

# PAMELA GOLDSMITH-JONES, M.P.

West Vancouver-Sunshine Coast-Sea to Sky Country

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Site Unseen: Gitga'at and West Vancouver Youth - Mural of Merging Voices

## Welcome

Dear Friends and Neighbours,

## Food policy

This summer, Agriculture and Agri-Food Minister Lawrence MacAulay is seeking public input in order to draft Canada's first ever food policy. We held three Democracy Talks on food policy at the Gibsons Public Market, the West Vancouver Community Centre and the Whistler Maury Young Arts Centre.

The key areas we focused on are 1) how to increase access to affordable, nutritious food 2) what health and safety concerns are most important when it comes to the food we eat 3) what concerns we have about the environmental impact of food production and 4) what initiatives could be undertaken to grow more high quality food in Canada. The results of all three sessions can be found on our website: <http://bit.ly/2wYU03q>.

Key ideas included: 1) the importance of supporting local growing and the importance of educating people about nutrition and health 2) improved food labelling and revising Canada's food guide (which is underway) 3) improve conservation, transition to closed containment salmon aquaculture, do a better job of eliminating food waste and 4) support food exchange and define what high quality healthy food is and promote it that way.

## Proposed federal tax changes

Finance Minister Bill Morneau introduced proposals to change the tax structures for private corporations in Canada. I began to receive letters and phone calls on this matter beginning in mid-July. I have been returning each and every call and piece of correspondence personally, because I know how concerned people are. As well, I am grateful for the constructive suggestions in terms of tackling tax fairness.

The short time frame for consultation is very challenging. My team has kept close track of all of your input, and I will be meeting in Ottawa with the Minister and his staff as soon as the House returns during the week of September 18<sup>th</sup>. I am writing this on September 12<sup>th</sup>. Please send us the form on the back with your comments on this or any other issue.

Sincerely,

Pamela Goldsmith-Jones



Happy Canada 150, Whistler Citizenship Ceremony



Photo: Donna McMahon

Democracy Talks: Food Policy, Gibsons Public Market

OCEAN HEALTH  
AND SCIENCE  
RESEARCH

DEMOCRACY  
TALKS

AT YOUR SERVICE

INTERNATIONAL  
TRADE

CANADA SUMMER  
JOBS

# Ocean health and science research



DFO West Vancouver lab open house

## DFO West Vancouver lab

On June 10<sup>th</sup>, together with DFO staff and numerous community volunteer organizations, we hosted a public open house at the DFO lab on Marine Drive in Caulfeild. The last time the public had been invited in was 1973! In the space of a few hours, almost 1000 people toured the site and learned about its exciting future.

I would like to thank Mayor Mike Smith, Parliamentary Secretary Terry Beech, Squamish

Nation Councillor Chris Lewis and Tseil-Waututh Chief Maureen Thomas for speaking on behalf of the community and Canada, as we put forth a vision for the lab that will ensure it is open to the public and it is producing world leading science research. The West Van Lab is here to stay!

Minister LeBlanc has asked me to lead the effort to renew and reinvest in the lab for the long term. The process is underway, and I look forward to keeping you informed on our progress.

## Salmonid enhancement program

Last spring, we faced a significant challenge in that the very important Salmonid Enhancement Program's education and restoration unit was cut. This was inexplicable to me and thousands of volunteers in British Columbia.

In the context of a recent exhaustive review of DFO, and the subsequent Treasury Board approval of \$1.4 billion of new funding, cutting this \$2 million program that leverages so much more in donations and volunteer effort really made no sense. Thankfully, Jennifer Thuncher at the Squamish Chief newspaper broke the story and the community took it from there. Streamkeepers and scientists, not-for-profit groups, teachers and students were phenomenal supporters in helping me and my fellow BC MP's, across all parties, to appeal to Minister LeBlanc to restore this funding.

Your voices, action and commitment to wild salmon made all the difference. Within weeks, the program was back in place and fully funded. Today, applications under the new \$75 million Coastal Restoration Fund are pouring in.

I look forward to continuing to support our community in its longstanding work to protect and restore wild salmon habitat.

# Democracy talks

## June: Canada-US relations

Our Constituency Youth Council hosted their own Democracy Talks at the West Vancouver Memorial Library, inviting their friends, classmates and sports teams to take part. The goal was to engage youth in public affairs.

The Council chose Canada-U.S relations as their topic, and extended an invitation to MP Andrew Leslie, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs to lead the discussion. Andy offered important and timely insight into Canada-US relations, NAFTA and softwood lumber negotiations.

If you are interested in joining our 2017/18 Youth Council, be sure to apply here by October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017: <http://bit.ly/2wYVB9u>.

## July: Ocean protection and wild salmon

We held an afternoon session at Quest University in Squamish on ocean protection and wild salmon policy. It was quite special because two of our Ottawa staff members came to the community for a few days in July to work in and learn more about our community. As such, our whole team was able to attend the event and witness the importance of this issue to our community.

With the Salmonid Enhancement Program restored, the mood at Quest was upbeat. People came from West Vancouver and the Sunshine



Youth Council Democracy Talks on Canada-U.S. relations with special guest MP Andrew Leslie

Coast to be in Squamish that day which was fantastic.

Thank you to George Iwama, Andrew Day, Chessy Knight, Edith Tobe and Mayor Heintzman for agreeing to be on the panel, to share knowledge and insight.

## August: A food policy for Canada

I introduced this topic on the front page, and would like to take this opportunity to thank members of the community who contributed their expertise and passion as panelists at each discussion.

August 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Gibsons Public Market guest panelists Dr. Barb Seed, Mark Lebbell, Barb Higgins, Brian Smith and Annette Clark.

August 15<sup>th</sup> at the West Vancouver Community Centre guest panelists Mark Lysyshyn and Dr. Barb Seed.

August 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Whistler Maury Young Arts Centre guest panelists Sue Adams, MLA Jordan Sturdy and Cheryl Scribe.

Your expertise and passion for the topic was essential to these important discussions.

# At your service



Deanna at a Citizenship Ceremony hosted by Mulgrave School

government, to get the answers you need and to find solutions as issues arise.

For example, we help community members with concerns that involve Service Canada, from Old Age Security applications to Canada Pension Plan questions and delays. Regarding immigration cases, we check on the status of permanent resident applications, temporary resident visas and work permits.

We liaise with the Canada Revenue Agency on a wide range of issues and can often help to clarify complexity to your satisfaction.

For Canadians living or travelling abroad, we are always happy to connect you to Consular Affairs within Global Affairs Canada.

In general, most of our cases involve the Canada Revenue Agency, Service Canada and Immigration. We appreciate that these agencies can be difficult to navigate and we are very happy to provide personal service to make it easier for you.

Deanna Regan is our specialist in all of these areas. You can contact her at 604-913-2660 or at [pam.goldsmith-jones.c1@parl.gc.ca](mailto:pam.goldsmith-jones.c1@parl.gc.ca).

Our team is dedicated to helping you access the departments, agencies and services of the federal

# International trade

Our government is focused on diversifying markets for Canadian businesses, with a particular focus on the Asia Pacific region.

In the spring, I visited Vietnam, Singapore and Brunei to promote Canadian softwood lumber products. It was really very positive to visit a coffee shop outside Ho Chi Minh City where the interior walls were covered in BC plywood. In all three countries, we hosted roundtables with women entrepreneurs: because women leading in business is central to our approach to inclusive, progressive trade.

In June, I participated with the Hon. Jean Chrétien and Canada's Trade Commissioner, Ailish Campbell, at a Denton's roundtable for Ambassadors in Ottawa. I was particularly excited to share the updated Canada-Chile Free Trade Agreement because it includes a gender chapter—the first gender chapter in a trade agreement for any G7 or G20 country. Mr. Chrétien was the original proponent of the Canada-Chile agreement. A good reminder of how governments build on what went before.

In May, I participated in President Xi's One Belt One Road forum in Beijing, on behalf of Canada. As China embarks on ambitious infrastructure investment, Canadian companies are well positioned to compete.

In September, I joined Canada's Ambassador to the Philippines, John Holmes, and our new



ASEAN Economic Ministers Meeting with Ambassadors Hassan and Holmes, Manila, Philippines

ambassador to ASEAN (Association of South East Asia Nations), Marie-Louise Hassan, in Manila at the ASEAN Economic Ministers Meeting. When Minister Freeland was International Trade Minister, she asked that Canada and ASEAN study the feasibility of a free trade agreement. The study is now complete and indicates that a free trade agreement between us would be mutually beneficial. The ten ASEAN countries represent a population of 620 million people—a large and fast growing market. Our goal was to secure agreement to enter exploratory talks toward a free trade agreement. We were successful and I look forward to continuing to

build on our strong people to people relationships toward opening new markets..

The Canada-EU Free Trade Agreement is now being provisionally applied. As of September 21<sup>st</sup>, 9,000 tariff lines came down. Canada will have the most preferred access to the European market of any country outside the EU. I encourage businesses to be in touch with Christian Hansen, Regional Director and Senior Trade Commissioner in Vancouver (604-666-8888) for support in accessing this important market for your goods and services.

## We would like to hear from **you**.

Complete. Cut out. Mail for free.

**What policy issues matter most to you?**

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**Would you like to receive email updates from us? If yes, please write your email address below.**

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**Thank you for your feedback.**

# Canada Summer Jobs

On July 6<sup>th</sup>, we were thrilled to be at the base of Blackcomb Mountain in Whistler for the Honourable Patty Hajdu’s Canada Summer Jobs announcement. Whistler Off Road Cycling Association attended the announcement, along with their summer students Makaela and Kolt.

With the goal of giving young people the opportunity to work in their field of study, our government invested \$782,358 in our community this year, partnering with local businesses and non-profit organizations to create jobs for 213 students working on over 100 projects.

On the Sunshine Coast, summer student Philip was hired to work on a mapping project at the Sunshine Coast Community Resource Centre. His employer was so impressed with his talent that he has recently been added to their Board of Directors following a bylaw change to allow people under 18 to be on the board! Congratulations Philip.

In Squamish, the addition of four students at the Arts Council kept the doors open throughout July and August. One student was responsible for curating exhibits and three others worked in marketing and communications.

I invite you to view a short video of some of the summer students and where they worked, with gratitude to the employers who created these opportunities: <http://bit.ly/2y4WI3X>.



Announcing Canada Summer Jobs funding for Whistler with Minister Patty Hajdu and Mayor Nancy Wilhelm-Morden



Grace and Talia, Sunshine Coast Arts Council



Bronwyn, Ravneet, Joshua and Lexi, Squamish Arts Council

## Our team



In June, Morgan and Alexandre from our Ottawa team flew to Vancouver—staying at the Horseshoe Bay Motel—to learn about the community. It makes a big difference for them to experience the size, diversity and range of issues that matter to us.

We hosted Minister Hajdu in Whistler, met the Whistler Chamber, then held a Democracy Talks at Quest University and rode the Sea to Sky gondola to round things out. The next day we took the ferry to the coast for meetings at the Gibsons Public Market and a public session on derelict vessels at the Blackfish Pub. We later toured the woods and waterfront of West Vancouver.

Our Ottawa team has a whole new appreciation for the community and looks forward to serving you even better!

## Follow Pam

Visit our website:  
[www.pgoldsmithjones.ca](http://www.pgoldsmithjones.ca)

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Watch Pam in the House of Commons:  
[www.cpac.ca](http://www.cpac.ca)

RSVP for events on our website, under the Events tab.

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