

Plenty to celebrate across Oak Ridges-Markham

I cannot believe that it is already summer – and that means I have more time to spend in the great riding of Oak Ridges – Markham!

On June 9, the Ontario Legislature rose for the summer. The most recent session, which began on Feb.

16, allowed us to pass a total of 14 bills that will deliver major progress on our government's key priorities such as:

- Laying a foundation to reduce carbon emissions through a cap and trade program and to reinvest funds

generated by the program in green projects.

- Enhancing democracy by allowing municipalities to introduce ranked ballots in local elections and;
- Making workplaces, campuses and communities safer by strengthening laws

to stop sexual violence and harassment.

When the legislature returns in the fall, the government will continue to focus on priorities that support the economic plan to build Ontario up and deliver on its No. 1 priority to grow the economy and create jobs.

During the past session I was particularly pleased to see legislation introduced, that if passed in the fall, would make changes to 50 different statutes to reduce regulatory burdens and practices that cost businesses time and money. Government initiatives such as this are a large reason why Ontario's economy is forecast to remain among the strongest in Canada.

In fact, more than 600,000 jobs have been created since the low point of the recession in 2009, and by 2019, Ontario will have created another 300,000 jobs — that's 900,000 new jobs.

June has also been quite the month locally as well. On June 4, I joined a number of constituents at Doors



MPP Helena Jaczek
Oak Ridges-Markham

Open Stouffville. I had the opportunity to visit the Holy Theotokos Covent, which is located on a stunning 20-acre lot of rolling hills and was able to pick up some beautiful 100-per-cent beeswax candles that are produced at the candle factory on site.

At the Greenbelt Greenhouse, I learned about micro-greens and about how locally grown produce is available in our grocery stores.

While at the Pause Awhile Equestrian Centre, which is home to 60 horses, I got a tour of the three barns, three arenas and three ponds.

On June 11, I attended the Indo Canadian Chamber of

Commerce Gala – the event honoured some of the tremendous accomplishments of Indo-Canadians, in addition to promoting the important trade and commerce relationship between India and Canada.

The Taste of Asia Festival was this past weekend and was a fantastic success, as always. I would like to thank Dr. Ken Ng for inviting me to the opening ceremonies on June 25.

I would also like to wish all of you a Happy Canada Day! I will be at the Seniors Luncheon at the City of Markham and in the Markham Canada Day "Peoples" Parade so please come by and say hello if you happen to be there.

I will also host a pancake breakfast at the Strawberry Festival in Stouffville Saturday – I hope many of you will join me for pancakes and some delicious local strawberries.

As always, feel free to contact my office at 905-294-4931 or hjaczek.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org if you have any questions related to provincial matters.

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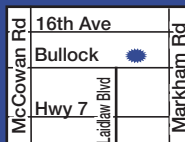
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