

DIVERSITY IS OUR STRENGTH



With Prime Minister António Costa of Portugal and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau on Parliament Hill



Representing Canada at the Inter-Parliamentary Union Meeting
Photo by IPU/Joel Sheakoski



Honoured with the Order of Rio Branco in the rank of Grand Officer by the Ambassador of Brazil, Denis Fontes de Souza Pinto



Historic first working meeting between the Canada-Ukraine Parliamentary Friendship Group and the Ukraine-Canada Parliamentary Friendship Group

Davenport is home to the largest Portuguese community in Canada. As such, it was an honour to join Prime Minister Justin Trudeau in welcoming Portuguese Prime Minister António Costa to Canada. The focus of the visit was to build stronger relations between our two countries and to increase trade via the recently signed Canada Europe Trade Agreement (CETA). Indeed, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau highlighted the success of a number of small Portuguese-Canadian businesses who will benefit from CETA – including two companies from Davenport: Macedo Winery and Tavora Foods.

In their respective speeches, both Prime Ministers also mentioned their pride in June being recognised as Portuguese Heritage Month for the first time in Canada at the national level. I was proud to present the Private Members Motion in the House of Commons late last year – that was unanimously passed – and that led to this much deserved recognition this year and for the years to come.

As the newly elected Co-Chair of the Canada-Portugal Parliamentary Friendship Group, I was delighted to celebrate with fellow Parliamentarians and Portuguese leaders at the inaugural Portuguese Heritage Month reception on Parliament Hill.

In March, I was invited to join an international panel to lead a discussion on global migration of refugees and best practices at the 138th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) in Geneva. Given the unexpected all night House of Commons session, I was not able to fly to Geneva, but joined the panel by Skype. It was an excellent discussion involving over 50 Parliamentarians from around the world. I was honoured to be invited and to represent Canada. Indeed, global migration and refugees is an important topic that I am fully engaged in both nationally and internationally.

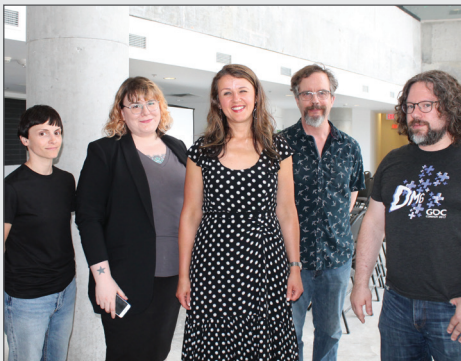
In June, I was honoured to receive the Order of Rio Branco in the rank of Grand Officer from Denis Fontes de Souza Pinto, Ambassador of Brazil to Canada. I accepted this designation, as a symbol of the promise I made to the Brazilian community to be a strong voice for them at the federal level, to do all I can to support the community and help resolve their issues, as well as to be a leader in building stronger Canada-Brazil relations. As this was my first diplomatic award, it was a historic moment in my life and extra special because of the strong support from the Brazilian community who joined me at the ceremony in Ottawa.

Before the House of Commons rose for the summer, I was also very proud to be part of a historic meeting between the Canada-Ukraine Parliamentary Friendship Group and the Ukraine-Canada Parliamentary Friendship Group. Parliamentarians from both countries came together to discuss issues of mutual interest and benefit. I am grateful to leaders on both sides – MP Borys Wrzesnewskij and Ukrainian MP Іван Крулько – for organising. My grandparents and father – proud Ukrainians and Canadians – would have been proud to see both my participation in this important dialogue and the strong relations between our two countries!

WORKING HARD FOR THE COMMUNITY



Marching in the 2018 Portugal Day Parade on Dundas Street West - with the First Portuguese Canadian Cultural Centre



Visiting the newly built Toronto Media Arts Centre at Lisgar and Queen West



Breaking fast with the Muslim community at the Islamic Information & Dawah Centre



At the 2018 Portuguese Canadian Walk of Fame Ceremony – with inductee Andrew Arruda



Celebrating 'National Children's Day' with Consul General Mr. Erdeniz Şen and other Turkish community leaders



At the Economic Club with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Davenport business owners – the Macedo and Tavora families



Mercosur discussion with Ambassadors Martin Vidal (Uruguay), Denis de Souza Pinto (Brazil), Ines Martinez Vallinotti (Paraguay), and Eugenio Maria Curia (Argentina)



Raising the Pride and Transgender flags on Parliament Hill with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and colleagues



With talented performers at the Tamil Co-op for the Tamil and Burmese New Year celebrations



At the 2018 St. Mary of the Angels School Fun Fair



Davenport's faith leaders roundtable discussion



Celebrating Davenport leader and trailblazer Effie Tsatsos' 80th birthday and book launch of "It's All Greek to Me"

SUMMER 2018



JULIE DZEROWICZ MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT DAVENPORT



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A MESSAGE FROM YOUR MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT, JULIE DZEROWICZ

Summer is finally here! I am back in Toronto until mid-September and will be attending as many street fairs, festivals, and BBQs in Davenport as possible. I will also be knocking on doors to ask if there is anything I can do to be more helpful to you and your family.

Change, unpredictable and complex issues occupy us at the national level. Our federal government is focused on the NAFTA negotiations, and the escalating trade tariffs with our closest trading partner - the United States. We are also seized with the issue of how to humanely address the increase of asylum seekers at non-official sites across Canada in the short-term and our ongoing responsibility to the increasing global migration happening in the world. As well, in the national interest, the Canadian government purchased Kinder Morgan's Trans Mountain Expansion Project. We believe this purchase is the best way to continue to balance supporting the economy and the environment - this includes our commitment to honouring our Paris Accord climate change targets.

No matter what happens in the world around us, know that we will remain focused on issues important to Canadians – supporting our families,

youth and seniors, supporting our small, medium and large businesses – while spending responsibly and keeping taxes fair for everyone.

As we move into Canada's 151st year, let's celebrate how lucky we are to be Canadian. We are united in our diversity, in our commitment to our values of freedom, opportunity and progress, and finally in our desire to do our part to create a better community and country.

My very best,

Julie Dzerowicz
Member of Parliament | Davenport

DELIVERING RESULTS FOR DAVENPORT

JOBS & THE ECONOMY

Our government has made incredible economic progress since being elected in 2015. We have the lowest unemployment rate in over 40 years and the economy has created over 600,000 new full-time jobs.

In order to ensure a continued successful economy, the Canadian government is focused on how to better prepare Canadians for the jobs of today and tomorrow. The world of work is changing – future jobs are looking for different skills, and are more short-term, contract-based and entrepreneurial. We’ve taken a number of steps to help Canadians upgrade their skills, start their own businesses, access both EI-funded training and Canada Student Loans – among many other things (www.budget.gc.ca/2017/docs/plan/chap-01-en.html) – and we will continue to focus and work on this issue moving forward.

Small and medium-sized businesses are the backbone of the Canadian economy and as such we reduced the small business tax from 11 to 9 per cent, which will save small businesses up to \$7,500 per year.

CANADA - U.S. RELATIONS

Our federal government will always defend Canada’s national interest and Canadian values. I am proud of Foreign Affairs Minister Chrystia Freeland and the hard work she is doing to negotiate a modern NAFTA that will benefit Canada, the U.S., and Mexico. Canada will also always protect our workers and our jobs – unfortunately, the U.S. has decided to apply tariffs on Canadian steel and aluminum being sold to the United States. On July 1 - Canada’s 151st birthday - Canada launched \$16.6 billion worth of retaliatory tariffs on U.S. products; this is a measured dollar to dollar response to the tariffs applied by the United States. For more information: www.fin.gc.ca/access/tt-it/cacsap-cmpcaa-1-eng.asp

Finally, like many of you, I am concerned about the U.S. administration’s decision to separate parents from their children when seeking asylum at the southern U.S. border. I released a statement on this issue on June 20, which you can read on my website jdzerowicz.liberal.ca.

The separation has been stopped (as of the time this was written). However, there is more work to be done to reconcile those that have been previously separated and to stay vigilant on any future actions.

TRANSIT / TRANSPORTATION

Located in downtown Toronto, Davenport residents depend on transit to live. The federal government has invested heavily in transit funding, including bike infrastructure. Earlier this year, an agreement with the Ontario government saw \$11.8 billion allocated to infrastructure through the *Investing in Canada Plan*. \$4.8 billion has been dedicated to transit in Toronto specifically. Key projects include the Downtown Relief Line, Eglinton West LRT, Waterfront Transit Design, and the Yonge North Subway Extension. Federal funding has already flowed to upgrade TTC transit vehicles, repair subway tracks, and expand routes. The goal is to ensure Toronto has the transit it needs to move people and goods while also reducing our carbon emissions.

As a huge advocate for bike infrastructure, I’m proud the federal government has contributed \$1.45 million to the West Toronto Rail Path extension, which will connect several rapid transit stations and provide a safe North-South route for cyclists. I was also proud to announce – on behalf of Transportation Minister Amarjeet Sohi – \$1.25 million toward 50 Bike Share Toronto stations. Thanks to this investment, there are 2,750 bikes available near TTC subway stations and streetcar stops, both in Davenport and across the city.



Proud to honour the great Italian-Canadian Johnny Lombardi – who founded CHIN Radio in 1966 – a move that introduced Canadian radio to multicultural programming. This action was instrumental in offering valuable information to immigrants about life in Canada, gave new Canadians a public voice, and allowed Canada to celebrate its cultural diversity. In the late 1960s, 70s, and 80s, Davenport was home to the largest Italian Canadian community, and I was honoured to join national and local leaders in paying tribute to Johnny Lombardi at this year’s CHIN International Picnic.

CANADIAN HERITAGE COMMITTEE

As the Member of Parliament of a riding with a large number of talented artists and creators – as well as those working in our cultural sector – I am proud to be a member of the Standing Committee on Canadian Heritage. The Heritage Committee recently completed the following studies: 1) how the federal government can better support Canadian museums and 2) Cultural Hubs and Cultural Districts across Canada. We have nearly finished a study on gender parity on boards and at senior levels of artistic and cultural organisations; this study was suggested by the Davenport Arts Strategy Roundtable who indicated that this was an issue in Canada. Thank you for the inspiration! Over the next year, Committee work will focus on the Copyright Act as it relates to remuneration models for Canadian artists and creators.

LATIN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

As a proud Hispanic Canadian, it was a pleasure for me to support Bill S-218, an act to designate October as Latin American Heritage Month. This important bill ensures that we honour and celebrate Canada’s Hispanic and Latin American communities annually. In speaking to the bill in the House of Commons, I was proud to mention the amazing Latin American and Hispanic diversity in Davenport (Mexicans, Colombians, Ecuadorians, etc.), some of our popular events including the Salsa on St. Clair Street Festival, and to recognise the many contributions and accomplishments of Hispanic & Latin American Canadians to Canada.

CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

CANNABIS

Bill C-45 has received final approval and cannabis (marijuana) will be legal in Canada on October 17, 2018.

It is important to know that the reason for C-45 is that the current law, where marijuana is illegal, is not working. Almost 40 per cent of our youth are accessing marijuana by the time they reach the end of high school. In addition, the money made by those selling marijuana is being used to fund other criminal activity. Canada is one of the top western countries where youth have a high use of marijuana. This must change. The way our government plans to address this issue is through Bill C-45, where the federal government will legalise cannabis and strictly regulate its sales, production, distribution and possession. We are determined to prevent children and youth from accessing marijuana and to educate adults on marijuana use (much like we do smoking). For more information, please visit canada.ca/en/services/health/campaigns/cannabis.html.

Also, note that our Minister of Public Safety, the Hon. Ralph Goodale, has indicated that after October 17 he will explore the possibility of pardons for Canadians with a criminal record for simple possession of marijuana.



Marijuana Town Hall at JJ Piccininni Community Centre in Davenport

CYBER SECURITY

The average Canadian spends 43.5 hours online each month – the highest average in the world. Cyber security is top of mind for a number of Davenport residents, and Canadians in general. Public Safety Minister Harjit Sajjan, and Innovation Minister Navdeep Bains have announced the Cyber Security Strategy, which – in short – is an effort to safeguard Canadians’ private data, combat cybercrimes, and support cyber innovation.

All federal government cyber operations will be consolidated into the new Canadian Centre for Cyber Security which will allow us to better safeguard Canadians’ online activity and deliver more rapid and coordinated federal responses to cyber threats.

For more information, visit canada.ca/en/services/defence/cybersecurity.html.

ENVIRONMENT

I have been a champion of environmental protection for my entire adult life, and I know that many of you share the same passion.

I’ve heard from a number of members of our community about the federal government’s decision to purchase the Trans Mountain Expansion (TMX) project from Kinder Morgan, and I want to invite you to read my statement on my website (www.jdzerowicz.liberal.ca).

Since 2015, our government has taken concrete steps to fight climate change, protect our environment, and transition to a low-carbon economy. We’ve put a price on carbon, led a global initiative with over 30 of our allies to phase out coal around the world, provided over \$2 billion through the Low Carbon Economy Fund, and \$1.3 billion to protect our ecosystems. We announced over \$21 billion for investments in green infrastructure, and over \$20 billion to support urban public transit projects to improve air quality in our cities.

We have an obligation to our kids to take care of our planet, and it’s an obligation we as a federal government are determined to fulfill.



At DuWest Fest saying hello to local youth

YOUTH

Millennials are entering the workforce at a time of tremendous change. The federal government is doing its part to help our youth succeed. We are directly supporting students by increasing Canada Student Grants by 50 per cent. We also announced that graduates won’t have to start repaying their student loan until they make at least \$25,000 per year. The federal government has also doubled the funding and the number of funded summer student jobs creating almost 6,000 jobs in Toronto this year. About 150 of those jobs are for students working in Davenport, and will help students earn money for school, develop skills, and acquire the job experience they need to succeed.

SENIORS

Though there’s more work to do, here are some concrete changes our federal government has made that are making a positive difference in the lives of our seniors. We have returned the retirement age from 67 back to 65, and have restored the age of eligibility for Old Age Security (OAS) and the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS). This means 900,000+ seniors are now receiving enhanced GIS benefits (up to an additional \$947 per year). We are helping seniors receive home care services and stay independent longer by investing \$11 billion over 10 years in dedicated funding for mental health and home care services, with \$4.2 billion allocated to Ontario. We’ve enhanced the Canada Pension Plan (CPP) to increase the maximum level of pension earnings to 14 per cent. Finally, we are creating new affordable housing units and repairing existing ones – targeting seniors – through the National Housing Strategy.



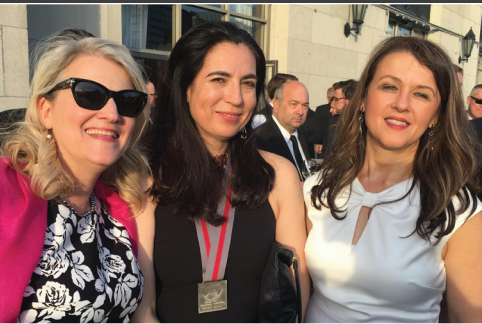
Hosting a Seniors Information Session at Dufferin Mall



At the SOCAN reception on Parliament Hill with Margaret McGuffin of the Canadian Music Publishers Association



Meeting with Muslim leaders to talk about systemic discrimination



Politics and the Pen with award-winner Tanya Talaga for Seven Fallen Feathers & Sarah MacLachlan of House of Anansi Press (Davenport)



Top 10 Hispanic Canadians’ visit to Parliament Hill with International Trade Minister François-Philippe Champagne & Chief Government Whip Pablo Rodriguez



Heritage Committee meeting on gender equity with Christina Loewen (Opera.ca), Alexandra Badzak (Ottawa Art Gallery) & Adrian Burns (National Arts Centre)

HOUSING AFFORDABILITY

Being able to afford a house is a top issue for Davenport residents. The issue is housing affordability vs. affordable housing. The federal government has been trying to address this by ensuring Canada has a strong economy and Canadians have access to good paying jobs – so that Canadians can afford to buy homes! I would love to hear from Davenport residents about what more specific actions you would like to see our national government take on *housing affordability* – moving forward. Please email me at julie.dzerowicz@parl.gc.ca with *Housing Affordability* in the subject line.

The \$40 billion National Housing Strategy is our plan to tackle homelessness and ensure affordable housing over the next decade. More specifically, it includes:

- Building 100,000 new affordable housing units,
- Repairing 300,000 affordable housing units,
- Cutting chronic homelessness by 50 per cent,
- Moving 530,000 households from housing need,
- Protecting 385,000 households from losing an affordable home, and
- Providing 300,000 households with financial help via the Canada Housing Benefit.

I am hosting a Housing Roundtable for Davenport housing advocates on July 31 with special guest MP Adam Vaughan. Kindly contact Kaitlyn in my office if you would like to join.



With Prime Minister Justin Trudeau at the National Housing Strategy announcement