

# JONATHAN WILKINSON

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT, NORTH VANCOUVER

FALL 2018

## North Vancouver Constituent Update

### Fall is Here

It's hard to believe that fall is here and the school year is well underway. For families with school-aged children in North Vancouver, this is an incredibly busy time of year.

It is also a busy time for Members of Parliament. Fall brings commencement of the House of Commons – which means MPs are required to be in Ottawa three weeks out of every four for the next several months.

As you may be aware, in mid-July I was honoured to be asked by Prime Minister Trudeau to take on the role of Minister of Fisheries and Oceans and Minister Responsible for the Canadian Coast Guard. This is a very significant responsibility – one that I take very seriously. My primary responsibility however remains that of being your representative as MP for North Vancouver.

While my travel schedule will certainly be more intense going forward, I will continue to be in North Vancouver most Fridays and weekends - and a good portion of the one week in four that the House of Commons is not sitting.

With regard to my new role in the federal Cabinet, I have been tasked with working to enhance conservation of our three oceans and other bodies of water in this country and to ensure effective management of fisheries from coast to coast. The role of Fisheries and Oceans Minister contains both very significant environmental and economic imperatives. It is a portfolio that is highly relevant to British Columbia and to North Vancouver.



*Being asked by the Prime Minister to serve in Cabinet.*

### SOME OF THE KEY PRIORITIES ASSIGNED TO ME BY PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU INCLUDE:

- Implement and further develop the Oceans Protection Plan including working to protect species at risk such as the Southern Resident Killer Whales.
- Develop new and innovative approaches to modernize fisheries and aquaculture and responsible economic development on all three coasts.
- Co-lead the implementation of the G7 Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities and the G7 Ocean Plastics Charter with a particular focus on plastics, illegal and unreported and unregulated fishing, and ocean monitoring.
- Renew the Coast Guard fleet by outfitting it with the vessels that will allow it to continue carrying out its mission of ensuring the safety of Canada's navigable waters, maintain commercial shipping routes, defend Canada's sovereignty, and support scientific exploration.
- Work with the Government of British Columbia to secure a healthy future for Pacific salmon, with concrete deliverables by 2019, the International Year of the Salmon.
- Work with my federal colleagues to formalize the moratorium on crude oil tanker traffic on British Columbia's North Coast, including the Dixon Entrance, Hecate Strait, and Queen Charlotte Sound.
- Ensure effective use of research resulting from restored federal funding for freshwater research, federal ocean science and monitoring programs, protection of fish stocks, and the monitoring of contaminants and pollution in our oceans.

# Our Constituency Office Door is Always Open

Over the past three years, my Constituency Office team and I have been working hard to ensure that our office is a welcoming place – one that is focused on providing constituents with the help and support they need.

Since our office opened in November 2015, we have seen a steady increase in constituent engagement. My team and I have worked hard to try to ensure timely and comprehensive responses to all phone, email, or in-person inquiries/issues/concerns.

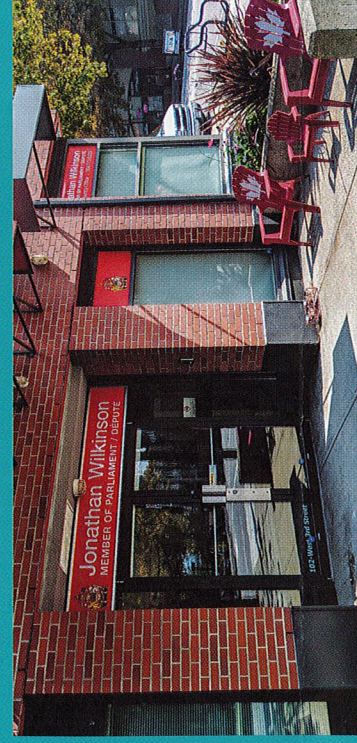
In 2018 alone we have already addressed more than 34,000 emails, 3,200 phone calls, and over 1,300 walk-in inquiries. We have resolved over 700 individual case files since opening our doors in October 2015 and have another 200 active cases currently being addressed. These case files can range from visitor visa applications to Canada Revenue Agency disputes and everything in-between.

Managing expectations is important – we cannot commit to solving every problem – but we can obtain relevant information, clarify a confused situation and often nudge things along.

Given the growth in the volume of activity our office has been receiving, we recently revised our office structure to ensure we will be able to keep up with demand and continue to provide exceptional service moving forward.

## My new Constituency team includes:

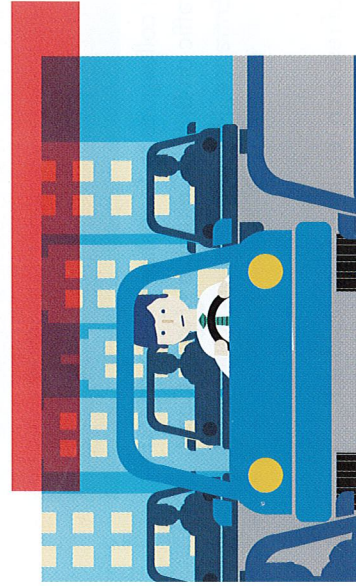
Victoria Constituency Director  
Braden Constituency Communications and Outreach Manager  
Ward Caseworker  
Cynthia Office Administrator



Constituents who have comments or concerns should very much feel free to reach out to our office in person (at 102 – 3rd St. West) or by calling 604-775-6333.

## Report on North Shore Transportation

Over the past several months, I have been meeting regularly with local stakeholders, First Nations and representatives from all levels of government as part of the Integrated North Shore Transportation Planning Project (INSTPP). Together we have been working collaboratively to establish a clear path forward on how to best improve transportation on the North Shore.



In mid-September the INSTPP Steering Committee released a much-anticipated report which can be read online at INSTPP.ca. I would highly encourage anyone who is concerned about transportation issues on the North Shore

to read this report and review the data and proposed recommendations.

**“...ensure ongoing coordination and collaboration, and targeted improvements to transit, roads, cycling and pedestrian travel.”**

The INSTPP report does not pretend to provide a single golden solution to the complex web of challenges that comprise the North Shore’s congestion issue – because there isn’t one. Instead, the report recommends a series of actions that should be taken over the next two years that includes an inter-agency governance structure to ensure ongoing coordination and collaboration, and targeted improvements to transit, roads, cycling and pedestrian travel.

In the near term, those improvements include expedited incident clearing from North Shore bridges, an express bus service via the Ironworkers Memorial Bridge to connect with Skytrain in Burnaby, and bus priority measures including signal coordination and access to bridgeheads.

The report also takes off the table a number of long-discussed options

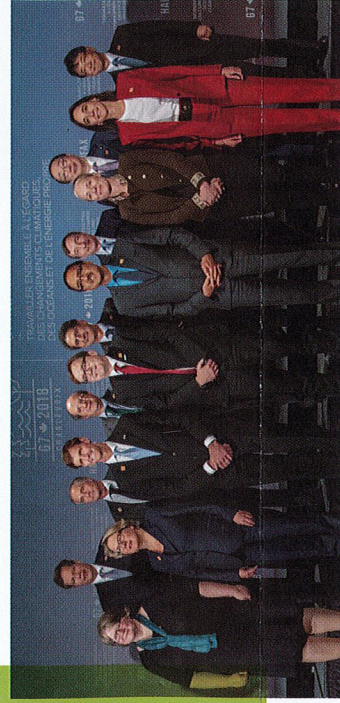
evaluated as not feasible – such as adding more lanes to the Lions Gate and Second Narrows bridges (structural limitations), creating bus-only lanes on the bridges (would create more congestion than they relieve), and adapting the CN Rail bridge to include transit and cycling (it’s most often in the raised position to accommodate marine traffic).

But the report’s real value is that it represents an important and long overdue level of cooperation, collaboration

and commitment among all levels of government and agencies charged with fixing our transportation challenges. I am optimistic that this cooperation will continue and extend beyond transportation to the range of issues affecting continued liveability on the North Shore.

# Canada Hosts the G7

In September, I, along with my colleagues Amarjeet Sohi, Minister of Natural Resources, and Catherine McKenna, Minister of Environment and Climate Change, hosted a G7 Ministerial Summit on Climate Change, Oceans and Clean Energy. One in five Canadians live in communities along our coasts and over 300,000 jobs are directly tied to the marine sector. Our Government recognizes that a prosperous economy depends on healthy and sustainable oceans, here in Canada and around the world.



The G7 Ministerial Summit in Halifax continued the work initiated by Prime Minister Trudeau and other world leaders at the Charlevoix Summit in Quebec earlier this year. At the Ministerial Meetings, Canada announced new measures aimed at protecting our oceans and enhancing sustainability. These measures include:

- Signing on to the “Global Ghost Gear Initiative” – an international alliance working to rid the world’s oceans of millions of tonnes of discarded fishing equipment, a major cause of plastics pollution in the world’s oceans
- Investing ~\$11.5M to help combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing around the world, and
- Committing to: divert at least 75 per cent of the plastic waste from federal government operations by 2030; a \$65M investment to an international fund to address plastic waste in developing countries; and a \$12M investment in made-in-Canada innovative approaches and technologies to help stop the flow of plastics to the oceans.

## Real Economic Progress

Our government was elected in 2015 on a platform focused on strengthening the short and long term prospects for the Canadian economy and improving the economic condition of middle-class Canadians. This plan included: significant investments in infrastructure; implementation of the Canada Child Benefit and improvements in the Guaranteed Income Supplement and the Canada Pension Plan; investments in public transit; in social housing and in daycare; and key investments in economic building blocks – including superclusters and clean tech.

If you examine key indicators relating to current and future economic performance, it is clear that our Government’s plan is working. Canada’s economic performance has been very strong – on both absolute and relative bases. Canada leads all G7 countries in GDP growth and data shows that the benefits of this growth are being broadly distributed. According to recent data, the typical middle-class Canadian family of four is now approximately \$2,000 better off than it was in 2015.

Progress for the Middle Class	
	FALL 2015    SUMMER 2018
Unemployment Rate	7.1% → 6.0% Over half-a-million new full-time jobs
Wage Growth	1.4% → 2.9% Higher wages for middle class workers
Consumer Confidence	91 → 118 More confidence in their financial position
Business Investment	Down 6 consecutive quarters → Up 6 consecutive quarters Rebound in business investment

## Lions Gate Wastewater Treatment Plant Groundbreaking

On August 31st, I was very pleased to take part in the official ground-breaking ceremony for the new Lions Gate Wastewater Treatment Plant. This announcement was the culmination of significant work on the part of federal, provincial and municipal governments. The \$700M facility will ensure better protection of our marine ecosystems as it will significantly improve the quality of wastewater discharged into the environment.

A big thanks to the North Shore municipalities, provincial government, Metro Vancouver, and local First Nations for working so collaboratively with federal representatives to make this vital project a reality.





Fishing with my youngest daughter – something we have happily done as father-daughter since she and her sister were four years old.

Celebrating 50 years at Capilano University's 50th Birthday Celebration. Congratulations on such a remarkable milestone!



## Recent Highlights



Meeting this year's Capilano University Students' Union. Looking forward to working together this school year.

Out on the water with members of the Canadian Coast Guard. A big thank you to all Coast Guard staff for their dedication to protecting Canadians and our coastal waters.



As a part of the G7 meetings in Halifax, we convened a group of leaders to discuss how we can get more youth and women to take part in the economic potential of our oceans.



Working alongside representatives from all levels of government and local First Nations to improve transportation on the North Shore. Learn more at [INSTPPCA](http://INSTPPCA)

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