

JONATHAN WILKINSON

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT, NORTH VANCOUVER – CAPILANO



SUMMER 2026

CLICK HERE FOR LATEST UPDATES

Constituent Update – Final

HAPPY CANADA DAY!



Au revoir, friends and neighbours in North Vancouver – Capilano



On April 30 2026, the Prime Minister announced that I have accepted his invitation to serve as Canada's Ambassador to the European Union. This is both an honour and a very emotional moment for me and my family, as it means that, by June 19, I will step down as your Member of Parliament after more than a decade serving you.

I left the private sector in 2015 because I believed public service was the best way for me to tackle the work that has defined much of my life: fighting climate change while building a thriving, low-carbon economy that creates opportunity in all regions of this country. I chose to run here because I believed North Vancouver-Capilano could help lead Canada – and that Canada could help lead the world – in that work. That belief is even stronger today than it was a decade ago.

Over these years, I have had the privilege of serving as your Member of Parliament and as Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard; Minister of Environment and Climate Change; and Minister of Energy and Natural Resources. Together, we have protected our coasts, advanced ambitious climate policy, supported major projects, and helped build a cleaner and more innovative Canadian economy that can compete and win. This work has demanded sacrifices, but I look back with real peace about the choices my family and I have made, and with pride in what we have accomplished together.



This decision was not easy. Representing this community and serving all Canadians at the Cabinet table has been the greatest honour of my professional life.

But 2026 is not 2015. The world has changed in fundamental ways, and Canada now faces new economic, geopolitical, and environmental tests. Our closest trading relationship has become less predictable, and we are being called to build greater resilience in our economy and international alliances. In this context, the Prime Minister has asked me to take on a different role in service to our country – one that looks outward but is still very much focused on protecting and advancing Canadians' interests.

CON'T ▼

My decision to accept this position is based on the same motivation that first brought me into public life: a commitment to Canada and a belief that, at this moment, this is where I can contribute most.

The European Union is one of Canada’s key partners – an economic and political bloc that shares our commitment to democracy, human rights, the rule of law, and multilateralism. It is already our second largest trading and investment partner, and through CETA, our Green Alliance, and the Strategic Partnership of the Future, we are further deepening our cooperation on trade, clean growth, and economic security. As Ambassador, my role will be to help ensure this partnership delivers concrete benefits for Canadian workers, businesses, and communities – including here on the North Shore.



Public service, at its core, is about answering when your country calls.

I have full confidence in the Prime Minister’s judgement about the challenges Canada faces and where I can best contribute. When he asked me to consider this role, I thought carefully about the sacrifices it would mean for my family and for this community, and about the unique opportunity to defend and advance Canadian values and interests at a time when the international order is under strain. Ultimately, I decided to accept not because I thought it would be easy, but because I believe it is important.

This role also matters profoundly for our security.

In a world of renewed great power competition, war in Europe, and accelerating climate impacts, the EU is a central security and defence partner for Canada. That is true in NATO, in the Arctic, in Ukraine, in cyber and economic security, and in our work to build energy and critical mineral supply chains that support Canadian jobs while reducing our dependence on authoritarian regimes. The Canadian Mission in Brussels is where trade, climate, energy, and security intersect – the very areas in which I have been privileged to serve our country in recent years.

Some may ask why am I leaving now, and why I am, for a time, leaving this community? I am not leaving because my attachment to this place has faded; in fact, it has only grown. North Vancouver-Capilano is where my children grew up and where Tara and I have built our lives. It is where, four times, you placed your trust in me to be your voice in Ottawa.

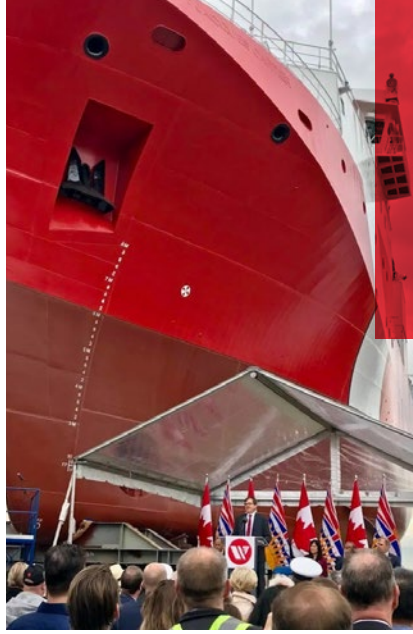
That trust has underpinned everything I have been able to do up to this point. I am accepting this new role because I believe that strengthening Canada’s position in Europe – on trade, climate, and security – is now one of the most important ways to protect the long-term interests of Canadians, including the people of this riding.

Until Parliament rises for the summer, I will continue to serve as your Member of Parliament, when a formal transition date will be set, and my seat is vacated. During this time, my constituency office will remain fully engaged, and I will keep working on the local and national issues that matter to you – from housing and transit to affordability and environmental protection. After my departure, there will be a by-election, and you will have the opportunity to choose the next person to carry your voice to Ottawa. I will not be a candidate in that contest, but I will always remain your neighbour and a proud member of this community.



I OWE THANKS TO MANY PEOPLE.

First and foremost, my wife, Tara, and our children, whose love, patience, and good humour have sustained me through long absences, late night votes, and the unrelenting pace of public life. I owe them more than I can ever fully express. Similarly, my parents and siblings, whose support through this past decade has been steadfast.



Thank you to the extraordinary staff and volunteers who have worked beside me over the years – in the constituency office, in my Ministerial offices, on my riding executive, and on multiple campaigns – and who have done so much to make sure that the people of North and West Vancouver were heard, helped, and well-served.

Thank you as well to my fellow MPs from all parties, who are united in their commitment to serving their communities, many of whom have become good friends.



Many thanks to the dedicated public servants I have worked with across three ministerial portfolios. I have learned from and greatly valued our work together. Canadians are fortunate to be served by so many thoughtful, committed people working every day to advance our country's interests.

And most of all, I want to thank you, the residents of this remarkable community, for entrusting me to represent you in the House of Commons and to bring the North Shore's voice to Ottawa. Together we have faced fires and floods, a global pandemic, and economic uncertainty. We have advanced reconciliation, worked to reduce poverty, and taken on vital questions of social justice. We have also laid a firm foundation for the immense task of transforming our economy in the face of climate change. Through it all, your engagement, candour, and belief that we can always do better have inspired me every single day.

I love this country more deeply than I can fully express. I believe, without a moment's hesitation, that Canada is the best country in the world – not because we are perfect, but because we face our flaws honestly and never stop trying to do better. Our story is one of resilience, of expanding rights, of building a more inclusive and fair society. Whether that continues will depend on our willingness to stand up for what we believe in at home and abroad: to defend democracy, advance reconciliation, confront the climate crisis, and build an economy that works for everyone.



Serving as your Member of Parliament and as a Minister in the Government of Canada has been the privilege of my life. Serving now as Canada's Ambassador to the European Union will be a different kind of privilege, but I will bring to it the same sense of duty, humility, and determination. I will carry the lessons, values, and voices of North Vancouver-Capilano into every room and every conversation in Brussels.



From the bottom of my heart, thank you for the trust you have placed in me, for your support, and for the countless ways you have shaped me as a representative and as a person. I will always be grateful, and I will always be proud to call this community – and this country – home.

Reflecting on Salmon Conservation Efforts

This past April, I had the honour of participating in an important announcement at the Capilano Fish Hatchery regarding continued funding for the Pacific Salmon Strategy Initiative (PSSI) – a proud moment that prompted reflection on my time as Minister at Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) and the work dedicated to supporting coastal communities and advancing salmon conservation.

The Pacific Salmon Strategy Initiative represents one of the most comprehensive and coordinated approaches this country has taken to address the complex challenges facing wild salmon. It recognizes that recovery cannot be achieved through isolated programs or short-term interventions. It requires sustained collaboration, strong science, and long-term investment – bringing together Indigenous Nations, federal and provincial governments, conservation organizations, industry, and local communities in a common effort.

Wild Pacific salmon have always been central to British Columbia's identity. These species are deeply embedded in the health of our ecosystems, the strength of our coastal and inland communities, and the cultural and spiritual traditions of Indigenous Nations who have stewarded these waters since time immemorial.

As I reflect on the work we have undertaken these last few years, few files stand out more than the collective effort to restore and protect Pacific salmon populations. It is through this work, requiring patience, partnership, and a shared understanding, that meaningful environmental outcomes are built over time.



BUILDING LONG-TERM RECOVERY EFFORTS

During my time as Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, I was proud to help establish the BC Salmon Restoration and Innovation Fund. The objective was clear: to support practical, science-based action that could directly improve outcomes for wild salmon. That included habitat restoration, enhanced monitoring and research, and support for innovative approaches to conservation and fisheries management. Over time, this work became integrated into the broader PSSI framework, strengthening the national approach to salmon recovery.

What has always stood out to me in this work is the importance of alignment — between science and policy, between funding and implementation, and between governments and the communities most directly connected to salmon. The strongest results have come when those elements are brought together in a coordinated way, with a shared commitment to outcomes in the water.

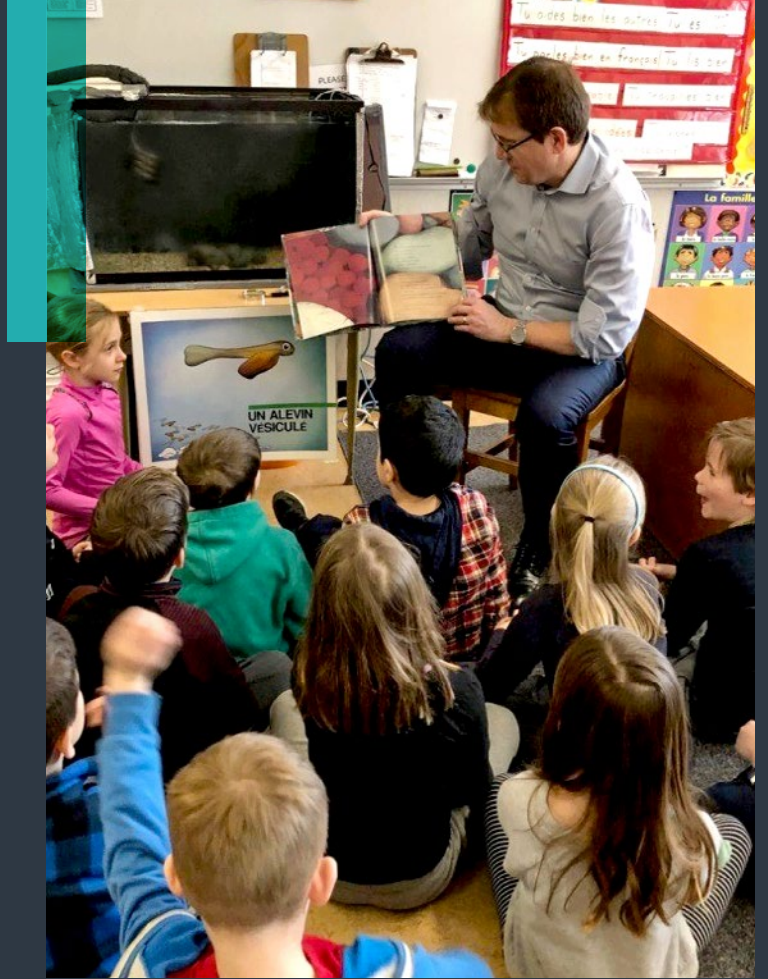
CONTINUED COMMITMENT THROUGH THE PSSI

The PSSI announcement earlier this year reflects that continued direction. It reinforces a sustained commitment to restoring salmon populations and supporting the ecosystems and communities that depend on them. It is also a reminder that this work is ongoing, and that progress is measured not in announcements alone, but in the health of rivers, watersheds, and coastal environments over time.

The challenges facing Pacific salmon remain significant. Climate change, habitat loss, changing ocean conditions, and increasing pressures on freshwater systems all require continued coordination and adaptability. Meeting these challenges requires not only sustained investment, but also the willingness to work across jurisdictions and sectors in a consistent and constructive way.

At the same time, there is meaningful progress to build on. Across British Columbia, there are tangible examples of restoration projects, community-led initiatives, and collaborative research efforts that are improving conditions for salmon and strengthening ecosystem resilience. These efforts demonstrate what is possible when long-term thinking is matched with collective action.

As I reflect on this body of work, I remain encouraged by the depth of partnership that has developed across the Pacific salmon file. It reflects a shared recognition that salmon are not just a resource, but a foundational part of who we are in this coastal province — and a responsibility we carry together.



LOOKING AHEAD

The work initiated through programs like the BC Salmon Restoration and Innovation Fund and advanced through the Pacific Salmon Strategy Initiative will continue to shape Canada’s approach to salmon recovery in the years ahead. It is work grounded in collaboration, informed by science, and strengthened by the contributions of communities across British Columbia.

**That foundation remains the most important outcome of all:
a coordinated, long-term commitment to ensuring that wild
Pacific salmon continue to thrive for generations to come.**



Supporting the Strength of Our Community



One of the greatest privileges of serving as Member of Parliament for North Vancouver–Capilano has been the opportunity to meet the people and organizations who steadily strengthen the fabric of our communities every single day.

Among these incredible organizations is North Shore Community Resources (NSCR), a longstanding and deeply respected non-profit organization whose work continues to make a meaningful difference in the lives of people across the North Shore.

Over the years, I have had the pleasure of meeting members of NSCR's dedicated team, and seeing firsthand the remarkable impact they have on our community. From supporting seniors wishing to age independently and with dignity, to assisting families, caregivers, and individuals navigating difficult circumstances, NSCR's work reaches people at every stage of life.

What stands out most, however, is not only the breadth of services they provide, but the compassionate and community-driven approach behind everything they do.

Their programs foster connection, inclusion, and resilience — values that are essential in building strong and healthy communities.

THE GROWING IMPORTANCE OF NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

Throughout my time in public service, I have also heard repeatedly from organizations across the North Shore that while their work has never been more essential, the pressures they face have also never been greater. Whether it is supporting seniors, assisting families in crisis, or helping newcomers build connections and access resources, organizations like NSCR form an invisible web of care that strengthens our entire community every single day.

As Nadir, Interim Executive Director at North Shore Community Resources, shared:

“ We are grateful for the ongoing support of MP Wilkinson, particularly through initiatives like the Canada Summer Jobs program. Each year, this program strengthens our ability to deliver key services while also creating valuable employment opportunities for young people to gain practical experience and build skills in the non-profit sector. We have also appreciated the support provided through the Age Well at Home initiative, which enabled us to deliver a two-year pilot project focused on supporting older adults to remain independent and well-supported in their homes. This investment has had a meaningful impact for seniors across the North Shore. ”



INVESTING IN YOUNG PEOPLE WITH CANADA SUMMER JOBS

I am especially proud that organizations like NSCR receive support through the Canada Summer Jobs program — a federal initiative that not only helps community organizations expand their capacity during busy months, but also provides young Canadians with meaningful work experience and opportunities to build valuable skills.

Year after year, Canada Summer Jobs helps connect motivated young people with organizations that are making a real difference in their communities. These positions often become far more than temporary summer employment; they help young people discover career paths, develop leadership skills, gain confidence, and build lasting connections within the non-profit and community service sectors. In many cases, these opportunities become the foundation for long-term and fulfilling careers dedicated to helping others.



Programs like Canada Summer Jobs are investments not only in youth employment, but in the future strength and resilience of our communities. When young people are given the opportunity to contribute meaningfully while learning from organizations like NSCR, the entire community benefits.

I want to sincerely thank the entire team at North Shore Community Resources – staff, volunteers, and community partners alike – for the extraordinary work they continue to do across the North Shore. Their dedication, compassion, and commitment to serving others embody the very best of our community spirit.



A decade of service to the North Shore



THANK YOU



Our constituency office will remain open
to provide federal services for North Vancouver-Capilano.
Please call for an appointment.

