



HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
CANADA

**BEN
CARR**

Member of Parliament
Winnipeg South Centre



A Message From Ben

May 2026

Dear Constituents,

I hope you are enjoying the warmer weather, and all that our riding has to offer as summer approaches!

There were two “constituency weeks” (meaning I was not in Ottawa) during the month of April, which allowed for more meetings with those I represent, tours of local industries, and engagements with stakeholders from across the province.

A few weeks ago, I sat down with Prime Minister Carney in my capacity as Chair of the Prairies/North Caucus to discuss areas of priority for our region. In addition to that longer discussion, every Wednesday at our National Caucus meeting while in Ottawa, I speak directly to the Prime Minister with the objective of helping him gain further insight into the major opportunities, challenges, and feedback coming out of the Prairies and North.

The conversations that my colleagues and I have with our constituents are frequently referenced in this dialogue. Recent topics the PM and I discussed, informed by what many of you have reached out to me regarding, included a national strategy related to Artificial Intelligence, environmental protections for Manitoba, investments in affordable housing, health care infrastructure, the Port of Churchill, and humanitarian aid.

I remain deeply grateful for the opportunity to serve on your behalf, and encourage you to stay engaged by reaching out, visiting my website/social media, and putting forward the ideas you feel will help us continue moving forward.

Sincerely,

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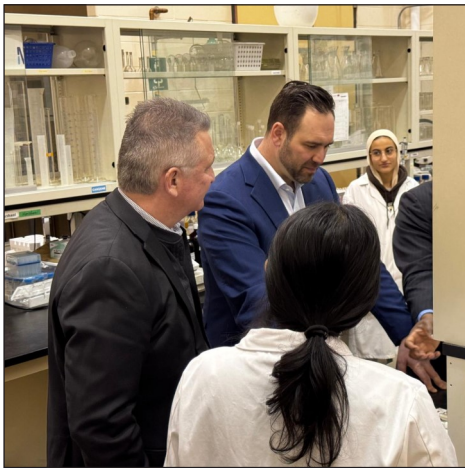
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SHOWCASING MANITOBA AGRICULTURE

I was pleased to welcome Minister Heath MacDonald to Winnipeg, where we showcased Manitoba's strength and leadership in agriculture and agri-food. A visit to Cereals Canada highlighted how innovation and quality continue to drive the global competitiveness of our grain sector, while time at the University of Manitoba's Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences demonstrated how hands-on learning is equipping the next generation of agri-food leaders.



Ben with Minister of Agriculture Heath MacDonald and MP Kevin Lamoureux at Cereals Canada



Hearing from PHD students at the Richardson Centre for Food Technology and Research

Our roundtable at FortWhyte Alive with industry partners reinforced the importance of ensuring Manitoba has a strong voice shaping the Next Policy Framework for Agriculture. Together, these engagements highlight the strength of the sector in Winnipeg South Centre, where research, innovation, and local businesses are closely connected to the province's broader agri-food economy.



INVESTING IN FAMILIES

Canada's National School Food Program is now permanent, following the passage of legislation in the House of Commons. This is an investment that ensures students can access nutritious meals and focus on learning, setting them up for success both in and out of the classroom. As a former teacher and principal, this is particularly meaningful for me as it reflects a deep understanding of how essential it is that every child has the support they need to thrive at school.

This is an investment in people—giving kids healthy food while making life more affordable for families.

In Winnipeg South Centre, more than **4500** students in **31 schools** have benefitted from this program!

BUILDING AFFORDABLE HOUSING



Ben with Minister Rebecca Chartrand and Minister of Housing and Infrastructure, Gregor Robertson

I joined the Minister of Housing and Infrastructure, alongside colleagues from all levels of government to announce a **\$91 million** investment at Naawi-Oodena that will support the construction of new, affordable homes for our community. Located on Treaty One Territory, this project represents a meaningful step forward in advancing reconciliation while addressing the urgent need for affordable housing. It will also help drive local economic development in Winnipeg South Centre and contribute to building a more inclusive and sustainable future for the broader region. This project is called Endayaan Omaa, which means “home is here” in Anishinaabemowin.

SUPPORTING OLDER ADULTS IN OUR COMMUNITY

The **New Horizons for Seniors Program** funds local projects that help older adults stay active, connected, and engaged. It supports initiatives such as community activities, digital literacy training, and efforts to reduce social isolation. I remain committed to supporting older adults in our community by advocating for funding. Recently, New Horizon’s funding was awarded to the following organizations in Winnipeg South Centre:

- ♦ African Communities of Manitoba Inc.
- ♦ The Convalescent Home of Winnipeg
- ♦ Crescent Fort Rouge United Church
- ♦ Italian Canadian League of Manitoba
- ♦ Manitoba Deaf Seniors Club
- ♦ Manitoba Korean Seniors Centre
- ♦ Riverview Community Centre Inc.
- ♦ South Winnipeg Seniors’ Resource Council – Golden Rule

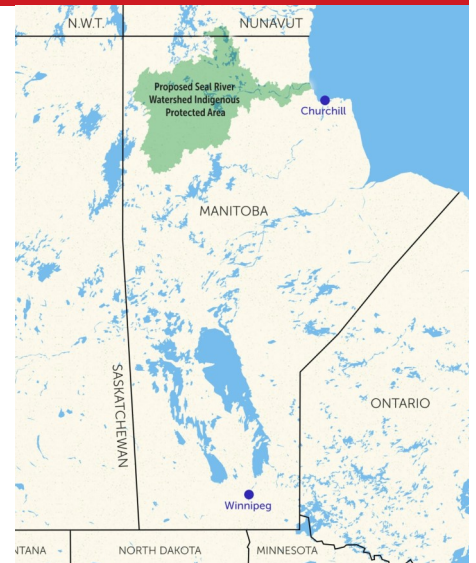
\$600,909

of funding secured for organizations supporting older adults in **Winnipeg South Centre** since becoming your MP

This year, the **Federal Government** invested **\$178,474** to support older adults in our community. This investment helps to ensure that older adults have the resources and opportunities they need to maintain their independence and quality of life.

PROTECTING OUR NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Prime Minister Mark Carney recently announced **\$3.8 billion for Canada's Strategy to Protect Nature**, with a key focus on advancing the Seal River Watershed in northern Manitoba as a proposed national park reserve. As part of the broader effort to conserve 30% of Canada's lands and waters by 2030, the initiative highlights the ecological and cultural importance of the Seal River Watershed – one of the largest intact ecosystems in the world – while supporting Indigenous-led stewardship by the Seal River Alliance. This investment represents a significant step in protecting biodiversity, storing carbon, and advancing reconciliation through collaborative conservation.



Since being elected, I have consistently heard from constituents that protecting the environment is an issue that deeply matters to them. I am happy to see the priorities of Winnipeg South Centre reflected in federal action.



Signing of the MOU in 2024



Announcing the Seal River Watershed Reserve National Park on April 17, 2026 with Minister of Environment Julie Dabrusin, FortWhyte Alive CEO Liz Wilson and colleagues

In January 2024 the Seal River Watershed Alliance and the Governments of Canada and Manitoba signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to formally work together on a feasibility assessment for an Indigenous Protected and Conserved Area and potentially, a national park reserve in the Seal River Watershed.

The MOU included a commitment for temporary protection from mineral exploration and staking for the duration of the feasibility assessment. This helped to gain a better understanding of the area's geological attributes.

I am grateful to have been a part of the early stages of this project, and to see it progress to a national park.

