

# JONATHAN WILKINSON

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT, NORTH VANCOUVER-CAPILANO

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North Vancouver Constituent Update



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## Shifting into a promising, productive era – together

The 2025 federal election was highly competitive, with the Liberal Party securing just 2.4% more votes than the Conservatives. Liberals dominated Atlantic Canada, Quebec and the North, while the Conservatives led across the Prairies. In Ontario and BC, the two parties were nearly evenly split, and rural-urban voting patterns varied significantly within most provinces. **Given these outcomes, Canada presently faces a pivotal question:**

**How can we ensure that the country pulls together in these testing times?**

If politicians succumb to partisan divisions, ideological battles, and turf disputes instead of focusing on real solutions, Canada risks deepening fractures at a moment when unity is essential. It is no secret that President Trump seeks a weaker, divided Canada. Rather than playing into that agenda, Canadian leaders must work together as we confront economic aggression and existential threats to our nation.

Canadians should expect political leaders to identify key areas for collaboration and set aside partisan divisions—at least during this unprecedented moment—to make tough decisions that strengthen our economy, invest in national security, and safeguard our sovereignty.

**Liberals and Conservatives can find common ground on several shared priorities: eliminating interprovincial trade barriers, investing in export infrastructure, leveraging clean and conventional energy resources, supporting the military, building more housing, and expanding trade with reliable global partners.**



### REASONS FOR OPTIMISM

**Despite challenges posed by President Trump's leadership, there are reasons for optimism.**

Over the past months, Canadians have deepened their appreciation for national values, strengthening their commitment to protecting what makes Canada unique.

Managing our complex conversation with the U.S. requires a coordinated strategy that embraces economic growth, productivity, climate action, and resilience.

- **Eliminating interprovincial trade barriers** will drive economic growth and expand opportunity at home.
- **Strengthening trade beyond North America** will reduce reliance on the U.S. while fostering economic independence.
- **Investments in clean energy, manufacturing, and technology** can enhance Canada's global competitiveness.
- **A diversified economy, robust infrastructure, and forward-thinking leadership** will position Canada to thrive, even amid shifting geopolitical dynamics.

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## BOLD NATIONAL PROJECTS

This is a time of great challenge—but also great possibility. Canadians have a proud history of rising to meet significant challenges with ambition and determination. Whether building a transcontinental railway, standing strong in two world wars, or pioneering universal healthcare, Canadians have united behind bold national projects before.

**Now is the moment to embrace perhaps our most ambitious project yet – transforming Canada’s economy into one that is more resilient, sustainable, and less reliant on any single partner.**



At a time when Canada faces serious challenges, it is imperative that Canadians, regardless of political affiliation, come together with grit, optimism, and unwavering resolve to protect our nation and secure its future.

I am, above all, a Canadian. This country is the best in the world, and it is worth defending.

**We can do this.**

## We’re Here to Help

Following the recent federal election in which you re-elected me to be the Member of Parliament for the riding of North Vancouver Capilano, **I wanted to express my thanks to the people of this riding for your trust and support.**

As your Member of Parliament, one of the most important services my office provides is helping constituents navigate federal programs and services – from immigration to pensions to the CRA. Since I was first elected in 2015, our constituency team has assisted thousands of residents with challenges that can often feel overwhelming, confusing, even life-altering.



Immigration questions, in particular, can be complex and emotional. Over the years, our office has supported nearly 5,000 individuals and families facing uncertainty, delay, or hardship while waiting for immigration decisions. That demand has only grown in recent years, with the effects of the pandemic and new international crises increasing the number of people in need of support.

Our team of dedicated caseworkers currently manages some 450 active files. While we cannot influence decision-making directly, we can help guide you through the process, clarify information and communicate with federal departments as necessary.

### Here’s how we can support you:

- **Request general updates on immigration files** (refugee, PR, citizenship, visas, permits)
- **Provide resources on immigration** pathways and federal programs
- **Clarify certain decisions made by IRCC**
- **Issue letters** of support in specific cases
- **Assist in emergencies involving urgent humanitarian needs**
- **Provide support in navigating things like CRA, OAS, GIC**

I would note, however, that we can only assist constituents who live within our riding. Similar services are offered by other MPs through their constituency offices.

Our office is committed to compassionate, professional service. Whether it’s a stalled application or a need for clarity, our team is here to ensure you’re not facing these challenges alone.

**If you or someone you know is in need of assistance with a federal matter, don’t hesitate to reach out – we’re here to help.**

# A Canada Day like no other

Canada Day 2025 is poised to become one of the most historically significant celebrations in Canada's history – a day marked not only by national pride but also by a profound re-examination of Canada's identity in response to the evolving relationship with our southern neighbor.

For decades, Canada Day symbolized unity, diversity, and the peaceful, progressive values that define Canada. However, this year, the underlying tone of the celebration shifted.

The policies advanced by the Trump administration, characterized by aggressive tariffs, unilateral economic measures, and the controversial Project 2025 agenda, have disrupted long-established trade and diplomatic ties between Canada and the United States. There is no turning back to the level of trust we once enjoyed.

This growing awareness promises to transform Canada Day into more than the celebration of a national holiday but also a day for reflection on what it means to be truly independent in an era of fractious international politics.



## SPIRIT OF JUSTICE AND EQUALITY

Through times of uncertainty, Canadians have repeatedly shown that our spirit is not dictated by external influences but rather rooted in our own principles of justice and equality.

Whether navigating diplomatic challenges or realigning trade agreements, the Canadian government continues to respond with level-headed pragmatism and a steady hand, ensuring national interests remain protected while reinforcing relationships with allies across the globe.

**In the face of the Trump administration's polarizing policies, Canada's government stands firm in its commitments to values that define our nation – inclusivity, diplomacy, and unwavering resilience.**

**Our measured but determined response is reinforcing our country's reputation as a beacon of stability.**

## INSPIRING MOSAIC

On July 1, millions of Canadians gathered not just to celebrate the flag, but to affirm our place in a world that demands integrity and leadership.

The celebrations were an inspiring mosaic – melding traditional displays of Canadian pride with contemporary narratives of resilience and self-reliance.

**From Indigenous communities leading conversations on reconciliation to newcomers proudly calling this land home, Canada Day 2025 was a symbol of hope – proof that nations thrive when they honour their differences and stand resilient in the face of change.**

This renewed expression of national identity and patriotism reflects a deeper consensus among Canadians – a determination to maintain an independent path, even when faced with the external pressures imposed by current American politics.

**The legacy of this turbulent period is set to redefine Canadian patriotism for years to come, ensuring that each subsequent Canada Day carries the indelible mark of a nation that chooses unity and resilience over division and concession.**



## North Shore nature attracts world-renowned researcher

I am often surprised by some of the individuals I become aware of in this job, who live and work on the North Shore – not only because they are friendly, accomplished and thoughtful. **So many have done amazing things and yet live quietly and humbly among us.**

**Right here in our North Shore community, Dr. Biruté Mary Galdikas continues to pursue her work with those she calls the 'Buddhists' of the primate world – orangutans in Indonesian Borneo.**

Constituents of a certain generation may remember the cutting-edge work done in primate research by three protégées of Dr. Louis Leakey, the world-renowned paleoanthropologist whose discoveries broadened our concept of human evolution.

It was three remarkable women – Jane Goodall, Dian Fossey and Biruté Galdikas - who set out to deepen our understanding of the great apes – chimpanzees, mountain gorillas and orangutans – with unparalleled field research.

**"I got to know Jane; I got to know Dian. We bonded in sisterhood."**



Her journey began in Toronto, where, as a child of Lithuanian immigrants, she would gaze at the stars and ponder humanity's place in the universe. At just twelve, a photograph of a young orangutan captured her imagination and set her on a path that would lead to the heart of the Indonesian jungle. Supported by Dr. Leakey, she embarked on her PhD thesis fieldwork in 1971, establishing Camp Leakey and forging a bond with the orangutans that would last a lifetime.

"I lived there almost full time for 20 years or so. That first trip, an official of the Nature Protection Agency of the Indonesian Forestry Ministry escorted me from Jakarta to Borneo, it was so remote."



Biruté was first featured on the cover of National Geographic Magazine in 1975 and then again in 1981 – the iconic photo of her son, Binti, in a bucket with an infant orangutan, one of the many orphans that she and her team rehabilitated over the 54 years she has been pursuing this research.

"Now, we have 250 Indonesian staff doing direct work with orangutans. As well, we do replanting, rewilding, education programs and patrols in the national park. We have watched the wild population change and adapt. It is time-consuming work; it took me 15 years to gain the trust of one particular orangutan."

It was also in 1981 that Simon Fraser University offered Dr. Galdikas a tenured professorship, allowing her to teach in one semester and spend the rest of the year with her research team in Indonesia. She continues to teach courses in human evolution and primate behaviour, and conducts seminars in primatology.

Looking into the face of an orangutan is "like looking into an ancient mirror," says Biruté. "If chimpanzees are our brothers and sisters, orangutans are our uncles and aunts. They are who we once were – we would do well to remind ourselves of this. They have a serenity; they think before they act. They are extraordinary and they are our kin."

**How did she end up on the North Shore?** After years in Coquitlam, Biruté settled more recently in a home in Deep Cove that overlooks the inlet.

"I find the community very friendly; people are mindful. It's an easy place to interact. And I really appreciate the natural world - having bears in the yard, skunks, racoons."

**"We may not always realize how fortunate we are; I am so grateful. We need to appreciate what we have here.** There is no magic wand to fix things; we live, and we die, we get sick and get old. So do orangutans. We would do well to remember this: that we are not alone in the world, or outside of nature."

I am so very grateful to Dr. Galdikas for her time and her dedication to the preservation of our kin, the orangutans. Biruté and her colleagues have established Orangutan Foundation International Canada, to enable Canadians to support the continued work of orangutan conservation and care in Borneo.

# Time to reflect and appreciate

**While you voted me in as your MP in the most recent election, on May 13, I did not stand among those being sworn in as members of Canada's new Cabinet.** Though my tenure as a Minister ends, the privilege of serving this country over the past decade remains one of the greatest honours of my life.

**Serving as Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard, Minister of Environment and Climate Change, and most recently Minister of Energy and Natural Resources,** my journey in public service has been an enormous honour and privilege shaped by an unwavering belief in Canada's potential.

**I deeply love this country and believe without hesitation that this is the best country in the world.** Our collective history is a testament to resilience and progress, and our shared future depends on a continued commitment to making this country stronger, more inclusive, and ever better.

As the son of parents who spent their lives in service of others – a social worker and a community development worker – instilled in me is the conviction that communities must be built with the intent of leaving no one behind. That principle has shaped my own career, as I have sought to serve the broader well-being of the communities I cherish.

I fundamentally believe governments should work to enable citizens to pursue their dreams and aspirations – to foster an environment where opportunity is not a privilege, but a right, thus ensuring access to things like quality public education and universal health care – cornerstones of a just society.

But opportunity also rests on economic strength. Wealth must be created, not merely redistributed. A thriving economy fuels programs and protections that define our way of life. And in the long run, no economy – no society – can flourish without an unwavering commitment to environmental sustainability.

**I stepped into politics in 2015 because I believed in the power of good public policy to shape the future.** As a former CEO in the environmental technology space and a parent of young children, I felt an urgent responsibility to ensure Canada faced the climate crisis with thoughtful but decisive action.

**Through my time in Cabinet, I worked to drive meaningful change across a range of policy areas – including climate. There are a number of specific moments that underscore why I've found these past several years profoundly worthwhile.**

## Fisheries and Oceans Achievements:

- Expanded marine protected areas from 1% in 2015 to nearly 14% by 2019;
- Reopened the Kitsilano Coast Guard Base;
- Modernized the Coast Guard fleet – with most of the key work being done at Seaspans in BC;
- Launched the Canada Whales Initiative (\$167M) to protect threatened species;
- Created the BC Salmon Restoration & Innovation Fund (\$100M federal investment);
- Announced the end of open-net salmon aquaculture in BC;
- Strengthened the Fisheries Act by passing Bill C-68.

## Environment Achievements:

- Developed Canada's strengthened climate plan – **A Healthy Environment and a Healthy Economy** – the first in Canadian history to detail how to achieve and significantly exceed our climate targets;
- Developed and passed the **Net Zero Emissions Accountability Act** – requiring all future federal governments to have transparent and effective climate plans and review advice from an independent advisory body;
- Launched the **Canada Water Agency initiative**;
- Established the **\$50M Old Growth Fund**, later part of the \$1B BC Nature Agreement;
- Secured a historic conservation agreement to protect **Southern Mountain Caribou** in partnership with local First Nations;
- Amended the **Canadian Environmental Protection Act** to enshrine the Right to a Healthy Environment.

## Energy and Natural Resources Achievements:

- Developed a **low-carbon economic strategy**, attracting billions in investment;
- Created **Investment Tax Credits** to drive clean energy investment and innovation;
- Launched **Canada's first national electricity strategy** for clean, reliable and affordable power;
- Established the **Critical Minerals Strategy** with an initial \$3.8B in funding;
- Advanced **Canada's Hydrogen Strategy** and the Small Modular Reactor Action Plan;
- Designed a **roadmap for oil and gas sector decarbonization and competitiveness**;
- Established the **Indigenous Loan Guarantee Program**;
- Passed the **federal Sustainable Jobs Bill** and interim Sustainable Jobs Plan (2023-2025);
- Passed **Bill C-49 to unlock the enormous economic potential of offshore wind development** in Nova Scotia and Newfoundland and Labrador.

**We measure our time by the impact we have had. Serving as a Cabinet Minister is an extraordinary privilege – one that demands significant sacrifice, especially from family. As I reflect from my role as MP, I am deeply at peace with the choices I've made.**

I know, with certainty, that my work has left a lasting mark on this country and contributed to shaping a better world. The opportunity to serve Canadians in this way has been nothing short of an honour – one that I cherish.

I want to thank Prime Ministers Trudeau and Carney for entrusting me with this responsibility. Above all, I want to thank the residents of North and West Vancouver. Four times, you have placed your trust in me to represent your interests and lead with purpose here in the riding and on the national and international stages.

**It has been and remains the privilege of a lifetime.**



Celebrating with NV Chamber 2025 Board of Directors

MONOVA hosts historical walking tours of The Shipyards



MP staff learn about Tsleil Waututh culture out on the water

# In The Community

Lots to do in the dog days of summer!



CNV invasive species team ready for work



Kudos to Hollybrook affordable housing in DNV

Through the Garden Gate opening at NV Arts



Visiting the new Fulmer Family Centre at CapU



Rest and restore and be ready for what the future brings.  
Our office is always there to serve you.



-  [Jonathan.Wilkinson@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Jonathan.Wilkinson@parl.gc.ca)
-  [@JonathanWNV](https://twitter.com/JonathanWNV)
-  [JonathanWilkinsonNorthVancouver](https://www.facebook.com/JonathanWilkinsonNorthVancouver)
-  [@JonathanWNV](https://www.instagram.com/JonathanWNV)

[www.jonathanwilkinson.libparl.ca](http://www.jonathanwilkinson.libparl.ca)

**COMMUNITY OFFICE**  
#201–310 East Esplanade, North Vancouver, BC V7L 1A4  
(604) 775-6333

**HILL OFFICE**  
Confederation Building, Room 807,  
House of Commons, Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6  
(613) 995-1225