



BEN CARR

Member of Parliament
Winnipeg South Centre

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A MESSAGE FROM YOUR MP

Our community is diverse, vibrant, and filled with people who aspire to a better future. Together, we will tackle the challenges that matter most to you. I have heard loud and clear that issues like mental health and addictions supports, reconciliation, local economic development, and climate change, are of high priority for you.

I am proud to let you know that I have recently been named to the Standing Committees on Agriculture and Indigenous Northern Affairs. My seat at these tables provides me with a

strong position from which to advocate for the change you want to see for Manitoba.

I am a proud westerner. Like my father before me, I will defend the interests of our region and help create a better future for life on the Prairie. At every opportunity, I will build bridges in a spirit of non-partisanship, as we work collectively to bring about the change you wish to see. I look forward to updating you on my work in Ottawa again soon, and encourage you to reach out to connect at any time.

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INVESTING IN THE HEART AND SOUL OF OUR COMMUNITIES

Community centres are an important part of our youth. I have fond memories of playing baseball and hockey with the River Heights Cardinals, Tuxedo Lightning and the SJF Explorers. It is important for an MP to understand the needs of the grassroots of their riding. That is why in early September I met with the

Presidents of our community centres to talk about the challenges and opportunities they face, and how the federal government can support them. Generations of residents have benefited from the programming these centres offer with the support of the federal government. They are an integral part of our

neighbourhoods and I am committed to supporting them. If you've driven past the Crescentwood location of the Corydon Community Centre, you've noticed the new accessible spray pad and playground. **\$811,000 of this project's budget was funded through the federal Canada Community-Building Fund.**



Ben and a young family enjoying the new play structure.

HOUSING & AFFORDABILITY

All across the country, housing is a top concern. To make housing affordable, we need to build more homes, and we need to do it much faster. When Parliament returned in September, new legislation was introduced to **remove the GST on the construction of new rental apartment buildings**. This, in addition to working with

municipalities to **cut red tape and the introduction of the Tax Free Savings Account for first-time buyers**, is a crucial step in the government's plan to increase the housing supply, lower costs, and help more Canadians find a safe and affordable home.

I recognize that it's a difficult time for people in our riding.

Recently, we called the CEOs of the 5 major grocers to Ottawa to demand action on food prices. This, along with **the government's investment in \$10 a day daycare** is assisting Canadians and allowing more women to enter the workforce. We will continue to work to bring relief to Canadians.



Visiting with Foodfare's Hasni Zeid.



Meeting with Assembly of First Nations Regional Chief Cindy Woodhouse.



The Assiniboia Residential School monument and gathering place, on Academy Road.

TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

For too long, Canada failed Indigenous Peoples. Whether through unfulfilled treaties, residential schools, or colonial laws, generations have suffered harm and trauma from our past actions.

There once was a residential school in the heart of our very own community. The

Assiniboia Residential School opened on Academy Road in September 1958. More than 750 students attended the school. It was the first residential high school in Canada.

On September 30th I attended a ceremony to recognize the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

and the one year anniversary of the unveiling of the Assiniboia Residential School monument and gathering place.

We came together in the spirit of reconciliation to remember and learn as we honoured the truths and stories of survivors and their families.

MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTIONS

I was honoured to participate in Recovery Day Winnipeg 2023. I am committed to supporting the needs around mental health and addictions services. This includes continuing to advocate for supervised, safe consumption sites and greater investments in wrap around services. We need to take ideology out of the

narrative around treatment and recovery.

On November 30, 2023, the **9-8-8 Suicide Crisis Helpline**, a national suicide prevention and crisis number will be launched in Canada. Recently, we announced an **\$8 million fund to enhance equity, diversity and inclusion in the distress line**

sector. As a former teacher and principal, I know first-hand the impacts that mental health and addiction can have on youth and their families. We need a coordinated and collaborative approach to solving these challenges, and I will use my voice in Ottawa to build bridges that help us get there.



Ben speaking at the Recovery Day Winnipeg 2023 event at the Forks.