

**October 18**

**Media Release  
For immediate release**

### **Federal Liberals set the record Straight**

In the October 14th edition of the EMC, Gord Brown, the Conservative MP for Leeds-Grenville, made a number of interesting claims and assertions. Unfortunately they were misleading and in some instances just not true.

Mr. Brown claimed that the Liberal Party supported a 45 day work period for eligibility for Employment Insurance. In fact, while some MPs voted for the bill showing support for unemployed Canadians, the Liberal Party and the Liberal party leader are not in favour of a 45 day work period eligibility for Employment Insurance.

Our leader Michael Ignatieff directly spoke out against this proposal calling it "financially irresponsible". You can be assured that a Liberal Government will not introduce 45 day eligibility for EI. All the costs that Mr. Brown alluded to are simply not true.

First and foremost, the Liberal party is committed to addressing Canada's critical economic and social problems that are growing under the current government.

For example, Michael Ignatieff has announced our National Caregiver Strategy which will provide financial support to caregivers looking after ailing family members in their homes. This will enable families to stay together while reducing costs in our health care system. Minister Finley, Conservative Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development, belittled the needs of caregivers and suggested that they use some of their vacation time - as if it is a trivial matter to take care of the ill, the elderly, or the disabled.

Liberals have proposed Canada's first ever National Food Policy. Key elements include supporting farmers by reworking the risk management programs so that they actually work, and recognition and assistance for environmental farmland stewardship. And we will help connect farmers with consumers, so that we can all buy more, safe, local Canadian food.

We have heard the concerns raised by people in rural areas about the shortage of doctors and nurses. We will attract more doctors, nurses and nurse practitioners to underserved rural communities by reducing their student debt.

Recognizing the vital service of volunteer fire fighters, a Liberal Government will introduce a \$3,000 refundable tax credit to support their efforts.

And, I must also say that a Liberal Government will do these things in a way that puts the economy back on track.

The choice for Canadians is clear; the Liberals, with a track record of fiscal responsibility and a plan to make strategic investments meeting the needs of Canadians, or the Conservatives who spent Canada into deficit even before the recession began, spent a record \$130 million on

partisan government advertising, and want to waste billions more on prisons, untendered overpriced fighter planes and tax breaks for large corporations.

Over the last several months I have met many people who have shared their views with me. I continue to meet people with growing concerns about the direction of the current government. You can contact me through my website or by calling 1-888-364-2280.

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Leeds Grenville