Miller's Scottish Bakery would like to wish M.P.P. and Speaker of the House, Ted Arnott our very best wishes in the upcoming election.

Several years ago, we had a battle with the Liberal government that was then in power, and Mr. Arnott gave us tremendous support throughout the whole ludicrous ordeal. He didn't care what our political affiliation was, it was enough that one of his constituents was being

unfairly treated for him to "go to bat for us" Most of us never need the help of an M.P.P. but when we did we were so grateful that it was Mr. Arnott, who proved himself to be a thoroughly decent chap.

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Some parents, unfortunately, give in and allow their children to neglect good oral hygiene. Don't make the mistake! Your children should be taught very early how to brush. This can be encouraged as a regular habit by using some of the flavored children's toothpastes now available. Try to reserve brushing for the same time each day so it comes to be an expected activity. If your child still resists, make a game of it. You may even wish to pretend to be a "dentist" for your child, in the process doing the needed brushing for them. Older children may respond to a reward system that you establish.

Perhaps most important, set a good example. Your daily brushing, flossing, and avoidance of sweets will do more to develop good dental habits that anything else.

OPINION

FEDERAL BUDGET LEAVES MUCH TO BE DESIRED

INCREASED SPENDING SIMPLY NOT SUSTAINABLE, **WRITES** MICHAEL CHONG

A fiscal conservative once said, "Governments created the deficit burden. And so, governments must resolve it — by focusing first in their own backyards — by getting spending down, not by putting taxes up ... We must focus on getting growth up at the same time as we strive to get spending down."

That was former finance minister Paul Martin in his 1996 budget speech. He understood how to create jobs and growth.

The 2022 federal budget seems to do the opposite of what Martin called for. It increases taxes, increases spending and spends on consumption — not investment.

Since 2015, the Trudeau government has taken the same approach, and it's not working.

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MICHAEL CHONG Column

Astonishingly, the budget document — in my opinion — seems to admit

There's a chart on Page 25 of the budget. It shows the average potential annual growth in real GDP per capita of OECD countries from 2020 to 2060. Canada is dead last. This chart is an indictment of the economic policies of this government over the last six years.

The budget increases taxes. It imposes additional taxes on large financial institutions, one of the few areas of growth in recent years.

The budget increases government spending. It adds more than \$56 billion in new spending over the next six years. This is on top of the spending announced in last December's economic update and in last year's budget.

In fact, the federal government is now spending

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\$70 billion more per year in this budget than before the pandemic.

That's three per cent of the GDP per year in additional spending. It's not sustainable.

Despite all this new spending, the Trudeau government continues to fall short on Canada's international commitments, including defence spending, climate change and foreign aid.

Martin understood that budgets should create jobs and growth by making investments rather than by increasing consumption, by getting spending down and not putting taxes up, by forever setting aside the old notion that new government programs require additional spending and by reallocating existing spending for new programs.

The Trudeau government has forgotten the lessons of the 1990s. That is why Canada's growth and prosperity are faltering.

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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