

Budget 2012 to aid small business hiring

Last month, the federal government delivered Budget 2012, which advances our plan for jobs and growth in Canada. To date, our Economic Action Plan has helped navigate Canada through the worst of the global recession, resulting in a national economy that has consistently expanded for the last two and half years.

However, the global recovery remains fragile, and many Canadians are still looking for work. That is why we developed a budget that meets two broad objectives: creating jobs and economic growth, and reducing the federal deficit.

Budget 2012 invests \$50 million over the next two years for the Youth Employment Strategy to help young Canadians gain work skills and experience, and connect them with high-demand job areas. To support small business job creation, we are extending the Hiring Credit for Small Business to encourage new employee hiring. This temporary credit will benefit about 536,000 employers and reduce 2012 payroll costs by about \$205 million.

We are also reducing red tape by implementing the 'one-for-one' rule, and developing a Red Tape Reduction action plan to reduce unnecessary regulations and allow small businesses to focus on growth.

Finally, we are strengthening support for families and communities in Ontario by investing a record federal transfer of \$19.2 billion in Ontario hospitals,

Michael Chong



schools, and other critical services.

The government is also taking steps to reduce the federal deficit and return to balanced budgets without raising taxes. We are reducing departmental spending by \$5.2 billion, representing 6.9% of \$75.3 billion in departmental spending. We are also reducing the federal workforce by 4.8%, or approximately 19,200 employees. About one-third of reduction will be achieved through attrition.

In addition, we are bringing public service pensions and the pensions of MPs and Senators in line with those of the private sector, with changes coming within a year. As a result of these measures, we are on track to eliminate the deficit over the next three years, and by 2016 our debt-to-GDP ratio will be 28.5%, the lowest level of federal debt in decades.

For full details on Budget 2012, please visit www.budget.gc.ca. You can also contact me by phone at (866) 878-5556 or by email at michael.chong@parl.gc.ca.

Michael Chong is the MP for Wellington-Halton Hills

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Contact your local CNIB District Centre.
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CNIB The Canadian National Institute for the Blind



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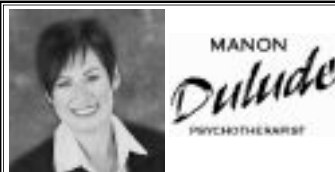
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By Cory Soal
R.H.A.D.

... Lend Me Your Ears

There's hardly any aspect of our lives that doesn't have sound associations. Hearing keeps us in contact with life, with people, with the sounds of the world around us. It is a priceless gift.

Sometimes our hearing fails us. Hearing loss can happen to anyone, regardless of age. Occasionally children are born with hearing defects. Hearing loss may be caused by infections, head injuries, prolonged exposure to loud noise, certain medications and of course the aging process.

The latest development in hearing instruments is known as digital technology, the driving force behind computers, fax machines and satellite communications. This has transformed our lives in ways no one could have imagined. Just as the compact disc (CD) forever changed how we listen to music, new digital hearing aids are revolutionizing the way hearing health care professionals help people hear better. If you or one of your family members suspects a hearing loss, call...

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Because your gums are constantly shrinking, you must update and change your dentures regularly, in order to keep them fitting snug, which fills out the face,

therefore smoothing out wrinkles. The unattractive appearance is not the only problem with poor fitting dentures. The incorrect bite often causes discomfort or pain. Ear and jaw joint pain, soreness in opening the mouth and headaches are caused by poor fitting teeth. This pain can produce a constant tenderness in the facial muscles, which in turn can contribute to a premature drawn, aged look. It is important to have your dentures checked on a regular basis. Our office does not charge for consultations and check ups. Call for an appointment.

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