

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

Dear constituents,

A new year is here and as with all new beginnings, it provides an opportunity for reflection, to learn from our experiences and celebrate our accomplishments.

I am proud of the work our government has accomplished, and of the steps that we continue to take to ensure Canadians are supported during these challenging times. I am proud that with every decision, every program and initiative taken, that the well-being of Canadians remains at the core of what we do. Our government is helping families across the country with actions to help make life more affordable for Canadians. Actions like:

- Lowering childcare fees to an average of \$10 a day. An example in my riding is German Mills Child Care Centre, whose monthly fees were lowered from \$925/month to \$ 398/month for their full-time preschool program.
- Launching the Tax-Free First Home Savings Account to help over 300,000 Canadians save for their first home.
- Removing the GST on new rental apartments to encourage construction of more affordable housing options like apartment buildings, student housing, and senior residences.

With the increased challenges of our changing world, there is always more to do, and as your Member of Parliament, I take that seriously. I believe that by working together we will meet the challenges ahead, and that we will continue to hold true to our ideals and make life better for all Canadians.

Sincerely,



ENGAGING YOUTH IN CIVIC LIFE

Last month, I met with Markham-Thornhill's Constituency Youth Council (CYC). The CYC is a non-partisan advisory committee who meet throughout the year and discuss issues that are important to them. Young people have a lot to teach us. Their intelligence and knowledge is inspiring, their perspective is unique and passionate. I believe in debate and healthy discourse and look forward to my meetings with the members of the CYC. I am always reminded of their empathy and compassion. Young people are the future of this country, and I believe we are in very good hands!



Markham-Thornhill's Constituency Youth Council 2023. Thank you for a great year!

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02/24



HON.
MARY NG
Member of Parliament
Markham-Thornhill



Community Update

SUPPORTING SMALL BUSINESS AND STRENGTHENING INDUSTRY



Recently, I had the pleasure of announcing our government’s investment of nearly \$4.5 million for ventureLAB’s Hardware Catalyst Initiative (HCI) helping Canada’s only incubator for semiconductor innovation grow right here in Markham. This investment is important not only for ventureLAB, Markham and York Region, but for Canada’s economy. Investing in Markham’s thriving technology industry supports its continued growth as a technology capital for the country. This investment will encourage continued innovation in AI, Quantum, and Advanced Manufacturing and will help grow Canadian business into global supply chains— and Canadian entrepreneurs into global leaders.

Our government’s agreements with Visa and Mastercard to lower credit card transaction fees for small businesses were finalized in December. The agreements will help more than 90% of credit card – accepting businesses in Canada qualify for lower rates and see their interchange fees reduced by up to 27%. These reductions are expected to collectively save eligible small businesses approximately \$1 billion over five years. This will help small businesses combat their rising costs, helping them succeed. The agreements also protect reward points offered to Canadian consumers by Canada’s large banks.

IN THE COMMUNITY

Save the Date!

This March 2nd, celebrate winter at my annual MP Family Skate. This year’s free skate will be held between 12:30pm and 2:30pm at The Markham Civic Centre Skating Rink, located at 101 Town Centre Blvd. in Markham. Please join me for an afternoon of family, fun, and free hot chocolate to help keep us warm. I hope to see you there!



New Year’s Levee 2024

On January 13th, I hosted my annual New Year’s Levee. It is always wonderful to see many familiar faces and meet some new ones. It was an honour to recognize outstanding community volunteers in Markham-Thornhill with our volunteer awards. What an afternoon! Thank you to the hard-working crew of Milliken Mills Community Centre, all of the talented performers, my constituency staff, and all of the incredible volunteers who helped make the event a success!

CANADIAN DENTAL CARE PLAN

The Canadian Dental Care Plan (CDCP) will help up to 9 million uninsured Canadians access preventive care and treatment by helping cover the cost of oral health care services like cleaning, polishing, x-rays, fillings, removable dentures, and root canal treatments. The CDCP application process will be launched in phases, by age. Eligible individuals will receive a letter from Service Canada inviting them to apply, with instructions on how to apply by telephone. You can learn more about the CDCP by visiting Canada.ca/dental.

To be eligible, Canadian residents must:

- not have access to any private dental benefits, including through employers, pensions or privately purchased plans;
- have an adjusted family net income of less than \$90,000;
- be a Canadian resident for tax purposes; and have filed their tax return in the previous year.

Age Group	CDCP Application Opens
Seniors aged 87 and above	Starting in December 2023
Seniors aged 77 to 86	Starting in January 2024
Seniors aged 72 to 76	Starting in February 2024
Seniors aged 70 to 71	Starting in March 2024
In May 2024, applications will open for eligible seniors 65 to 69. Persons with a valid Disability Tax Credit certificate and children under the age of 18 will be able to apply online as of June 2024. All remaining eligible Canadians will be able to apply in 2025.	

