

Issue No. April 2016

# PAMELA GOLDSMITH-JONES

West Vancouver-Sunshine Coast-Sea to Sky Country

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Courtesy of Vancouver Art Gallery

## Welcome

Dear friends and neighbours,

It is a pleasure to present our first publication that highlights policy developments of the government and current events in our riding. Our newsletter will arrive four times a year and we welcome your ideas for topics to cover. I am pleased to report that our staff is now in place in the constituency and in Ottawa. We have a great team. Each person has particular responsibilities but we are also interchangeable, and will always do our utmost to listen, provide timely responses and deepen our knowledge of the issues through engagement with you and your ideas. Our constituency office in Horseshoe Bay is working out well for being located in the centre of the riding, and accessible to all. The community of Horseshoe Bay is one that is shared by many and we love welcoming you – ice cream cones, bakery boxes from Flour next door, cups of coffee and public policy. Please feel free to drop by anytime.

The House of Commons sits often from January to June, so I have been spending a lot of time in Ottawa. This has been an important time to learn parliamentary processes, and to absorb as much as I can with regard to Canada's foreign policy. On the back page are links if you are interested in following my debates in the House of Commons or appearances on national networks.

As I write this I am preparing to leave for the Republic of Kosovo, to represent Canada at the inauguration of newly elected President Thaci. Minister Dion is on his first trip to Asia as Minister of Foreign Affairs. In two weeks I will deliver the closing remarks at the Canada-European Union Common Security and Defence Policy Symposium in Ottawa. The event marks forty years since the establishment of the EU's mission in Ottawa. Canada is actively engaged as a reliable, helpful and constructive partner on the world stage.

Sincerely,

Pamela Goldsmith-Jones, M.P.

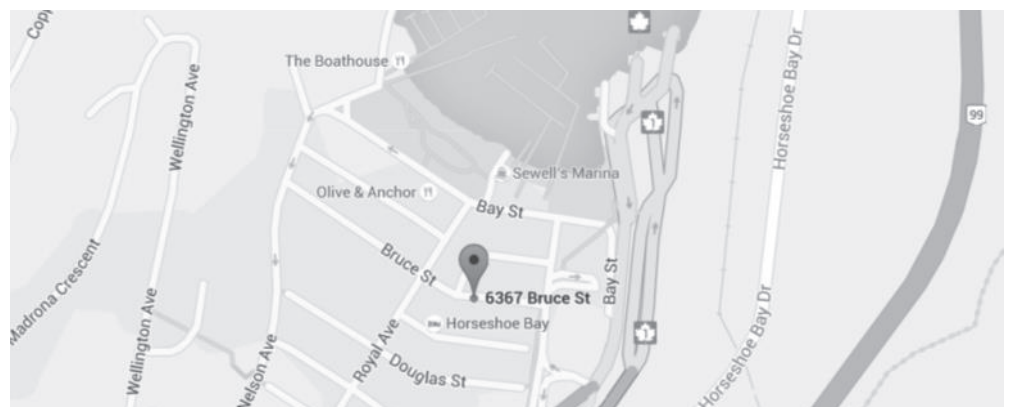


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BUDGET  
2016

OUR  
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CANADA IN THE  
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MEET  
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# Budget 2016

I presented highlights from the 2016 Budget to the West Vancouver Chamber of Commerce breakfast meeting and at two public meetings in Sechelt at the beginning of April. Below is a brief summary:

- As Minister Morneau travelled the country consulting with Canadians, the two messages he heard were "help me and my family" and "help grow the economy".
- The Canada Child Benefit is a strong piece of public policy. It is simple, tax free and more generous and is targeted to those who need it the most. Over 3 million families will receive more benefits than before. Most importantly, 300,000 children will be lifted out of poverty.
- For our most vulnerable seniors, the Guaranteed Income Supplement increases by up to \$947 annually.
- The age of eligibility for the Canada Pension Plan is restored to 65. For those who need it the most, waiting until age 67 was not tenable.
- We are opening nine service centres for veterans that were closed, plus an additional service centre in Surrey, BC.
- Canada is committed to a new Health Accord and is working with provinces and territories, focusing on improving affordability and accessibility of prescription drugs, improving access to home care and mental health



With Minister Morneau at a pre-budget consultation meeting in Vancouver.

- services and innovation in health service delivery.
- Infrastructure investment is beginning with our \$212 million commitment to the Lions Gate Wastewater Treatment plant. I will be working together with our MLAs and councils on the North Shore to secure the remaining funding requested to complete the project.
- We are paying special attention to tax fairness and preventing underground economic activity and tax evasion. We are ensuring more effective administration and enforcement of tax laws including on the international front.
- Funding for the CBC has been restored to previous levels, and we are working on ensuring long term stable funding.
- We also propose to invest \$23.6 million over five years, on a cash basis, to reopen the

Kitsilano Search and Rescue Lifeboat Station as a Coast Guard Base with enhanced marine emergency response capacity.

- We are committed to establishing an all-party committee to study electoral reform options that would be the basis for a cross-country consultation. Budget 2016 proposes to provide up to \$10.7 to conduct outreach, raise awareness and encourage the participation of Canadians in consultations..
- To renew aging ferry fleets, Budget 2016 proposes to waive the 25 per cent tariff on ferries of all sizes imported after October 1, 2015. This will provide about \$118 million in duty savings over six years that will improve services for all passengers.

Budget 2016 is an opportunity for collaboration and progress as we move forward on our commitment to make meaningful investment in Canadians and our future. I look forward to hearing your thoughts on how we can invest wisely for the long term.

**ENGAGE WITH US &  
BUDGET 2016  
ONLINE:**

<http://www.budget.gc.ca/>

## Our Community

### Engaging Youth

Mulgrave School in West Vancouver invited me to meet the Grade Ten social studies class. The recent election has certainly galvanized young people to be interested in politics and public policy. It is always interesting to reflect on the questions asked. The students were really interested in indigenous peoples and politics in Canada, in gender equity and challenges women face in leadership, and in what advice I would have for their ability to become engaged and effective citizens. I am planning to visit the elementary secondary school in Pender Harbour, to learn from their environmental stewardship example. Please let Stephanie or Lucie know if you would like us to visit your school or community group.



Talking with the Grade Ten class at Mulgrave School.

### Engaging Local Government

I have met with every elected council in the constituency now, and we are working closely to align budget requirements with federal funding, of course. The federal budget has money set aside to understand Vancouver's raging real estate market and what policies are needed that



Presenting highlights from Budget 2016 to the West Vancouver Chamber of Commerce.

could address abuses of our system. Common topics throughout our riding are:

- guidance needed in regulations/legalization of medical and recreational marijuana;
- implementation of fisheries legislation recommended in the Cohen commission;
- implementation of world class marine safety;
- improvement to the environmental assessment process and how to get involved;
- engagement on the process of electoral

reform and how to get involved;

- how to follow the inquiry into murdered and missing aboriginal women and girls; and
- working together to improve investment in infrastructure from docks to public transportation to water supply to the Squamish waterfront, the Gibsons public market and the Bowen Island library annex.

There is so much ground to cover, so please treat this list as an overview.

# Special Report

## Woodfibre LNG

As many of you know, on March 18, 2016, the Honourable Catherine McKenna, Minister of Environment and Climate Change, announced that the proposed Woodfibre LNG Project is not likely to cause significant adverse environmental effects. This decision comes paired with 122 legally-binding conditions, which include prevention and mitigation measures as well as follow-up requirements with which the proponent must comply.

What remains is the fact that this federal government inherited an environmental review process that must be more inclusive and transparent. In Budget 2016, our government committed \$14.2 million to the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency to build a better process for environmental assessments and restore public confidence. I am counting on the community to be involved with this.

As an interim approach to Woodfibre LNG and other projects, Minister McKenna of Environment and Climate Change and Minister Carr of Natural Resources in January announced five interim principles that enhanced the considerations upon which a decision was made.

For Woodfibre LNG, these interim principles meant there was a three week window for the proponent to provide additional information on the project's greenhouse gas emissions, and for my team to seek further community input. We hosted a town hall each in Squamish, West

Vancouver, and Gibsons and all three were filled to capacity – a total of over 760 people attended. Together with the strong opposition voiced at the meetings, I heard many constructive comments and suggestions. This feedback was recorded and I personally delivered the thumb drive of the meetings to the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency. When back in Ottawa, I discussed local concerns with Minister McKenna and highlighted the questions raised during the town halls.

I view the town hall meetings as a critical aspect of this process. The ideas and concerns that you offered are reflected in the 122 legally-binding conditions attached to the approval of the environmental assessment. These conditions – and the 25 conditions produced by the Squamish Nation – must be met for the project to proceed.

While all 122 conditions are important to maintaining the proponent's accountability, I would like to highlight the following as these reflect the issues that were raised most



Conducting the town hall in Gibsons, BC.

consistently in the town halls:

- **Condition 3.6** – the protection of Pacific Herring larvae and habitat;
- **Condition 3.7** – the prevention of depositing of deleterious substances into the water and accounting for federal regulations on residual chlorine concentrations and water temperature;
- **Condition 3.8** – the establishment and maintenance of a marine mammal underwater noise impact area; and
- **Condition 11.3** – prior to construction and in consultation with relevant federal and provincial authorities and Aboriginal groups, the proponent must develop an emergency response plan which includes several written reports of prevention and mitigation measures.

My job now is to work with Minister McKenna, Minister Tootoo of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard, and Minister Garneau of Transport to ensure that we have the tools to hold the proponent wholly accountable for the health and safety of Howe Sound. I take this responsibility seriously.

Thank you for your participation and I look forward to working with you all on this very important matter. The website that outlines all 122 conditions can be found here: <http://www.ceaa-acee.gc.ca/050/document-eng.cfm?document=109540>.

# Canada in the World

## OECD Convention, Paris

In March I had the privilege of attending the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) convention on anti-bribery in my capacity as Parliamentary Secretary to Minister Dion, Foreign Affairs. The meeting took place at the OECD headquarters in Paris.

I presented an update on Canada's strengthened participation in working with OECD countries to address the pernicious effects of bribery and corruption within government.

The meeting was co-chaired by US Attorney General Loretta Lynch. It was wonderful to meet her and to contribute to improving bilateral relationships with the US and with the eight other countries whose Ministers of Foreign Affairs or Justice I was able to meet with, one on one.



Participating in discussion as Canada's representative at the OECD Anti-Bribery Convention in Paris.



Talking with Minister Wallström in Stockholm, Sweden.

## Women, Peace and Security, Stockholm

From there I travelled to Stockholm where our ambassador, Ken Macartney (from Victoria!) arranged several meetings to explore common interests regarding women, peace and security with Foreign Affairs Minister Margot Wallström and her State Secretary Annika Soder, and their leaders in energy policy and sustainability. I presented to a roomful of Swedish journalists who had a range of questions about Canada's role in climate change, gender equity and Arctic policy, principally.

## Minister Dion on Climate Change & Foreign Policy

“THE DAY WHEN CLIMATE CHANGE IS AS MAINSTREAM FOR SECURITY EXPERTS AS ARMS CONTROL IS, AS THE EVOLUTION OF INTEREST RATES IS FOR ECONOMISTS, AS THE WEATHER IS FOR FARMERS, THEN WE WILL BE MUCH BETTER EQUIPPED TO MEET OUR OBJECTIVES.”

— MINISTER STÉPHANE DION

# Our team

We are here to serve you. Our job is to listen, be helpful, solve problems and ensure that I am the best representative that I can be for you and for our constituency.

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



**Stephanie Kiernan, Executive Assistant, West Vancouver**

Stephanie manages the administration of the constituency office. She is your media contact in the riding and liaises with the team in Ottawa

daily on a wide range of issues. Stephanie is a life-long North Shore resident with a background in brand marketing. Stephanie has worked in both the private and public sectors, including the Municipality of West Vancouver. Stephanie is a highly organized and responsive administrator and enthusiastic about communications and design.



**Deanna Regan Case Specialist, West Vancouver**

Deanna is our go-to person if you have any issue related to navigating the federal government. Immigration,

Canada Revenue Agency, and consular affairs are common issues that come up – but there are many! Deanna has an ever-expanding network of people throughout government, and she is happy to help you. Deanna has three daughters, loves running and is a talented, diplomatic advocate for our constituents.



**Lucie McKiernan Constituency Assistant, Gibsons**

Lucie is responsible for our mobile constituency office on the Sunshine Coast. She is available to meet with you and attend community events. She works

closely with the team on the mainland to ensure that the coast is well represented. Her extensive background in the non-profit sector and volunteering on the coast is an asset to our team. Lucie loves hiking, kayaking and life near the ocean.

## Ottawa



**Leah Hanvey Legislative Assistant, Ottawa**

Leah is our policy specialist and responsible for digging deeper into issues, developing a policy approach and creating communications plans. She is

working on derelict vessels, fisheries, electoral reform, and our role in improving the environmental review process, to name a few. Leah graduated in Commerce from the University of Victoria after growing up in North Vancouver and has just moved to Ottawa. Leah loves skiing in the coastal mountains back home and running along the Ottawa canal.



**Naomi Reaka Parliamentary Assistant, Ottawa**

Naomi is your first point of contact in Ottawa. She answers correspondence and works closely with Pam and the team

to ensure the best way forward. She directs your inquiries to the right person and provides analysis along the way. Naomi graduated from Carleton University with a double major in Biology and Humanities. Before joining our team she worked in innovation in healthcare. Naomi loves skiing and kayaking in her hometown of Nelson, BC.

**WE ARE ALWAYS  
HAPPY TO HEAR FROM YOU**

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## Upcoming Events

### Summer 2016

#### Upcoming: Democracy Talks

We are planning Democracy Talks for Summer and Fall 2016. Topics so far include:

- Electoral Reform
- National Defence
- Foreign Affairs
- Medical Assistance in Dying

If you would like to request a topic for a future Democracy Talks, please get in touch with us.

## Follow Pam

**Stay up to date by visiting our website:**  
[pgoldsmithjones.liberal.ca/](http://pgoldsmithjones.liberal.ca/)

**Watch Pam in the House of Commons:**  
CPAC channel or online at [www.parlvu.parl.gc.ca/](http://www.parlvu.parl.gc.ca/)

#### Connect with on social media:

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/PamelaGoldsmithJones/](https://www.facebook.com/PamelaGoldsmithJones/)  
Twitter: [@pgoldsmithjones](https://twitter.com/pgoldsmithjones)

Front page Vancouver Art Gallery photograph:  
James Hart  
The Dance Screen (The Scream Too), 2010-13  
red cedar, yew wood, abalone, mica, acrylic  
332.0 x 479.0 x 35.7 cm  
Gift of Michael Audain and Yoshiko Karasawa; Audain Art Museum Collection, 2013.015

## People in our Community



**Luke Conkin**

On April 11, I received a visit from Luke Conkin, a grade 10 student from Sentinel Secondary School in West Vancouver. Luke studies French Immersion, works at Cypress Bowl Resort on Hollyburn Mountain, and has a passion for Foreign Affairs. Luke was in Ottawa with for Encounters With Canada (EWC) and he interviewed me on international politics and foreign policy.

EWC is Canada's largest youth forum which brings 120 to 148 high school students aged 14 to 17 to Ottawa every school year from across Canada. In Ottawa, they discover their country through each other's diversity, learn about Canadian institutions, meet famous and accomplished Canadians, and live an extraordinary bilingual experience. Leah Hanvey, our Legislative Assistant, is an EWC alumni. Leah says, "Especially coming from the west coast, EWC opened Ottawa up to me in a way that was understandable and engaging. I was truly inspired and now all these years later, I ended up working on the Hill."

### Meaghan Howley

Meaghan is 9 years old and lives on the Sunshine Coast.

Last week, Meaghan interviewed me by phone for her school project on someone she admires and I am very honoured that she chose her Member of Parliament.

Meaghan turned this interview into a speech that she delivered to her class. I first met Meagan back in the Fall and I have been so thankful of her support ever since.

