



HOUSE OF COMMONS
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PAPER

Your MP; your voice

SOPHIE CHATEL

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT OF PONTIAC



Door-to-door in Gatineau (Plateau and Aylmer area)!

Last month, we had the pleasure of meeting the residents of the Plateau. We had some great discussions, though I should warn you, some topics were challenging.

Sophie

Sophie dreams of a region where cyclists can move around safely, and she is particularly eager to see more secure bike paths in the Plateau area, as well as around Gatineau Park. Like many other parents in the Plateau, Sophie is concerned about her children using the bike paths along Boulevard du Plateau, which she considers to be unsafe. As a nature lover and advocate for an active lifestyle, she hopes that local authorities will listen to her and develop new bike paths. I wholeheartedly agree with Sophie, and I have conveyed this to the local authorities. We then discussed wonderful family outings on the scenic PPJ bike path in the Pontiac MRC, as well as the Véloroute des Draveurs to the north, a magnificent cycling gem in the Outaouais, largely paved thanks to federal funding.

Michel, Aïcha, and Frédérique

Michel, Aïcha, and Frédérique, along with many other citizens, are concerned about access to healthcare. I share their concerns and have reached out to the Quebec Minister of Health, Christian Dubé, to advocate for the immediate adoption of the solutions put forward by our experts. I invite you to visit the "News" section of my website to find my correspondence on this matter.



Yvonne

Yvonne, like many Quebecers, is concerned about Bill C-311, which opens up the abortion debate. The bill, spearheaded by a conservative MP, is supported by their leader. Pierre Poilievre reassured us last year by stating he was personally pro-choice. However, the conservative leader has now declared that he would use the notwithstanding clause of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms for "criminal matters" or allow members of his party to introduce a bill to criminalize abortion with a free vote. Last week, he authorized one of his MPs to table a petition aimed at criminalizing abortion.

What is happening south of our border is not reassuring to Yvonne and me. Regardless of our personal opinions on abortion, we should all fear the idea of giving politicians control over women's bodies. As shown in the United States, where abortion has been banned in several states even in cases of medical emergencies, such actions represent a step towards oppressing women's rights. In Texas, draconian measures are being considered, such as mandatory registration of pregnant women with the police and banning divorce.

My American in-laws, who are religious, see abortion as a private matter. They recognize that its prohibition aims to restrict women's rights, without preventing abortions but rather making them dangerous. Like us, they never thought such a drift would be possible just two years ago...

"Never forget that a political, economic, or religious crisis will be enough to cast doubt on women's rights. These rights are never guaranteed. You must remain vigilant throughout your life."

— Simone de Beauvoir

Julie

Julie, like the majority of residents in Le Plateau, strongly advocates for the implementation of a tramway in Gatineau. For her, this project represents a major advancement, offering a modern, efficient, and environmentally friendly transportation solution. Julie is convinced that such investments are essential to improve the quality of life, reduce traffic congestion, and combat greenhouse gas emissions. For her, the tramway goes beyond simple transportation; it is a means to promote sustainable mobility, strengthen social ties, and promote a healthier and more balanced lifestyle for all residents of the region. I am pleased that the federal government has confirmed funding for pre-project studies on the Quebec side. As the financial arrangement for the interprovincial bridge and Wellington Street in Ottawa is more complex, I am told that we must wait until the fall of 2024 for confirmation of funding on the Ottawa side.

I want to reaffirm my full support for this project, and I remain committed alongside the Coalition "S'allier pour le tramway" to advance this initiative. **Join your voice in support of the tramway by joining this petition:**



Thanks for sharing your concerns
and feel free to contact me at:
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