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Canada's "Most Liveable City": pride, paradox, and possibility

The North Shore has been close to my heart for many years now. So, seeing North Vancouver named Canada's most liveable city by The Globe and Mail earlier this month for the second year in a row is both exciting and well-earned.

This didn't happen by luck - it's the result of years of smart choices by local governments, community leaders, and residents who've put liveability at the heart of how we've grown.

When North Vancouver tops national rankings, it speaks to what we value. We've protected the nature around us, built walkable, connected neighbourhoods, and shown that growth and sustainability can go hand in hand.

But, while we celebrate this recognition, we also need to acknowledge that being named "most liveable" doesn't mean everyone feels that liveability.

For too many young families, seniors, and local workers, housing costs remain a daily struggle. True liveability isn't just about the views; it's about being able to find a home near where you work, getting around affordably and efficiently, and feeling you belong in your community.

Compliment and challenge

These back-to-back honours from The Globe and Mail should therefore be read as both a compliment and a challenge.

They affirm that the North Shore has been a Canadian leader in aligning environmental sustainability, economic opportunity, and quality of life. At the same time, they challenge us to continue leading - particularly on key issues including housing

attainability, reconciliation with Indigenous peoples, and adapting to a changing climate that is bringing more intense storms, wildfire smoke, and heat.

Ultimately, the strength of North Vancouver and the North Shore lies in its people. It lies in the neighbourhood associations who push for safer streets and better parks, the non-profits who support our most vulnerable neighbours, and the businesses who take a chance on the commercial streets of Lonsdale, Edgemont, Deep Cove, Lynn Valley, Ambleside and beyond. It lies in the conversations - sometimes difficult, often passionate - that we have about what kind of community we want to be.

My role in Ottawa

In Ottawa, my role as your Member of Parliament is to make sure the federal government is a real partner in building the kind of community we want. That means better transit so more people can truly rely on new rapid buses and enhanced SeaBus service instead of cars. It means supporting housing projects that add gentle density in our established neighbourhoods while respecting the character that people cherish. And it means backing local innovation - from clean tech to green construction to novel shipbuilding - that creates good jobs right here on the North Shore. Being named Canada's top city for the second year in a row is a recognition of what we have already built together. The real test is what we do next: ensuring that this "most liveable" city is truly liveable for everyone who calls it home today, and for those who hope to call it home tomorrow.

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