




December 2022

PAUL CHIANG
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Markham-Unionville

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 Paul Chiang

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A Message from your MP

Dear Neighbours,

After a productive summer connecting with constituents in Markham, I eagerly returned to Ottawa this fall to continue my advocacy for our community on Parliament Hill.

In recent months, I stayed connected with our Markham community by actively participating in a wide variety of local events. I connected with local business and religious leaders through my Business Development Bank of Canada (BDC) Small Business Week tour as well as visits to numerous places of worship throughout the summer. I also connected with various cultural communities at Diwali celebrations, a Buddhist parade, Indigenous reconciliation ceremonies and more. Furthermore, I was proud to host an ice cream truck gathering for constituents to enjoy the last of the summer weather and share their ideas to further strengthen our community.

Looking towards the future, my priorities will remain keeping our community safe and strengthening diversity and inclusion across the country. While in Ottawa, I will be studying legislation to reduce access to dangerous firearms and support law enforcement to improve public safety. Our

government has also recently released the 2022 Fall Economic Statement, which outlines our ambitious plan to make life more affordable for Canadians while supporting growing businesses, and the Immigration Levels Plan, which will see Canada welcome skilled labour and further diversity to our nation.

As always, my staff and I are here to serve you! Please feel free to reach out via phone or email for any assistance and follow us on social media to stay abreast of our office news and updates.

I'd like to wish you all peace and joy as you gather with family and friends and all the best for a happy and prosperous 2023!

Yours truly,

Paul Chiang
Member of Parliament
Markham-Unionville



Keeping Communities Safe

Throughout the fall, I focused on keeping Canadians safe through our government's new legislation, Bill C-21. This legislation freezes the buying, selling, and importing of handguns across Canada. It will also provide additional tools to law

enforcement, impose more serious penalties for firearms traffickers, and protect victims of intimate partner violence. Bill C-21 is another part of our government's comprehensive approach to get guns off our streets and to make our communities safer.



Fall Economic Statement

Recently, our government released the 2022 Fall Economic Statement. This announcement outlined our ambitious plan to make life more affordable for Canadians while strengthening our industries and building a thriving net-zero economy with opportunities and jobs across the country. This plan will include:

- Permanently eliminating interest on federal student and apprentice loans;
- Delivering on key pillars of the government's plan to make housing more affordable, including the creation of a new Tax-Free First Home Savings Account, a doubling of the First-Time Home Buyers' Tax Credit, and ensuring that property flippers pay their fair share;
- Lowering credit card transaction fees for small businesses; and
- Launching the new Canada Growth Fund which will help bring to Canada the billions of dollars in new private investment required to reduce our emissions, grow our economy, and create good jobs.



Federal Government Supports

Canadians deserve support from the federal government to help keep life affordable in Canada. Through Budget 2022 and our recent announcements, the federal government has offered a wide variety of supports to help Canadians succeed, including:



- A 10% increase on OAS payments for seniors over 75 years old;
- Doubling the GST tax credit for the next six months;
- Providing up to \$1,300 per family for children's dental care; and
- Delivering \$500 to 2 million Canadians to help pay their rent.

These measures are direct support for those who need it most, when they need it most. Our government will continue working hard to help Canadians get ahead!

Welcoming Newcomers to Canada

Immigration is key to helping businesses find the workers they need and continuing to grow our economy. That's why our government's Immigration Levels Plan will ensure that Canada continues to welcome immigrants at ambitious levels, with targets of 465,000 permanent residents next year, and 500,000 per year by 2025. This plan will focus on regional needs across the country to support Canada's labour requirements and continue to build a prosperous economy for everyone. We will strengthen our immigration system by tackling the backlog, reducing wait times, supporting family reunification, and delivering a world-leading refugee resettlement program.



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... We all scream for ice cream!

I had the pleasure of hosting an ice cream truck event at the Victoria Square Playground/ Splash-pad in August. I enjoyed spending quality



time (and sharing ice cream!) with members of our community in-person. Events like these give me the opportunity to directly engage with constituents on issues that matter the most.

Jinnah Awards

I had the pleasure of attending the Jinnah Awards 2022, organized by the Jinnah Society of North America. In order to commemorate the life of Muhammad Ali Jinnah, the society distributes awards to Canadians and Canadians of Pakistani origin in recognition of their remarkable contributions. I was honoured to meet with so many inspiring leaders!



Indigenous Reconciliation Day Flag Raising & Tree Planting

To commemorate the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, I joined the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Steven Guilbeault for a ceremonial tree-planting event in Rouge National Urban Park. The trees we planted signified the roots that will eventually grow to give us strength through Canada's reconciliation journey. We must always remember our collective past, so we can make the necessary efforts to move forward together into the future.



Visiting Local Churches

I was warmly welcomed by churches local to Markham-Unionville. The pastors, church members and I discussed religious freedom, safety, and how we can



work together to continue to keep the spirit of our community vibrant.

Thank you to Unionville Alliance Church, Apple Creek Seventh-day Adventist Church, Markham Chinese Baptist Church, and St. Justin Martyr Church for your hospitality and candid conversations. I look forward to staying in touch!

Small Business Week Tour

Small businesses are the heart and soul of Markham-Unionville! This year, in celebration of Canada's 43rd anniversary of the BDC Small Business Week, I met with the owners of Gratie Medical Spa, Old Firehall Confectionery, and Next Door Restaurant, all of which are located on Main Street in Unionville. We discussed how their business practices align with this year's theme, "Dare to do things differently, and power up your growth."



Gifted People Services Gala

I had the pleasure of attending the Gifted People Services 10th Anniversary Gala. Gifted People Services provides quality professional support to children



with disabilities and their families. I am grateful to Gifted People Services for acting as a leader of diversity and inclusion in our community. Their work is enabling children with special needs to live their lives to the fullest.

Diwali at the Hill

On October 23rd, I attended the Hindu festival of Diwali, also known as the festival of lights, on Parliament Hill. The *diya* (or light) signifies that even in darkness, brightness will



prevail. I enjoyed connecting with members from more than 50 Hindu temples and other organizations based in constituencies

across Canada. A special thank you to three local Markham groups, Arya Samaj, Bollywood Ki Dhun, and South Asians in Ontario, for visiting Ottawa and taking part in the festivities!

Buddhist Parade

I am grateful to have been invited to attend the Buddhist Parade and Robe Offering Ceremony held by the Mahamevnawa Buddhist Monastery. During this annual ceremony, the Buddhist community offers robes to the Supreme Buddha and the resident monks to collect *karma*. The resident monks are an integral part of our community, conducting meditation sessions for the public and providing instruction on how to live happy lives. I am thankful for their contributions!



ABLE Award Gala

In October, the Association of Black Law Enforcers (ABLE) held their 30th Anniversary Scholarship Awards Gala. I commend ABLE's work in providing support and information to Black and other racialized law enforcement professionals. They have worked tirelessly to improve the image of law enforcement in the community. As a former York Regional Police Sergeant who worked in diversity and inclusion, I value their courage, initiative and commitment to this cause.



Remembrance Day

Meeting our nation's heroes on Remembrance Day 2022, at the Markham Civic Centre



Diwali celebrations with Armadale seniors

Diwali Festival, Armadale Older Adults Club



Celebrating outstanding women

Outstanding Women Awards Gala 2022, Markham, Richmond Hill and Vaughan Chinese Business Association



Cycling for everyone

Project SPOTLIGHT 2022: Cycling Without Age Canada



Constituency Office Services

My team and I are here to support you. We can help provide you with information on a number of federal government programs and policies, such as:

- Canada Pension Plan (CPP)
- Old Age Security (OAS)
- Passport Canada
- Employment Insurance Benefits (EI)
- Citizenship and Immigration
- Canada Student Loans (CSL)
- Canada Revenue Agency (CRA)
- Guaranteed Income Supplement
- Veterans Affairs
- Federal Crown Corporations
- Federal funding for Organizations
- Petitions to Parliament
- Acquiring Canadian flags and pins

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