



HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
CANADA

**BEN
CARR**

Member of Parliament
Winnipeg South Centre

A Message From Ben

February/March 2026

Dear Constituents,

I hope that the holiday season provided time for rest and quality time with loved ones. As the new year gets underway, there is lots happening both here in Winnipeg South Centre, across the country, and indeed, around the world.

As I write this, it is January 22nd, and no doubt, much will have happened by the time this newsletter comes out of production and arrives at your door.

The Parliamentary Session begins on January 26th. The weekend before, my colleagues and I from the Liberal Caucus will gather in Ottawa to share what we have been hearing from constituents over the past month.

As mentioned in previous correspondence, I serve as both the Chair of the House of Commons Industry and Technology Committee, as well as Chair of the Government's Prairies and North Caucus.

At Committee, we will begin an important study on the use of A.I. in our industries. Meetings will focus on testimony from experts and explore the challenges and opportunities that are rapidly arising from advancements in A.I. technology.

As Prairies and North Chair, it is my job to drive consensus and advocate for the Northern and Western Regions of Canada within the Government. My responsibilities include direct weekly reports in-person to Prime Minister Carney.

In February, I will travel to Brussels, Belgium for a NATO Conference. As a member of the Interparliamentary NATO Group, I will meet with colleagues from allied countries to discuss how we can continue to deepen our alliances during this moment of rupture for the world. I look forward to reporting back to you on my discussions there in the next newsletter.

I am deeply appreciative of the correspondence I have received from so many of you recently that draws my attention to the things that matter most to you. Please continue to stay active in our democracy, and do not hesitate to let us know what is on your mind.

I am looking forward to seeing many of you at community events in the near future, and encourage you to keep in touch.

Sincerely,



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CANADA AND THE WORLD

Recently, Prime Minister Carney delivered a speech that I believe will be regarded as one of the most consequential of our century to date. I strongly encourage those who have not seen it to take a look.

In essence, the Prime Minister highlighted the realities that Canada and the world face today, in light of a rapidly shifting global order, and the role we can, and must play, to remain strong in the face of it.

Some of the key messages from the speech include the following:



Prime Minister Carney in Davos, Switzerland

"The question for middle powers, like Canada, is not whether to adapt to this new reality. We must. The question is whether we adapt by simply building higher walls – or whether we can do something more ambitious.

Canada was amongst the first to hear the wake-up call, leading us to fundamentally shift our strategic posture.

Canadians know that our old, comfortable assumption that our geography and alliance memberships automatically conferred prosperity and security is no longer valid.

*Our new approach rests on what Alexander Stubb has termed "values-based realism" – or, to put it another way, we aim to be **principled and pragmatic**.*

Principled in our commitment to fundamental values: sovereignty and territorial integrity, the prohibition of the use of force except when consistent with the UN Charter, respect for human rights.

Pragmatic in recognizing that progress is often incremental, that interests diverge, that not every partner shares our values. We are engaging broadly, strategically, with open eyes. We actively take on the world as it is, not wait for a world we wish to be.

We are no longer relying on just the strength of our values, but also on the value of our strength.

The old order is not coming back. We should not mourn it. Nostalgia is not a strategy.

But from the fracture, we can build something better, stronger, and more just.

This is the task of the middle powers, who have the most to lose from a world of fortresses and the most to gain from a world of genuine cooperation.

The powerful have their power. But we have something too – the capacity to stop pretending, to name reality, to build our strength at home, and to act together.

That is Canada's path. We choose it openly and confidently.

And it is a path wide open to any country willing to take it with us."

– Prime Minister Mark Carney

NO PLACE FOR HATE

Antisemitic graffiti in an act of hate targeted directly at Winnipeg's Jewish community occurred in our riding recently. It is not the first time, and regrettably, these forms of targeted hate have become increasingly common.

Large swastikas plastered on the front doors of Shaarey Zedek Synagogue as well as on the walls of Kelvin High School serve as yet another reminder of our need to fight antisemitism through education, judicial reform, and a collective attitude that not only recognizes the depths of the issue but rejects it loudly and with purpose—and in particular, from those outside of the Jewish community. Jewish Canadians need allies—the time for that is now.

Hate of all forms continues to rise in Canada, and Winnipeg, unfortunately, has not been spared from the awful impacts it has on communities. Despite the disgraceful nature of these recent attacks, they have also revealed the strength of our community; one rooted in kindness, compassion, and care for one another.

Let's continue to lean into those values during these difficult moments.



With congregants at Shaarey Zedek Synagogue

IN THE COMMUNITY



Speaking to Older Adults at Westworth United Church



With students at Kelvin High School

School visits are always a highlight of my time in Winnipeg. I had an amazing morning at Kelvin High School recently, where I also studied, taught, and coached. It is inspiring and important to connect with young people—their ideas and perspectives are incredibly valuable.

Throughout the year, I make it a priority to visit with older adults at community residences. Recently, I stopped by for a Q and A at Sterling House and also spent some time with folks at Westworth United Church who were participating in a workshop on mental health for seniors, which I am proud to say was funded through our New Horizons program. These interactions are a crucial part of my work and keep me connected to the grassroots.

Since becoming your MP, supporting older adults in Winnipeg South Centre has been one of my top priorities. The **New Horizons for Seniors Program (NHSP)** supports local organization with up to \$25,000. Since being elected, **\$422,435 in New Horizons Funding for 21 organizations** that support older adults in our riding has been secured.

WINTER CARNIVAL SEASON

It's Winter Carnival Season in Winnipeg South Centre!

It was great to meet with hundreds of constituents at the Whyte Ridge Winter Carnival to celebrate our community and enjoy some classic Canadian winter activities, like a horse sleigh ride through a snow packed field.

During the winter season, my team and I will be at the Corydon Community Centre Winterfest, Fort Garry Community Centre Winter Carnival, and the Linden Woods Community Centre Winter Festival, in addition to other events that highlight the best of the season. I look forward to seeing many of you there.



On a sleigh ride with members of Whyte Ridge Community Centre

GROWING OUR CITY

Railside at the Forks is officially underway, transforming a former parking lot into a new urban village. Phase one will bring over **350 residential units**, including many that are deeply affordable, along with shops, child-care, and welcoming public spaces that strengthen the connection between The Forks and downtown Winnipeg.

I am proud of Federal investments in this project, which serves as a great example of what can happen when all levels of government work together.

Once complete, this project will add up to **1200 residential units** to our downtown!



With Municipal, Provincial, and Private Partners at the site of Railside at the Forks

LET'S STAY IN TOUCH

I believe firmly in the value of keeping those I represent updated through open and transparent lines of communication. With monthly newsletters like this, daily and weekly social media updates, regular attendance at events in the community, knocking on doors, and engaging in dialogue on the phone or via email, I aim to make myself as available to you as possible.

As a friendly reminder, our office can help navigate a variety of different issues for you related to government services, such as CRA, Service Canada, Visas, social benefits, and as a space for you to share your concerns, and ideas in general.

Please check out my website, which contains links to my social media accounts, regular updates, and all my previously mailed items.

As always, please feel free to reach out to my office at 204-983-1355.

