

MP Report Card – Part 3: National/International Impact



The New Year has certainly come in with a bang.

President Trump is making noise about tariffs on Canada – the United States’ closest friend and ally.

Justin Trudeau has stepped down – and a leadership race for a new Liberal Party leader and a new Prime Minister for our country has begun.

I am very involved in talks with the United States – but this month’s column is my final in the “MP Report Card” series.

Impact

The key reason most elected officials say they run for office is to “make a difference.” But how should I measure success? One approach is to assess impact. In this last part of my report card, I’m sharing thoughts on some of the impacts I have had on your behalf at the national and international levels.



In 2014, I left the private sector where I worked as a clean tech executive to run as the Member of Parliament for North Vancouver. I was motivated to try to make a difference generally, but perhaps most principally in three areas: biodiversity, climate change and economic growth.

I continue to believe that these matters are inextricably linked and must be addressed concurrently. They are concerns that extend beyond electoral boundaries into national and international arenas.

Fortunately for me, the opportunity and the privilege to serve – as Parliamentary Secretary for Environment and Climate Change, then as Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, Minister of Environment and Climate Change and now, as Minister of Energy and Natural Resources – has provided gateways for impact I might not otherwise have had. Here is a selection of key areas of progress:

Protecting Biodiversity

- ✓ As Minister of Environment and Climate Change, I was gratified to develop and sign an historic conservation agreement with BC and the Squamish and West Moberly First Nations to protect and conserve Southern Mountain caribou, whose herds are now among the few in BC whose populations are actually growing.
- ✓ As Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, I worked to implement the Oceans Protection Plan, protecting 25% of our oceans by 2025 and 30% by 2030. We made major progress on marine protected spaces – increasing from 1% in 2015 to almost 14% by 2019.
- ✓ Amended the Canadian Environmental Protection Act to provide for the Right to a Healthy Environment.



Low-carbon alternatives at Lonsdale Energy in North Vancouver

Reducing Canada’s greenhouse gas emissions

- ✓ Developed and released Canada’s strengthened climate plan – *Healthy Environment & Healthy Economy* – the first plan in Canadian history to show in detail how to not only achieve our climate targets but to significantly exceed them.
- ✓ Developed, introduced 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.
- ✓ Joined the Global Methane Pledge to reduce methane emissions by 30% below 2020 levels by 2030; developed Canada’s Clean Fuel Regulations and implemented world-leading methane regulations.

Adapting to the impacts of climate change

- ✓ Participated in developing Canada’s National Adaptation Strategy.
- ✓ Developed the Wildfire Resilient Futures Initiative, with \$285M to invest in new programs and activities to reduce wildland fire risk in Canadian communities through FireSmart, building and mobilizing foundational wildland fire knowledge, and establishing a national Centre of Excellence.
- ✓ Launched the process to create the Canada Water Agency.
- ✓ Advanced the development of flood maps in high-risk areas.

Positioning Canada’s economy to thrive in a post-carbon world

- ✓ Developed and implemented a resource-enabled, low-carbon economic strategy for Canada, encouraging tens of billions of dollars of investment announcements across the country.
- ✓ With the Minister of Finance developed Investment Tax Credits as a key tool to catalyze investment, jobs and prosperity as we move into a lower-carbon world.
- ✓ Developed and published the Roadmap for the Decarbonization of Canada’s Oil and Gas Sector, a framework to decarbonize, diversify and enhance competitiveness in the oil and gas sector.
- ✓ Established the Indigenous Loan Guarantee Program.



Clean hydrogen in Newfoundland

- ✓ Introduced and passed the federal Sustainable Jobs Bill and developed and published Canada’s interim Sustainable Jobs Plan (2023-2025) – concrete federal actions to advance economic prosperity and sustainable jobs in every region of the country.

Diversifying Canada’s energy supply

- ✓ **Electricity** – Developed and published Canada’s first national electricity strategy, advancing the Government of Canada’s role in Canada’s expanded clean, reliable and affordable electricity system.
- ✓ Helped secure over \$40B in federal investment for the electricity sector, including over \$20B via Clean Electricity Investment Tax Credits; \$10B



Protecting Killer Whales in the Salish Sea

through Canada Infrastructure Bank; \$3B for an expanded Smart Renewables and Electrification Pathway with 106 projects approved.

- ✓ **Nuclear** – Announced a \$900M Canada Infrastructure Bank investment in the Darlington Small Modular Reactor – Canada’s first commercial scale SMR project; brought forward a \$3B export finance package supporting construction of CANDU reactors in Romania.

- ✓ Implemented Canada’s SMR Action Plan to safely and responsibly advance the development and deployment of SMRs, including announcing the Enabling SMRs Program to support R&D work and develop SMR supply chains.

- ✓ **Hydrogen** – Implemented the Hydrogen Strategy for Canada.

- ✓ **Critical minerals** – Developed and secured \$3.8B in Budget 2021 for Canada’s Critical Minerals Strategy. Founded the Sustainable Critical Minerals Alliance with Japan, US, Australia, Germany and the UK for global alignment on sustainable, socially responsible mining practices in the critical minerals space.

Collaborating internationally on climate change and energy

- ✓ Co-led with Germany global efforts to reach a \$100B pledge for climate finance in lead-up to COP 26 (Glasgow).
- ✓ Launched the US-Canada High Level Ministerial Dialogue on Climate Ambition with former Special Presidential Envoy for Climate, John Kerry.
- ✓ Renewed the successful Canada-France Partnership on Climate and the Environment.
- ✓ Announced the creation of the Canada-Germany

Hydrogen Alliance in Stephenville, NS, to deliver Canadian clean hydrogen to Germany.

- ✓ Demonstrated leadership at the International Energy Agency, vice-chairing the 2024 IEA Ministerial; co-chairing the Task Force on Gas and Clean Fuels Market Monitoring and Supply Security to address energy security issues in Europe in the aftermath if the Russian invasion of Ukraine.



This Report Card isn’t meant to represent an exhaustive accounting, but rather to give you a sampling of some of the major areas in which I, as your MP, have been achieving positive change on your behalf.

In reviewing the last 9-plus years, I do feel that much has indeed been accomplished. But I am also very much aware of – and energized by – the fact that there remains much to do – I assure you, I am on the job.



Solar array in Alberta