



# Ottawa Report

November 1, 2011

## The Honourable Lynne Yelich, Privy Council

Minister of State (Western Economic Diversification)

Member of Parliament for Blackstrap

Dear friends,

November is a time to reflect on the sacrifice and service of the men and women of the Canadian Armed Forces. As Remembrance Day approaches, let us pay tribute to the many Canadians who have made the ultimate sacrifice so that we may live in a country free from tyranny and governed by freedom, democracy and justice.

From the battle of Vimy Ridge, to the beaches of Normandy, to the dusty roads of Afghanistan, these brave men and women put our country's welfare before their own and we owe them and their families a debt of gratitude that can never be repaid.

As our families, communities and Canadian Forces know all too well the tolls of war have been felt from generation to generation. Our country's long and proud tradition of standing up for those who couldn't is forever imbedded in our fabric.

Lest we forget.

Best wishes,

The Honourable Lynne Yelich, PC  
Minister of State for Western Economic Diversification  
Member of Parliament for Blackstrap

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How you  
will Remember?

## Veterans Week - November 5th to 11th

Every year, Canadians join together to celebrate Veterans' Week. During this week, hundreds of commemorative ceremonies and events take place across the country to honour our Veterans and those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Veterans are ordinary men and women who did extraordinary things to protect our freedom and create a safer world in which to live. The sacrifices and achievements of our Veterans have helped define and defend the Canada we know and love. With pride, we commemorate their legacy during Veterans' Week and recognize the dedication of all of Canada's Veterans who have ensured the protection of our country and the promotion of peace around the world.

This Veterans' Week, make remembrance more than something you feel, make it something you do. There are many ways to actively remember and honour our Canadian Veterans:

- Wear a poppy above your heart, attend the local Remembrance Day ceremony, and vow never to forget.
- Listen to Veterans talk about their experiences.
- Change your profile picture on Facebook to a poppy and blog or tweet about the importance of remembrance.

To learn more and find remembrance events and ceremonies in your area, visit [veterans.gc.ca](http://veterans.gc.ca).



## Legislation Before the House

**Bill C-4** - *Preventing Human Smugglers from Abusing Canada's Immigration System Act*  
Introduced on June 16, 2011, Bill C-4 is presently being debated in the House at 2nd reading.

**Bill C-7** - *Senate Reform Act* - Introduced on June 21, 2011, and being debated at 2nd reading.

**Bill C-10** - *Safe Streets and Communities Act* - On September 28th, 2011, C-10 passed 2nd reading and is being debated at the Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights.

**Bill C-11** - *Copyright Modernization Act* - Introduced on September 29, 2011 and presently being debated at 2nd reading.

Our Government recognizes the critical role modern copyright laws play in protecting and creating jobs in Canada's digital economy. C-11 will ensure that Canada's copyright laws are modern, flexible and in line with current international standards. This Bill delivers a common-sense balance between the interests of consumers and the rights of Canadians whose research, development and artistic creativity strengthen our economy.

**Bill C-12** - *Safeguarding Canadians' Information Act* - Introduced and 1st reading on September 29, 2011

**Bill C-13** - *Keeping Canada's Economy and Jobs Growing Act* - Introduced on October 4, 2011, C-13 has passed 2nd reading and is being debated by the Standing Committee on Finance.

*Bill C-13* will legislate key elements of our Government's Next Phase of Canada's Economic Action Plan, including: Providing a temporary Hiring Credit for Small Business to encourage additional hiring; Simplifying customs tariffs in order to facilitate trade and lower the administrative burden for businesses; Legislating a permanent annual investment of \$2 billion in the Gas Tax Fund to provide predictable, long-term infrastructure funding for municipalities; and Eliminating the mandatory retirement age for federally regulated employees in order to give older workers wishing to work the option of remaining in the workforce

**Bill C-14** - *Improving Trade Within Canada Act* - Introduced and 1st reading on October 6, 2011.

**Bill C-15** - *Strengthening Military Justice in the Defence of Canada Act* - Introduced and 1st reading on October 7, 2011.

**Bill C-16** - *Security of Tenure of Military Judges Act* - Introduced and 1st reading on October 7, 2011.

**Bill C-17** - *Air Canada and Its Associates Act* - Introduced and 1st reading on October 17, 2011.

**Bill C-18** - *Marketing Freedom for Grain Farmers Act* - Introduced on October 18, 2011, Bill C-18 has passed 2nd reading and is presently before the Legislation Committee on Bill C-18.

Bill C-18 will provide farmers with the choice of whether to sell on an open market or through a voluntary Canadian Wheat Board (CWB). C-18 will immediately allow farmers and companies to forward contracts for the delivery of grain after August 1, 2012; and, allow an interim CWB to act as a voluntary marketing entity, supported by our Government, while it transitions to full private ownership.

Our Government will also ensure the availability of producer cars as well as the overall security of the grain handling and transportation system in a marketing freedom environment; and, ensure that the Port of Churchill continues to be an important Northern shipping port with additional economic incentives.

**Bill C-19** - *Ending the Long-gun Registry Act* - Introduced on October 25, 2011, C-19 has passed 2nd reading and is before the Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security.

Since it was created, the long-gun registry has cost many millions of dollars. This money should be used to crack down on real criminals, not law-abiding Canadians. C-19 will repeal the requirement to register non-restricted firearms (long-guns); provide for the destruction of all records pertaining to the registration of long-guns in the Canadian Firearms Registry and under the control of the chief firearms officers; and, maintain controls over restricted and prohibited firearms.

**Bill C-20** - *Fair Representation Act* - Introduced and 1st reading on October 27, 2011.

C-20 will move every single province towards representation by population. Under the legislation: Ontario will receive an additional 15 seats (instead of 3); Alberta will receive an additional 6 seats (instead of 3); British Columbia will receive an additional 6 seats (instead of 1). At the same time, we have maintained the seat count of slower-growing provinces and ensured that no province becomes underrepresented as a result of the legislation.

## DID YOU KNOW ...

... that the Bank of Canada holds "Unclaimed Balances". What is an unclaimed balance?

An "unclaimed balance" is a Canadian-dollar deposit or negotiable instrument, issued or held by a federally regulated bank or trust company. It can be in the form of a deposit account, bank draft, certified cheque, deposit receipt, money order, GIC, term deposit, credit card balance, or traveller's cheque.

When there has been no owner activity in relation to the balance for a period of 10 years, and the owner cannot be contacted by the institution holding it, the balance is turned over to the Bank of Canada, which acts as custodian on behalf of the owner.

For more information or to do a search, go to: <http://www.bankofcanada.ca/unclaimed-balances/>

## Canadian Diabetes Strategy

On November 1, 2011, Health Minister Leona Aglukkaq announced new support to help Canadians with diabetes.

Canadian families deserve to have all the necessary support to fight diabetes.

The Harper Government is working with key organizations to help prevent diabetes, and to improve the lives of those who have or who may develop diabetes.

Our Government announced new funding under the Canadian Diabetes Strategy.

The funding will support 37 new community-based projects across the country that will address screening, early detection and management of diabetes, as well as the prevention of secondary complications.

Our Government will continue to take action to support the health of Canadians and to keep our families safe.