



SOPHIE CHATEL

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR PONTIAC

MARCH 2023



A WORD FROM YOUR MP



I have so much hope for our country, for our region. We have been through a lot together these last few years, and life is still difficult for many of us. But we are pulling through and are building an economy that works for all Canadians. There is no country in the world better placed than Canada to thrive in the global economy. We have the people, the natural resources, and the democracy to succeed. We are working together to take this opportunity of a lifetime.

Working together? Looking at the headlines, one might imagine that our country is hopelessly divided or that our reservoir of empathy has run dry. But listening to you and reading your emails, I realize that, whether we are English or French, black or white, religious or secular, indigenous or other, we all want the same thing: to live in health and safety, reach our full potential, to be accepted for who we are. We want our rights and freedoms protected and leave a better, cleaner, future for our children. So let's not allow ourselves to be distracted from these goals by those who would polarize us by sowing discord and fear. Let's believe the best of each other, try to see other people's point of view, and, quite simply, to show love for one other. We don't have to be perfect, I have always liked the way Leonard Cohen put it: "There is a crack, a crack in everything. That's how the light gets in."

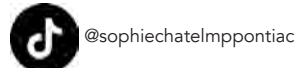
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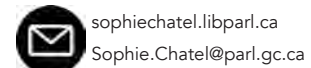
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PROTECTING OUR HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

For generations, our public healthcare system has been part of what it means to be Canadian. We made a promise to ourselves that, regardless of our income, our citizens will always have access to the medical care they need. But right now, our system is not living up to that promise, especially in the Outaouais region where we have been facing shortages of family doctors, nurses, and technicians for decades, as well as cuts to services in hospitals and clinics in recent years.

To improve health care, our government has announced \$198.6 billion in additional federal funding over the next ten years. While this represents a significant investment, we know that money alone is not the answer. We need to get better results for Canadians, which is why we will sign agreements with the provinces and territories to:

- *Expand the number of family doctors, nurses and primary health teams*
- *Give rural communities greater access to health care services*
- *Support the people who make our health care system work and reduce wait times for surgery*
- *Provide access to quality mental health care and addiction support*
- *Ensure that your health information is available to you and your providers*



We will continue to improve health care and defend our universal healthcare system by working with the provinces to achieve results.

OUR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT TABLES

In these difficult times, we need to help the most vulnerable in our communities. I recently visited Social Development Tables (SDT) in the riding, and met with extraordinary people, all committed to help their community dealing with various social issues. What is the purpose of a SDT? Its main objective is to bring together partners from different fields to work together and improve the quality of life of people in our communities. The SDTs operate by working committees (youth, food security, mental health, housing, healthy living habits, etc.) whose role is to promote and support the implementation of initiatives and to mobilize local stakeholders in the pursuit of social development goals.

The Pontiac riding relies on the services of three fantastic SDTs:

- STD des Collines-de-l'Outaouais | www.tdsco.org
- STD du Pontiac | www.tdspontiac.org
- STD Vallée-de-la-Gatineau | www.servicesdelavallee.com



HOUSING

Recently, many young people have seen their dream of becoming homeowners evaporate. That's why our government is taking the following steps to help Canadians purchase their first home:

- A \$200 million investment to develop and scale up rent-to-own projects across Canada
- The creation of a Tax-Free Home Savings Account that will give first-time buyers the ability to save up to \$40,000 towards the purchase of their first home
- A two-year ban on foreign buyers
- The development of a Home Buyer's Bill of Rights with the provinces and territories

This issue is important to me. There are no quick fixes, but together we will continue to work to make homeownership possible.

FOR A GREEN AND PROSPEROUS OUTAOUAIS

In January, we celebrated the first anniversary of our roundtable discussions to create a Green and Prosperous Outaouais. This initiative has allowed elected officials, experts, citizens, and passionate organizations to exchange ideas and focus in on concrete actions that will allow us to build a clean and prosperous economy. Visit our public consultation platform to weigh in on the proposals to build a better future for our children. It's your turn to speak!

BY THE NUMBERS

- Hosted roundtables on eight different themes
- Consulted with more than 200 experts and community leaders
- Identified 75 key proposals that can make our region resilient and competitive
- Engaged hundreds of citizens on the platform



POINTS FORTS DE LA CIRCONSCRIPTION DE PONTIAC

KITIGAN ZIBI



Kitigan Zibi

J'ai annoncé un investissement de plus de 2,3 millions de dollars de notre gouvernement dans un partenariat autochtone et non autochtone (Decontie-Milestone) pour un projet au cœur de la réconciliation économique, et qui aidera à réduire la pénurie de main d'œuvre dans le secteur de la construction. // I announced an investment by our government of over \$2.3 million for an Indigenous and non-indigenous partnership (Decontie-Milestone) for a project at the heart economic reconciliation, and which will help reduce the labor shortage in the construction sector.

GRACEFIELD



Hon. Marco Mendicino à/in Gracefield

L'honorable ministre de la Sécurité publique Marco Mendicino est venu entendre les préoccupations des citoyens en lien au projet de loi C-21 visant à rendre nos communautés plus sécuritaires et ciblant la restriction de certaines armes à feu. // The Honourable Minister of Public Security Marco Mendicino came to hear the concerns of citizens regarding Bill C-21, which aims to make our communities safer and to restrict certain firearms.

GATINEAU



Centre Islamique de l'Outaouais

Pour la Journée nationale de commémoration de l'attentat de la mosquée de Québec et d'action contre l'islamophobie avec la communauté musulmane de l'Outaouais au Centre Islamique de l'Outaouais (CIO). // For the National Day of Commemoration of the Quebec City Mosque Attack and of Action against Islamophobia with the Muslim community of the Outaouais.

GATINEAU



Mois de l'histoire des noirs

Magnifique soirée enrichissante à la Maison du Citoyen de Gatineau afin de souligner le Mois de l'Histoire des Noirs et parler du vivre ensemble // Wonderful and meaningful evening we had yesterday at the Maison du Citoyen in Gatineau to highlight Black History Month and discuss the « vivre ensemble ».

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE RIDING OF PONTIAC

Rencontre des maires et mairesses du territoire

Un des volets les plus gratifiants de mon travail en tant que députée de Pontiac est de supporter le précieux travail des élus municipaux. Il est important de comprendre les enjeux locaux, la vision des maires et mairesses et de faciliter la collaboration. // One of the most rewarding parts of my job as MP is to support the precious work of elected municipal officials. It is important to understand local issues, the vision of the mayors and to facilitate collaboration.



MRC DES COLLINES

Chelsea
Chelsea Pub avec les maires et le préfet de la MRC des Collines. // Here at the Chelsea Pub with mayors and warden MRC des Collines.



MRC de la Vallée de la Gatineau

Maniwaki
Au Resto le Notre-Dame de Maniwaki avec maires et mairesses et la préfète de la MRC de la Vallée-de-la-Gatineau. // Resto le Notre-Dame de Maniwaki with mayors and warden the MRC Vallée-de-la-Gatineau.



CHELSEA

La Fab sur Mill
Nous avons de grands artistes dans notre région! J'ai eu le grand plaisir d'écouter Carson Becke et Meghan Lindsay à La Fab sur Mill au Hills Winter Music Festival. // We have great artists in our region! I had the great pleasure of listening to Carson Becke and Meghan Lindsay at La Fab sur Mill at the Hills Winter Music Festival.



MRC PONTIAC

Campbell's Bay
Campbell's Bay avec les maires et mairesses de la MRC de Pontiac. // At the MRC with the mayors of the MRC Pontiac!



FORT COULONGE

Black tie Gala de la Chambre de Commerce de Pontiac
Le Black tie Gala de la Pontiac Chambre de Commerce de Pontiac fut un immense succès! C'était beau de voir la communauté d'affaire ainsi réunie. // The Black tie Gala of the Pontiac Commerce Chamber was a huge success! It was great to see the business community come together like this.



CANTLEY

Nuit sous les étoiles // A night under the stars
Une superbe nuit sous les étoiles à Cantley avec une gang formidable! -21 degré C au moment d'entrer and nos sacs de couchage... // Had an amazing night in Cantley under the stars this weekend with a wonderful gang. It was -21C when we entered our sleeping bags...