

# JULIE Dzerowicz

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Davenport neighbours,  
Happy holidays! As 2017 quickly draws to a close, I wanted to reach out to you one last time this year to give you an update. There is so much happening!  
Since Canada Day, I headed back to the doors to check in with hundreds of constituents, attended the many amazing Davenport summer street fairs and festivals, hosted a number of roundtable discussions and community meetings, spent a month in Portugal working to develop bilateral relations between Canada and Portugal (given that in Davenport over 25% of residents are Portuguese), joined Prime Minister Justin Trudeau on a state visit to Mexico, and stood proudly in the House of Commons as my first Private Member’s Bill passed unanimously, recognizing June as Portuguese Heritage Month, and June 10th as Portugal Day in Canada.

The Fall Economic Statement was recently released and highlighted how well our economy is doing. Over 500,000 jobs have been created since November 2015, most of them full-time. Both the overall unemployment rate and the youth unemployment rate are at their lowest in almost 10 years. And our growth rate, and the debt-to-GDP ratio, are the strongest of all G7 countries. The investments that we have made in infrastructure, in the Canada Child Benefit, in cutting taxes - among other initiatives - are working, and not only strengthening the middle class but also improving the lives of all Canadians. In addition, the Hon. Bill Morneau also announced that we would be reducing the small business tax rate from 11% to 9% - providing more support for the businesses that fuel our economy and create jobs.

While much progress has been made, there is much more that needs to get done. It was an honour for me to join the Prime Minister to announce the National Housing Strategy in Toronto on November 22 – a historic investment and scope that will result in \$40 billion in federal support over 10 years and a comprehensive national plan to address the full spectrum of housing issues in Canada. Please read inside for more news and updates.

It has now been over two years since you sent me to Ottawa to represent you, and it remains the greatest honour of my life. I work hard every day to serve the residents of Davenport. I’m proud of the work that we’ve done to improve the lives of Canadians, and look forward to the work ahead.

As always, if there is anything I can do to serve you, as always please visit my website at [jdzerowicz.liberal.ca](http://jdzerowicz.liberal.ca) to find out how to get in touch.

My very best,

Julie



*Proud to be at the National Housing Strategy announcement with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.*



*Celebrating unanimous passage of my Private Members Bill (Portugal Heritage Month) with Minister Mélanie Joly.*



*Invited to join PM Justin Trudeau on his State Visit to Mexico - with Mexican President Enrique Peña Nieto.*



*With Jack Oliveira, Business Manager at the LiUNA Local 183 Retiree Luncheon.*



*Night of Dread with Dufferin Grove Community.*



*With the amazing cast of Roseneath Theatre's production of 'Outside.'*



# Accomplishments & Action

## Update on Trade

On September 21, the Canada Europe Trade Agreement (CETA) came into force. A progressive trade agreement, CETA gave Canadians access to a market of more than 500 million and made 98% of the tariff lines between Canada and the EU duty free.

This agreement is extremely beneficial for the many Europeans in the Davenport riding including the Portuguese, Italians, and Hispanics, amongst others. CETA gives Canada preferential market access to over one-half of the world’s output of goods and services.

In August, I was pleased to welcome the Minister of International Trade, the Honourable François-Philippe Champagne to Davenport to meet with 30 members of the Brazilian-Canadian business community and Ana Beltrame, the Consul-General of Brazil.

The Minister updated all on the NAFTA negotiations and other trade agreements that Canada is focusing on including the Asia-Pacific region (TPP11), and potentially working on a trade agreement with China and with Latin America by joining MERCOSUR (trade with Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay). Productive and important discussions were held on how MERCOSUR would work and how to strengthen ties between Canada and Brazil.



*Business Roundtable with the Brazilian community & special guest Hon. François-Philippe Champagne, Minister of International Trade.*

## Advocating for Artists in Davenport

In September, I was pleased to be welcomed as a permanent member of the Standing Committee on Canadian Heritage (Culture). This allows me another opportunity to bring the perspective of our vibrant and dynamic creative community to the federal level.

Previously, I hosted an Arts Roundtable to ask the Davenport creative community how I can better support them at the national level. Among the many issues identified were: (1) difficulties filing taxes with the CRA; (2) while over \$675 million over 5 years of new arts funding was announced, some in Davenport felt that artists were not benefitting from this initiative; (3) a need for affordable, sustainable performance spaces in the riding; and (4) the need to come together and strategize priorities at all government levels.

Afterwards I organized a conference call with the CRA and Finance officials for them to hear directly from Davenport artists. Also, an Arts Funding Info Session was organized that included representatives from Canada Council for the Arts, Heritage, Ontario Arts Council and Toronto Arts Council to ensure the community knows how to access funding. A strategy session is being organized for early 2018 and there is ongoing work on spaces with key community leaders.



*With Mohawk Girls actor & Davenport resident Maika Harper - at Canadian Media Fund reception.*

## More Safe Bike Infrastructure!

On August 2, I was pleased to make a bike infrastructure announcement on behalf of the Honourable Amarjeet Sohi, Minister of Infrastructure and Communities with the Honourable Steven Del Duca, Ontario Minister of Transportation, and Toronto Mayor John Tory.

I have been a strong advocate for safe bike infrastructure for many years. Since being elected I have fought for federal infrastructure dollars to include bike infrastructure funding given that it is one of the fastest and healthiest ways to get across the city.

The announcement was a great example of federal, provincial, and municipal governments working well together. The Government of Canada and the City of Toronto will each contribute \$1.25 million towards 50 stations, and the City will contribute an additional \$1.5 million to exclusively fund another 20 stations for the Bike Share Toronto system. The province provided \$4.9 million to the Toronto Parking Authority in 2016 to double the size of their network, adding 80 new Bike Share stations and 800 new bikes in downtown Toronto.

I hope many Davenport residents take advantage of these new bike stations in Toronto, whether it be to commute or just for fun!



*Bike infrastructure announcement with Mayor John Tory and Provincial Transportation Minister, the Hon Steven Del Duca.*

## FALL ECONOMIC STATEMENT

With over 500,000 new jobs created since 2015 and youth unemployment at a historic low, Canada has the fastest-growing economy in the G7. A strong economy allowed Minister Morneau to table a generous Fall Economic Statement. He announced a small-business tax cut from 11% to 9%, the strengthening of the Canada Child Benefit (indexing moved up to July 2018) that paid 9,210 Davenport residents an average of \$5,880 annually from July 2016

to June 2017, and the enhancement of the Working Income Tax Benefit to allow low-income workers to keep more of their hard-earned money for groceries, warm winter clothes and more.

After the Fall Economic Statement, focus quickly turned to the 2018 Budget. On Nov. 16, I hosted a pre-budget consultation in Davenport where I heard Davenport residents’ ideas and priorities. All Davenport contributions

will be summarized and sent to Minister Morneau, and for those who couldn’t make it, feel free to send me an email at [julie.dzerowicz@parl.gc.ca](mailto:julie.dzerowicz@parl.gc.ca) by the end of December. I would love to include your input in my report!

Finally, I was proud to join Minister Morneau in a consultation with gender budgeting experts to help gain concrete, applicable ideas to increase the gender lens in Budget 2018.



*In the House with Finance Minister Bill Morneau after his reading of the Fall Economic Statement.*



*Hearing from Davenport residents during the 2018 Pre-Budget Consultation.*



*Joined Minister Bill Morneau and gender budgeting experts for a 2018 Pre-Budget roundtable.*



# Honouring Portuguese Canadians

## Building Canada-Portugal Relations

Davenport is home to the largest Portuguese community in Canada, with over 25% of Portuguese in Canada calling the riding their home. In order to foster better relations between Portugal and Canada, to get a better idea of where many of my constituents come from, to improve my understanding of Portuguese culture, and to help make progress on key policy areas, I traveled through Portugal for one month this past summer.

Starting in the Azores, I visited the Sao Miguel and Terceira Islands. Then I hopped over to the continent to visit 12 cities, including: Porto, Viana do Castelo, Braga, Guimarães, Viseu, Lamego, Coimbra, Fátima, Nazaré, Peniche, Óbidos, and Lisbon.



*In Ponta Delgada meeting Deputy Regional Secretary of the Presidency - Dr. Rui Bettencourt.*

While I was there, I met with a number of Portuguese leaders to discuss CETA, immigration, Portugal's leadership on renewable energy, and gender equity. I can't thank the Portuguese community enough for their warm welcome and hospitality.

## It's Unanimous!

This fall I introduced my Private Member's Bill M-126 in the House of Commons to recognize the month of June as Portuguese Heritage Month and June 10 as Portugal Day in Canada.

I'd like to thank all the Portuguese leaders, clubs, associations, and media in my riding of Davenport and across the country who have tirelessly promoted the Portuguese culture, language and community. They served as an inspiration for this Private Members Bill, and it



*In Lisbon meeting Deputy Secretary of State for the Prime Minister, Mariana Vieira da Silva.*

was to honour them and their aspiration for the Portuguese to be recognized at the highest level in Canada, to be celebrated for their contributions to Canada and to set the stage for the preservation and promotion of the Portuguese language, traditions and culture for decades and centuries to come.

M-126 passed third reading unanimously on November 8, meaning that every Party and Member of Parliament voted to recognize the important contributions that the Portuguese community has made to Canadian society. With over 110,000 views on Facebook (from Australia to Newfoundland and everything in between!), great pride was shown by the Portuguese for this recognition all around the world!



*In Peniche, with Mayor of Peniche - Presidente Antonio Jose Correia.*

## FOREIGN POLICY

## Rohingya Human Rights Crisis

Canada is deeply concerned about the urgent humanitarian crisis in Myanmar's Rakhine State where terrible violence has driven more than 500,000 Rohingya to neighboring Bangladesh. Canada has called for the immediate end of the ethnic cleansing of the Rohingyas. Prime Minister Trudeau has taken a number of decisive actions including appointing Bob Rae as the Special Envoy to Myanmar who will work to promote accountability for alleged crimes against vulnerable populations and other religious and ethnic minorities.

Our federal government will continue to exert pressure on the regime to end violence, to allow for humanitarian aid, and to allow for the safe return of the Rohingyas. In September the Prime Minister spoke and wrote to Aung San Suu Kyi to convey his deep concerns over the situation while Foreign Affairs Minister Free-

land has also spoken her counterparts from numerous countries, including at the UN General Assembly, regarding the need to work together to resolve the situation in Myanmar.

Canada has stepped up and contributed over \$25 million in funding to meet the immediate humanitarian needs of those affected by this crisis, including Rohingya women and youth.

## Peacekeeping

Our government is seeking a new way to go back to peacekeeping that will result in a positive impact on the world. Peacekeeping has changed; and, simply contributing 600 troops to a 100,000 worldwide UN peacekeeping force will not result in the impact Canada wants to make.

Canada has introduced a feminist foreign policy and through our actions (trade, development, foreign policy), we are demonstrating

our deep commitment to advancing gender equality and women's empowerment around the world.

The Hon. Chrystia Freeland, Minister of Foreign Affairs announced the Elsie Initiative on Women in Peace Operations, where Canada will develop a systematic approach to deploy more women in peace operations pledging \$6 million to the UN to increase female participation in peace missions, and an additional \$15 million to establish a separate trust to boost the deployment of women in more senior roles.

Having more women in UN missions could also be a helpful way to combat the problem of sexual abuse by UN troops – allegations that have rocked the UN for over a decade. And research has shown that local populations are more likely to report incidences of abuse and exploitation to woman peacekeepers.



*With Minister of Foreign Affairs Chrystia Freeland, Alexandra (Lesia) Chyczij, and Anna Kuprieva at the Bloor Street Ukrainian Festival.*



*Proud to stand with Ministers Bibeau and Freeland during the announcement of the Hon. Bob Rae being appointed Special Envoy to Myanmar.*



*Meeting with Ukrainian President Poroshenko and fellow MPs asking how Canada can help strengthen Ukraine's democracy.*



# Working Hard for Davenport



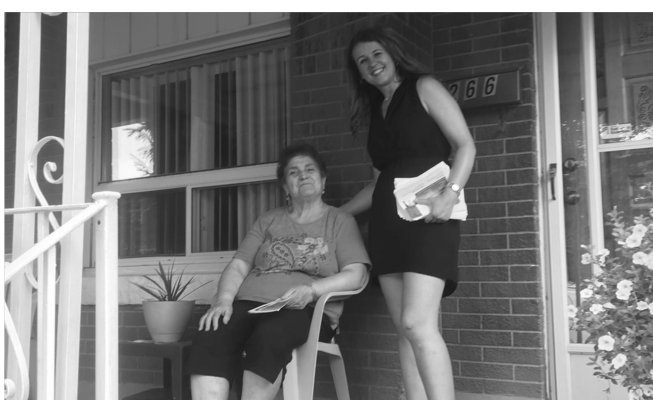
*At the 58th Anniversary of the Portuguese Folk Dance Group of Nazare of Mississauga - with Joe Mafrá.*



*Meeting with local talented actors and members of ACTRA!*



*Presenting a letter from the PM at a fundraiser at Martins Churrasqueira to raise money for GPS bracelets for those with Alzheimers & dementia.*



*Canvassing in Little Portugal during the summer.*



*At the Dovercourt Boys & Girls Club Fall Harvest presenting a certificate honouring the Club's 60th Anniversary.*



*Talking to local artists at the Davenport Art Funding Information Session.*



*Loved meeting all students employed in Davenport at my first summer BBQ!*



*Raising funds to support victims of the Mexican Earthquakes - with Mexican Consul-General Porfirio Thierry Munoz & organizer Silvia Mendez.*



*Canvassing in the northern part of Davenport with the Hon. Carolyn Bennett!*

The most rewarding part of my job as your Member of Parliament is having the chance to help you, to make your lives better, to help our community be better, and to do my part to create a better Canada. Should you have any questions, or if there are any issues you want to discuss, and/or if there is support I may be able to provide - please do not hesitate to contact me at either my Toronto or Ottawa office.

While I am in Ottawa (most weeks) from Monday to Thursday, I am available to meet with Davenport residents in Toronto on Fridays and Saturdays. I also am happy to return all calls throughout the week. In addition, I host a number of events that provide an opportunity for the community to say hello. Please like my Facebook page /mpjuliedzerowicz to be alerted about upcoming events and/or visit my website at [jdzerowicz.liberal.ca](http://jdzerowicz.liberal.ca).

Looking forward to seeing you!



*Celebrating Mexican Independence Day.*



*Chatting with Spanish seniors at the Davenport-Perth Community Centre.*



*Supporting the First Portuguese Cultural Centre Christmas Market - and getting into the Christmas Spirit!*



*With local residents at the Fairbank Village BIA Pumpkin Giveaway.*



*Post-Diwali celebrations at the Weston Road Gurdwara.*