

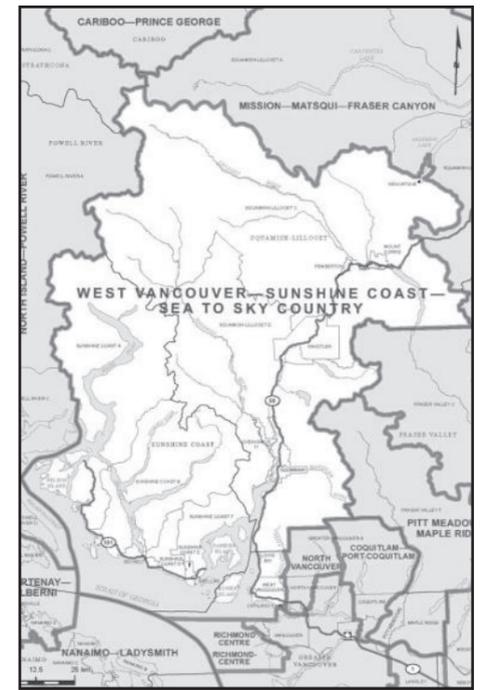
# PAMELA GOLDSMITH-JONES, M.P.

## West Vancouver-Sunshine Coast-Sea to Sky Country

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### Welcome

Dear friends and neighbours,

Thank you to everyone who attended our community events, emailed us or walked into our office this summer. It has been a pleasure to hear from so many of you.

This summer we held Democracy Talks events across the riding. We discussed climate change solutions with expert panelists in Squamish, West Vancouver, Sechelt and Bowen Island, and electoral reform in West Vancouver and Sechelt. Every session had between 80 and 200 people in attendance. We hosted roundtable discussions with veterans at the West Vancouver Legion and with the Seniors Planning Table in Sechelt. We hosted a town hall meeting with the community in Whistler. Thank you for all of your input, and thank you to our staff team for being out and about in the community to experience its beauty and wide range of opinions.

It was a distinct pleasure to host the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Stéphane Dion, at a public forum on the evening of July 22 at Mulgrave School. Thank you to Mulgrave for offering us its wonderful theatre. Minister Dion addressed the topic of Foreign Policy and Climate Change, and fielded many questions from the floor. Earlier in the day, we attended a town hall meeting for UBC students at the Liu Institute, hosted by the Acting Dean of Arts Kathryn Harrison. This is the first time the Minister and I have presented questions as a team, and engaged with students together. We ran right out of time, there was so much enthusiasm for his political science background and experience in government.

The fall session of the House of Commons begins on September 18 and ends on December 16. There is just one week in October and one week in November when I will be in the constituency for more than Saturday and half of a Sunday. Our staff team is here to serve you throughout.

Sincerely,

Pamela Goldsmith-Jones



Minister Dion, Mulgrave School, West Vancouver



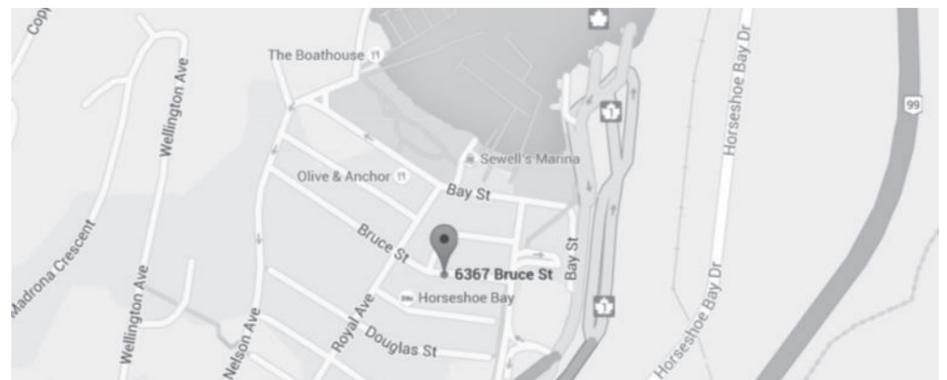
Maury Art Centre, Whistler

### Our constituency office

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**BUDGET  
PROGRESS  
REPORT**

**COHEN  
COMMISSION**

**SPECIAL  
REPORT**

**CANADA IN THE  
WORLD**

**OUR COMMUNITY**

# Budget 2016: Progress Report

## The Canada Child Benefit

In July, families across Canada started to receive their first tax-free monthly benefit. The Canada Child Benefit is tied to income, providing help with the high cost of raising children to those families who need it the most. Over 3 million families will receive more benefits than they did before and, most importantly, over 300,000 children will be lifted out of poverty. For an estimate of how much additional support your family may receive, please visit the online calculator at: [www.cra-arc.gc.ca/benefits-calculator/](http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/benefits-calculator/).



Halfmoon Bay Country Fair, Coopers Green Park

## The Canada Pension Plan

The Government of Canada made a commitment to Canadians to strengthen the CPP in order to help achieve the goal of a strong, secure, and stable retirement. On June 22, Canada's finance ministers reached an historic agreement to make meaningful changes to the CPP, boosting how much each Canadian will receive from their pension. The CPP enhancement will:

- Increase from one quarter of pensionable earnings to one third
- Increase the maximum amount of income subject to CPP by 14%, which is projected to be equal to roughly \$82,700 in 2025

In order to manage the affordability of these changes, they will be phased in gradually over 7 years – from 2019 to 2025.

The expanded CPP is an important step toward making sure that people here in our riding and across Canada can rely on a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work.

## Canada Summer Jobs

This summer we provided 214 jobs to students in our riding through the Canada Summer Jobs program. It was a pleasure to speak to employers in our community this fall to hear about the work these students were involved in, and to gather

their feedback on the program.

The Government of Canada received an unprecedented response from employers – particularly in small businesses – leading us to approve 7,000 more jobs than originally planned. Across the country, over 77,000 jobs were approved for funding, more than double last year's 34,000.

Thank you to all of the students who took part in the program, and to the businesses who provided our country's future leaders with valuable work experience this summer.

## Canada Student Grants

On August 1, Canada Student Grants increased by 50%, making post-secondary education more affordable and accessible to more young people. We are investing in our future leaders and following through on our commitment to grow Canada's middle class.



Pender Harbour Days

# Cohen Commission

On August 9, the Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, Minister of Fisheries, Oceans, and the Canadian Coast Guard, visited the Centre for Aquaculture and Environmental Research in Caulfeild, West Vancouver to announce that the Government of Canada is taking further action on fulfilling the recommendations of Justice Cohen's 2012 report from the Commission of Inquiry into the Decline of Sockeye Salmon in the Fraser River.

The room was full to capacity with Indigenous leaders, activists, academics, scientists and volunteers from the community. The constituents of our riding are truly at the forefront of wild salmon and ocean protection efforts.

While the Cohen Commission focused on Fraser River Sockeye salmon, the government is committed to the conservation of all wild Pacific salmon. The DFO will begin consultations with Indigenous groups and stakeholders on the implementation of the Wild Salmon Policy beginning in Fall 2016.

Fisheries and Oceans Canada also released a progress report on the implementation of the Cohen Commission Recommendations that



Centre for Aquaculture and Environmental Research, West Vancouver

includes details on the status of all 75 recommendations. You can read this report online, and follow DFO's progress. The report is intended to be a living document, and we welcome your feedback.

The fulfillment of these commitments will be supported by \$197 million dollars over 5 years toward research and monitoring to improve the health of fish stocks, understand the impacts of ecosystem stressors, and support of sustainable aquaculture. This investment means that 29 new scientists, biologists, oceanographers, and technicians will be hired for the Pacific Region.

The Recreational Fisheries Conservation

Partnerships Program will also support the restoration and environmental sustainability of wild salmon and their habitat by providing \$7.4M to 55 community projects in BC.

Dr. Brian Riddell, President and CEO of the Pacific Salmon Foundation, spoke after Minister LeBlanc. He said, "Wild Pacific salmon are a lifeblood that runs through our culture, environment, and economy in British Columbia." Minister LeBlanc's presence in our riding reflects the dedication and commitment our community has shown toward the protection of wild salmon. This announcement marks an important milestone as the Government of Canada continues the important work of ensuring the health and sustainability of wild salmon.



Mike Meneer, Pacific Salmon Foundation

# Special Report



Welsh Hall, West Vancouver Memorial Library

## Medical Assistance in Dying (MAID)

On June 6th, the Supreme Court decision in the case of *Carter v Canada* became law. Bill C-14 received Royal Assent on June 15 providing our country with a nation wide response to the question of medical assistance in dying. This landmark decision came two weeks after we

hosted MP Rob Oliphant at the West Vancouver library.

Mr. Oliphant co-chaired the special joint committee that heard 60 witnesses and authored a forward thinking report to inform government legislation. The committee recommended support for advanced directives, extending the right to medical assistance in dying to mature minors, and requests where mental illness is the sole underlying condition. For many Canadians, these are important ideas, for many others, they go too far.

In an effort to find balance and make a strong beginning, Bill C-14 does not include these provisions. However, it does include a commitment to undertake further study on these

specific questions.

There remains some opposition to MAID. However, given the Supreme Court decision that considers this a constitutional right, the government has created legislation to govern all provinces in Canada. My thanks to my colleague, Rob Oliphant for coming to our community, providing an overview of the process, and speaking up for Canadians who feel that legislation needs to go even further. Rob and I both voted for Bill C-14, and we will continue to push for the exploration of challenging questions we face, toward our ever improving compassionate society.

If you missed the town hall you can visit our website and stream the full recording.

# Canada in the World

## Amman, Jordan

In May, I travelled to Amman, Jordan to participate in the Women in Politics Global Forum. On behalf of Minister Dion, I signed the memorandum of understanding between Canada and Jordan concerning collaboration to enhance the security and stability of Jordan and the region.

Refugees are overwhelming Jordan. For many local Jordanian children, life has changed dramatically. School classes are now held in two shifts, one in the morning and one in the afternoon, rather than full day programs, and there can be up to 60 rather than 30 students in a class. Of course, for Syrian and Iraqi children who are far from home, living in refugee camps or being hosted in Jordanian communities, they are grateful to be safe and wishing to be able to go to regular school.

I visited a Makani Centre ("Makani" means "My Space" in Arabic), one of a network of centres run by UNICEF and local non-governmental organizations that spans the country. These centres serve, among others, refugee children who cannot go to a public school – maybe because there's no room in their neighbourhood school or they have been out of school for too long, or because they suffer from PTSD, for example. I spoke to many children in the Makani Centre. Their dreams are what you would expect – to go to school, to go to university, to have a business, for their parents to find jobs, and of course, to go back home. They wish they could



Makani Centre, Amman, Jordan

come every day rather than the two or three days a week that space in the centre affords them. Over 100,000 children regularly attend 216 Makani Centres across Jordan.

The staff is tireless in their effort to support these children, and also to identify the thousands of children who aren't enrolled at a centre yet. For those not in a centre, they could be at risk of child labour and early forced marriage; decisions that are a reality faced by some refugee families with no other choice.

The children were very eager to meet and exchange with us, and asked us many questions about life in Canada. For the families and

organizations in our community who are sponsoring refugee families, we are working very hard to ensure the health, safety and security of the families who are coming to join you. This may take until the end of 2016 or very early 2017. On behalf of the government and the people of Canada, thank you for your generosity and patience.



Jordan's Foreign Ministry Secretary General, Mohammad Tayseer Bani Yaseen

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

This questionnaire will help to better inform our priorities and our work. Complete. Cut out. Mail for free.

### What policy issues matter to you the most?

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### What would you like to see more of from us?

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**Thank you for your feedback.**

# Our Community: Electoral Reform



Sechelt First Nation Band Hall, Sechelt

Electoral Reform. In doing so, our community joined the national conversation on electoral reform that is happening in over 120 ridings across Canada.

We heard engaging presentations by Tim Shouls, Political Studies instructor at Capilano University, and Megan Dias, MA Candidate at UBC researching electoral systems and reform. They helped us to understand the values inherent in the various electoral systems. Afterward, small groups debated concepts like mandatory voting, online voting, and lowering the voting age. Discussion then turned to the features of an electoral system that people felt were most important, such as local representation, proportionality, simplicity, accessibility, inclusiveness, and how the electoral system that people support meets these objectives. We heard fantastic contributions, ranging from

participants with first hand experience of electoral systems, to youth with ideas for making the democratic process more accessible. We will also host a roundtable with youth, and a large forum at a highschool this fall. I will be submitting a report to Minister Monsef and the Special Committee on Electoral Reform by October 14, which will also be posted on our website.

## Democracy Talks: Electoral Reform

On August 30 in West Vancouver, and on September 1 in Sechelt, over 150 people came together to participate in Democracy Talks:



School District 45 Trustee, Pieter Dorsman

## Gibsons Harbour Investment



On September 7, on behalf of my colleague the Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard, I announced that the Government of Canada is investing over \$1 million dollars over two years to reconstruct the sheet pile breakwater alongside the wharf approach at the Gibsons Landing fishing harbour. The work carried out at Gibsons Landing will not only renew and maintain the infrastructure that is essential to the Sunshine Coast, but also stimulate job opportunities to benefit fishermen and our local economy.

I want to thank Terry Rhodes, President of the Gibsons Landing Harbour Authority, for doing such an excellent job managing this harbour facility. I know it takes a tremendous amount of personal time and effort and it's certainly appreciated.

## Our Team Update



**Marjan Hatai**  
Communications Manager and Executive Assistant

We are pleased to welcome Marjan Hatai, West Vancouver resident and West Vancouver Secondary School alumna, as a full-time staff member on our team. After growing up in West Vancouver, and completing her degree in Political Science and Legal Studies at UBC, Marjan joined us in May as an intern in our Ottawa office. She spent a busy five months in Ottawa, and will now be returning home to work in our constituency office as Communications Manager and Executive Assistant. Her knowledge of the riding is invaluable to our team, and we are thrilled that she will be continuing on with us.

## Follow Pam

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

Watch Pam in the House of Commons:

[www.cpac.ca/en/digital-archives](http://www.cpac.ca/en/digital-archives)

Connect with us on social media:

Facebook: [Pamela Goldsmith-Jones](#)

Twitter: [@pgoldsmithjones](#)

All event RSVPs can be found on our website.

Name.....  
Phone number.....  
Street address.....  
.....  
City .....  
Postal Code.....

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