


# Halton Conservative

NEW SLETTER OF THE HALTON CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION  www.haltonconservative.ca  2010:1  SPRING 2010



## OUR MP's MESSAGE

### Budget 2010: Leading the Way on Jobs and Growth

By Lisa Raitt, PC MP

As Canadians continue to revel in the pride of our record-breaking Olympic performance, our country's economic performance offers another reason for us to feel proud.

Canada was drawn into the deepest global recession since the 1930s, but we entered the recession in much better shape than the rest of the industrialized world. The government prudently regulated our financial system to make it the soundest in the world.

Since taking office in 2006, this government reduced taxes and aggressively paid down debt so that today, even after the effects of the recession, Canada boasts the lowest debt-to-GDP ratio in the G7.

Our Plan is working. We are seeing signs of recovery. More than 135,000 new jobs have been created since July, and 16,000 infrastructure projects have begun laying the foundation for long-term economic growth. However, economic recovery remains fragile. Too many Canadians are still looking for work.

That is why this year's budget is a Jobs and Growth budget. It builds on Canada's Economic Action Plan to solidify our recovery. In Year 2 of the plan, we are investing \$19-billion to stimulate our economy and complete the rapid rollout of stimulus projects to create jobs now.

We are laying a strong foundation for long-term job creation and economic growth by investing in innovation, training and education while sustaining Canada's competitive advantage by lowering taxes, eliminating tariffs and cutting red tape for small businesses.

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## From the President's Desk:

Spring has arrived and with that comes the Stanley Cup playoffs! Speaking of favourite teams, I don't know of anyone who didn't feel tremendous pride for our Olympic athletes. The camaraderie that Canadians felt across the country was heart-warming. People were on the edge of their seats waiting for Canada to add another medal to our tally.

Everyone likes to feel that they make a difference, be it cheering for our Olympians or a favourite hockey team. People want to feel involved and let that team know their thoughts whether it is by yelling out encouragement or whatever else comes to mind! But does that really affect the outcome of the game?

Some people treat politics the same way, they voice their opinion to the pundits on the TV screen or radio. However this has about the same impact to the outcome as sitting in front of the TV on the edge of your seat and yelling at Sidney Crosby to score that goal! The reality is that people feel involved in the moment but they aren't making a real difference to the outcome.

But **YOU** as a Conservative Party member are making a difference! Did you know that just by having a party membership that you are one of the 1.5% of total voters in Halton that are affecting political change? Your membership gives you a voice in the political process here in Halton. But please don't let it stop at that. There are many other things you can do, big & small, that will help make even more of a difference.

- **Come and meet Lisa Raitt at local meetings**
- **Put up a lawn sign during an election campaign**
- **Join our campaign team**
- **Donate to the EDA here in Halton**

The choice is yours on how you wish to make a difference. All I ask is that you become a Conservative that really makes an impact right here in Halton. Be a part of the process and you'll see the difference it makes!

**Beth Gregg,**

2010 President, Halton Conservative Association



## MP's Message—from page 1

Our deficit reduction plan has three key points. First, we will wind down our stimulus spending as planned and on schedule. Second, restrain growth in government spending and third, undertake a comprehensive review of government spending on overhead and administration.



Our plans will half the deficit in two years and by two-thirds in three years. Shortly after that, the budget will be brought back fully to balance. But this will not happen at the expense of pensioners or by raising taxes. Nor will we cut transfer payments for important priorities like health care and education. In fact in Ontario, transfers will total \$18.8-billion in 2010-11, an increase of \$801-million from last year and \$6.9-billion since 2005-06.

Canadians athletes showed the world their tenacity and competitive spirit at the Olympics. They are Canada's inspiration as millions of Canadians step up to the world's economic podium and prove we are open for business as we build today, a Canada in which our children and grandchildren will surpass us.

## Contact Us:

**We want to hear from you, so please send us your thoughts or suggestions:**

Phone: (905) 636-8764

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**Treasurer's Update:**

The best thing about donating to the Halton Conservative Association is sending every dollar directly into the riding to help re-elect our current MP, Lisa Raitt. Not only does this continue our riding's strong representation within government, but it helps our overall goal of a conservative majority.

The next-best thing about donating is the surprising affordability of doing so, owing to the tax advantages. Much of your donation comes back to you in the form of tax credits. Whether you attend an event or instead directly contribute, money returns to your pocket. Here's a chart with some common donation amounts and the actual cost to you:

Your contribution	Tax credit	Actual cost
\$ 50.00	\$ 37.50	\$ 12.50
\$ 100.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 25.00
\$ 250.00	\$187.50	\$ 62.50
\$ 500.00	\$350.00	\$150.00
\$1100.00	\$592.00	\$508.00

Contributing to our Association is even easier now as we can accept secure online donations from your personal credit card via our website. You can make a one-time contribution or set up a monthly payment plan....the choice is yours! Personal cheques are always welcome as well.

The online payment feature provides a secure and convenient method to donate and support keeping Halton blue! The payment feature also works from any web enabled device such as a Blackberry, iPhone, etc.

Your donations are important to us. Thank you for your generosity.

**Financial Agent, Aaron Burns**

Please note that contributions from corporations, labour unions or associations, and unincorporated associations are prohibited. Canadian citizens or permanent residents may also donate a separate amount up to \$1,100 to a combination of Conservative riding associations, candidates and nomination contestants, in addition to contributions made to the National Party



For updates, visit our website: [www.haltonconservative.ca](http://www.haltonconservative.ca)

Want to save paper? Email [info@haltonconservative.ca](mailto:info@haltonconservative.ca) and request an *email-only* newsletter.



## Questions for Lisa Raitt :

Dear Lisa,

*Do you support Bill C-428, which would amend the Old Age Security Act so that people who have only lived in Canada for 3 years are entitled to a full monthly pension?*

### Reply:

I have had many people write in to discuss their concerns with Bill C-428, which is a Private Member's Bill that was introduced by Liberal MP Ruby Dhalla this past fall.

Let me be clear that I do not support this bill.

In order to qualify for Old Age Security, there is a 10 year residency requirement after the age of 18. If this is met, eligible Canadians can start receiving benefits at age 65. I feel strongly that the ten year requirement period strikes an appropriate balance between an individual's contribution to Canadian society and ones access to lifelong, publicly funded benefits. I also feel it is reasonable to expect a person to live in Canada for a minimum period of time before being granted this assistance.

There are currently 50 social security agreements in place with a wide variety of countries. These allow a period of residence and contributions in the other country to be used to meet the 10 year requirement. At a cost of well over \$700 million put on the backs of hard working, and long contributing families here in Canada, this proposal is costly and irresponsible.

## We want to hear from you!

Do you have a question for Lisa that you need an answer to? Many of you probably have similar questions, so send them in to us and we will post the most commonly asked question of the month and Lisa's answer on our website.

Submit your questions to: [info@haltonconservative.ca](mailto:info@haltonconservative.ca)



Halton Conservative Association

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