

BUILDING A STRONGER KINGSTON

Homes, Jobs, and Our Shared Future



HON. MARK GERRETSEN
Your Member of Parliament



Dear Constituents,

As your Member of Parliament, my priority has always been ensuring that the growth we see across Canada translates into **real, tangible benefits** for our community. Our city has a proud, long-standing identity as a military hub, and we know that when **Canadian Forces Base (CFB) Kingston thrives, our entire local economy feels the boost**.

Today, I want to share two major updates that will directly impact our families, our workers, and our local businesses. First, the federal government has launched a bold new **Defence Industrial Strategy**, a plan that puts Canadian workers first and ensures our military has the equipment it needs to protect our sovereignty. Second, we are moving forward with a historic housing expansion that will bring **over 900 new military homes** to Kingston as part of a national effort to support Canadian Armed Forces members and their families.



These initiatives are about more than just numbers; they are about addressing the housing pressures we all feel and creating high-paying local jobs that will sustain our community for generations!

A New Defence Industrial Strategy

For too long, Canada's defence needs were met by looking elsewhere. Our new Defence Industrial Strategy changes that by making **"Buy Canadian" the new North Star** for our military acquisitions. This is a massive shift that treats our national security and our economic security as one and the same.

By investing **\$81.8 billion** over the coming years, we are not just re-arming the Canadian Armed Forces; we are creating an estimated **125,000 new, high-paying jobs** across the country. This strategy ensures that Kingston remains at the forefront of innovation, from cyber security to advanced manufacturing.

The strategy is simple:

- 01** Build in Canada.
- 02** Partner with trusted allies when we need to co-develop new technology.
- 03** Buy from abroad only when necessary.



New Homes for Military Families

We all know that housing is one of the most significant challenges facing Kingston today. That is why I am so pleased to highlight a historic investment in military housing that will deliver **over 900 new units** right here in our city. This is part of a **national effort to build 7,500** new homes for our military members and their families.

These are not just any houses; they are modern, energy-efficient, and designed to meet the needs of today's military families.



By building these homes, we are

- 1 Supporting the brave women and men who serve our country at CFB Kingston
- 2 Reducing the pressure on our local rental and housing market.

This project will also serve as a major local economic engine. The construction phase alone will support thousands of jobs in the skilled trades and will prioritize Canadian materials such as lumber and steel, using **modern modular construction methods** at a speed and scale that Kingston has not seen in decades.

An Example: The 21 Electronic Warfare Regiment Facility

We are already seeing this defence spending commitment in action at CFB Kingston. Last year, we broke ground on the new **21 Electronic Warfare Regiment facility**, a project representing a **\$97.9 million investment** in our local base.

This 8,350-square-metre facility is a perfect example of how we are modernizing our infrastructure while supporting our local economy. Once complete, it will provide our electronic warfare personnel with the world-class classrooms, administrative spaces, and maintenance bays they deserve.



Just as importantly, the project created approximately 150 local construction jobs and is being built to the highest green building standards, including on-site solar power.

This facility is a reminder that the federal government is committed to providing our military with modern, sustainable workplaces right here in Kingston.

My priority is making sure national initiatives improve life here in Kingston and the Islands. Working together, we are building a Kingston that is **stronger, and ready for the future.**

If you have questions or need help with federal services, my office is here for you.

