



The Ellis Eyeopener

Newsletter January 2024

Issue #8



**Working for You
in Cumberland-Colchester
and on Parliament Hill**

**Welcome back to my regular
monthly e-Newsletter**

The Ellis Eyeopener

**It is a summary of the
most important work I
have undertaken during
the past month, on your behalf.
I hope you find the news
features and pictures
to be of interest.**



*I attended four southern
Ontario town halls at the end
of November in Brampton, Dunnville,
Rockton and Norwich, gathering
public opinion regarding
Medical Assistance In Dying (MAID).
See story on Page 2.*

Stop MAID expansion

No room for guessing: medical experts

Over the past two months, I have been continuing efforts to oppose an alarming federal government plan to expand the Medical Assistance In Dying program (MAID). The Trudeau Liberals have announced that effective March 2024, those with mental illness (including drug addiction), will be included in a state-sponsored medical assistance in dying. In response to this ill-thought policy, I was part of a Conservative Members of Parliament initiative that led four town halls in southern Ontario, to collect public opinion about this policy expansion. Hundreds of concerned citizens in Brantford, Dunnville, Rockton and Norwich showed strong opposition to expanding eligibility for MAID.

This Liberal government proposed extension must be stopped. Mental health professionals across the country are making it clear: allowing those with any mental illness to apply for MAID, just because they don't want to live anymore, is totally unacceptable. Doctors would be placed into making life-ending decisions based on subjective information, not one based on science.

As Shadow Minister of Health, I believe it is clear that doctors who are being asked to implement this program, have admitted they could get it right two percent of the time ... or 95 per cent of the time.



There is clear reason for concern about this expansion, and it's not just Conservatives raising an alarm -- mental health experts and psychologists across the country have made it clear: this cannot be implemented safely and determining inclusion is highly subjective. There is no room for subjective decision-making when it comes to a person's life.

We must ensure the Trudeau Liberals are stopped.



STEPHEN ELLIS

MP | CUMBERLAND—COLCHESTER



The Ellis Eyeopener

NEWSLETTER OPINION POLL

Welcome to the 8th issue of my monthly periodical ***The Ellis Eyeopener***.

It's a roundup of my work accomplished in Cumberland-Colchester during the past month.

This e-newsletter is different. Not only is it a time capsule, it's also meant to be highly informative and, most of all, interesting to read. 'Something to look forward to that's in your mailbox at the beginning of each month.

Every effort is made to present and highlight, for subscribers (IT'S FREE!), a wide variety of issues affecting everyone in the constituency.

We must be pressing the right buttons because new readers are joining the Ellis Eyeopener every day! Don't forget It's FREE! In a short time, more than 200 followers have come to support this new product.

So, I'd like to hear from our readers.

What are the major issues affecting you, that I could take back to Ottawa? (The are no wrong questions!)

Please take a few minutes to write a note. This is part of participatory democracy, something that I hold close. I can't make that possible without your input.

Thanks,

Stephen Ellis

Member of Parliament

Cumberland-Colchester

**If you want to become part of the
dialogue, please do so at
www.drstephenellismp.com**



www.drstephenellismp.com



STEPHEN ELLIS

MP | CUMBERLAND—COLCHESTER

Liberal Fall economic update



In response to the Liberal's Fall Economic Statement, the Conservative Party of Canada has three demands:

- Cancel carbon tax hikes
- Bring down inflation and interest rates by balancing the budget
- Build homes, not bureaucracy

Liberals have no Big Ideas and instead steal from common sense Conservatives

Ottawa - Dr. Stephen Ellis, Conservative Shadow Minister for Health, released the following statement on the Fall Economic Update:

“After eight years of Trudeau’s crushing taxes and inflationary deficits and spending, Canadians are finding themselves driven deeper into Trudeau’s cost of living crisis. While Canadians are struggling to afford fuel, groceries, and a place to live, Trudeau’s minibudget pours \$20 billion more fuel on the inflationary fires, making things worse.

“Canada’s Health system is also in a crisis after eight years of Trudeau’s neglect and failure. The out of touch Liberals have given up on trying to fix our broken healthcare system and in 2024, the government will pay more interest on Trudeau’s doubled debt than we spend on healthcare.

“Instead of coming up with solutions to the problems they created, the desperate flailing Liberal government are claiming credit for our common sense Private Members Legislation which removes the GST/HST From Psychotherapy and Counselling.

“The NDP-Liberal coalition government’s Fall Economic Statement contained no surprises, just more hurt for Canadians. Canadians are out of money and out of time. The Liberal government is out of touch and out of ideas.

“The common sense Conservative plan is to cancel the planned quadrupling of the carbon tax, bring down inflation and interest rates by balancing the budget, and build homes, not bureaucracy so Canadians can have an affordable place to live.”



A new surge of nicotine addicts



I have been watching this soap opera unfold, and I am on record as calling on the government to immediately enforce closure of Zonnic sales – before Minister Holland even knew what was going on!

The Minister tried to shift responsibility to Imperial Tobacco, saying the company misled Health Canada as to its merchandising intent – that the nicotine pouches were not really intended to be a smoking cessation aid, rather Imperial was intent on selling a product aimed at youth to get them hooked on nicotine.

Do you believe this?

I don't.

Minister Holland said outside the House of Commons, "The way that this was presented is that it was for the purposes of cessation. In their marketing and their approach, it exists in a completely different way. We were duped."

"Obviously, if we knew their intention, we would have never allowed that."

He continued, "The fact that we could have allowed this to get across the line and not seen this eventuality, and not seen what they were going to do, I'm deeply apologetic for. I do not want this out in the world,"

I'm sorry, Mr. Holland. It's too late.

So, if you want a government that won't get duped, that has the capability of seeing and acting on issues as they really are, cast your vote for common sense Conservatives, that will ensure the protection of our youth and all Canadians.

Termed a natural health product

"We were duped."

These now famous three words will stick to Health Minister Mark Holland, in what must be one of the Trudeau government's most embarrassing examples of ineptitude.

I am referring to Health Canada's recent decision allowing Imperial Tobacco to market nicotine pouches without restrictions, having licensed the highly addictive substance as a natural health product.

By the time the Liberals realized the volume of its huge blunder, hundreds of thousands of Canadian teenagers had purchased tins of Imperial Tobacco's Zonnic-brand flavoured nicotine pouches, slipped them between teeth and upper lip, and as one 17-year-old Ottawa student said, "Zonnic gives you a really good head rush."

Health Minister Holland appeared on national television in the aftermath, with an unconvincing collateral damage explanation that Imperial Tobacco is able to sell nicotine to children because of a "loophole!"

Reckless supply

Giving opioids away free

In Canada, there have been 38,514 opioid deaths between January 2016 and March 2023.

So far last year, between January and March, there had been 1,904 opioid deaths. This is an average of 21 deaths per day.

A group of Canada's leading addiction experts sent a letter to Minister of Mental Health and Addictions Ya'ara Saks expressing "grave concern with programs providing unsupervised free government funded hydromorphone to people with addictions."

In a second letter they reiterated that safe supply – "This is not harm reduction. It is harm. This is not Safe Supply. It is Reckless Supply."

Conservatives will continue to press for answers that Canadians want and deserve.



National Day of Remembrance

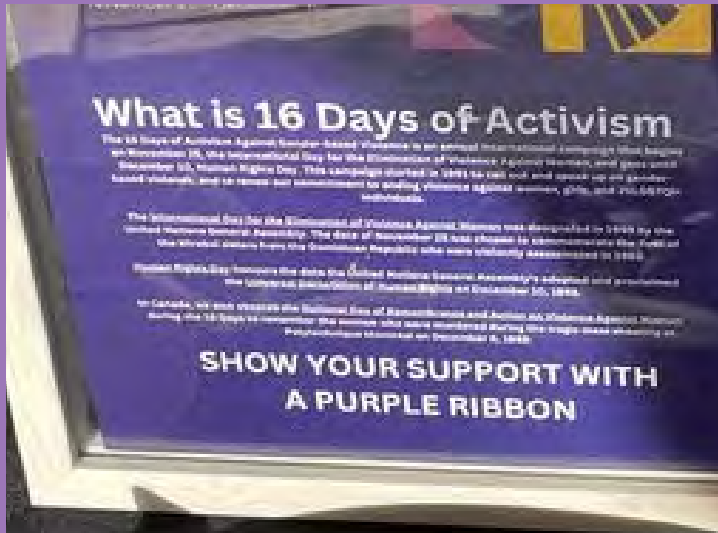
Lotus Centre maintains tradition

The National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence against Women, a day commemorated on the anniversary of the December 6, 1989 Ecole Polytechnique massacre, where 14 women were murdered and 14 other women were injured, was celebrated in Truro.

Thank you to The Lotus Centre for organizing this event and honouring women who lost their lives to violence. The event offered a visit to the gazebo at the Lotus Centre to place a memorial tag for a woman. Third Place Transition House personnel talked about the work they do in the community.

We remember:

Geneviève Bergeron; Hélène Colgan; Nathalie Croteau; Barbara Daigneault; Anne-Marie Edward; Maud Haviernick; Maryse Laganière; Maryse Leclair; Anne-Marie Lemay; Sonia Pelletier; Michèle Richard; Annie St-Arneault; Annie Turcotte; Barbara Klucznik-Widajewicz.



A day draped in purple

Just ask Amanda Saxe

Summer Internships is a great career step

The Conservative Party of Canada - Parti conservateur du Canada - is now accepting applications for the 2024 CPC Summer Internship!

This is a great opportunity for a young person who is passionate about politics, and the future of our country.

We would love to see some applications from Cumberland-Colchester! If you or you know someone who may be interested in the program - please reach out.

www.conservative.ca/internship



Amanda Saxe joined my staff earlier this year, as a summer intern. Her super performance led to an offer of 'work-from-home' part-time, while studying Political Science full-time at Queen's University in Kingston. Amanda has a great future -- and so can you! Apply for a 2024 Conservative Party of Canada Summer Internship and, like Amanda, get an early start on developing your career strategy!



2024

Canada Summer Jobs Program



Canada Summer Jobs (CSJ) is part of the Youth Employment and Skills Strategy to help young people—particularly those facing barriers to employment and gain the skills, work experience and abilities they need to transition successfully into the labour market. Through Canada Summer Jobs, employers are encouraged to create quality summer work experiences for young people between the ages of 15 and 30. It provides youth with opportunities to develop and improve their skills, responds to national and local priorities, and improves access to the labour market for youth, especially those who face barriers to employment.

Employer 2024 application period

The Canada Summer Jobs employer application period is open from November 21, 2023, until 11:59 p.m. Pacific Time (PST) on January 10, 2024.

Eligible Canadian employers can be from the not-for-profit, public or private sectors. Private sector employers must have 50 or fewer full-time employees across Canada to be eligible (full-time employees are those working 30 hours or more per week).

How employers apply

Employers interested in applying for CSJ 2024 funding are encouraged to submit their applications electronically on the Grants and Contributions Online Services (GCOS) portal.



Cumberland-Colchester

December casework update

Did you know?

Our offices in Truro and Amherst have the ability to assist constituents with a variety of issues, including federal legislative programs. Our team is highly skilled and they work with federal departments to find answers to your questions. Not every case is a solvable one. My guarantee is that the team will work hard on every problem.








Stephen Ellis
Member of Parliament



Constituency Assistants Holly Miller and Amy Menzies

CASE BREAKDOWN

(open & closed combined)

	Immigration	341		Phoenix Pay System	25		Finance/ Federal Grants	81
	Service Canada	276		Veterans Affairs	38		Federal Complaints	147
	CRA	161		CBSA	8		All Other (Misc)	252
	Passports	62		Health Canada/ Covid-19	120		Total since November 2021	1,511

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902-895-2863
Amherst Office
902-667-8679

Stakeholders and constituents



Cumberland-Colchester Fire Chiefs



I met with a Nova Scotia delegation from the Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs attending its annual Lobby Day on Parliament Hill. Their questions were concise and well presented, as always. It was a pleasure to meet with Greg Jones right, Wade Jennings, and Michael Lockett. Cumberland-Colchester was well represented!

Mood disorders Canada

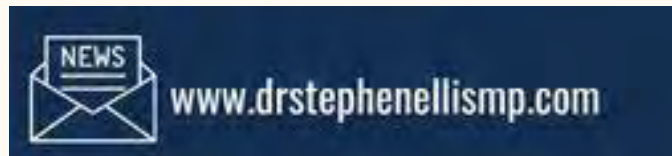
A great discussion was held with Mood Disorders Canada about serving Canada's health sector. Mood Disorders Canada can unburden our mental health system in our communities by increasing collaboration and capacity building between our mental health organizations.



Neighbourhood Pharmacy Association of Canada



I was pleased to meet with the Neighbourhood Pharmacy Association of Canada. We discussed healthcare policies and external factors impacting pharmacy's ability to provide care to patients, including the rising risk of arbitrary new fees.

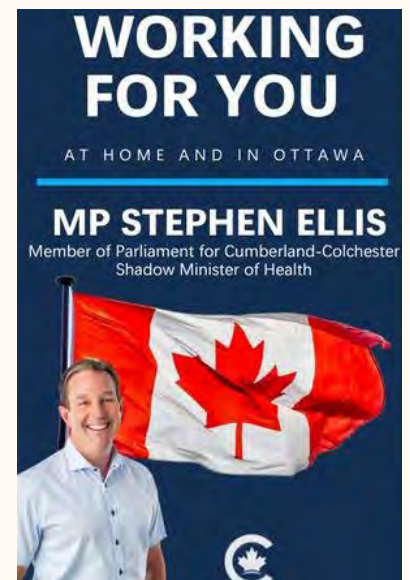


Congratulations Carly Jackson

Ready to take Toronto by storm. Presenting your inaugural PWHL Toronto roster for the 2024 season. Read More: bit.ly/41hGe7i



OFFICIAL		2024 SEASON	
		PWHL TORONTO	
#	NAME	PDB	HOMETOWN
10	ALEXA VASKO	F	ST. CATHARINES, ON, CAN
17	SAMANTHA COGAN	F	OTTAWA, ON, CA
18	JESSE COMPHER	F	NORTHBROOK, IL, USA
19	REBECCA LESLIE	F	OTTAWA, ON, CAN
20	SARAH NURSE	F	HAMILTON, ON, CAN
22	MAGGIE CONNORS	F	ST JOHN'S, NL, CAN
23	JESS JONES	F	PICTON, ON, CAN
24	NATALIE SPOONER	F	SCARBOROUGH, ON, CAN
27	EMMA MALTAIS	F	BURLINGTON, ON, CAN
28	KAITLIN WILLOUGHBY	F	PRINCE ALBERT, SK, CAN
34	HANNAH MILLER	F	VANCOUVER, BC, CAN
40	BLAYRE TURNBULL	F	STELLARTON, NS, CAN
41	BRITTANY HOWARD	F	ST THOMAS, ON, CAN
3	JOCELYNE LAROCQUE	D	STE ANNE, MB, CAN
5	LAURIANE ROUGEAU	D	BEACONSFIELD, QC, CAN
6	KALI FLANAGAN	D	BURLINGTON, MA, USA
7	OLIVIA KNOWLES	D	CAMPBELL RIVER, BC, CAN
12	ALLIE MUNROE	D	YARMOUTH, NS, CAN
14	RENATA FAST	D	BURLINGTON, ON, CAN
76	MAUDE POULIN-LABELLE	D	SHERBROOKE, QC, CAN
37	ERICA HOWE	G	ORLEANS, ON, CAN
50	KRISTEN CAMPBELL	G	BRANDON, MB, CAN
70	CARLY JACKSON	G	AMHERST, NS, CAN



Amherst sod turning

Bacon Centre to be huge investment in seniors care



It was a great pleasure to attend the groundbreaking ceremony for the Roger Bacon Long-Term Care Centre in Amherst. This is vital investment for our seniors and our community as a whole. I look forward to touring the new facility upon completion.



Greeting new Truro community residents. It was truly a Merry Christmas at the first Simbang Gabi celebration for the Filipino community in Truro!



In Amherst volunteering for the Salvation Army's Kettle Campaign! The Salvation Army's Christmas Kettle Campaign is one of Canada's largest and most recognizable annual charitable events.

752 farms in Cumberland-Colchester

Carbon tax must turn to dust



I spoke to farmers 'in my backyard' and one said his costs of doing business have been skyrocketing. Fuel bills have doubled, and fertilizer has doubled if not tripled.

The farmer has \$2-million in operating costs. He pays 20 per cent, or \$400,000, in carbon taxes.

A Conservative government will immediately remove the carbon tax on farm operations, that will in turn bring down the cost of food to all Canadians, from the farm gate to the dinner plate.

9-8-8

Suicide Prevention
Helpline

WHAT
YOU
NEED
TO
KNOW



9-8-8

Canada's New Three-Digit
Suicide Prevention Helpline



STEPHEN ELLIS

MP | CUMBERLAND—COLCHESTER

- Thanks to the advocacy of Todd Doherty, Conservative Member of Parliament from Cariboo—Prince George, Canada is launched 9-8-8 on **November 30th**.
- 9-8-8 is for anyone who is thinking about suicide, or who is worried about someone they know.
- The goal is to prevent suicide by making it as simple as possible for people to get the help they need in the moments they need it most.

*It was a great morning during
the Christmas in Stewiacke celebrations
hosted by the Town.
I even shared with Santa what
I want for Christmas!*



The wind blew like fury, and power was out all over the region, but that didn't deter more than 100 hardy constituents from attending the Open House in Truro on Decemember 18, 2023



JOIN US FOR SOME CHRISTMAS CHEER!

Open House

HOSTED BY: STEPHEN ELLIS
MP FOR CUMBERLAND-COLCHESTER

Monday, December 18, 2023	Tuesday, December 19, 2023
Truro Constituency Office	Amherst Constituency Office
40 Inglis Place	35 Church Street
Truro NS	Amherst NS
1:00pm - 4:00pm	1:00pm - 4:00pm

DROP IN. LIGHT REFRESHMENTS.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:
STEPHEN.ELLIS@PARL.GC.CA



Approximately 80 constituents in the Amherst area turned out for the open house December 19, 2023.



JOIN US FOR SOME CHRISTMAS CHEER!

Open House

HOSTED BY: STEPHEN ELLIS
MP FOR CUMBERLAND-COLCHESTER

Monday, December 18, 2023
Truro Constituency Office
40 Inglis Place
Truro NS
1:00pm - 4:00pm

Tuesday, December 19, 2023
Amherst Constituency Office
35 Church Street
Amherst NS
1:00pm - 4:00pm

DROP IN. LIGHT REFRESHMENTS.
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WORKING FOR YOU

AT HOME AND IN OTTAWA

MP STEPHEN ELLIS

Member of Parliament for Cumberland-Colchester
Shadow Minister of Health



DrSDEllis



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