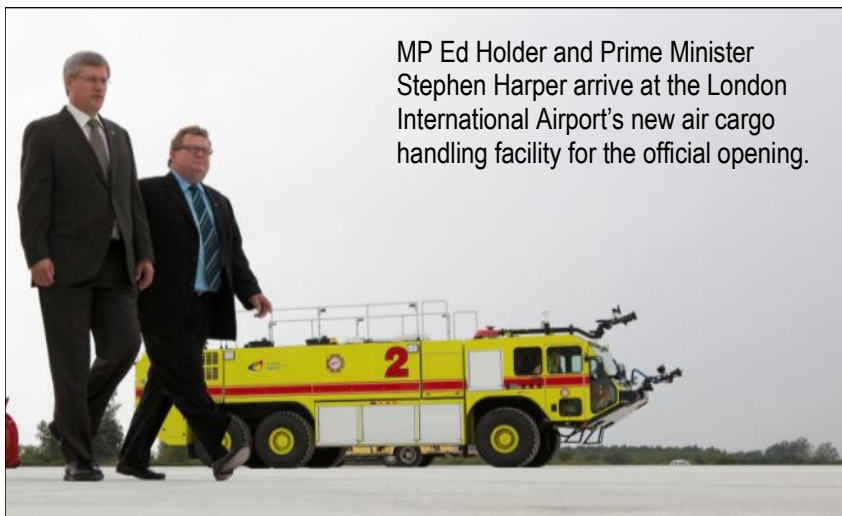




Spring 2011

Working for you. Delivering results!



MP Ed Holder and Prime Minister Stephen Harper arrive at the London International Airport's new air cargo handling facility for the official opening.

Helping the economy and creating jobs

"We are on the right course. The only thing that can get us off course now is needless political instability."

—Prime Minister Stephen Harper

www.edholdermp.ca

MP Ed Holder showcased local manufacturing expertise to Defence Minister Peter Mackay and Public Works Minister Rona Ambrose on a tour to GDLS.



In this issue:

Ed Holder's welcome letter	Page 3
Political Co-operation Delivers Results for London	Page 4
<i>Holder's Happenings</i> Feedback	Page 5
Investing in Seniors	Page 6
What's available at www.seniors.gc.ca ?	Page 7
Where federal Government investment created jobs in London	Please see the full Map ... Page 8 & 9
Investing in jobs for London	
Fairness for the Self-Employed	Page 10
Working for You for Five Years	Page 11
Investing in Recreation	Page 12
Contact Information	Page 13
Constituency Survey	Page 14
	Page 15



MP Ed Holder while visiting Prime Minister Stephen Harper and his family.



It is my pleasure to once again write to you as your elected federal representative in London West.

Our Conservative government, in strong co-operation with our Provincial and Municipal partners have made significant investments in London. This has created jobs today and legacy investments for generations to come.

Our government also **doubled and made permanent the gas tax transfer** of \$21.8 million per year to the City. This has allowed the city to have significant and stable federal funding for the first time.

The economic situation around the world placed a greater importance on government spending to stimulate the economy and get unemployed Canadians back to work. **Canada's Economic Action Plan is working**—so well in fact, that other countries are pointing to Canada as the economic model going forward.

Simply put, Canada was the last of the G7 countries to go into recession and we were the first out of the recession.

The economic recovery is fragile and the work is not done yet. Our Conservative Government will continue to focus on the Canadian economy while Opposition parties continue to threaten an expensive, unnecessary election that could destabilize our recovery.

While the next several months will still be tough for some folks, please be assured that I will continue to ensure Londoners receive what is needed to continue emerging from this economic storm.

Your continued support is sincerely appreciated.

Ed Holder

Member of Parliament for London West



Political Co-operation Delivers Results for London

Conservative MP Ed Holder is joined by Liberal MP Glen Pearson, City of London Controller Tom Gosnell, NDP MP Irene Mathyssen, Conservative MP Joe Preston and Liberal MPPs Khalil Ramal and Chris Bentley.

Addressing the global economic crisis has taken a co-operative effort among all levels of government and all politicians.

In less than six months, money was announced for stimulus spending, programs were designed, applications were submitted, proposals were reviewed and the money was announced. This was quite an achievement.

When it comes to getting London back to work, there is no room for political partisanship. Ed Holder was pleased to include our local Liberal and NDP Members of Parliament to help him announce these record amounts of funding for the City and our residents.

The federal representatives were joined by their provincial counterparts and municipal colleagues with the focus of getting London back to work with timely stimulus spending. Their co-operation worked for London.

“It truly is my hope that we can continue to set an example in London which shows that putting political partisanship aside for the greater good truly does deliver results,” stated Ed Holder.

**“Political cooperation brings
big bucks to London”**

LondonTopic.ca headline

HOLDER'S HAPPENINGS FEEDBACK

Please visit my website and sign-up to receive Holder's Happenings.

"Thank you for your news reports. I hope all MPs are as busy as you are. This is the first time I have ever seen this kind of reporting on email. I knew you were a good person for our London West area after reading all your accomplishments with many organizations throughout the years." -GL

"I take this opportunity to let you know that you are doing a great job in keeping in contact with your constituents. I've never received so many reports on what is happening in the government, and it is much appreciated. It is nice that you put links to things that will help us" -CF

"Thank you for these newsletters. They are informative and valuable—keeping us apprised of what is going on in Ottawa and our community." -DV

"Thank you for your reports. I never knew an MP could, and would, be able to do so much to be involved and helpful. Thank you for all the help and encouragement you give to so many organizations and individuals." -Anonymous

"I am still so amazed by your weekly emails that not only keep you accountable by letting us know all that you are doing as our MP for London West, but also by the many, many 'helps' that you list for us

along with the websites that we may find them on, and upcoming events. Never have I received this kind of input from an MP, and there have been times that I never even knew who my MP was. However, with you, I almost feel like I know you now. So thank you, thank you, thank you!" -CF

"Ed, thanks for a great update and congratulations on a wonderful job you and your Government are doing on behalf of all Canadians during this difficult world-wide economic downturn." -GG

"Just a note to thank you and your staff for the very informative householders." -CD

"Thanks for sending this newsletter out on a regular basis. It is most helpful." -DT

"Hi Ed—please add me to your distribution list (after my Mom's ravings, how could I not!?!)" -JT

"I would like to thank you for the interesting and informative email newsletters which we receive regularly, and for the booklet which arrived on Friday. I have lived at this address in the constituency for over 30 years, and I can honestly say that you are the first Member to provide such a service." -SG

"Hi Ed, I am amazed at the pace you are able to maintain." -BC

INVESTING IN SENIORS

London's Seniors comprise an important part of my constituency in London West and often contact me to ask what changes our government has made that affects them directly. If you need assistance with any of these issues, please contact my office or visit www.seniors.gc.ca.

To help Seniors who choose to remain in the workforce we introduced the \$60 million Targeted Initiative for Older Workers and increased the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) exemption 7-fold, from \$500 to \$3500. **This allows Seniors to earn more before seeing their benefits reduced.**

The GIS has been increased twice by hundreds of dollars and the process of applying for this benefit has been improved; **now Seniors need only apply once for the GIS – not year after year.** This is part of a new outreach campaign to make Seniors aware of their retirement benefits. This will be made easier because Service Canada points of service are being increased and will include outreach and mobile services to visit Seniors at home, including nursing homes.

The new Tax Free Savings Account protects Seniors retirement savings, the most important savings vehicle since the RRSP. We introduced pension income splitting and doubled the pension income credit from \$1,000 to \$2,000. **This helped 2.7 million Seniors and took 85,000 pensioners off the tax rolls.** The age credit has increased by \$1,000, to \$5,066, saving Seniors hundreds of dollars in taxes.

Our Government created a Minister responsible for Seniors to represent them at the Cabinet table and created a National Seniors Council to give Seniors a say in the issues that matter to them (learn more at www.seniorscouncil.gc.ca).

MP Ed Holder visits
the Opti-Mrs Club



We support over 1,700 community projects across Canada that help Seniors remain active through the New Horizons Program and increased the budget by almost 50%. We also invested \$13 million to fight Elder Abuse.

The Refundable Medical Expense Supplement tax credit has been increased by more than 30% (learn more at www.cra.gc.ca) and the age for converting RRSPs to RIFs is up from 69 to 71. **Seniors will receive \$200 million in tax relief** with the reduction in the required minimum withdrawal amount for 2008 from Registered Retirement Income Funds by 25 percent, recognizing the impact of weak market conditions on retirement savings.

The Government has allocated \$400 million over two years for the construction of housing units for low-income Seniors

The Employment Insurance Compassionate Caregivers Benefit has also been expanded. (learn more at www.servicecanada.gc.ca)



MP Ed Holder hosted his fourth annual Skate for Kids event. This free Family Day event was attended by 500 Londoners.



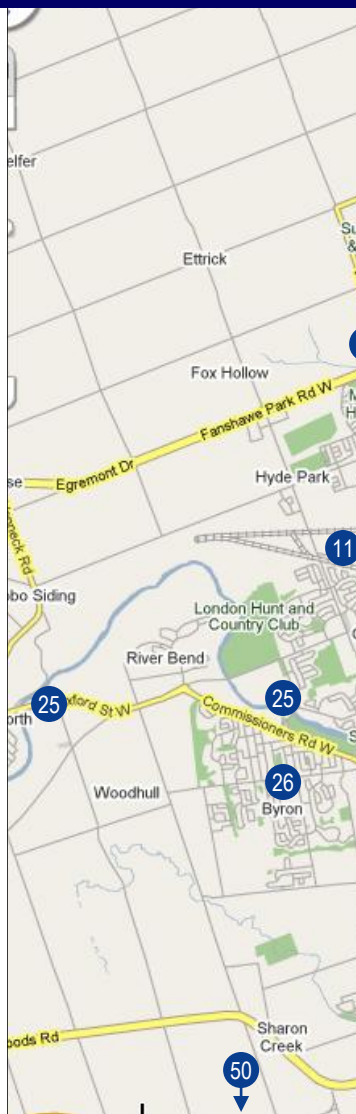
Did you know that the Government of Canada has a special website with information specifically for Seniors?

This website has information on care facilities, computers and learning, community services, end of life matters, finances and pensions, health and wellness, housing, legal matters, safety and security, seniors networks, statistics and research, transportation, travel and leisure, veterans services, work, volunteering and retirement. It also has important links for all your needs.

For Seniors information, please visit www.seniors.gc.ca or call 1-800-622-6232.

WHERE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT INVEST

- 1 University of Western Ontario
- 2 Fanshawe College
- 3 Innovation Industrial Park - Phase 3
- 4 Hale & Trafalgar Street Overpass
- 5 Transit Building Life Cycle Repairs
- 6 Skyway Industrial Park - Phase 2
- 7 City Hall Building Improvements
- 8 Old South Combined Sewer Overflow Project- Wellington Road Area-Trevithen/Alexandra/Whetter
- 9 Old South Storm Sewer Installation/Sanitary Sewer Replacement
- 10 Dundas Street Gateway
- 11 Oxford - New Operations Facility
- 12 Wellington Road Gateway
- 13 Lifecycle Repairs to Sewer System - Old North/Downtown
- 14 Old East London Storm Sewer Installation and Sanitary Sewer Replacement
- 15 Lifecycle Repairs to Sewer System-Old East London
- 16 Kiwanis Park - Improve Park Amenities
- 17 Lifecycle Repairs to Sewer System - Old South London
- 18 Highbury Bridge Rehabilitation
- 19 Quebec Street Overpass Rehabilitation
- 20 Carling Heights - Rehabilitate Facility
- 21 South London - Eden Avenue Storm Sewer Installation
- 22 Thames Valley Parkway - North Branch
- 23 Bathurst Street Sanitary Sewer Replacement
- 24 Oakridge Optimist Park - Improve Park Amenities
- 25 Thames Valley Parkway - Main Branch
- 26 Byron Community Centre - Rehabilitate Facility
- 27 Lifecycle Repairs to Sewer System - South London
- 28 Boyle Community Centre - Rehabilitate Facility
- 29 Ed Blake Park - New Park Features
- 30 Walnut/Kensington Area Sanitary and Storm Sewer Replacement
- 31 Medway Park - Improve Park Amenities
- 32 Carling Arena - Replace Roof and Compressors
- 33 AJ Tyler Operations Centre - Building Improvements
- 34 Veterans Memorial Parkway
- 35 Fire Hall No. 10 - Building Improvements
- 36 Farquharson Arena - Roof Replacement



- 37 Fire Hall No. 9 - Building Improvements
- 38 Basil Grover Park - Improve Park Amenities
- 39 Library Branch Rehabilitation
- 40 Piccadilly Park - Improve Amenities
- 41 Nichols Arena - Replace Arena Lights
- 42 Argyle Arena Lighting Upgrade
- 43 Kinsmen Arena - Replace Arena Lights
- 44 London Airport Air Cargo Facility

ESTMENT CREATED JOBS IN LONDON



- 45 Stronach Arena - Replace Arena Lights
- 46 Grand Theatre
- 47 Youth Opportunities Unlimited
- 48 London Economic Development Corporation
- 49 Cafe Causette - CarreFour des Femmes of South West Ontario
- 50 AIDS Committee of London
- 51 Huron Elgin London Project—Clean Water
- 52 Dominion of Canada Building

- 53 Gov't of Canada Bldg—Dominion Public
- 54 Government of Canada Bldg—Lipton
- 55 Government of Canada Bldg—London 1
- 56 Museum of Ontario Archeology
- 57 Museum of Ontario Archeology
- 58 London Committee for Cross Cultural Arts
- 59 Old South Trunk Storm Sewer System
- 60 YMCA North London Recreation Ctr.

INVESTING IN JOBS FOR LONDON

“The City of London has received strong government support since I was elected to Parliament,” said Member of Parliament Ed Holder. “When we took a moment to add it all up, the numbers are significant and the impact will be felt by all Londoners.”

In just the first 10 months after being elected, **Ed Holder personally announced over a quarter-of-a-Billion dollars in government funding for the City of London and London community organizations.** In addition, he has also personally announced government business of about three-quarters-of-a-Billion dollars.

“Having more than one Billion dollars of government money announced for London in just eight months was quite humbling for a rookie MP like me. When I went to Ottawa, I was determined to make sure we got our fair share and I honestly believe we have done even better than that,” stated Holder.

A convenient 16-page reference guide has been made available to London West constituents which details all the announcements personally made by Ed Holder. Along with detailing the announcements, it also shows that government support has been fairly distributed across the City for a wide range of initiatives.

The booklet did not include details of the recreational funding announced (see Page 13 of this booklet) or the many business commitments, including one significant contract with General Dynamics Land Systems—Canada to upgrade the LAVIII fleet (see the Press Release at www.edholdermp.ca).

An electronic PDF copy is available at www.edholdermp.ca by clicking on the link under the *Publications* section. Alternatively, a hard copy of the 16-page booklet is available upon request by calling the London constituency office at (519) 473-5955.

“I may not always agree with you, but I certainly do appreciate the email you sent me. It is a personal touch in which you addressed all my concerns. This shows me that if I need your help or I have more questions, you will certainly be there. Having an MP we can count on is priceless.” - GB

FAIRNESS FOR THE SELF-EMPLOYED

Our Conservative Government is pleased to announce that we have extended Employment Insurance (EI) maternity, parental, sickness and compassionate care benefits, collectively referred to as special benefits, to the self-employed on a voluntary basis. In 2008, we promised to help the self-employed, and through this legislation, we are delivering on that commitment.

Self-employed Canadians should not have to choose between their family and their business responsibilities. These changes represent one of the most significant enhancements to the EI program in the last decade. This new measure is just the latest in a series of improvements the Government has already made to ensure that the EI program remains fair.

Self-employed Canadians who choose to take advantage of EI special benefits will be required to opt into the EI program **at least one year prior to claiming benefits**, and will be responsible for making premium payments for the tax year in which they apply to the program. **Those interested in these new benefits will have to opt into the program as participation is voluntary.** Special benefits provided to self-employed individuals will mirror those currently available to salaried employees under the EI program.

The self-employed previously had little or no income protection to cope with major life events, such as giving birth, caring for a newborn or newly adopted child, being sick or injured, or caring for a gravely-ill family member. Through this measure, we are now providing self-employed Canadians with greater peace of mind with respect to their

future financial security. It is just another way we are helping small-businesses — the job creators of our economy.

For more information, on the program, eligibility, benefits rates and the applications forms, please visit: servicecanada.gc.ca or call 1-800-OCANADA





MP Ed Holder speaking in the House of Commons.

Your Conservative Government Working For You For Five Years

On January 23rd 2006, Canadians voted for a change in Government. Since that day five years ago, our Conservative Government has served Canadians proudly and delivered important results for all Canadians. Thanks to the leadership and hard work of our Conservative Government Caucus, taxes are lower, families are stronger and more secure, our streets and communities are safer, and the Canadian economy is continuing its recovery out of the worst recession the world has faced in several generations.

Since forming Government, we have a strong record of getting things done. Our Conservative Government has:

- Introduced and implemented the Economic Action Plan in response to the global economic recession. As a result all the jobs lost during the recession have been regained along with new jobs.
- Cut taxes in 120 areas, including reducing the GST to 5%, allowing pension income splitting for Seniors, and reducing taxes on job creators. As a result, Tax Freedom Day comes 18 days sooner, and we are on track to have the lowest taxes for job creators in the G7. **For more information on our tax cuts, please visit www.edholdermp.ca/taxes.**
- Strengthened the financial security of Canadian families through the Universal Child Care Benefit, the Child Tax Benefit, and the Children's Fitness Tax Credit. **As a result of tax changes, the average family of four pays \$3,000 less in tax every year.**
- Toughened our laws and strengthened our justice system to make our streets and communities safer. As a result of our actions, over 20 tough new laws are on the books, including the Tackling Violent Crime Act, ending the Faint Hope Clause, the Truth in Sentencing Act and better laws to fight organized crime.

While we have delivered results for Canadians over the past five years, there is still much more to be done. **With the economic recovery still fragile, we will continue to focus on creating jobs and economic growth through our low-tax agenda as we plan the next phase of Canada's Economic Action Plan**

INVESTING IN RECREATION

The City of London received funding from the federal and provincial governments towards their multi-million dollar playing fields upgrade project. The upgrade project replaced the playing fields with artificial turf and facilitated the construction of a Field House.

The **Westmount Presbyterian Church** received federal and provincial funding towards their upgrade project. Their project revived a 40-year-old facility by removing a stage and turning an auditorium into a gymnasium with improved lighting, increased floor space, a new athletic floor with markings, storage areas and playing nets.

“This funding created jobs now and will improve the quality of life in London for many years to come. Together with the provincial government and our partners, we are building a healthier London with **\$13.5 million of economic stimulus spending in recreational facilities**. I’m pleased so many worthwhile projects in London received funding...

- ☑ **London Optimist Sports Centre** for a new indoor soccer facility (\$2,000,000)
- ☑ **City of London:** Replacement of sports field with artificial turf and construction of a Field House (\$1,970,100)
- ☑ **City of London : North East Pool -** Rehabilitate Pool (\$1,386,000)
- ☑ **YMCA of London** Centre Branch Renewal (\$1,200,000)
- ☑ **Boys & Girls Club of London:** Capital Improvements (\$765,484)
- ☑ **City of London: Meredith Park -** Multi-Sport Courts (\$231,000)
- ☑ **Upper Thames River Conservation Authority:** Fanshawe Conservation Area Campground Splash Pad (\$95,700)
- ☑ **Westmount Presbyterian Church:** gymnasium renovation and expansion (\$19,200)
- ☑ **London Curling Club:** replacement lighting for ice area (\$10,000)
- ☑ **London Curling Club:** replace three second floor windows (\$6,000)

“A very heartfelt thank-you...for helping us secure the infrastructure funds. This capital renovation project will help us to continue to serve those most in need in the London community, our children and youth, and their families.”

-Boys & Girls Club of London Foundation

CONTACT INFORMATION



Ed Holder and Prime Minister Stephen Harper at the Brier in London.

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Ottawa postage-free)

**Please visit us on
the internet at
www.edholdermp.ca**

Your Opinion Matters...

I am continually approached by people who tell me that they always vote based on the candidate and others who say they always vote for a party no matter the candidate. I am interested to know what you think.

YES

NO

Do you think Canada benefits from having a party-based House of Commons?

Do you generally vote for the party on the ballot over the candidate on the ballot?

Do you think independent candidates have a fair chance of being elected?

Should political parties should get a \$2 per year subsidy for each vote the receive?

Thank you for completing and returning this survey.

What do you think of the job **Prime Minister Stephen Harper and the Conservative Party** are doing?

- Excellent
- Good
- Poor

What do you think of the job **Michael Ignatieff and the Liberal Party** are doing?

- Excellent
- Good
- Poor

What do you think of the job **Jack Layton and the New Democratic Party** are doing?

- Excellent
- Good
- Poor

What do you think of the job your **Member of Parliament Ed Holder** is doing?

- Excellent
- Good
- Poor

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