



# SOPHIE CHATELET



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CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES  
CANADA

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### MESSAGE FROM YOUR MP

Traveling down the grocery aisle has become painful. Everything in the cart has gone up, including bread and milk. It's hard for working families to tank up. What worries me are the families and seniors living on fixed incomes. Even if several benefits are indexed, people still have to make rent (also increasing) and not everyone can cut back.

What can be done? Simple solutions might make for effective politics, but they cannot end the war in Ukraine. And no economist believes that government spending jostled supply chains or raised used car prices. Inflation represents a byproduct of a global economy working its way out of a Great Depression scale shock event.

That doesn't change anything for suffering low-income families or pinched middle-class consumers, but as a government we need to adopt a responsible approach that focuses on policies that can

correct imbalances in the economy over the longer run. That's why this government invests in growth and good jobs, and introduced targeted legislation to make daycare and housing affordable. Some of the supply bottlenecks are starting to clear, and rising interest rates should tamp down inflation towards year's end. Hopefully the health of Canadian businesses, and a robust labor market will allow the economy to weather higher consumer prices, while also putting us on track towards a low deficit.

Historically our communities have proven resilient because we work together. Now more than ever we must work together to mitigate the effects of inflation on the most vulnerable.

### PUBLIC INTERVENTION ON CHALK RIVER

Over the last six years, residents of Pontiac have expressed concerns about the Near Surface Disposal Facility proposed for Chalk River. The safety of Canadians and protection of the Ottawa River is non-negotiable. Given that nuclear waste can last hundreds of years, my intervention in the public consultation process focused on preventing high and intermediate grade waste from getting put into the facility, ensuring that no new waste gets hauled in and bolstering public oversight. In visiting Chalk River, and speaking to many outside experts and citizen groups, I have determined that such reforms to the waste management plan are needed for safely disposing of the low-grade waste currently situated there. My submission, available on my website, proposed protocols to bolster public

oversight to ensure that, if there is a facility, its design, construction and maintenance meets the highest international standards and keeps our drinking water safe in perpetuity.







## FOR A GREEN AND PROSPEROUS PONTIAC-OUTAOUAIS

### ECONOMIC ROUNDTABLES IN MANIWAKI, CANTLEY AND BRISTOL

The Outaouais - Pontiac Vert et Prospere initiative hit high gear during the last week of April with three economic roundtables in Maniwaki, Cantley and Bristol respectively. In a partnership with CREDDO, SADC + CAE, Tourisme Outaouais and local MRCs, these forums brought together entrepreneurs, municipal officials, government agencies and community organizations. The goal of the roundtables is to project ourselves into the future in order to illuminate a strategic pathway that will enable Pontiac to not only survive, but thrive.



Many constituents associate the green economy with electric cars, carbon trading or environmental protection. The truth is automation, digitalization and decarbonization is already disrupting local businesses. The purpose of the roundtables is to bring these structural realities into clearer focus so that businesses and municipalities can adapt. Strategic planning in Canada requires consultation with local entrepreneurs to find an all levels of government approach that will enable local businesses to prosper. The battle to dominate the future economy is already underway, and we need to be proactive to ensure that our children are positioned for success.

For more information, visit : [www.outaouaisvert.ca](http://www.outaouaisvert.ca).



### A FISCALLY PRUDENT BUDGET 2022



The budget tabled in April focused on restoring “fiscal prudence” after a period of extraordinary measures to deal with the epidemic. Budget 2022 struck a compromise between narrowing the deficit, with key investments to spur new housing construction. An inquest by the Finance Committee on which I sit has determined that housing inflation is primarily driven by inadequate supply. That’s why the government introduced targeted measures to incentivize construction and accelerate municipal approvals. The hard work of the rural caucus also paid off in terms of reforms that will improve the access of smaller municipalities and remote communities to federal programs so they can fund local priorities. We remain in a challenging fiscal and geopolitical environment. This means hard choices and a balanced approach between strategic investments in critical projects, protecting underprivileged Canadians and putting our budget on a track towards equilibrium.



## LET'S FOCUS ON WELLNESS!

I am deeply concerned about mental health issues in our community. For anyone who is struggling, know that it is okay to feel unwell and that you are not alone. Personally, I have established a healthy routine: morning yoga and no political banter before 8 AM. I grew up in the Outdoors, so for me the Gatineau Park has served as a refuge. Whether skiing, biking or running, the stresses of Parliament fade away and I find myself in the moment—communing with nature. However, not all of us have equitable access to green spaces or mental health resources. As a government and as a community, we must redouble our efforts and all reach out to our friends and neighbors in need. Our government, for its part, will continue to work to support the mental health of Canadians and ensure that everyone has access to the resources they need. The most important part of moving forward is to leave no one behind.



## LUSKVILLE ARTIST CAPTURES THE SPIRIT OF PONTIAC

I was immediately smitten by Linda Bergeron Baril's Accents en lumiere. This oil painting projected me into an Eastern Forest, while I faintly recognized the Eardley Heights poking out from the background. Linda brushed this onto canvas in December 2020 as part of a larger series exploring the impact of light. The influences of Monet and Gauguin, mix with just a hint of O'Keefe. Linda's successful exhibition also highlights how the Old Chelsea Gallery above the Fougères is becoming an important space on the Ottawa art scene.

## PROTECTION OF NATURAL GEMS OF PONTIAC

Every year nature enthusiasts visit the Gatineau Park to enjoy its trails, lakes and spectacular vistas. We all have a stake in this natural preserve, and we must redouble our efforts to preserve this gem. I would do everything in my power to ensure the sustainability of our park, and wholeheartedly support any legislative projects aimed at protecting it. I will also support the creation of protected areas in our rivers' watersheds.





## THE GATINEAU OFFICE IS NOW OPEN !

Good news for residents of the MRC des Collines and Gatineau: after six months of construction, I can finally announce the opening of my constituency office in the Plateau (Gatineau). The centrally located Agora will give residents of the Collines, Plateau, Aylmer and Gatineau easier access to my office.

Residents in the MRC Pontiac and Vallée-de-Gatineau will continue to have access to my offices in Campbell's Bay and Gracefield. Do not hesitate to contact us to make an appointment.



### FEDERAL FUNDING FOR THE VÉLOROUTE

I was proud to accompany Minister Pascale St-Onge to Maniwaki to announce more than \$800,000 in Federal funding for projects in the Vallée-de-la-Gatineau, namely the paving of a 20-kilometre stretch of the Véloroute des Draveurs located between Gracefield and Kazabazua and the construction of a boat launch in Grand-Remous. Warden Chantal Lamarche worked tirelessly to patch together financing that will benefit local residents and anchor the regional tourism industry. Minister St-Onge intends to come back and pedal to Blue Sea with me this summer! Our work will therefore continue until the Véloroute is paved up to Low.

### ST. PADDY'S DAY IN QUYON

Thank you to Quyon's community for warmly welcoming me to your Saint Patrick's Day celebration in the Legion. It was a gray afternoon until the fiddles and guitars got me onto the dance floor. I think that my enthusiasm impressed you more than my talent, but hopefully you will be gracious enough to invite me back for Half-Paddy's at Gavin's in September.



### DRAG NIGHT IN FORT-COULONGE

Drag nights at the Café Downtown had attracted festive crowds, and so its organizers created a grandiose formula at the Fort-Coulonge Centre des Loisirs that offered a beautiful, colorful evening to more than a two hundred spectators! It was great to see a community defined by traditional values enthusiastically embracing diversity. The drag movement has strong political roots for the rights of the LGBTQ+ community. As Randy Barbato, co-founder of the International Drag Race, explained, "drag is resistance with beautiful colors and a positive attitude".