



HOUSE OF COMMONS  
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES  
CANADA

# JULIE DZEROWICZ

Member of Parliament  
Davenport

BACK IN ACTION  
WE'RE HERE TO SERVE YOU

DECEMBER 2021

## A MESSAGE FROM YOUR MP

Davenport friends and neighbours: amis et voisins de Davenport :

As your re-elected Member of Parliament for Davenport, it continues to be the greatest honour and privilege of my life to serve you. I am full of energy and determination to get things done! November 22 marks the formal beginning of the 44th Parliament, and I want to share with you some of my top priorities for both Davenport and Canada.

Ensuring that Ontario signs onto the federal Liberal government's **National Child Care Plan**, and **implementing our \$100 billion, comprehensive, aggressive climate action plan** are top of the list. If we implement both programs well, Canada will be fundamentally changed in a positive way, setting up our nation for economic prosperity and success.

Cost of living and the economy also top my priorities list. Our federal government remains laser-focused **on finishing the fight against COVID, including continuing to provide support for sectors that have been and continue to be disproportionately impacted**. The Arts & Culture sector is a key concern in Davenport—home to more artists than almost any other riding. We have a long road to recovery ahead, and more support for the arts sector is coming.

Inflation and rising costs, especially in our food products and gas prices, have been worrying all Canadians. Most economists continue to believe that the rising inflation will be temporary, but will stay around longer than anyone would like. It's important to note that **high inflation is a global issue and the federal government is monitoring it closely to determine what additional actions, if any, to take**.

As we build back our economy **we need an immigration system that can prepare for and quickly meet our labour shortages**,

and I continue to push for a way to **normalize out-of-status workers** who are already contributing to our economy, as well as engaging in other solutions to address current labour issues.

**I will continue to be a champion for basic income** and plan on reintroducing my bill in the House of Commons as soon as possible! I am determined that our social welfare system is updated to better support Canadians to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

**Housing affordability, continued support for seniors, and pushing forward to implement all 94 Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action round out the rest of my priorities for our third mandate**. Locally, I will continue to do all I can to keep 1117 Queen West (formerly a Canada Post office) in the hands of our community, while also working to ensure Canadians' priorities are taken into account when federal commercial lands in the hands of crown corporations and federal agencies are being sold.

**My constituency office is open and ready to serve you!** My team will continue to serve Davenport constituents by phone and by email. We are also meeting constituents in the office by appointment only, following COVID protocols. Kindly see inside for more details.

Finally, you are invited to my **Outdoor Festive Holiday Party** at Earls Court Park (near Caledonia/St. Clair corner) on Saturday December 11 from 1pm to 3pm. Look out for Santa and the music! I can't wait to see you, Davenport!

Julie Dzerowicz  
Member of Parliament, Davenport

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LET ME KNOW HOW  
I CAN HELP YOU!



Swearing-in as Member of Parliament  
for Davenport



# PRIORITIES FOR DAVENPORT

## ■ A STRONG ECONOMY

A strong economy that works for everyone is our priority. We have already met our promise of regaining 1 million jobs this year, returning employment to pre-pandemic levels. Now, we are focusing on a growth and jobs strategy for the 21st century, which could include:

01. **An immigration system that better meets our labour needs.** We have labour shortages across multiple sectors. One way to address this is to adjust our immigration system to better support the short-term and long-term needs of Canadian employers, ensuring they have the workers they need to grow the economy.
02. **Out-of-status workers.** Over the years, employers have had no choice but to bring in workers to fill in labour shortages not filled by Canadians. They are trained, economically and socially integrated, and they need a pathway to citizenship.
03. **Guaranteed Basic Income!** Ensuring a social welfare system that provides stability and support for Canadian workers will be key to Canada's success moving forward. I will continue to champion basic income and Bill C-273.

## ■ LEADING LOCALLY

- **Urging our federal government to take into consideration local needs when federal commercial lands are sold by crown corporations and/or federal agencies.** Locally, I will continue to do what I can to ensure 1117 Queen St. is available for use by the arts and culture community.
- **Making progress on housing affordability** by working with all levels of government and implementing platform promises.
- Pushing Metrolinx to implement the **Engine Bells Pilot** to reduce noise around railway tracks.
- Developing a **local-long term environmental plan** to move Davenport to net-zero.
- Working with local Indigenous leaders and Davenport residents on how we can locally contribute to a new Nation-to-Nation relationship.



With community advocates on the porch of 1117 Queen St. West.

## ■ AN ACTIVIST GOVERNMENT!

### \$10-A-DAY CHILDCARE

Nine provinces and territories have now signed on. **Getting Ontario to sign on to the national child care plan is a huge priority.** If they sign by the end of this year, child care costs will go down by 50% by 2022.

### CLIMATE ACTION

Since November 2015, we have committed **\$100 billion for our urgent and aggressive plan to combat climate change.** Our most recent commitments include a cap on oil-and-gas emissions, ending fossil fuel subsidies by 2023, and net-zero electricity by 2035.

### RECONCILIATION

**Implementing all the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action** will continue to be a top priority for me and for our federal government.



With Davenport residents at the EarlsCourt Park Pumpkin Parade.



With Environment Minister Steven Guilbeault in EarlsCourt Park.

## ■ CHAMPIONING ARTS & CULTURE

Davenport is home to more artists than almost any other riding in the country! Post COVID, we know that the road to recovery for the arts will be longer than in other sectors. Additional emergency supports for the arts sector will be announced shortly. Additional commitments include:

- A new **Arts and Culture Recovery Program** that will match ticket sales for live performances.
- A COVID-19 emergency relief program for **out-of-work artists, craftspeople, creators, and authors** who are primarily self-employed or independent contractors.
- A **summit, within the first 100 days**, on plans to restart the industry.



Checking out local art at United Contemporary Gallery.



With Heritage Minister Pablo Rodriguez at MOCA

## IMMIGRATION UPDATE

By far, the top issue that occupies my office is immigration. It's important for Davenport residents to note that my office is **not** a branch of Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada (IRCC). Our office deals only with **Davenport residents** who have immigration cases involving an urgent matter, an immediate danger and/or a threat to life.

Our office does not have access to the IRCC system and is unable to help fill in applications or process them. Those who have filed an IRCC application can check on the status of their application by visiting the website at the QR code on the bottom of this page.

**Unfortunately, COVID has had a huge impact on normal immigration processing times.** Here is a high-level update on immigration processing times:

### VISITOR VISAS (A.K.A TRVs)

There is a backlog of over 400,000 applications. IRCC is trying to figure out a system that would eliminate visas that are no longer needed but have been in the queue for processing for up to two years, and bring forward the visas that still need attention and processing. **There is a way for those who meet Canada's vaccine requirements to apply a SECOND time. See below for more information.**

### PERMANENT RESIDENCY (PR)

There are different streams for PR applications - the Canadian-experience class stream has been prioritized because most applicants are already in Canada. IRCC is currently finalizing (at time of print) applications submitted in March 2021.

### CANADIAN CITIZENSHIP

IRCC is over two years behind at time of printing, finalizing applications submitted August 2019.

### SPOUSAL SPONSORSHIPS

These applications have mostly returned to pre-pandemic processing times (12 months). Those that remain delayed are overwhelmingly located in overseas offices in COVID hotspots or in places in the world with conflict, which makes local offices not accessible or not open.

**Visitor Visa - special rules for those that can prove they meet Canada's vaccine requirements.** In order to prioritize applications for those who are eligible (i.e. fully vaccinated and meet Canada's travel rules) and ready to travel to Canada, IRCC is providing the option for those who want to travel to Canada soon to submit a **second** TRV application. The first application has to have been submitted before September 7, 2021.

- This measure is optional, and applicants are not required to submit a second application as older TRV applications will remain in the queue for processing.
- **But if you do apply a second time, IRCC will be in touch with you in 15 to 30 days to outline next steps.** You can find more information on that new policy at [bit.ly/DavenportVisitorVisa](https://bit.ly/DavenportVisitorVisa)

## AFGHANISTAN UPDATE

The federal government has committed to settling 40,000 Afghan refugees. To date, 3700 have been safely evacuated.

In our riding of Davenport, COSTI is one of the major settlers in Canada of Afghan refugees, and they've been working around the clock to support hundreds of Afghan refugees. Many families have been sponsored by local Canadian Armed Forces veteran

families and community members to help ease them into their new lives in Canada. The Honourable Marci Ien, Minister of Gender Equity, joined me in a recent visit to COSTI. We heard about their extraordinary work and efforts. I am so grateful to COSTI and its amazing team for all they do. It's a true blessing to have them in our community.

A number of Davenport residents have



Meeting with constituents to discuss an immigration issue.

## COMMUNITY OFFICE SERVICES

My team and I continue to serve Davenport residents from our community office at 1202 Bloor St. West. In addition to serving via emails, calls, and Zoom meetings, we are **now available for in-person appointments**. To book an appointment, please email us or call us.

A COVID meeting protocol is in place for all meetings:

- Bring your proof of vaccination
- Wear a mask inside the office
- Use hand sanitizer upon entry. All surfaces will be disinfected between appointments

Note that for all urgent matters, calling is the best way for us to ensure that your concerns and needs are immediately addressed.

TO CHECK ON YOUR  
IRCC CASE PROCESSING  
TIME, VISIT:



reached out to my office to ask for an update on a particular Afghan family application.

**Kindly note that there is no way for us to check on an application unless we have a file number.** In the meantime, know that the federal government is determined to move as quickly as possible and resettling Afghan refugees is a top priority for our new Minister of Immigration, the Honourable Sean Fraser.





Loving the Death Star pumpkin at the Dovercourt Park Pumpkin Parade!



With Mayor Tory, Councilor Bailao, MP Virani, and members of the Canadian Armed Forces.



Attending the unveiling of the mural by renowned Portuguese artist Vhils, honouring the Portuguese-Canadian Cleaner's Action movement.



Grabbing lunch at Pam's Roti with Pam and Minister Marci Ien!



With the incredibly inspiring members of the 2021 Davenport Youth Council!



Celebrating the 36<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Casa dos Açores.



Welcoming Portuguese Ambassador Camara and Portugal's Secretary of State for Portuguese Communities Dr. Berta Nunes to Casa do Alentejo!



Going to see Theatre Gargantua's *A Tonic for Desperate Times*, one of the first live theatrical performances since the COVID-19 pandemic began.



Attending the Turkish flag raising at Queen's Park with Consul General Sinem Mingam and the Turkish community.