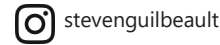
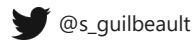




# STEVEN GUILBEAULT

Member of Parliament  
Laurier–Sainte-Marie



Winter 2022

## A MESSAGE FROM YOUR MP

Dear residents of Laurier–Sainte-Marie,

The past few weeks have been challenging for many members of our community. Our government continues to work hard to fight COVID-19 and help you during this difficult time, including by supporting the provinces and territories in their health care delivery responsibilities and by providing direct support to Canadians and businesses.

To ensure the safety and health of all, more than 120 million rapid tests have been delivered to the provinces and territories in 2021, with an additional 140 million tests to be delivered in January. We will also ensure the delivery of enough vaccines and boosters for every Canadian.

To ensure food security for all, we recently announced a \$30 million top-up to the Emergency Food Security Fund. This brings the total funding to \$330 million, which will continue to be distributed to thousands of local food organizations across the country, including many here in Laurier–Sainte-Marie.

We have also made sure that the financial security of seniors is strengthened. Our support has taken many forms: a one-time payment of \$500 in August 2021, a 10 % increase in Old Age Security for those aged 75 and over, and the restoration of the age of Old Age Security and the Guaranteed Income Supplement from 67 to 65 years old, among other measures.

In recent weeks, we have created new assistance programs and temporarily expanded eligibility to ensure that everyone gets the help they need. We will continue to ensure the safety, health, and support of Canadians during this difficult time.

Please do not hesitate to contact my office if you have any questions. My team and I are here for you.

Sincerely,

**Steven Guilbeault**

Member of Parliament for Laurier–Sainte-Marie  
Minister of Environment and Climate Change

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### Laurier–Sainte-Marie Youth Council

Are you between 16 and 25 years old and looking for an enriching experience? Are you interested in public policy and want to get involved? Join our Laurier–Sainte-Marie Youth Council! Hearing the views of youth in our riding will allow me to bring new ideas on issues affecting our community and our country.

<https://stenguilbeault.libparl.ca/2021/02/17/laurier-sainte-marie-youth-council/?lang=en>

## ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS TO SUPPORT YOU

To address the rise of the Omicron variant, our government is temporarily expanding eligibility for assistance programs. This will be effective retroactively to December 19, 2021 until February 12, 2022, during which time we anticipate public health authorities will continue to implement measures to curb the spread across the country.

### The Canada Worker Lockdown Benefit

The Canada Worker Lockdown Benefit provides \$300 (\$270 after taxes withheld) per week to eligible workers who are unable to work due to a temporary local lockdown between October 24, 2021 and May 7, 2022.

### The Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit (CRSB)

The Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit provides \$500 (\$450 after taxes withheld) per week for up to six weeks between September 27, 2020 and May 7, 2022, for workers who are unable to work because they contracted COVID-19; who are self-isolated for reasons related to COVID-19; who have underlying conditions that would make them more susceptible to COVID-19.

### The Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit

The Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit provides \$500 (\$450 after taxes withheld) per week for up to 44 weeks between September 27, 2020 and May 7, 2022 per household for workers who are unable to work because they must care for a child under the age of 12 or a family member.

### The Canada Workers Benefit

The Canada Workers Benefit provides a refundable tax credit to help people who are working and earning a low income. We are expanding eligibility by making the benefit available to those with incomes up to :

- \$32,944 as single Canadians, without children;
- \$42,197 as single-earner families; and
- \$56,197 as double-earner families.

Low-income workers are now eligible for a tax refund of up to about :

- \$1,400 for workers who are single and without children; and
- \$2,400 for workers with families.

Note that assistance measures are also still available for businesses and non-profit organizations.

**For more information on federal assistance measures and to apply, visit :**

**[www.canada.ca/coronavirus](http://www.canada.ca/coronavirus)**

## Services offered by my office

- COVID-19 Support Measures
- Employment Insurance
- Canada Pension Plan
- Old Age Security
- Guaranteed Income Supplement
- Canada Revenue Agency
- Citizenship and Immigration
- Passport Canada
- Veterans Affairs
- Canada Student Loans
- Federal funding for organizations
- Federal Crown Corporations
- Acquisition of Canadian flags and pins

## ECONOMIC AND FISCAL UPDATE

On December 14, 2021, the Government presented the Economic and Fiscal Update, which includes a series of measures to continue the fight against COVID-19. We are adjusting supports for businesses and Canadians, strengthening the vaccine supply, providing 10 days of paid sick leave per year for federally regulated private sector workers, making investments in improved ventilation to prevent outbreaks in schools and workplaces, and enhancing the Home Office Expense Deduction. We are also making investments in our immigration system to reduce processing times for permanent and temporary resident applications and for Canadian citizenship.

For more information: <https://www.budget.gc.ca/efu-meb/2021/home-accueil-en.html>

## FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH

February is Black History Month. It honors the tremendous contributions that Black people have made and continue to make in all sectors of society. We celebrate the resilience, innovation and determination to work towards a more inclusive and diverse Canada where everyone has every opportunity to thrive. We continue to fight racism in all its forms, drawing on Black history, Black voices and Black experiences.

I encourage you to take part in the various Black History Month virtual events and help build a stronger, more consciously inclusive Canada.

To view the Black History Month programming :

<https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/campaigns/black-history-month.html>

<https://moishistoiredesnoirs.com/en/>

## BLACK COMMUNITY ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAM

Are you familiar with the Black Community Entrepreneurship Program? This program is a partnership between the Government of Canada and Black community-led business organizations and financial institutions. With investments of up to \$265 million over four years, this program will help Black business owners and entrepreneurs grow their businesses and succeed.

For more information: <https://ised-isde.canada.ca/site/black-entrepreneurship-program/en>