations learners.
- Our Government is currently investing approximately \$422 million annually to support ongoing projects such as roads and bridges, electrification and infrastructure in First Nations communities and about \$270 million annually (through Indian and Northern Affairs Canada and the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation) for on-reserve housing needs. Annual expenditures of approximately \$200 million are allotted for school infrastructure projects and about \$200 million to support water and wastewater systems. These investments are outside of the funding announced under Canada's Economic Action Plan.
- On May 27, 2010, our Government announced funding for the expansion of the Reserve Land and Environment Management Program. Approximately \$9 million will be provided annually over the next four years to upgrade this program to assist First Nations in assuming greater control of land and environmental management on their lands.

Specific Claims Tribunal Act

- Our Government has taken historic steps to improve and speed up the resolution



Delivering Results for all Canadians

of specific claims. This initiative has a strong record and is delivering concrete results. Since 2007, our Government has successfully addressed 350 specific claims overall.

- Bill C-30, the *Specific Claims Tribunal Act* received Royal Assent in June 2008 and came into effect on October 16, 2008. The legislation creates an independent tribunal with the power to make binding decisions on the validity of and compensation for specific claims. The Tribunal is a key part of a new approach to improve and speed up the resolution of specific claims across the country. Internal processes have been streamlined and good progress has been made in resolving outstanding specific claims.



SUPPORTING THE RURAL WAY OF LIFE

Fishing

In communities across Canada, thousands of Canadians make their living from fishing, aquaculture and seal hunting, and the Harper Government is committed to safeguarding these jobs and industries.

Since 2006, Stephen Harper's Government has:

- Repaired and improved 135 small craft harbours in coastal communities across Canada, enhancing the accessibility and operational effectiveness for thousands of Canadians.
- Opened new markets for Canadian seafood and aquaculture products.
- Continued to promote and seek new markets for Canadian seal products abroad.
- Led strong awareness campaigns internationally to counter misinformation campaigns by American and European lobby groups.
- Led international efforts to prevent overfishing in Canadian coastal and territorial waters, protecting stocks for Canadian fishers.
- Reduced tax burden for fishers by eliminating the tax liabilities when fishers transfer assets and licences to family members.



Delivering Results for all Canadians

- Enhanced and strengthened the safety and security of Canadian coastal waters by investing in new patrol vessels and upgrading existing Canadian Coast Guard vessels.

The Harper Government continues to recognize the importance of Canada's fishing, sealing and aquaculture industries, and the importance of providing access to fishers while also securing them with stepped-up patrol and response craft.

Background

- Completed 159 repair and improvement projects at 135 small craft harbours. An additional 87 projects are currently in the construction phase, and 26 are in either the engineering or tendering stages.
- Opened a new Catch Certification Office to support Canadian exports of fish and seafood products affected by European Union regulatory requirements (that went into effect on January 1, 2010). Budget 2010, committed \$7.2 million over two years to continue to issue catch certificates to Canadian companies seeking to export fish and seafood products to the European Union and other important markets.
- Our Government has invested \$75 million to provide aerial surveillance of Canada's inland coastal and offshore waters. The program provides the capability to monitor domestic and foreign vessel activities and detect potential violations, and provides information on pollution surveillance, environmental monitoring and marine security to a number of other federal departments and agencies.
- In support of the Canadian Coast Guard's role in fisheries science and enforcement, and more generally its large-vessel fleet requirements. Budget 2007 provided funding of \$324 million to the Canadian Coast Guard for the procurement, operation and maintenance of an additional six new large vessels: four midshore patrol vessels and two offshore fishery science vessels.
- We are reducing taxes for Canadian fishers. Our Government removed the tax liability faced by fishers allowing them to transfer fishing assets to their children or grandchildren without having to pay capital gains or income taxes and by extending to fishers the same lifetime capital gains tax exemptions available to farmers and small business owners (\$500,000 as of Budget 2006 and increased to \$750,000 in Budget 2007).

Forestry

The Stephen Harper Government understands the vital role that Canada's forestry



Delivering Results for all Canadians

workers and communities play in the Canada's economy.

Yet even before the global economic crisis hit, Canadian forestry communities, workers and their families were facing real challenges, changing market realities around the world as a result.

Since taking office, the Harper Government has been working to help Canada's forestry communities and workers meet those challenges head-on.

The Harper Government's action to deliver for Canadian forestry workers and communities includes:

- Protecting jobs by expanding market opportunities and interest in Canadian forestry products around the world.
- Protecting jobs by expanding opportunities for green energy production in mills across Canada.
- Helping to ensure the health and long-term viability of Canada's forests by investing in technology and innovation to fight invasive species.
- Delivering retraining and alternate employment choices for those forestry workers in single-industry towns that have been hard hit by the global economic downturn.

While the global economy remains fragile and there is more to do, the Harper Government will continue working to ensure that Canada's forestry sector remains a key driver of Canada's economy and a key employer for thousands of Canadian workers and their families.

Background

Helping to Ensure the Health of Canada's Forests

- In 2008, our Government delivered \$10 million over two years for the Leadership for Environmental Advantage in Forestry (LEAF) program to promote Canada's forest management practices and environmental attributes of forest products in international markets as a model of environmental innovation and sustainability.

Boosting Investment in Clean Energy Technology:

- In 2007, we launched the \$25-million Forest Communities Program to help community-based partnerships adjust to transition in the forest sector and take advantage of emerging forest-based opportunities.



Delivering Results for all Canadians

- In 2010, we introduced the \$1-billion Pulp and Paper Green Transformation Program, which will support Canada's forest industries and improve their environmental performance through innovation, investments in energy efficiency and renewable energy production technologies.
- As approved in Budget 2010, we provided \$100 million over four years for the Investments in Forest Industry Transformation program to help expand opportunities for Canada's forestry sector through the development, commercialization and implementation of innovative projects and advanced clean energy technologies.

Protecting and Expanding Markets for Canadian Forestry Products:

- In 2006, Canada and the United States signed the softwood lumber agreement protecting the \$8.5 billion worth of softwood exports to the United States.
- In 2009, as approved in Canada's Economic Action Plan, we provided \$170 million over two years to help secure a more sustainable forest industry by helping companies develop new products and process and take action on new opportunities in the international market place.
 - Our Jobs and Growth budget in 2010 committed an additional \$100 million over four years to support the development and commercialization of advanced technologies in the forest sector.

Helping Forestry and Other Single-Industry Communities Facing Challenges:

- The Targeted Initiative for Older Workers (TIOW) was announced in the fall of 2006 as a \$70-million, two-year, federal-provincial/territorial cost-shared initiative to provide employment assistance services and employability improvement activities to unemployed older workers aged 55 to 64 living in vulnerable communities. It was implemented via individual agreements with provinces and territories.
- In 2009, through Canada's Economic Action Plan, we established the \$1-billion Community Adjustment Fund and the \$1-billion Community Development Trust to help reduce the short-term impacts of economic restructuring in single-industry communities facing challenges as a result of the global economic downturn.
- In 2009, our Strategic Training and Transition Fund provided \$500 million over two years to support provincial and territorial initiatives that help workers retrain to retain employment or transition to new jobs in communities and sectors affected by the economic downturn. These monies flowed through Labour Market Agreements and were available fiscal 2009-10 and 2010-11 for provinces and territories with amended Agreements.



Delivering Results for all Canadians



STANDING UP FOR LAW-ABIDING HUNTERS AND FARMERS

Stephen Harper's Government is committed to abolishing the wasteful, ineffective long-gun registry.

Our Government knows that the long-gun registry makes criminals out of law-abiding hunters and farmers while doing nothing to crack down on real criminals.

This is wrong.

That's why we made a commitment to scrap the ineffective, wasteful long-gun registry when we took office in 2006.

The Harper Government has already taken action to:

- Establish an amnesty to protect those long-gun owners who do not register their long-guns from facing fines or imprisonment.
- Institute other measures, such as a fee waiver, to ease burdens on lawful firearms owners.
- Scrap the long-gun registry by supporting Candice Hoepfner's Private Members' Bill C-391, *Repeal of the Long-Gun Registry*.

While the Opposition Coalition has blocked legislation to eliminate the long-gun registry, our Government will continue our efforts to abolish it.

And, we will focus on cracking down on real criminals, not law-abiding hunters and farmers.



DELIVERING FOR CANADA'S FARM FAMILIES

The Stephen Harper Government understands that hard-working Canadian farm families and the businesses they run are key drivers of our economy.

5 years of Harper Government Accomplishments

2006 – 2011



Delivering Results for all Canadians

Under previous Liberal governments, Canadian farmers and farming communities were neglected and left to face the significant challenges of modern-day farming without the right tools or support. That was unacceptable.

Today, five years after being elected, the Harper Government is continuing to take action for Canada's farm families by:

- Delivering the right tools and programs to help farm families deal with environmental challenges and uncertainties — both today and in the future.
- Investing in research and development so farmers can take advantage of innovation like clean energy technology to strengthen their production.
- Helping to secure the health and integrity of Canada's food supply.
- Strengthening opportunities and lowering the cost of business for Canadian farmers here at home.
- Protecting and preserving jobs of Canadian farmers by putting more of Canada's food and agri-food products on more tables around the world.

While there is always more work to be done to ensure that Canada's farm families are getting the tools and the support they need to keep putting food on the nation's tables and driving the economy forward, the Harper Government is proud that we are continuing to deliver real results for Canada's farm families.

Background

Delivering the Right Tools to Fight Challenges and Uncertainty:

- In 2006, to create separate and more effective farm income stabilization and disaster relief programs for farmers, our Government introduced:
 - The Canadian Agricultural Income Stabilization Inventory Transition Initiative that separates disaster relief from income stabilization with a one-time federal government injection of \$900 million to support Canada's farmers.
 - The AgriRecovery Framework, a five-year, \$625-million program which has responded to many disasters across the country, including:
 - Prairie Excess Moisture Initiative
 - Pasture Recovery Initiative (Alberta and Saskatchewan)



Delivering Results for all Canadians

- Quebec Nematode Assistance Program
- New Brunswick Potato Storage Loss Initiative
- The Cover Crop Protection Program, a one-time injection of \$50 million (that was increased by an additional \$40 million over four years) to assist producers whose lands were adversely affected by excess soil moisture and flooding, with the added costs of improving and protecting the soil until a commercial crop was planted.
- Negative Margins coverage under Canadian Agricultural Income Stabilization was launched in 2006 as a one-time federal government injection of \$50 million to mitigate sharp declines in producer incomes due to the disastrous impacts of BSE, back-to-back drought and decline in commodity prices.
- In 2006, Bill C-15, An Act to Amend the Agricultural Marketing Programs Act, received Royal Assent. The Act, which helps producers and marketing agencies market their commodities/products, was changed to help farmers maintain a more stable cash flow in uncertain times by providing access to interest-free loans and giving them more time to repay them, under the Advance Payments Program.
- At their June 2007 meeting, the Harper Government and the provincial and territorial governments agreed on a new vision and action plan for Canada's agriculture and agri-food industry. Growing Forward includes a new suite of Business Risk Management (BRM) programs, including AgriInvest, AgriStability, AgriInsurance and AgriRecovery to help stabilize income for farmers.
- In order to help farmers build their new savings accounts, Budget 2007 provided a \$600-million AgriInvest Kickstart payment as a one-time federal initiative to seed AgriInvest accounts until producers could build up a balance in their accounts to use when needed to address small income losses and to invest in their farming operations.
- Budget 2007 provided an immediate payment of \$400 million to help address rising costs of production over the previous four years. The Cost of Production Direct Payment partially compensated producers for decline in incomes due to production costs which increased at a faster rate than output prices.
- Our Government also allocated \$50 million in 2007–2008 for a Cull Breeding Swine Program to be delivered through the Canadian Pork Council to alleviate financial pressures faced by the Canadian hog industry.
- February 28, 2008, Bill C-44, *An Act to Further Amend the Agricultural Marketing Programs Act*, received Royal Assent. Producers became eligible to receive



Delivering Results for all Canadians

emergency advances in situations of severe economic hardship. Taken together with improvements made the previous year, the amendments provided producers with an estimated \$3.3 billion in advance payments.

- In 2008, farmers in southwestern Saskatchewan affected by back-to-back droughts received \$28.3 million through the Saskatchewan Farm Ranch Water Infrastructure Program to cover emergency water supplies for short-term demands, permanent on-farm water supplies and the establishment of wells for ranchers and farmers.
- In 2008/2009, Manitoba livestock producers affected by drought and flooding received almost \$20 million in federal/provincial funds to address feed shortages and to restore damaged forage crops and pastures.
- As part of Budget 2009, our Government committed to working with interested provinces toward the devolution of delivery of the AgriStability program. Transfer of delivery to British Columbia and Saskatchewan was successfully implemented effective January 1, 2010.
- On June 18, 2009, Bill C-29, the *Canadian Agricultural Loans Act*, received Royal Assent, giving new farmers, agricultural co-operatives and young farmers access to \$1 billion worth of government-backed credit.
- In 2010, Livestock producers in Alberta and Saskatchewan facing two consecutive years of drought received AgriRecovery funding up to \$120 million from federal and provincial governments to buy feed while damaged pastures recover.
- In 2010, the Harper Government, along with the governments of Saskatchewan, Alberta and Manitoba, made up to \$450 million available through AgriRecovery program to help farmers take immediate steps to protect and restore cropland damaged by excess moisture and flooding.

Investing in Research and Innovation:

- The Agricultural Bioproducts Innovation Program was introduced in December 2006 as a five-year \$145-million initiative to foster transformation of Canada's bio-based economy and support Canada's Renewable Fuels Strategy.
- The Agri-Opportunities Program was launched in January 2007 as a five-year, \$133.4-million repayable contribution program to accelerate the commercialization of new agricultural products, processes or services that are ready to be introduced to the marketplace.



Delivering Results for all Canadians

- In 2006, following extensive consultations, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada launched its Science and Innovation Strategy, setting seven national science priorities and a clear direction for the management of its science for the benefit of Canadians, producers and the agri-food sector.
- In 2006, the Biofuels Opportunities for Producers Initiative, a two-year, \$20-million initiative under the Advancing Canadian Agriculture and Agri-Food program was announced to help farmers and rural communities develop plans to participate in and benefit from biofuels production.
- In 2007, we dedicated \$15 million for the Canadian Agri-Food Policy Institute to look at long-term directions to support the economic growth of the agriculture and agri-food sector.
- Also in 2007, our Government announced funding of \$22.1 million for the first year of research projects approved under its newly-introduced peer review process, a best practice in managing government science.
- As part of Canada's Economic Action Plan, our Government announced \$25.9 million in 2009 to upgrade eight agricultural research facilities under the Modernizing Federal Labs program.
- In 2009, we joined an international network as a founding member of the Global Research Alliance on Agricultural Greenhouse Gases to drive agricultural research that will deliver practical benefits for both the environment and Canadian farmers. In 2010, our Government committed \$27 million to this effort.

Protecting the Health and Integrity of Canada's Food Supply:

- In 2006, the Control of Diseases in the Hog Industry Initiative was introduced to mitigate the effects of current and future diseases in the Canadian hog herd with a \$76.2 million investment from the Harper Government.
- \$40 million was announced by our Government and the Government of Alberta in 2007 to help eliminate BSE from Canada's cattle herds and to speed the recovery of Alberta's beef industry. A similar \$15 million was announced with Ontario in April to help Ontario's beef sector.
- In January 2009, Sheila Weatherill was appointed as an independent investigator to conduct an investigation into the August 2008 Listeriosis outbreak. Following the submission of her final report on July 20, 2009, the Government committed to act on all 57 recommendations, and in September 2009 announced \$75 million for Canada's food safety system.



Delivering Results for all Canadians

- In 2010, the Government of Canada announced an investment of \$850,000 for Food Banks Canada that will help improve food safety by developing training materials and workshops for training trainers who work with community food bank volunteers.

Strengthening Opportunities and Reducing the Cost of Doing Business for Canadian Farmers:

- The EcoAgriculture Biofuels Capital Initiative was launched in 2007 as a four-year (recently extended by two years), \$200-million program to provide conditionally repayable contributions towards the construction or expansion of transportation biofuel production facilities in Canada.
- In 2008, Bill C-33, *An Act to Amend the Canadian Environmental Protection Act* (1999), received Royal Assent. It enabled our Government to implement its mandate of five per cent ethanol in gasoline by 2010 and two per cent biodiesel by 2012, creating new opportunities for Canadian farmers.
- In 2009, with help from the Economic Action Plan, our Government made a three-year \$50-million investment in the Slaughter Improvement Program. The investment is making meat packing and processing facilities more competitive and accessible to farmers across the country.
- On May 14, 2010, Bill C-27, *An Act to Amend the Canadian Wheat Board Act*, was introduced. The Bill, now awaiting Second Reading debate, changes the eligibility criteria for voting in the election of directors of the Canadian Wheat Board. It also seeks to streamline the process required to deliver payments to producers.
- Budget 2010 dedicated \$75 million from the AgriFlexibility Fund to ensure that Canadian cattle producers continue to have access to competitive cattle processing operations in Canada. It was allocated as follows:
 - Funding available under the Slaughter Improvement Program was increased by \$10 million to support the introduction of new, cost-effective technologies which will help the livestock sector.
 - An additional \$25 million was targeted to cattle processing plants that handle cattle over thirty months of age.
 - \$40 million was provided to support the development and commercialization of innovative technologies related to the removal and use of Specified Risk Materials to reduce handling costs and create potential revenue sources from these materials.

Bringing Canada's Food to the World's Table:

- In 2007, we reopened and expanded market access for Canadian beef and beef products to Indonesia, Taiwan and the United States, creating greater economic opportunities for Canadian producers.
- \$80 million in federal funding was announced in July 2007, supplemented by provincial contributions, and provided for capital expenses for building immediate and long-term infrastructure suitable for Specified Risk Materials handling, disposal and transportation, actions required to help Canada maintain export market access for beef.
- In 2008, Canada took part in the United Nations World Food Security Summit in Rome and contributed an extra \$50 million to the World Food Programme, bringing Canada's total annual food aid budget to \$230 million.
- In 2009, we allocated \$500 million over five years for the AgriFlexibility Fund to proactively drive innovation, tap market opportunities and bring new products to market. This includes:
 - \$50 million for the AgriProcessing Initiative to support new technologies and agriprocessing projects that will improve the Canadian agriprocessing sector.
 - \$32 million for the Canada Brand Advocacy Initiative to help the Canadian agriculture and food industry proactively capture and develop markets around the world.
- In 2009, our Government announced the establishment of the Market Access Secretariat to strategically pursue new and existing markets for the livestock industry and other farm and agri-food exports.
- In 2009, we launched the \$158-million Growing Canadian Agri-Innovations Program to support industry-led innovation initiatives that help get new agricultural products into the marketplace and improve agricultural processes.
- Our Government allocated funding of \$104.3 million in 2009 under Growing Forward for the Agricultural Regulatory Action Plan to address key regulatory obstacles identified by stakeholders that were impeding sector investment, innovation and competitiveness.
- In 2009, we reached an agreement with the provinces on a revised chapter on agricultural and food shipments under the Agreement on Internal Trade, helping to reduce inter-provincial trade barriers.



Delivering Results for all Canadians

- Our Government responded quickly in 2009 to the closure of the Chinese market to canola — worth over \$1 billion annually — getting agreement that trade can be maintained while work continues on a permanent, commercially viable solution.
- Prime Minister Harper announced in 2009 Hong Kong's full market opening to Canadian beef. In the first six months following the announcement, Canada's beef exports to Hong Kong were valued at \$34 million, a 138 per cent increase compared to the same period in 2009.
- Canada reopened and expanded market access for beef to Russia and Saudi Arabia in 2009, agreements estimated to be worth up to \$16 million annually by the industry.
- In 2010, our Government announced an agreement with China that Canada would be the first BSE-affected country to regain market access for beef and beef products. The market for Canadian beef and tallow is estimated by the industry to be worth \$110 million once full market access is achieved.
- In 2010, we announced funding for 10 Agri-Science Clusters totalling \$66.1 million, under the Agri-Innovations Program. Clusters for beef, swine, dairy, organics, canola, flax, pulse and horticultural sectors will carry out research and innovation in collaboration with industry and government.
- In 2010, our Government announced an investment of \$7.8 million to help the canola industry develop a comprehensive and strategic plan for ensuring market access and achieving their export objectives.
- Canadian beef producers gained duty-free access to the European Union market in 2010, access that is estimated to be worth \$10 million per year.



DELIVERING RESULTS ON ENERGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT



The Harper Government's first priority is the economy. We understand that as a nation rich in natural resources, tens of thousands of Canadian jobs depend on our thriving energy sector.

That said, we also understand that we are stewards of Canada's rich natural history and



Delivering Results for all Canadians

that a healthy environment and a strong economy go hand in hand.

If it were up to the Opposition, Canada would sacrifice jobs in our energy sector without any discernable results for the environment; as Michael Ignatieff, the father of the Carbon Tax, has said, “there is a choice between jobs and the environment.” (Kingston Whig-Standard, June 10, 1991)

Our Government disagrees, which is why we have delivered landmark investments to boost Canada’s clean energy sector, strengthen Canada’s record on conservation and deliver good Canadian jobs for today and in the future.

The Harper Government is taking action to deliver results on energy and the environment by:

- Boosting Clean Energy investments to secure Canada’s position as the world’s foremost clean energy superpower.
- Combating greenhouse gas emissions, and aligning our target of 17 per cent below 2020 levels by 2015, a target which is aligned with the Obama Administration.
- Protecting and conserving Canada’s natural heritage and treasures, including preserving record amounts of precious parkland for future generations to enjoy.

Thanks to Harper Government action, Canada is successfully working to secure our position as the world’s foremost leader in clean energy production while ensuring that Canada’s precious natural treasures and resources are there for our children’s children to enjoy.

Background

Combating Greenhouse Gas Emissions

- In 2006, Amendments to the On-Road Vehicle and Engine Emission Regulations introduced tighter emission standards and, for the first time, extended the application of emission standards to small scooters and mopeds. It is estimated that smog-forming emissions will be progressively reduced as cleaner products replace an increasing proportion of older in-use motorcycles. These Regulations came into effect on December 1st, 2006.
- Budget 2007 provided \$1.5 billion to the Canada ecoTrust for Clean Air and Climate Change for projects to cut air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions. For example, ecoTrust provided:



Delivering Results for all Canadians

- \$23 million for Newfoundland and Labrador to support provincial and territorial projects to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and air pollutants, announced on January 9, 2007.
- \$53.8 million for Manitoba to support provincial projects that will help reduce greenhouse gas emissions smog and air pollution, announced on March 3, 2007.
- \$5 million for the Northwest Territories to support projects relating to energy conservation and efficiency, alternative and emerging technologies as well as development of hydro-electric resources, announced on March 11, 2007.
- \$5 million for the Yukon to support provincial and territorial projects, announced March 30, 2007.
- \$15 million for Prince Edward Island to support provincial and territorial projects to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and air pollutants, announced April 24, 2007.
- \$42.5 million for Nova Scotia to help the Province reduce its greenhouse gas emissions, announced on May 12, 2007.
- Budget 2007 also included the following measures to combat greenhouse gasses:
 - Phasing out the accelerated capital cost allowance for general investment in the oil sands by 2015.
 - A rebate of up to \$2,000 per vehicle to buyers of fuel-efficient vehicles and a Green Levy on new fuel-inefficient vehicles.
 - \$36 million over two years for “scrappage” programs to get older vehicles off the road.
- Budget 2008 provided \$250 million for a full-scale commercial demonstration of carbon capture and storage in the coal-fired electricity sector, research on the potential for carbon storage in Nova Scotia, and economic and technological issues.
- In 2008, we provided \$10 million over two years for scientific research and analysis on biofuels emissions to support the development of regulations and demonstration projects to verify that new blended renewable diesel is safe and effective for our Canadian climate and conditions.



Delivering Results for all Canadians

- The Harper Government moved forward in 2010 with regulations that require an average renewable fuel content of five per cent in gasoline. When fully-implemented, the Strategy's two regulatory requirements combined with provincial regulations will ensure a total volume of renewable fuel that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions by up to about four megatonnes per year, about the equivalent of taking one million vehicles off the road. The regulations have been finalized and came into effect starting December 2010.
- In 2008, we increased the capital cost allowance rate for carbon dioxide pipelines, a component of carbon capture and storage systems.
- In 2008, our Government expanded the accelerated capital cost allowance for clean-energy generation equipment to additional applications involving ground-source heat pump and waste-to-energy systems.
- Also in 2008, we extended GST/HST relief to land leased to situate wind- or solar-power equipment for the production of electricity.
- The Harper Government announced in 2008 it would dedicate \$100 million to international climate change adaptation through the World Bank to assist those countries that are especially vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, such as least-developed countries and small island developing states. In addition to the \$100 million adaptation fund through the World Bank, we are also contributing \$400 million in new and additional climate change financing to the Fast-Start fund.
- In 2009, our Government announced an important milestone reached under the National Vehicle Scrappage Program, Retire Your Ride. More than 50,000 vehicles had been registered under the Retire Your Ride program since its launch in January 2009, which resulted in approximately 2,250 tonnes of smog-forming pollutants being removed from our atmosphere.
- Canada agreed to the adoption of the Copenhagen Accord in 2009, which includes commitments by Canada and over 120 countries representing 85 per cent of global greenhouse gas emissions. In February 2010, Canada inscribed in the Copenhagen Accord a greenhouse gas reduction target of 17 per cent by 2020 from 2005 levels, a target that is aligned with the United States' target.
- Our Government announced in 2010 it is taking action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the electricity sector by developing regulations on coal-fired electricity generation. Thirteen per cent of Canada's total greenhouse gas emissions come from coal-fired electricity generation units. The proposed regulations will apply a stringent performance standard to new coal-fired



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electricity generation units and those coal-fired units that have reached the end of their economic life.

- In 2010, we announced final regulations that establish progressively more stringent greenhouse gas emission standards for new passenger automobiles and light trucks for the 2011-2016 model years. The Passenger Automobile and Light Truck Greenhouse Gas Emission Regulations provide certainty to the automotive industry and require significant technological improvements to vehicles to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. As a result of the regulations, it is projected that the average greenhouse gas emission performance of new vehicles for the 2016 model year will be about 25 per cent lower than the vehicles that were sold in Canada in 2008. These regulations are aligned with the mandatory national standards of the United States.
- In 2010, Canada released a consultation document outlining the proposed elements of the future regulations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from new heavy-duty vehicles.
- Also in 2010, Canada, together with the United States and Mexico, took the lead in international efforts to phase down hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) by re-tabling a proposal that these substances should be phased down under the Montreal Protocol. HFCs are greenhouse gases with high global warming potential that are being used as alternatives to ozone-depleting substances already being phased out under the Protocol.
- Our Government submitted its annual report on greenhouse gas emissions in 2010, showing a decrease of 2.1 per cent in Canada's total emissions for 2008, which is a positive step in Canada's action against climate change.
- In 2010, we delivered on our commitment under the Copenhagen Accord to help the poorest and most vulnerable countries reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change by contributing \$400 million for the 2010-2011 fiscal year to fast-start financing for developing countries.
- In 2010 Canada invested in research that will help to reduce the amount of greenhouse gases produced through building construction. The green building design project aims to reduce 75 per cent of greenhouse gas emissions from the heating, cooling and construction of buildings, and is being delivered through the Asia-Pacific Partnership (APP) funding for a project led by the Okanagan Science & Technology Council in partnership with Okanagan College.
- The tax system encourages investment in clean energy generation equipment



Delivering Results for all Canadians

through the provision of accelerated capital cost allowance. Budget 2010 proposes to expand the eligibility for accelerated capital cost allowance. These extensions will encourage investment in technologies that contribute to a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions and air pollutants, and increase the diversification of Canada's energy supply.

- Our Government appointed an independent advisory panel of leading scientists in 2010 to advise on the current state of environmental research and monitoring in Alberta's oil sands and to make recommendations to ensure that state-of-the-art monitoring and best practices are implemented.

Promoting Conservation

- Completion in 2006 of the negotiation of a Canada-Ontario Agreement Respecting the Great Lakes Basin Ecosystem, covering the period from 2007-2010. This agreement has renewed a 36-year commitment to Great Lakes protection that includes cleaning up areas of concern, reducing harmful pollutants, improving water quality and conserving fish and wildlife habitats, and improving land management practices within the Great Lakes watershed. The agreement was signed in June 2007 and was recently extended to March 31, 2011.
- In 2006, our Government approved \$75 million under the Federal Contaminated Sites Action Plan Program for the assessment and remediation of more than 2,500 sites across the country.
- Our Government confirmed in 2006 that it will require vehicle manufacturers and steel mills to implement pollution prevention plans to ensure mercury switches are removed from automobiles before the vehicles are recycled. This action is expected to prevent the release of as much as 10 tonnes of mercury into the environment, especially into the air, over the next 10 years.
- In 2006, we announced funding for 101 environmental projects from the EcoAction Community Funding Program in communities across Canada. In total, over \$2.8 million were dedicated to local action aimed at reducing pollution, improving air and water quality, and protecting wildlife and natural habitat.
- Canada announced in 2006 the addition of 32 land-based species and ten aquatic species to Schedule 1, the list of Species protected under the Species at Risk Act.
- Our Government announced \$96 million in 2007 to clean up Lake Winnipeg, Lake Simcoe, the Great Lakes, and the St. Lawrence River as part of its Action Plan for Clean Water. This announcement is part of the Government's overall approach to ensure clean water for all Canadians, clean up polluted



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waters, improve water quality, and protect Canada's lakes, rivers and oceans.

- In 2007, our Government announced an investment of \$30 million towards the clean-up of contaminated sediment in Randle Reef in the Hamilton Harbour Area of Concern in the Great Lakes.
- Under the Ecological Gifts Program, 69 donations of ecologically-sensitive land were completed in 2006-2007. This is an addition of 4,575 hectares to privately held land valued at \$35 million.
- The Habitat Stewardship Program supported 167 projects totalling \$8.9 million to protect and recover priority species at risk in 2007.
- In 2007, our Government invested \$22 million over two years to improve enforcement of environmental laws, including increasing the number of enforcement officers by 50 per cent.
- We announced in 2007 our intention to add 36 animals, plants and fish to the list of species protected under the Species at Risk Act, and announced:
 - \$110 million over two years for better implementation of the Species at Risk Act.
 - \$10 million over two years to create and expand protected areas in the Northwest Territories, which includes part of the important boreal forest that stretches across Canada.
- Our Government announced in 2007 that it would invest \$225 million in the new Natural Areas Conservation Program as part of our commitment to conserve and protect Canada's natural environment. The program helps non-profit, non-government organizations secure ecologically-sensitive lands to ensure the protection of our diverse ecosystems, wildlife and habitat.
- In 2007, our Government announced it would proceed with a \$30-million contribution to support the Conservation Investments and Incentives Initiative fund. This fund, supported by governments and private foundations, aimed at preserving the integrity of the Spirit Bear Rainforest for generations to come. The federal commitment brought the total public and private funding to \$120 million. This ancient forest, the largest intact temperate rainforest left on earth, is home to thousands of species of plants, birds and animals. There are 1,000-year-old cedar trees and 90-metre tall Sitka spruce lining rich salmon streams that weave through valley bottoms, providing food for orcas, black bears, grizzlies and eagles.



Delivering Results for all Canadians

- Canada contributed \$4.5 million in 2007 to the Habitat Stewardship Program to protect species at risk and the habitat where they live. The Program is intended to help Canadians protect species at risk and their habitats. The overall goal of the program is to contribute to the recovery of endangered, threatened and other species at risk while also preventing species from becoming a conservation concern.
- In 2008, we provided \$21 million over two years to make environmental law enforcement more effective by providing new tools to assist enforcement officers and legal staff in investigations. Some of these tools include enhanced training for enforcement officers, better forensic support, expanded capacity to track and report on enforcement results, and the enhancement of Environment Canada's Data Management System. This funding also provided for the hiring of an additional 68 enforcement officers for environmental enforcement.
 - On July 23, 2008, we congratulated 42 new enforcement officers who completed basic enforcement training and were ready to work across the country.
 - On July 30, 2009, we congratulated 43 new enforcement officers completed Environment Canada's Basic Enforcement Training and were soon to be deployed across the country.
- In 2008, our Government announced new, long-term funding to preserve and protect the environment of Lake Simcoe, building on previous commitments to bring the Government's total investment to \$30 million over five years. This investment to clean up Lake Simcoe is part of our Government's Action Plan for Clean Water.
- In 2008, we committed to invest up to \$2.9 million to clean up the Niagara River. Clean-up options include excavation, infilling, restoration of wetlands or monitored natural recovery. The clean-up project began in 2009 and should be completed by 2012.
- Our Government announced \$677,037 in funding in 2008 to protect at-risk wild bird species, their nests and their habitat.
- In May 2010, the Government tabled Bill C-26, the *Transboundary Waters Protection Act*. The new Act strengthens existing protections by bringing waters within federal jurisdiction under a more comprehensive prohibition against bulk water removals. Rivers and streams that cross international borders now receive the same protection already in place for waters, such as the Great Lakes, that straddle them. The Act gives the federal government new powers of inspection



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and enforcement and introduces tough new penalties for violations, including fines of up to \$6 million for corporate violations.

- Our Government introduced Bill C-16, the *Environmental Enforcement Act*, in 2009 to crack down on polluters, poachers and wildlife smugglers through increased fines and new enforcement tools. A key provision of the new bill is that it raises maximum fines and introduces minimum fines for the first time. Under the bill, fines for individuals who commit serious offences are between \$5,000 and \$1 million, while fines for corporations are between \$25,000 and \$6 million. The bill also gives enforcement officers new powers to investigate cases and grants courts new sentencing authorities that ensure penalties reflect the seriousness of the pollution and wildlife offences. The Environmental Enforcement Act received Royal Assent in June 2009.
- The Polar Bear Roundtable was held in 2009 to increase awareness of the many conservation actions underway by various parties, hear views regarding priority areas for action from a broad cross-section of knowledgeable opinion leaders, and set the scene for consultations relating to listing the polar bear under the federal Species at Risk Act. A key outcome of the Roundtable was a strong commitment to integrate Inuit traditional knowledge and science to build a better understanding about the changing environment and polar bear. In October 2009, our Government took another major step forward on polar bear conservation when we signed an agreement between the governments of Canada, Nunavut and Greenland to ensure the protection of the shared polar bear population.
- Our Government announced in 2009 new regulations for managing municipal wastewater. The proposed regulations will set national performance standards, timelines, and monitoring and reporting requirements to ensure Canada's water resources are preserved and protected.
- We proposed Wastewater System Effluent Regulations in 2010. These proposed regulations would phase out the dumping of over 150 billion litres of untreated and undertreated sewage into our waterways by requiring secondary treatment or equivalent of wastewater.
- Our Government recently (in 2010) invested \$1.6 million in leading-edge science that will help determine some of the potential impacts of developments on area water in the oil sands region. We have increased our water monitoring four fold to over 100 sites primarily along the Athabasca River. New leading edge equipment for "chemical fingerprints" will identify the exact source of any potential pollution or contamination.
- In 2010, our Government announced a \$3.75 million investment in water quality



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research at the universities of Lethbridge and Saskatchewan. The investment will go towards research projects that will ultimately assist organizations in making environmentally-responsible decisions aimed at preserving water quality.

- Canada is currently updating three existing regulations under the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act* (1999) to ensure greater protection of the health and environment of Canadians and of other countries, improve policy alignment with international agreements, and add clarity to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the regulations.
- As of July 2010, under the Natural Areas Conservation Program over 138,800 hectares (342,982 acres) have been secured, protecting habitats for over 79 species at risk.
- In 2010-11, the Habitat Stewardship Program for Species at Risk will provide \$12.4 million for 228 projects. This investment will leverage an additional \$29.8 million from other partners towards these projects, ensuring a total investment of \$42.2 million.

Action to Preserve our Precious Natural Treasures

- In 2007, our Government announced a contribution of \$2 million towards the restoration of Vancouver's Stanley Park National Historic Site of Canada. Thousands of trees had fallen and extensive wind and rain had damaged roads, facilities, the Stanley Park Seawall and forest trails since December 2006, when a series of severe windstorms hit the British Columbia coast.
- Canada announced in 2007 the protection of over 10 million hectares of land, one of the largest land conservation initiatives in Canadian history near the East Arm of Great Slave Lake, and around the Ramparts River and Wetlands, both in the Northwest Territories.
- Our Government announced in 2008 the establishment of three new National Wildlife Areas on and around Baffin Island to protect local species and habitat, including the bowhead whale. The Government committed \$8.3 million to this project.
- In 2008, Canada celebrated its \$500-million milestone in donations through the Ecological Gifts program with the announcement of one of the largest-valued Ecological Gift donations ever made in Canada, conservation easements — generously donated by the late Daryl Kenneth ("Doc") Seaman — on four OH Ranch properties. The four OH Ranch properties, located near Calgary, Medicine Hat, and Drumheller, cover nearly 7,200 hectares of ecologically-sensitive lands in Southern Alberta. The donated lands are equivalent in area to Dinosaur



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Provincial Park, and the donated conservation easements are valued at \$26 million.

- Between 2006 and the 2010 Speech from the Throne, our Government had worked to add nearly 90,000 km² to the existing lands and waters administered by Parks Canada, a 30 per cent increase.
- In partnership with the Dechho First Nation, we expanded the Nahanni National Park Reserve to six times its original size in 2010, perhaps the greatest conservation achievement in a generation.
- In 2010, in partnership with the Haida First Nation, for the first time in the world an area has been protected from the alpine meadows of the mountain tops to the depths of the ocean floor beyond the continental shelf off the shores of Haida Gwaii.
- We are currently working with the Qikiqtani Inuit Association and Government of Nunavut toward creating a National Marine Conservation Area in Lancaster Sound, the eastern entrance of the storied Northwest Passage and one of the richest marine mammal areas in the world. An agreement with the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador will create a national park reserve in the Mealy Mountains, protecting a vast expanse of East Coast boreal forest.
- In 2010, we established an agreement with the Government of Nova Scotia to create a national park in Sable Island.

Securing Canada's Position as a Clean Energy Superpower

- Our Government increased the capital cost allowance rate for carbon dioxide pipelines, a component of carbon capture and storage systems, in 2008.
- We expanded the accelerated capital cost allowance for clean-energy generation equipment to additional applications involving ground-source heat pump and waste-to-energy systems in 2008.
- In 2008, our Government extended GST/HST relief to land leased to situate wind- or solar-power equipment for the production of electricity.
- The Clean Energy Dialogue was established in 2009 between Canada and the United States to enhance joint collaboration on the development of clean energy science and technologies to reduce greenhouse gases and combat climate change. This Dialogue is an important initiative in support of our ongoing efforts towards building a low-carbon economy.



Delivering Results for all Canadians

- In 2009, we committed to work with the United States and Mexico towards the phase down in global use of HFCs. A joint proposal to phase down HFC production and consumption under the Montreal Protocol was submitted in September 2009 and considered at the Meeting of the Parties in November 2009. Although this proposal was not adopted at that meeting, 43 Parties, including Canada, co-signed a declaration emphasizing the need to review the possibility of amending the Montreal Protocol to phase down HFCs and to encourage all parties to phase down high global warming potential alternatives to ozone depleting substances.
- In 2009, our Government announced we would invest in 19 new clean technology projects under the Asia-Pacific Partnership on Clean Development and Climate, representing an investment of \$8.4 million over two years. These projects include the design of green buildings for communities, research in solar and wind power, and the recovery of gas from landfills.
- To further support Canada's leadership in clean energy, Budget 2009 provides \$1 billion over five years to support clean energy technologies. This includes \$150 million over five years for research, and \$850 million over five years for the development and demonstration of promising technologies, including large-scale carbon capture and storage projects. This support is expected to generate a total investment in clean technologies of at least \$2.5 billion over the next five years.
- The Atlantic Energy Gateway was created in 2009. \$4 million was invested in this initiative, encouraging the development of clean and renewable energy supplies in Atlantic Canada while promoting Atlantic Canadian renewable energy to new markets.
- Our Government invested \$5 million for a renewable energy project in Trenton, Ontario, which will see a former railcar manufacturing facility transformed into a factory that manufactures components for wind turbines.
- In 2009, Our Government announced \$6 million over three years for 23 projects at universities across Canada to develop advanced nuclear energy systems.
- Canada announced in 2009 it would invest in 19 new clean technology projects under the Asia-Pacific Partnership on Clean Development and Climate, representing an investment of \$8.4 million over two years. These projects include the design of green buildings for communities, research in solar and wind power, and the recovery of gas from landfills.



Delivering Results for all Canadians

- A new Clean Energy Fund was set up in 2009. It supports clean energy research development and demonstration projects, including carbon capture and storage, including:
 - \$120 million announced on October 8 for the Quest carbon capture and storage project led by Shell Canada.
 - \$315.8 million announced on October 14 for TransAlta's Keephills 3 coal power facility.
 - \$30 million announced on November 24 for the Alberta Carbon Trunk Line project led by Enhance Energy.
- We announced in 2010 we are taking action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the electricity sector by developing regulations on coal-fired electricity generation. Thirteen per cent of Canada's total greenhouse gas emissions come from coal-fired electricity generation units. The proposed regulations will apply a stringent performance standard to new coal-fired electricity generation units and those coal-fired units that have reached the end of their economic life.
- Budget 2010 builds on Canada's position as an energy superpower with measures to encourage investments in energy projects and clean energy generation (\$100 million over four years).
- Our Government will work to reduce emissions through the Canada-United States Clean Energy Dialogue launched last year with President Obama's Administration.
 - On January 11, 2010, the successful projects were announced under the renewable and clean energy demonstration component of the Clean Energy Fund, totalling up to \$146 million.
- As approved in Budget 2010, our Government provided \$100 million over four years for the Investments in Forest Industry Transformation program to help expand opportunities for Canada's forest sector through the development, commercialization and implementation of innovative projects and advanced clean energy technologies.



Delivering Results for all Canadians



STRENGTHENING CANADIAN UNITY

Stephen Harper's Government is committed to keeping Canada strong, united and free.

Our country is more united than at any time since the centennial year.

We are proud to be Canadians and proud to live in the greatest country in the world.

Since 2006, the Harper Government has strengthened national unity by:

- Recognizing that the Québécois form a nation within a united Canada.
- Restoring fiscal balance with the provinces.
- Establishing a formal role for Quebec at UNESCO.

Our Government will continue to ensure Canada remains strong, united and free.



STRENGTHENING CANADA'S ROLE IN THE WORLD



Canada is a country that stands up for what is right. Our Government has pursued a foreign policy that is anchored in Canadian values and an enlightened view of sovereignty that recognizes that national interests are often interconnected.

Canada's accomplishments on the world stage over the past five years are many. Among the most significant:

- As host of the G-8 and G-20 summits in 2010, Canada showed leadership on the world stage. At the G-8, Prime Minister Harper's Muskoka Initiative on child and maternal health — which will save the lives of countless women and children in developing countries — brought together countries and charitable foundations and organizations. In recognition of Canada's critical role, the World Health Organization recently asked Prime Minister Harper to co-chair the UN Commission on Information and Accountability for Women and Children's Health which will begin its work early in the New Year.

5 years of Harper Government Accomplishments

2006 – 2011



Delivering Results for all Canadians

- As chairman of the G-20 Toronto Summit, the Prime Minister generated a consensus among the leaders of the world's major economies on credible and growth-friendly plans to deliver fiscal sustainability, establishing firm targets to reduce national deficits by 50 per cent by 2013 and reduce debt loads by 2016. Progress was also made on reforming the financial sector and strengthening international financial institutions, which remains an essential element in restoring global economic growth.
- Recognizing the danger posed by the proliferation of nuclear materials and technology to global peace and security, our Government supported the initiatives of Barack Obama, President of the United States, and participated fully in the landmark Nuclear Security Summit in Washington in April 2010.
- Canada was one of the first countries to respond to the earthquake in Haiti, deploying civilian and military emergency management experts within hours of the crisis. Immediate humanitarian assistance was delivered, and Canada was among the countries leading emergency relief and reconstruction efforts. Canada continues to support the people of Haiti and remains committed to longer-term reconstruction. Canadians demonstrated the generosity for which we are known through personal donations to relief efforts, donations that were matched by our Government.
- Over the past several years, Canada has helped Afghans build a more secure, more stable and more prosperous Afghanistan that is no longer a safe haven for terrorists. While Afghanistan remains a volatile and challenging environment, we have made real progress.
- In 2010 Canada announced a new post-2011 non-combat role in Afghanistan, focussed on four key areas: investing in the education and health of Afghan children and youth; advancing security, the rule of law and human rights; promoting regional diplomacy; and delivering humanitarian assistance.
- Canada is on track to double its overall international assistance from 2001-2002 levels to \$5 billion in 2010-2011.
- Canada doubled its aid to Africa to \$2.1 billion in 2008-2009 from 2003-04 levels and maintained that level of funding in 2010-11. It was the first G-8 country to deliver on this promise.
- Canada untied 100 per cent of its food aid in 2008, and will untie all of its aid by 2012-2013. The untying of aid substantially increases the effectiveness of each dollar spent.
- Prime Minister Harper led the evacuation of Canadians from Lebanon in the summer of 2006. This was by far the largest and most successful evacuation ever mounted by the Government of Canada.



ACCOUNTABILITY



ACCOUNTABILITY IN GOVERNMENT

Canadians expect and deserve that their government always remains accountable and responsible to them. The Harper Government agrees, and after first being elected to office in 2006, took immediate action to enact strong measures that would deliver this promise to Canadians: that their government is first and foremost accountable to voters, not political friends and special interest groups.

In 2006 the Harper Government made government more accountable with the *Federal Accountability Act* which:

- Strengthens the role of the Auditor General.
- Strengthens the role of the Ethics Commissioner.
- Bans secret donations to political candidates.
- Provides real whistleblower protection.
- Strengthens public access to information.
- Improves and strengthens auditing and accountability within government departments.

Our Government continues to stand up for increased accountability and will continue to show leadership on this important issue.

Background

Auditor General

The *Federal Accountability Act* gives the Auditor General the authority to “follow the money” by inquiring into the use of funds that individuals, institutions, and companies receive under a funding agreement with any federal department agency or Crown corporation, and requires every department to review, at least once every five years, the relevance and effectiveness of its grants and contributions programs.

In addition, our Government is ensuring that the Office of the Auditor General has adequate resources to fulfill its mandate. Our Government has been continuing to respond publicly to the Auditor General’s recommendations and will make sure that independent departmental audit committees monitor the implementation of corrective action plans.



Delivering Results for all Canadians

In light of the independent review of grants and contributions programs, Budget 2007 committed to the development of an action plan to reform the administration of grants and contributions with a view to ensuring they deliver clear results in the most effective and efficient way possible within a sensible risk management framework.

Ethics Commissioner

The *Federal Accountability Act* enshrines provisions dealing with good ethics into a new *Conflict of Interest Act*, it also:

- Prevents the Prime Minister from overruling the Commissioner on whether the Prime Minister, a minister or other public-office holder has violated this Act.
- Prohibits the use of blind management agreements (“venetian blind trusts”), meaning that public-office holders will either have to sell assets in an arm’s-length transaction or place them in a fully blind trust.
- Gives the public the ability to bring forward, through a Member of Parliament, information to the Commissioner for consideration and action, as appropriate.

Banning Secret Donations to Candidates

Effective June 12, 2007, the *Federal Accountability Act*:

- Prohibits candidates from accepting gifts that might reasonably be seen to have been given to influence them in the performance of their duties, if elected.
- Requires candidates to report any gifts they receive worth more than \$500.
- Prohibits electoral district associations and political parties from transferring money to a candidate when that money is held in trust.

Effective July 9, 2007, the *Federal Accountability Act*:

- Prohibits Members of Parliament’s trust funds from being used for political purposes.
- Requires that the Conflict of Interest and Ethics Commissioner order Members of Parliament to wind up their personal trust funds, or not use the trusts for political purposes.

In addition, the Harper Government has reformed how political parties are financed.

Strengthening Whistleblower Protection

Our Government provides real protection for public sector employees who disclose government wrongdoing. Effective April 15, 2007, the *Federal Accountability Act*:

- Gives the Public Sector Integrity Commissioner an expanded mandate.
- Gives public sector employees direct access to the Commissioner to report wrongdoing in the workplace.
- Gives the Commissioner the authority to deal with reprisal complaints, conduct investigations and attempt to conciliate a settlement between the parties.
- Creates an independent Public Servants Disclosure Protection Tribunal, comprised of judges, with the power to decide whether reprisal occurred and to order action to remedy the situation and ensure that those who took reprisal are disciplined.
- Introduces specific penalties for offences under the *Public Servants Disclosure Protection Act*, including tougher penalties for those who wilfully impede investigations of wrongdoing.
- Gives the Commissioner the power to authorize free access to legal advice for both public sector and non-public sector employees.
- Removes the ability of the Government to exclude Crown corporations from coverage under the Public Servants Disclosure Protection Act.
- Requires open and transparent reporting of instances of founded wrongdoing.

Strengthening Public Access to Information

To promote a culture of openness and accessibility, our Government has strengthened access to information legislation. Effective December 12, 2006, the *Federal Accountability Act* has increased the number of investigators the Information Commissioner may use for investigations concerning information related to defence or national security.

Effective April 1, 2007, the *Federal Accountability Act*:

- Expands the coverage of the *Access to Information Act* to the Canadian Wheat Board, and to the following Agents of Parliament and foundations created under federal statute:



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Agents of Parliament:

- Office of the Information Commissioner
- Office of the Privacy Commissioner
- Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages
- Office of the Chief Electoral Officer
- Office of the Auditor General

Foundations Created Under Federal Statute:

- Canada Foundation for Innovation
- Canada Foundation for Sustainable Development Technology
- Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation
- Asia-Pacific Foundation of Canada
- The Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation

Effective September 1, 2007, the *Federal Accountability Act*:

- Provides a duty for institutions to assist requesters without regard for their identity.
- Expands the coverage of the Act to include wholly-owned subsidiaries of all parent Crown corporations covered under the Act.
- Expands the coverage of the Act to include the following seven additional Crown corporations.

Crown Corporations:

- Canadian Broadcasting Corporation
- VIA Rail Canada Inc
- Atomic Energy of Canada Limited
- National Arts Centre
- Public Sector Pension Investment Board

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- Export Development Canada
- Canada Post Corporation

In addition, the *Federal Accountability Act* ensures that institutions added to the coverage of the *Access to Information Act* will also be covered by the *Privacy Act*.

Improving Auditing and Accountability within Government Departments

To clarify roles and responsibilities and strengthen internal audit, effective December 12, 2006, the *Federal Accountability Act*:

- Designates deputy ministers and deputy heads as accounting officers who are accountable before the appropriate committee of Parliament to answer questions related to specific areas of management within the framework of ministerial responsibility.
- Requires that a clear process be followed in the event that a minister and deputy minister are unable to agree on the interpretation or application of a Treasury Board policy, directive, or standard.
- Requires that deputy heads ensure an appropriate internal audit capacity and establish departmental audit committees.
- Ensures that audit committees in Crown corporations are independent of corporation management.

Effective March 1, 2007, the *Federal Accountability Act* creates a new offence of fraud involving public funds, carrying a maximum term of five years in prison for fraud of \$5,000 or less, a maximum term of 14 years in prison for fraud over \$5,000, and automatic dismissal for any public servant convicted of this offence.

In addition, our Government is:

- Implementing the Treasury Board Policy on Internal Audit.
- Developing a compliance framework that ensures both sides of compliance are addressed, and includes training tools for employees, disciplinary codes to provide clarity on misconduct and related consequences.
- Enabling the development of best practices and ensuring consistency in discipline across the core public administration, through the Deputy Ministers Advisory Committee on the Management of Compliance.

DEMOCRATIC AND SENATE REFORM

The Harper Government believes that Canadians deserve more democratic, effective and accountable institutions.

The Senate is a relic of the 19th century. It needs to be modernized to reflect 21st century democratic principles.

That is why the Harper Government has repeatedly introduced legislation to:

- Limit the terms of Senators to eight years.
- Give Canadians a direct say in who represents them in the Senate.
- Strengthen the Senate Ethics Officer.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper used one of his first Senate appointments to name the elected Senator, Bert Brown, to the Senate.

Our Government also introduced legislation to move towards the principle of representation by population for faster growing provinces, while protecting the seat counts of slower growth provinces.

Stephen Harper's Government will continue to fight to modernize and reform Canada's democratic institutions to ensure they reflect a 21st century democracy.

Background

Representation by Population

- In 2006, our Government committed to ensuring all Canadians have fairness in representation by restoring the principle of representation by population in the House of Commons while protecting the seat counts of provinces with slower growing populations.
- In 2010, the Harper Government introduced legislation to fulfill that commitment. This legislation will protect Quebec's seat count and Quebec will never drop below its current level of 75 seats in the House of Commons. Quebec may receive additional seats if Quebec's population increases before the 2011 or 2021 census.



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- Under this Act, based on projected population figures, after the next redistribution (approximately 2014), the province of Ontario will receive 18 additional seats, the province of Alberta will receive five extra seats and the province of British Columbia will receive an additional seven seats.

Senate Reform

- In April 2010, the Minister of State (Democratic Reform) began working with provincial governments to encourage them to enact processes that would give Canadian voters a direct say in who would be sent to the Senate.
- Two Senators from Alberta have already been selected based on this voluntary framework: Senator Stan Waters in 1990 and Senator Bert Brown in 2007.
- In addition to voter participation, the Harper Government is also pursuing term limits for Senators, limiting their appointed terms to eight years.

(This document provides detailed information on key Government accomplishments from 2006 through to the end of 2010. It is not intended as a complete compendium of Government actions during this period).