

Fall 2022



THE NEWSLETTER FROM YOUR
Member of Parliament for Pontiac

Sophie
Chatel



Word from your M.P.

Every parent wants a better future for their children. Every Canadian has a right to food, shelter, and health care. Every citizen needs a pathway towards a job that provides meaning and security. And we cannot afford to ignore the existential threat of climate change. The question is: how do we translate all these worthy aspirations into real change?

Politics is the art of the possible. Progress happens when elected officials, entrepreneurs and community leaders come together, reach consensus and pool their resources. That's why over the last twelve months, I have poured a lot of energy into the Green and Prosperous Outaouais initiative. Why? Because prosperity doesn't just happen. It's the fruit of collaboration.

During times of economic turbulence, innovative companies increase their investment in research and development so that they can bounce back stronger during the next business cycle. I am acutely aware of how inflation is hurting citizens in Pontiac, and while we are working together to face this crisis, we cannot afford to lose sight of the future. Market prices are intimately connected to the "heatflation" wilting crops, putting livestock under stress and spreading wildfires. Resilience isn't just about being tough, it's about being smart and finding a better pathway forward.

I have spoken to you before about the importance of aligning our communities and business with the vectors shaping the future. I have hosted roundtables with Pontiac's entrepreneurs, farmers and community leaders. They have come up with many ideas about how to put us in a position for success. Subsequently, I tested our top ideas with experts across Canada. In this special issue, I am going to introduce you to these proposals, and ask you to weigh in using our public consultation tool: outaouaisvert.cocoriko.org. Building a better future requires engagement from citizens. Pitch in and help us build a roadmap towards a greener and more prosperous future.

Sophie



OUTAOUAIS

Green and prosperous

outaouaisvert.ca

Why Go Green?

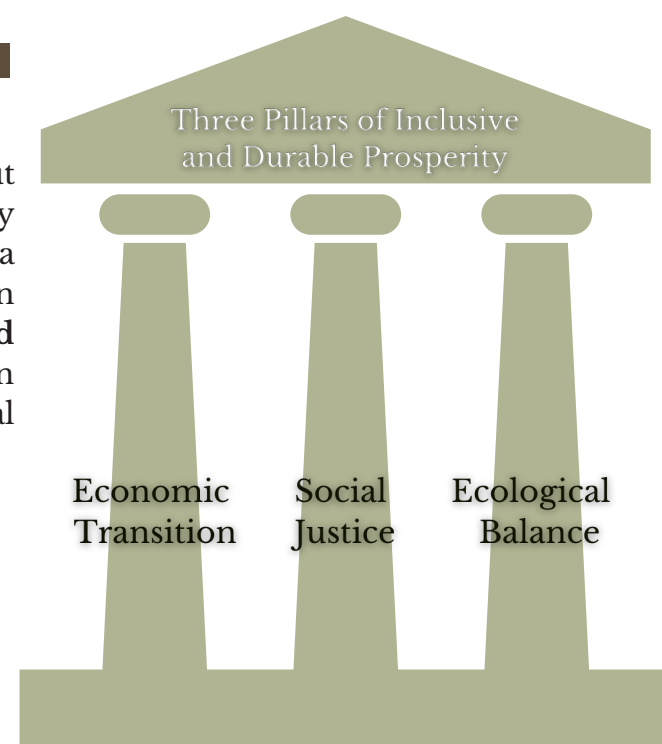
In travelling across the riding and organizing roundtables in each MRC, the response to my Green and Prosperous Outaouais initiative has been roundly positive. In particular, my exchange with farmers and entrepreneurs were very insightful. But I did want to take a moment to respond to particular concerns that citizens raised, and why I view this initiative as the cornerstone for a better future.



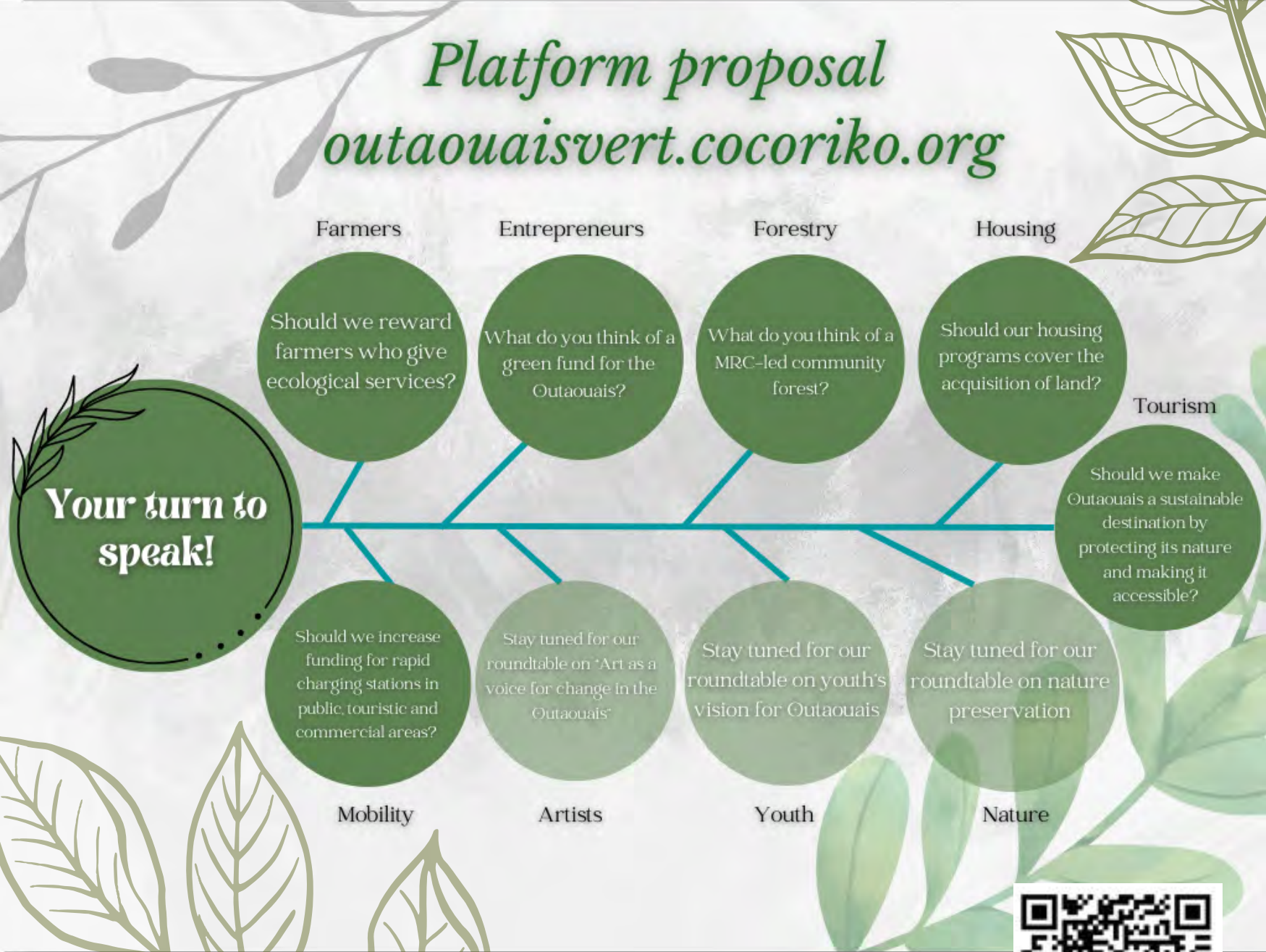
Eric from Chelsea considered that the government is not moving fast enough on climate change or the protection of nature. For Eric, embracing the term “prosperity” once more signals that we are prioritizing the economy, and support the status quo, rather than working towards a serious green transition. History, however, shows that without a solid economy and consensus, green policies simply do not work.

Jon, who I met in Campbell’s Bay, warned me that “green” policies are too often expensive, unrealistic and ignore the impact of rising prices. Recent draughts, wildfires and storms, however, show that we have to look at inflation over both the long and short term. “Heatflation” is already showing up in our grocery carts, insurance premiums and balance sheets. The green economy is coming, the question is how will we surf the wave? Already the Green and Prosperous initiative has brought together experts, citizen groups and entrepreneurs with MRC, provincial and federal officials to talk about the issues that will drive our common future. This partnership and communal spirit bode well for working across jurisdictions to tackle a range of future challenges.

Julia from the Hull’s Plateau was more concerned about discrimination and the invisible barriers that prevent so many Canadians from realizing their full potential. I explained to Julia that the Green and Prosperous Outaouais initiative is built upon **three pillars: the economic transition, social justice and ecological balance**. Ultimately, further social progress depends on a strong and inclusive economy and the health of our natural spaces.



I thank all citizens for implicating themselves in our community. Pontiac is diverse, and our policies are sharpened when we bring our different perspectives to the table. I don't have all the answers, but I do know that we need to change course, and moving forward requires everyone working together. That's why I am asking for your feedback. Use the Cocoriko tool to chime in on the issues that matter to you. We all have a stake in our future. We might not always agree on how to get there, but in expressing our differences we are building the durable consensus that will enable us to move forward together.



Take a picture of our barcode!



FAITS SAILLANTS DE L'ÉTÉ! HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SUMMER!



La Pêche

Lors d'une visite du ministre du Patrimoine et Lieutenant du Québec, Pablo Rodriguez, nous avons visité la maison Fairbairn de Wakefield et La Fab sur Mill de Chelsea.
During a visit from Heritage Minister Pablo Rodriguez, we visited Wakefield's Fairbairn House and Chelsea's Fab sur Mill.



Shawville

Nous nous sommes arrêtés à Shawville pour célébrer la fête du Canada.
We stopped by Shawville to celebrate Canada Day!



Val-des-Monts

Lors de la 10e édition du Festival Western de Val-des-Monts, des habitués m'ont appris l'art de la danse en ligne!
Yee-haw! At the 10th edition of the Val-des-Monts Western Festival regulars taught me the fine art of line-dancing!

Chelsea



Le premier ministre s'est arrêté à Chelsea pour une visite du parc de la Gatineau, où les enfants immensément curieux du camp Meredith l'ont accueilli avec plein de questions sur les sciences naturelles.
The Prime Minister stopped by Chelsea for a visit of Gatineau Park, where the immensely curious children of Camp Meredith welcomed him with multiple questions on natural science.

Maniwaki



Nous avons passé la St-Jean-Baptiste à Maniwaki à chanter et à danser sur des chansons francophones contemporaines et classiques.
We spent St-Jean-Baptiste Day in Maniwaki singing and dancing to contemporary and classic francophone songs!



Kitigan Zibi

Ce fut un honneur de partager la riche culture Anishinabeg en participant au Pow Wow de Kitigan Zibi.
It was an honor to share in the rich Anishinabeg culture by participating in the Kitigan-Zibi Pow Wow.



Gatineau (Plateau de Hull)

Beau temps, mauvais temps, je prends mon vélo pour aller travailler! *Rain or shine, I take my bike to work !*

Fort-Coulonge



À Fort-Coulonge, nous avons célébré la grande réouverture du cinéma Lyn avec Barry Doyle et la nouvelle propriétaire, Jane Toller.
In Fort-Coulonge, we celebrated the grand reopening of the Lyn Cinema with Barry Doyle, and the new owner, Jane Toller.



J'ai célébré la diversité, l'inclusion et l'amour sous toutes ses formes en cette saison de la fierté.
I celebrated diversity, inclusion and love in all its forms this pride season.

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