



## ... Lend Me Your Ears

By Cory Soal  
R.H.A.D.

### WHAT YOU SHOULD EXPECT FROM HEARING INSTRUMENTS!

Part 1

Although hearing instrument technology has greatly improved over the years, the fact still remains that

nothing can mimic the human ear. Due to the damage in your ears that is causing hearing loss, you will never be able to hear as well as a normal hearing person. Expecting results from your hearing instruments that cannot be achieved will only lead to frustration and dissatisfaction. By asking your hearing professional questions and describing your experiences, the optimum performance can be reached to match your expectations. The following are some facts:

\* The extent of improvement to your hearing is directly proportional to the severity and the duration of your loss.

\* The more severe the hearing loss the harder it will be for the hearing instruments to restore your hearing to near normal.

\* The longer the duration of your hearing loss the harder it will be for your brain to adjust to the new sounds.

The Georgetown



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## OPINION

# FEDS' BUDGET WILL SEE ANOTHER BIG DEFICIT

## NO PLAN IN PLACE TO PAY FOR NEW SPENDING, WRITES MICHAEL CHONG



MICHAEL CHONG  
Column

Budget 2022 contains billions in new spending without, in my opinion, a plan to pay for it — in areas the government has not previously funded, such as dental care.

As a result, another big deficit is projected this year. The federal debt has now doubled in the last three years to \$1.2 trillion. This is not sustainable.

The budget — I believe — does nothing to rein in the skyrocketing cost of living. It does quite the opposite. The new spending will further fuel inflation, already at a 30-year high.

Household debt has also skyrocketed, as families struggle to buy a home while year-over-year benchmark housing prices have jumped 20 per cent. The budget does little to address the housing crisis. The budget's proposal for a Tax-Free First Home Savings Account, I feel, will do little.

The federal government is ultimately responsible for housing prices, through banking regulations from the Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions, and through mortgage finance policies from the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation.

The budget does nothing

about the regulations and policies that have allowed mortgage credit to grow at an unsustainable rate for years, fuelling the housing crisis.

In my opinion, the new spending isn't focused on upholding Canada's international obligations. Despite the threats to democracies from Russia's war on Ukraine, the budget only commits 1.5 per cent of GDP to defence.

This doesn't meet our NATO Wales Summit commitment to spend 2 per cent by 2024. No priority is more important than the defence and security of Canada and its citizens. The war in Ukraine is a wakeup call the government hasn't heeded.

Despite the government's strong rhetoric on fighting climate change, the budget doesn't meet Canada's international cli-

mate change obligations. Under this government, emissions have increased from 708 to 730 megatonnes between 2016 and 2019, the last year for which we have data.

Coming out of the pandemic, a serious plan for long-term economic growth and prosperity was needed, not a tax-and-spend budget aimed at satisfying the NDP's demands and ensuring the survival of the Liberal government.

This budget was an opportunity to meaningfully address Canada's short- and long-term challenges. The Liberal budget has fallen short.

*Michael Chong is the MP for Wellington-Halton Hills, and the shadow minister of foreign affairs for the official opposition. He can be reached at michael.chong.a3@parl.gc.ca.*

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