



DAN VANDAL

Member of Parliament
Saint Boniface—Saint Vital

/danvandalforstboniface

@stbstvdan

stbstvdan

Spring 2021

SUPPORT FOR CANADIANS

Since the beginning of the pandemic, our government has been there to support Canadians every step of the way. In all, eight of every 10 dollars spent in Canada to fight against COVID-19 and support Canadians and their families has come from the federal government and we will continue to do whatever it takes to help all Canadians get through this difficult time.

In Manitoba, that has meant that the federal government has provided important support for Manitobans, both directly and through provincial funding agreements. This includes:

⇒ Safe Restart Agreement

- ⇒ Safe Long Term Care Fund
- ⇒ Safe Return to Class Fund and Early Childhood Education
- ⇒ CERB and Canada Recovery Benefits
- ⇒ Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy, Canada Emergency Business Account, Canada Emergency Rent Assistance
- ⇒ PPE and vaccine supply
- ⇒ Rapid Housing Initiative
- ⇒ COVID-19 Infrastructure Stream
- ⇒ Essential Workers Wage top-up

INFO

CONSTITUENCY OFFICE
213 St. Mary's Road, Suite 4
Winnipeg MB R2H 1J2
Tel. 204-983-3183
Fax. 204-983-4274

OTTAWA OFFICE
Confederation Building,
Room 434
Ottawa ON K1A 0A6
Tel. 613-995-0579
Fax. 613-996-7571

dan.vandal@parl.gc.ca

danvandal.ca

NOTABLE NUMBERS

275,000 Number of Manitobans who benefited from the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB)

52,860 Number of Manitobans who benefited from the Canada Recovery Benefit (CRB) (as of February 14)

\$2.26B Financial support (as of March 7) provided to Manitobans through the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS)

24,510 Number of Manitobans who benefited from the Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit (as of February 14)

21,770 Number of businesses who've been approved for CEBA loans (as of March 18)

9,410 Number of applications approved for Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy and Lockdown Support (as of February 21)

STAY INFORMED

The information in this pamphlet is accurate at time of printing on March 31, 2021. For up-to-date information, visit www.canada.ca/COVID19

CONSULTATIONS ON MEDICAL CANNABIS

Consistent with the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and past court decisions, the *Cannabis Regulations* sets out a legal framework that provides Canadians with reasonable access to cannabis for medical purposes.

Under these regulations, Health Canada may refuse a registration if the registration is likely to create a risk to public health or public safety, including the risk of cannabis being diverted to an illicit market or activity. Similarly, a registration may be revoked if there are reasonable grounds to believe that the revocation is necessary to protect public health or public safety.

Over the last year, I've heard increasing concerns about cannabis production in our neighbourhoods. Health Canada has launched a consultation on draft guidance on personal production of cannabis for medical purposes. If you have concerns about cannabis production in your neighbourhood, now is the time to share those concerns.

Personal production of cannabis for medical purposes online consultation:

<https://bit.ly/3cvRc1q>

DOMESTIC VACCINE PRODUCTION



When this pandemic began, Canada had no bio-manufacturing capacity suitable for a COVID-19 vaccine.

Underinvestment in vaccine production capacity began decades ago, and we realized

right away that we had to invest in our flexible domestic production and ramp up our facilities.

Our government has been aggressively investing in new biomanufacturing capacity. In fact, we took serious action on this front PRIOR to the pandemic.

In our first mandate, we restored the ability for Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada to invest in the life sciences.

The pandemic was announced by the World Health Organization on March 11, 2020 and twelve days later the Prime Minister announced **\$192 million in investments in vaccines and therapeutics biomanufacturing capacity.**

One month after that the Prime Minister announced support for strategic investments in this capacity identifying **\$600 million in funding for the Strategic Innovation Fund, and at the same time making additional investments at the NRC and with VIDO-InterVac.**

We've also recently announced new agreements with Precision NanoSystems and Novavax to produce tens of millions of COVID-19 vaccines in Canada, and **historic funding to support a Sanofi end-to-end pandemic influenza vaccine manufacturing facility.**

Major steps in our long-term plan to fight COVID-19 with Made-in-Canada solutions to strengthen our biomanufacturing sector.

SUPPORT FOR MUNICIPALITIES

On March 25, 2021, our government proposed a one-time investment of \$2.2 billion that would help address infrastructure priorities in municipalities and First Nations communities across Canada. The funds would flow through the federal Gas Tax Fund.

This would double the federal government's regular funding for municipalities in 2020-21 and it would provide much needed funding for communities of all sizes to help reduce the risk of infrastructure projects being delayed or cancelled.

Communities can use the funds immediately for priority projects, bank them for later use, pool the dollars with other communities for shared infrastructure projects, or use them to finance major infrastructure expenditures.

Manitoba municipalities would receive \$72.5 million in funding, shared between 136 communities. Winnipeg will receive close to \$44.4 million for priority infrastructure projects.

The funding could be used in a number of different project categories, including transit, water and wastewater, sport infrastructure, and roads. For example, renovations at Bonivital Pool were funded in part by this funding stream.



ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION

In March, our government announced \$400 million in funding over five years dedicated to active transportation. This is the first federal fund dedicated to building active transportation networks through Canada.

Investing in active transportation will build strong communities across the country and deliver a better quality of life for all Canadians. Safe pathways and trails that connect to public transit will provide Canadians with more commuting options that reduce emissions and protect the environment.

Moving Canadians effectively includes building walkways and paths for cycling, walking, or hybrid scooters and e-bikes, and wheelchairs that give everyone the opportunity to get out, get active, and more easily access public transportation systems.



We also launched stakeholder engagement for Canada's first Active Transportation Strategy, which will help inform federal government decisions to support active transportation networks of the future and promote healthier, walkable and affordable communities.

PUBLIC TRANSIT



In February, the Prime Minister announced a plan to permanently fund public transit and support economic recovery by investing nearly \$15 billion over the next eight years.

We are investing \$5.9B of new money over five years, starting in 2021, to

accelerate major public transit projects so we can get people back to work. We will also invest in zero-emission buses, walkways and bike paths and rural transit options to help reduce mobility challenges for Canadians.

In addition, we are fulfilling our campaign promise to create a Permanent Public Transit Fund of \$3 billion a year ongoing, starting in 2026. This announcement provides cities and communities the predictable transit funding they need to plan for the future, and is part of our plan to create one million jobs, fight climate change, and rebuild a more sustainable and resilient economy.

As we work to build back better from the COVID-19 pandemic, we will continue to make smart investments that support Canadians as part of our plan to create one million jobs, fight climate change, and rebuild a more sustainable and resilient economy for everyone.

I WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

As we look toward the post-pandemic recovery, what do you believe should be the priority of the federal government (please rate the following in order of priority):

- Climate change
- Infrastructure
- National Pharmacare
- National standards for Long Term Care
- Job creation
- Ongoing support for small businesses
- Other:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

Email: _____

Yes, please add me to your email list!

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

Our two official languages are at the heart of our identity.

Indigenous languages are the first languages spoken in our country. Together with English and French, they are what makes Canada unique.

We have presented our vision for modernizing and strengthening the Official Languages Act. It responds to the cry from the heart of the communities to ensure their future, while adding new measures to increase the rate of bilingualism in the country, such as:

- ⇒ Improving access to French immersion across Canada;
- ⇒ Supporting the vitality of minority language institutions in key sectors such as immigration and education;
- ⇒ Protecting and promoting the use of French across Canada;
- ⇒ Strengthening the example of bilingualism set by the Government of Canada.



Going virtual has its benefits! It's been fun to meet with students, like these grades 3 & 4 students at École Guyot...



... and the Intro to Political Sciences class at Université de Saint-Boniface, taught by Mamadou Ka.



Supporting local has never been more important. If you can, pick up lunch or dinner from local restaurants like Deen's on Marion!



Winnipeg's Precision ADM received federal funding to manufacture nasal swabs for COVID-19 testing.



The pandemic might have slowed some activities but the news continues! Media plays an important role in keeping us informed.



Conversations with local stakeholders like the United Way Winnipeg are important to ensure our programs meet local needs.



NO POSTAGE
REQUIRED

DAN VANDAL
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
HOUSE OF COMMONS
OTTAWA ON K1A 0A6