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Paul Manly tabled the motion that states the injustice to pensioners

Canada shames UK for pensions 'injustice' of 136,000 expats on less than £60 a week

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A motion passed in the Canadian House of Commons put the spotlight on the plight of the "approximately 136,000" UK pensioners in the country. Campaigners say the controversial policy means most receive less than £60 a week. Paul Manly, an MP from British Columbia, tabled the motion which states that "frozen UK pensions represent an injustice to both UK pensioners in Canada and to Canadian taxpayers". The move comes as cross-party pressure builds in Westminster for the UK to accept Canada's invitation to negotiate a reciprocal agreement to up-rate pensions.

PRIVATE MEMBERS BILLS

- C-252 Trade and Foreign Investment Protection Agreements Transparency Act
- C-261 An Act to amend the Canada Shipping Act, 2001 (thermal coal)

MOTIONS

- M-65 Guaranteed Livable Income
- M-66 Housing Crisis
- M-71 Protection of Old Growth Forests
- M-77 Improvements to Long Term Care
- M-81 Role of Canada Post in a Green Economy
- M-82 Taxing Multinational Digital Corporations
- M-85 Vessel Arrival System
- M-90 National Ban on Gas Fracking
- M-95 Eliminating Post-Secondary Tuition Fees
- M-96 Greenhouse Gas Emissions of Industrial-Scale Animal Agriculture



HIGHLIGHTS: FROM THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

Videos of my speeches and questions are available online at YouTube. com/c/PaulManlyGPC.

"There has been a lack of political courage to do what is necessary at the federal level in Canada. On both sides of the House, there is little appetite to do anything that might upset a provincial premier. The lack of a unified national COVID-19 strategy continues to have poor outcomes and hurts Canadians in a myriad of ways. We need stronger national co-ordination, and the sooner we start, the better results we will achieve. Pandemics do not respect jurisdiction. Let us stand together as a nation, get to zero and beat COVID-19."

"All over the country, there are still many people who are in trouble because they lost their jobs because of the pandemic. The Financial Post reported last week that we are now at a five-year high for Canadians facing insolvency. This is a problem that will only lessen once the pandemic is in the rear-view mirror. Until then, we must ensure that we do not let people lose everything because of COVID-19, because when people fall into poverty, the odds that they will be able to recover from such a setback are diminished."

"Right now there are more Indigenous children in the child welfare system in this country than there were children in the residential schools at the height of the residential school system. This is an ongoing abuse of human rights and a violation of fundamental social justice. When I talk to local leaders from First Nations and urban Indigenous communities in my riding, they tell me the same thing: Children are being apprehended by provincial child welfare agencies, and it is not because the parents have neglected to provide their children with love, care or attention. The majority of child welfare apprehensions are a direct result of poverty and inadequate housing. The Government of Canada could deal with this immediately with a poverty reduction strategy and rapid housing program for First Nations and urban Indigenous populations."

"A national child care system is a program the Green Party has been calling for for decades. This program is needed more urgently than ever, as we begin to address the heavy impact the pandemic has had on working mothers. The Province of Quebec has been providing low-cost child care for the past two decades, and researchers have studied what has been successful there and what has not. I am encouraged to see the government supporting the not-for-profit model."

"The belief that the private sector in a free market can do everything better than the government is a bankrupt idea. Connaught Labs was proof. It provided affordable medicines and vaccines that saved lives and made Canada a world leader in public health. The free market has brought us more expensive medicines and a focus on profit. Canada needs a universal pharmacare system, and a publicly-owned model of medicine development and production will make it affordable. Privatizing Connaught Labs put us farther behind in our fight against COVID-19. It is time to go back to a common-sense model that serves the common good."

Learn more about my work in parliament at PaulManlyMP.ca

"Seniors in my riding have been asking for additional pandemic relief and for a permanent increase in the old age security. The budget promises that old age security will increase in 2022, a year from now, but only for seniors over the age of 75. This is creating two classes of seniors: those 75 and up and those under 75. This is going to force more seniors to continue working in jobs that young people could be filling."

"Mr. Speaker, students and young people in Canada have been greatly impacted by the pandemic. Mental health challenges and dropout rates have been rising in universities, colleges and trade schools, and students continue to be crushed by debt. Northern European countries have built their knowledge-based economies on free post-secondary education. They invest in their people and have a highly educated workforce. Will the government make tuition-free post-secondary education a pillar of the post-COVID recovery plan?"

"I am urging the government to work with First Nations and with the provinces to protect Canada's old growth ecosystems before it is too late. The terrible reality is that, from a government perspective, it is relatively simple to clear cut an old growth forest. Protecting and preserving these endangered ecosystems is more difficult. Since colonization, the economy has been based on the extraction and removal of resources. We talk a good game about preservation, but the hurdles and roadblocks that must be overcome to save endangered ecosystems lay bare the underlying values and priorities of governments."

"In my riding, there have been recent high-profile incidents of anti-Indigenous racism toward the Snuneymuxw First Nation, when there was an outbreak of COVID-19 in the community, and when a memorial for missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls was desecrated on the territory of the Stz'uminus First Nation. Canada is also experiencing a surge of anti-Asian racism. Racism is part of our history and our present. We do not like to see ourselves this way, but it is essential to take the blinders off and sit in the discomfort of that reality. When it comes to breaking down the structural and systemic barriers of racism, bias and discrimination, the kindness of discomfort is the greatest form of kindness we can practise on a personal level. The kindness of discomfort is a conscious choice to become a better ally in the work of building a more equitable and inclusive society."

"As we reopen, we need to remain vigilant to the threat that the variants pose to public health. It is also important to acknowledge that many people and businesses are still facing financial insecurity and the stress that comes with it. The pandemic has shown us what is possible when we unite to face an emergency. We need that same approach to transform our economy, to put people and the planet before corporate profits. The climate emergency and biodiversity crisis demand nothing less. I am committed to this work, and I pledge to work collaboratively to get it done."



PAUL MANLY

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Nanaimo-Ladysmith

Spring/Summer 2021

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In April I participated in the 12 Hour Nowhere To Go Poverty Challenge. The challenge was organized by CommUNITY Together To End Poverty. It's a project that aims to create a solutions-focused approach to reducing poverty in Ladysmith and Stz'uminus. Learn more at communitytogethertoenpoverty.ca



A MESSAGE FROM YOUR MP

Summer is here! With the easing of health protocols we can now visit family and friends we've been missing. A joyful time for many, but the sadness of those who have lost loved ones is not forgotten.

There are important and long-awaited items in the budget that the government tabled on April 19th. The implementation of a national affordable childcare program is one of them. Renewed conservation funding through Canada's Nature Legacy and the creation of Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas is another.

The COVID-19 pandemic exposed gaps in our social safety net, challenges to our health care system and major problems with long term care. We have a housing affordability and homelessness crisis. Many Indigenous communities still do not have access to clean drinking water. Young Canadians face major financial hurdles as the cost of post-secondary education, and the cost of living, continues to rise. And we are in the midst of a climate emergency. None of these issues were adequately addressed in the budget.

One of the most glaring problems we face is growing inequality in Canada. During the pandemic almost 5.5 million Canadians lost their jobs, or had their hours cut by more than half and struggled to make ends meet. At the same time, Canadian billionaires increased their wealth by \$78 billion. Corporations took government support payments, then increased executive bonuses and shareholder dividends. Some corporations engaged in profiteering.

There are legitimate concerns about the size of the pandemic related deficit.

Unfortunately, there was nothing in the budget to close the loopholes that allow tax avoidance. Canada needs a more equitable tax system to insure the ultra-wealthy and the pandemic profiteers pay their fair share.

The government tabled thirty new bills since parliament resumed in late September. I spoke on many of these bills and put forward amendments in the committee process where appropriate.

Three of the Truth and Reconciliation Committee Calls to Action were enacted in legislation. These included #94, changing the oath of citizenship, and #80, creating an annual National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Bill C-15 addressed call to action #43, that Canadian law be consistent with the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People. These are important steps, but only 13 of the 94 calls to action have been acted on. At this rate, decades will pass before the calls are completed; that is not acceptable.

During the parliamentary session I tabled ten motions and seconded 15 put forward by other MPs. I also tabled two private members bills and joint-seconded 19 others. I supported bills and motions put forward by members of all parties, because it's important to work across party lines to support good legislation.

You can read more about all of my work on my website at PaulManlyMP.ca. Thank you for your replies to my previous newsletter, I always appreciate hearing from you.

UNFAIR BANK FEES

- Big banks are raising service fees as more Canadians are struggling financially.
- Canadian businesses pay higher credit card processing fees than their EU counterparts.

Many Canadians are still struggling with the financial impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. In March, the Canadian Federation of Independent Businesses reported that one in six small businesses in Canada are at risk of permanently closing. The average small business is now \$170,000 in debt.

Some of Canada's biggest banks have recently raised their service fees, or are planning to do so this summer. A spokesperson for TD Bank was quoted saying that fee increases "only occur after careful consideration and review."

Canada's six big banks are among the 50 most profitable banks in the world. TD's reported second quarter net income was \$3.7 billion. That's 147% higher than the same period last year. I think Canadians would like to know exactly what "careful consideration and review" means during a global pandemic.

Businesses are charged transaction fees, known as interchange rates, for every credit card swipe. In Canada, the average interchange rate is 1.4%, but many small businesses pay between 2.5 to 3% per transaction.

In 2018, the government struck deals with Visa and MasterCard to lower their average interchange rates from 1.5 to 1.4%. But even before the pandemic the European Union capped interchange rates at 0.3%. Credit card companies still operate there and they still make profits. Is agreeing to interchange rates nearly 5 times higher than the EU the best we can do for Canadian businesses?

Low income Canadians are often forced to take out payday loans to cover unforeseen expenses. Some payday lenders offer longer term loans and lines of credit that are federally regulated. Annualized interest rates on these types of loans are often as high as 50%, and legally capped at 60%. This is predatory lending. Why is the government facilitating it?

Canadians deserve protection from excessive banking fees, interchange rates, and interest charges. The government has the regulatory power to provide it.

ACTION: ON THE HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS CRISIS

01/05	Accompanied the Stone Soup crew as they distributed warm beverages and bagged lunches to people in Nanaimo experiencing homelessness.
01/06	Spoke with by-law enforcement officers who showed up during my visit to an encampment in Bowen Park. Accompanied outreach workers from SEIA distributing food and clothes in downtown Nanaimo.
01/07	Evening visit to the Unitarian shelter in Nanaimo.
01/08	Visited a safe tenting site in Duncan. Met with Duncan Mayor Michelle Staples and John Horn from the Cowichan Housing Association.
01/19	Visited the SEIA warming centre and the 7-10 Club.
01/25	During Question Period I asked the government to introduce strong regulations to stop the predatory activities that are distorting Canada's housing market and making homes unaffordable.
01/27	Published "Housing and Homelessness: The Crisis in Our Communities" on my website. This long blog post details much of what I've learned about the housing crisis, how it is impacting communities in Nanaimo-Ladysmith, and some of the potential short and long term solutions.
02/02	Spoke about housing and homelessness in my response to Bill C-14, the fall economic statement. Had an adjournment debate with Parliamentary Secretary Adam Vaughn on Canada's housing crisis.
02/04	Brought forward Motion 66, which proposes a series of government actions to address Canada's housing crisis.
02/17	Requested an emergency debate in the House of Commons on affordable housing and homelessness. My request was denied.
02/18	Hosted an online press conference on Canada's housing affordability crisis with MP Jenica Atwin and Vancouver City Councillor Jean Swanson.
02/25	Brought forward a unanimous consent motion in the House of Commons for a series of actions to address Canada's housing crisis. The motion did not receive unanimous consent from the other parties.
02/26	Participated in a roundtable discussion on affordable housing with Green Party leader Annamie Paul and a panel that included Indigenous and non-Indigenous housing experts from across Canada.
03/05	Sponsored petition e-3239, which requested a series of actions to address Canada's housing crisis.
04/06	Spent the day on the streets of Ladysmith participating in the 12 Hour Nowhere To Go Poverty Challenge organized by CommUNITY Together To End Poverty.
04/12	Presented petition e-3239 in the House of Commons. Spoke about housing and homelessness in my response to the budget speech. Also expressed my strong support for creating more co-operative housing in Canada.
04/13	Spoke about the disproportionate impact of the housing crisis on Indigenous people, and the need for a national strategy for urban Indigenous housing.
04/21	Spoke about the link between money laundering, tax evasion and the housing crisis.
04/26	Spoke about the link between trade agreements, foreign direct investments and the housing crisis.
05/04	Spoke about the disproportionate impact of the housing crisis on women, particularly seniors and single parents.
05/12	Hosted a Community Conversation on housing affordability with journalist Julie Chadwick.

Learn more about my work on the housing crisis at PaulManlyMP.ca

BILL C-12: IT'S ONLY BETTER THAN NOTHING

- Canada's new climate accountability act is dangerously weak.
- The climate emergency is non-partisan, but the environment committee is not.

On June 18, 2019, Canadian MPs passed a declaration that we are in a climate emergency. Bill C-12, Canada's new climate accountability act, passed in the House of Commons on June 22, 2021. I wish that was good news, but this legislation is hollow, and falls far short of the serious climate action Canada needs.

C-12 was mis-handled from the beginning. The bill was introduced and first debated in November 2020, a full year and a half after the declaration of a climate emergency. Canada's response to the COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated that the government is capable of acting quickly and decisively in an emergency. Where is that urgency when it comes to the climate emergency?

C-12 disappeared off the legislative agenda for months. In May 2021, the bill finally finished second reading and referral to committee. In committee, MPs study the bill in-depth, seek expert and stakeholder testimony, and put forward amendments.

It is no exaggeration to say that my caucus colleague MP Elizabeth May (Saanich-Gulf Islands) understands the climate emergency better than any other sitting MP. She has dedicated most of her life to this work. She follows the science, and studies how other countries are effectively making the shift away from fossil fuels.

In committee, Ms. May brought forward amendments to strengthen Bill C-12 with the best parts of the UK's Climate Change Act. Enacted in 2008, the act has been very successful in lowering the UK's GHG emissions because it enforces carbon budgets.

Unfortunately, due to lack of time and partisan posturing, the committee process for C-12 was a disaster. Much of the expert feedback on C-12 was provided to MPs after it was too late to bring forward amendments. There was no testimony from climate scientists. No youth spoke to the committee. Not a single Indigenous witness was heard.

Liberal and NDP committee members were so determined to block Green Party amendments that they voted down one that had the same language as a government amendment. That meant the government amendment was also defeated. After wasting an hour of precious committee time, they determined that changing "ten years" to "9 years and 366 days" would enable them to get the defeated government amendment back into the bill. This might be comical if it wasn't so terrible.

C-12 mandates the creation of a climate advisory panel. Strangely, appointments to that panel were made before the bill even went to committee. Why? Perhaps because the

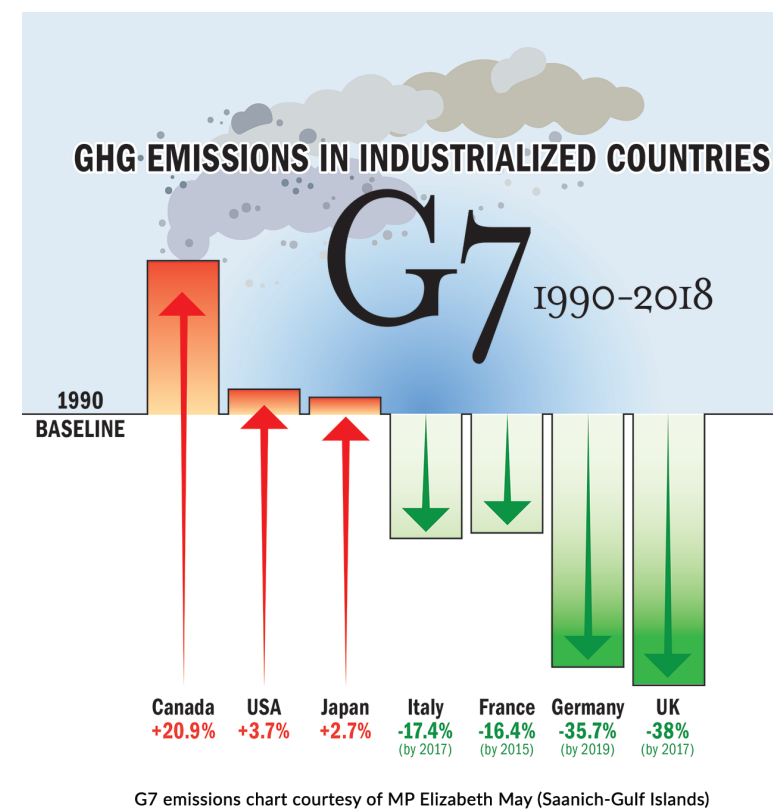
advisory panel is one of the glaring weaknesses of C-12. It should be an expert body, made up of climate scientists, but it is not.

Countries that signed on to the Paris agreement agreed to establish a 2025 GHG emission reduction milestone. That includes Canada, but Bill C-12 contained no 2025 milestone. The 2026 interim goal is only a progress review, not a hard target.

Canada has not met the targets of any of the nine international climate agreements it has signed. The majority of provinces and territories have made genuine progress in reducing GHG emissions. Unfortunately, those reductions have been wiped out by the expansion of the oil and gas industry in Canada. And still, the federal government is spending \$17 billion on the TransMountain pipeline expansion.

C-12 will not hold this government to account for emissions reductions, or the next government, or the government after that. The only accountability in this act is the same accountability that exists today: if Canadians don't like the government's climate actions they can vote the government out in the next election. This is unacceptable. The climate emergency demands the kind of accountability that is enduring. The UK Climate Change Act is successful because it binds successive governments to carbon budgets and emissions targets. It genuinely holds them accountable, and eliminates politics from climate action.

I voted for Bill C-12, only because the choice was between C-12 or nothing. Don't mistake my vote as an endorsement of it. Our children and grandchildren deserve so much more than this weak piece of legislation. C-12 provides a false sense of security, and pushes long overdue action and accountability down the road for another decade. That is not just irresponsible, it's immoral.



BILL C-10: UPDATING THE BROADCASTING ACT

- C-10 does not infringe on free speech.
- It does not do enough to protect Canadian independent producers.

It's been 30 years since Canada's Broadcasting Act was last updated. The media landscape has changed dramatically since that time, so this legislation was long overdue.

The amount of fear and anger that has been whipped up by disinformation being spread about Bill C-10 concerns me. These "Trump-style" tactics are dangerous and divisive. They make our communities less safe, both online and offline.

Freedom of expression is guaranteed in the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, which is part of our Constitution. Canadian laws must be constitutional, otherwise they can be thrown out by the courts.

The Broadcasting Act already protected freedom of expression. C-10 did not change that. And C-10 clearly states that CRTC orders must not infringe on the freedom of expression of social media users.

I have decades of experience in the music, film and the television industries, so I had a keen interest in seeing this update done right. I submitted 29 amendments to Bill C-10. My focus was on ensuring that the act does more than cater to the interests of big media stakeholders. Two of my amendments passed outright, and two more passed with sub-amendments.

Unfortunately, Liberal and Conservative committee members opposed my amendments to provide more protection for independent producers. Small independent production companies produce most of the programs we watch on TV or streaming services. These companies employ large numbers of Canadians in well-paying jobs. They negotiate contracts with the big media conglomerates to produce content. There is a huge power imbalance in that working relationship that needs to be addressed.

Many important amendments to C-10 were never debated due to filibustering, and then the fast tracking of the bill.

C-10 is now with the Senate, but it remains flawed. Some improvements were made that address the role of digital and streaming services in the media landscape. Much more could have been done to ensure the long term health and viability of Canada's film and television industry. Free speech has always been protected in the Broadcasting Act, and it still is. Don't believe the hype.

Learn more about my work in parliament at PaulManlyMP.ca



QUESTION PERIOD - JUNE 16, 2021

Canadians are recognizing the crimes that occurred in residential schools, but most are unaware of a parallel system of institutions where crimes were also committed against Indigenous people. For more than 40 years, the Government of Canada operated 29 racially segregated hospitals across this country. One of these institutions was here in Nanaimo. Researchers have exposed a range of atrocities at these hospitals including all kinds of abuse, experimental medical and dental treatments, and sterilization without consent.

On June 16, during Question Period I asked: "Will the government commit to a full, independent inquiry into Canada's Indian hospital system, and release all relevant documents for that purpose?"

NO
POSTAGE
REQUIRED

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