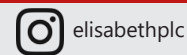
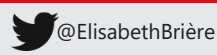
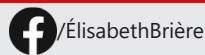




Householder

Élisabeth Brière

Member of Parliament for Sherbrooke



English virtual version available
upon request

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

Dear Sherbrookers,

With summer in full swing, I'm thrilled to be able to join you again at the many events our city has planned this summer. The start of the year was a busy time for me amid the flurry of parliamentary work happening in Ottawa. As parliamentary sessions go, it was one of our most productive ever! We tabled and adopted Budget 2023, which seeks primarily to tackle inflation, support the green economy and propel our country into the future. With Bill C-13, our government took action to protect Canadians' language rights, promote French, and support official language minority communities. With Bills C-11 and C-18, we held firm against the web giants to make sure they pay their fair share to Canadian artists and media. With Bill C-21, we stood up to firearm lobby groups by banning handguns. Despite all the political sparring we had to deal with, we passed 16 bills in 15 weeks.

My colleagues and I on the Justice Committee focussed our attention on matters of concern to us all. We worked on

reforming Canada's extradition system, improving the bail system, and protecting vulnerable adults in care centres.

Now that I'm back home in Sherbrooke for the summer, I intend to keep up with a packed schedule of meetings with citizens' groups, organizations and companies, and to help launch some of the many projects funded by our government. In recent weeks, I also welcomed the Prime Minister and many ministers to our riding and told them all about our city's innovation, hospitality and vibrant growth, as well as the serious challenges we face.

On that note, I want to wish everyone a wonderful summer, filled with special moments shared with family and friends and amazing discoveries.

Best wishes,

Élisabeth Brière

WELCOME TO YOUR NEW HOME!

Canada Day in Sherbrooke was a fantastic day! I organized a ceremony to celebrate our new citizens. The arrival of newcomers energizes our city and fires up its hopes. Canada is a land where everyone is welcome, regardless of their place of origin, culture or religion. Sherbrooke lives in perfect harmony with this reality. Canada may well be home to over 40 million people living in six different time zones, but from coast to coast to coast, ours is one country to be shared, protected and loved. ♥



An Act for the Substantive Equality of Canada's Official Languages Receives Royal Assent

Our two official languages are a treasure for everyone. Thirty years after the last major overhaul of the Official Languages Act, some modernizing was in order. By passing this legislation, ours became the first federal government to recognize that the French language is under threat across Canada, including in Quebec. We also have a duty to protect our official language minority communities.

That is why we passed this ambitious and more robust legislation to modernize the Official Languages Act. Bill C-13 expands the powers of the Commissioner of Official Languages by granting him the authority to impose administrative monetary penalties and to make orders. By equipping the Commissioner with more tools, we ensure that he can continue to play a vital role in protecting and promoting our two official languages.

Firearms Act Passed in the House of Commons

Bill C-21 will tackle the problem head-on by targeting gang activity and illegal firearm possession, implementing provisions for confiscating the weapons of persons suspected of posing a danger to themselves or others – including perpetrators of gender-based violence and intimate partner violence – and strengthening border controls to fight illegal trafficking and smuggling. Combined with our comprehensive strategy to address gun violence, these measures are a major step toward creating safer communities in Canada.

Protecting the Estrie's Freshwater Resources

Invasive aquatic species pose a serious threat to our waters, the economy and society. Outside their natural environment, species can quickly spread, compete directly with native species, and alter habitats, causing ecological damage to our waters.

In May, our government launched the new Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Fund (AISPF), which will provide \$8.75 million in contribution funding over the next five years to fight aquatic invasive species in Canada.



Zebra



My Estrie colleagues and I announced one of the projects that was selected for direct funding and launched earlier this year. The Regroupement national des conseils régionaux de l'environnement du Québec (RNCREQ) will receive \$644,550 to establish a regional network and provide scientific and technical support to organizations involved in preventing the introduction and spread of aquatic invasive species, such as the Conseil régional de l'environnement de l'Estrie (CREE). For further details, please read the short practical guide "Let's Protect Our Lakes," which was recently distributed to each household.



Giant Hogweed

Strengthening Environmental Protection for a Healthier Canada Act Receives Royal Assent

Our government is committed to protecting the health and safety of all Canadians. By strengthening the Canadian Environmental Protection Act (CEPA), the government is taking steps to better protect Canadians and their environment from harmful substances. A strengthened CEPA will promote alignment with the growing number of jurisdictions seeking to replace, reduce or refine reliance on animal testing, protect sub-populations who may be more susceptible or highly exposed to harmful substances, and take cumulative effects into account. Bill S-5 is one of the most substantial improvements to Canadian environmental legislation in decades.



*Shoreline clean-up activity
Action Saint-François*

Investing in Affordable Housing

Handi-Ressource, located at 977 Galt Street in Sherbrooke, received a \$1.2-million contribution under the Canada–Quebec Housing Agreement for the construction of 25 affordable housing units for persons with disabilities. The building's first residents moved in at the start of the year.

Le Chardonnay, located at 501 Chardonnay Street, received a \$32.1-million repayable loan through the Rental Construction Financing initiative (RCFi) to build 100 housing units. The project started in November 2021 and should be completed this summer.

Maison Margot, a project by Habitations l'Équerre at the corner of Galvin Road and Ovila Beaudoin Street, received \$1.9 million under the Rapid Housing Initiative for a thoughtfully designed 12-bedroom residence where 12 women can enjoy a stable, affordable and safe living environment. The residence opened this summer.

Youth Innovation Component of the Enabling Accessibility Fund

The government has issued a new call for proposals under the Youth Innovation Component of the Enabling Accessibility Fund (EAF).

Eligible young people from 15 to 30 years of age can apply through this component to become Youth Accessibility Leaders. They will promote the EAF program by identifying and eliminating accessibility barriers in public spaces or workplaces in their community by partnering with local organizations to apply for funding of up to \$10,000.

Examples of previously funded projects include:

- installation of automatic door openers
- purchase of a tandem bicycle for persons with visual disabilities
- construction of accessible garden beds
- installation of an audiovisual fire alarm system
- modifications to a website to make it accessible for persons with disabilities
- purchase of a pool wheelchair
- purchase of a braille keyboard

The application deadline is 5 p.m. on October 10, 2023.

Investing in our Public Transit System

Earlier this year, our government announced it would be investing over \$780 million to improve Quebec's electrified public transit system. Thanks to that funding and the investments from the Government of Quebec and public transit corporations, 1,229 new electric buses will be hitting Quebec roads in the next few years. **Sherbrooke's STS has purchased 40 electric buses** that will join its fleet by 2027.

These measures will help reduce Sherbrooke's GHG emissions for a greener, healthier city!



New 2SLGBTQI+ Entrepreneurship Program

The new 2SLGBTQI+ Entrepreneurship Program, the first of its kind in the world, is designed to improve the entrepreneurship ecosystem and ensure better support for entrepreneurs belonging to 2SLGBTQI+ communities. Entrepreneurs from 2SLGBTQI+ communities will have access to the full range of support they need through the program's three components.

The program will assist organizations that support entrepreneurs from these communities and will collect data to create an accurate picture of the entrepreneurship landscape for 2SLGBTQI+ communities and the challenges 2SLGBTQI+ entrepreneurs face.

Strengthening Environmental Protection for a Healthier Canada Act Receives Royal Assent

Our government is committed to protecting the health and safety of all Canadians. By strengthening the Canadian Environmental Protection Act (CEPA), the government is improving its ability to protect Canadians and their environment from harmful substances. A strengthened CEPA will promote alignment with the growing number of jurisdictions trying to replace, reduce or refine reliance on animal testing. The bill also amends CEPA to recognize, for the first time in Canada's legislative history, that everyone in Canada has the right to a healthy environment.



Budget Implementation Act Receives Royal Assent

This legislation will deliver many of the government's Budget 2023 commitments to make life more affordable, to grow our green economy and to create good middle-class jobs. The key measures are:

- **Delivering automatic advance payments of the Canada Workers Benefit**, starting in July 2023, to provide up to \$2,461 for an eligible family;
- **Protecting air passengers' rights** by making airlines more accountable for delays, cancellations and lost baggage and by ensuring that passengers are fairly compensated when their travel is disrupted;
- **Cracking down on predatory lending** by lowering the criminal rate of interest and imposing a cap on payday loans;
- **Cracking down on house flipping** by fully taxing assignment sales, to ensure housing costs remain more affordable for Canadians;
- **Supporting the implementation of the new Canadian Dental Care Plan**, which will provide dental coverage for up to nine million Canadians once fully implemented by 2025;
- **Increasing certain Registered Education Savings Plan withdrawal limits** from \$5,000 to \$8,000 for full-time students to help cover the cost of post-secondary education; and

Budget
2023

Supporting the growth of Quebec SMEs is one of our government's priorities.

That is why Chocolat Lamontagne, a Sherbrooke company, received a \$1.2 million in repayable funding to secure its growth by improving its production capacity in order to meet international demand. The company's success is boosting Sherbrooke's economic vitality, and that's something to be proud of!



Birthday wishes for two special centenarians! I visited the Soleil-Manoir du Musée senior's residence to congratulate two residents, Juliette Groleau and Yvette Robitaille Leblanc, on their 101st and 103rd birthdays this year!



Sherbrooke is an innovative city. I joined Minister Champagne for a visit to Espace Quantique, a future hub of innovation in our community. Thanks to a contribution from the Strategic Innovation Fund (SIF), GDMS will be able to build on Canada's expertise in the remotely piloted aircraft systems market, while creating 100 highly skilled jobs at this Sherbrooke-based company.



The Marché DelaGare summer market will be open until October 18, offering a wide range of products for sale from outstanding producers. When we buy local, we support small businesses in our community and reduce our carbon footprint!



Sherbrooke welcomed a special guest! Prime Minister Justin Trudeau stopped by to meet and talk with Sherbrookers. To top off the evening, I brought him to one of the city's must-see events: the Sherblues & Folk festival. Our cultural scene is thriving, and there are lots of activities going on this summer. Come on out and join the fun!

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