



HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
CANADA

KINGSTON AND THE ISLANDS

Fall 2026



MARK GERRETSEN | Your Member of Parliament

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR MP

It's been great to spend the summer here in Kingston and the Islands, connecting with our community and visiting local organizations and facilities. These visits are always a good opportunity to learn more about the work happening across our community and hear directly from the people who make it such a great place to live.

I'm looking forward to returning to Parliament when the House resumes on September 21 and continuing to work on behalf of Kingston and the Islands.

I hope you've enjoyed the summer, and I wish you all the best as we head into the fall season.

Mark



AN UPDATE ON THE LASALLE CAUSEWAY

This summer, I welcomed Minister Joël Lightbound to Kingston to discuss the Causeway and the work underway toward a permanent solution. The temporary modular bridge remains in place, with scheduled removals to allow for marine navigation.

Public Services and Procurement Canada has since completed the business case, which outlines a high-level design, projected costs, and a procurement model that delivers the best value for Canadians.

The business case is currently under review by the Minister and will ultimately serve as the basis for Treasury Board to allocate funding for the new bridge. I will continue to advocate for this project as a priority and keep the community informed of progress.



Photo credit: Public Services and Procurement Canada

INTEREST IN CAF CAREERS CONTINUES TO GROW

Last month, I visited the Canadian Armed Forces Recruitment Centre in Kingston to learn more about the growing interest in military careers and the work being done to recruit and retain the next generation of CAF members.



Interest in joining the CAF has grown significantly, with recruitment centres connecting with students and prospective applicants through high schools, colleges, universities, job fairs and community events.

The recruitment process has also evolved, with more steps now available online to help applicants move through the process more efficiently.

There are also far more career opportunities in the CAF than many people may realize, including roles in health care, technology, skilled trades, logistics and administration. In Kingston, 279 people enrolled in the CAF in 2025, reflecting the growing interest in meaningful careers in military service.

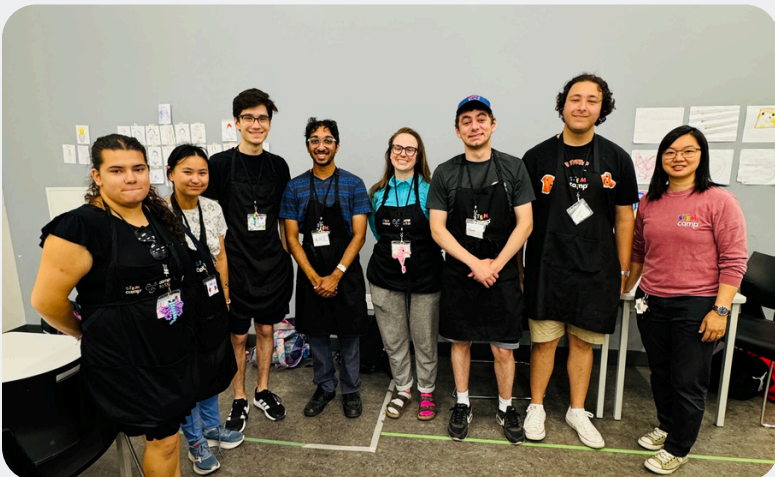
If you or someone you know is interested in exploring a career with the CAF, visit www.forces.ca to learn more about the many opportunities available.



INVESTING IN YOUNG PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITY

This summer, 514 jobs were created across Kingston and the Islands through the Canada Summer Jobs Program, supported by more than \$2.4 million in federal funding. These positions help young people gain experience and build skills while supporting local organizations that serve our community.

STEM Camp at St. Lawrence College is one example of a local program benefiting from Canada Summer Jobs funding.



CSJ participants at STEM Camp at St. Lawrence College



Happy to see this federal program creating opportunities for young people and supporting organizations and families in our community.

Congratulations to all the employers and young people who took part in the program this summer!

MAJOR INVESTMENT IN CLEAN ENERGY

The Government of Canada is supporting the largest clean energy investment in North American history, with nearly \$70 billion going toward expanding Churchill Falls, developing the Gull Island hydroelectric project, building new transmission infrastructure and supporting new wind energy opportunities.

Together, these projects will generate 14,000 megawatts of clean, renewable power, nearly tripling Churchill Falls' current generating capacity, while supporting 23,000 jobs and contributing an estimated \$31 billion to Canada's GDP through the early 2040s.



This investment will help build a stronger, more independent energy system while creating opportunities for Canadian workers and communities.

To learn more, scan the QR code below or visit bit.ly/4cJmL6o



BACK TO PARLIAMENT THIS FALL

The House of Commons will resume on Monday, September 21. When Parliament returns, I'll be back in Ottawa and continuing to work on issues that matter to Kingston and the Islands.

What We'll Be Working On

When Parliament resumes, these are some of the bills we'll be working on in the House of Commons:

- Bill C-2: Strong Borders Act
- Bill C-10: Commissioner for Modern Treaty Implementation Act
- Bill C-21: Red River Métis Self-Government Recognition and Implementation Treaty Act
- Bill C-22: Lawful Access Act
- Bill C-27: Final Self-Government Agreement for the Tlegohli Got'ine Act
- Bill C-28: Canadian Space Launch Act
- Bill C-29: Financial Crimes Agency Act
- Bill C-31: Budget 2025 Implementation Act, No. 2
- Bill C-34: Safe Social Media Act
- Bill C-35: Ban on Importing Goods Made with Forced Labour Act
- Bill C-36: Protecting Privacy and Consumer Data
- Bill C-37: First Nations Clean Water Act

Want to See Parliament in Action?

If you're planning a visit to Ottawa and would like to attend Question Period, please contact my office. We'd be happy to provide information about attending.

Stay Connected

Want to keep up with what's happening in Ottawa? Here are a few useful resources:

- Prime Minister: www.pm.gc.ca
- Government of Canada news: www.canada.ca/news
- Bills, debates and House proceedings: www.parl.ca/legisinfo
- What MPs are saying and proposing: www.ourcommons.ca

MEET THE OMBUDSMAN OFFICE

The National Defence and Canadian Armed Forces Ombudsman is an independent office that helps ensure members of the Department of National Defence (DND) and the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) are treated fairly.

It reviews individual complaints, addresses systemic issues, and provides information about available services and support.

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REMINDERS

Renew Your Passport Online

Renewing your passport is now easier and more convenient. Eligible adults can renew their Canadian passport online, including submitting their application, photo and payment from wherever is most convenient.

Mail-in and in-person renewal options remain available.



To learn more, scan the QR code below or visit bit.ly/4wry8He



Have Your Say on Official Languages

The 2026 Cross-Canada Official Languages Consultations are now underway, giving Canadians an opportunity to share their views and help shape the next federal strategy on official languages.

The consultation is open until November 2026.



To learn more and participate, scan the QR code below or visit bit.ly/3UGiVEW



LET'S BE IN TOUCH!

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Subscribe to my **Community Update e-newsletter** for local highlights, announcements, and news from Kingston and the Islands.

To join, email mark.gerretsen@parl.gc.ca and request the update. Let's stay connected!