




James Maloney, MP

Etobicoke-Lakeshore



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Dear Neighbours,

As many of you are aware, February is known as Black History Month and this year marks its 25th anniversary. It came to be thanks to the former MP for Etobicoke-Lakeshore, the Hon. Jean Augustine. It was her motion that was unanimously agreed to in the House of Commons. No small feat.

While I normally have an International Women's Day Breakfast, this year, because of COVID-19, we will hold a Facebook Live event a little later in the day.

Please join me on for a Facebook Live at 7:00 p.m. on March 8th as we celebrate International Women's Day with the Hon. Jean Augustine and hear directly from her about her incredible journey.

As we continue to battle COVID, I would like to thank all the front-line workers for everything you are doing. We could not have gotten through any of this without you, your sacrifice and dedication to our safety. Doctors, nurses, teachers, grocery store clerks, bus drivers and everyone in between, we thank you.

The GEMS of Etobicoke-Lakeshore ballot box is now open! Please see inside on how to vote. This year, more than ever, it is important to recognize small businesses in our community making a difference.

Many of you have written in with your thoughts and I thank you. None of this is easy. As I write this, the COVID-19 numbers are going down and the vaccine rollout is progressing. We will get through this but we must also remain vigilant and take care of each other.

Stay safe everyone and please reach out if I can be of assistance.

LET THE GEMS OF ETOBICOKE-LAKESHORE SHINE!



Small businesses are the backbone of our economy, and of our community. They feed us, entertain us, keep us safe and healthy. They renovate our homes, provide valuable services and are innovators. They help the young, the old and everyone in between.

Traditionally, the sector has made up 98% of all Canadian businesses and employ eight million hard-working Canadians from coast to coast to coast. In our constituency, we have businesses of all sizes and up until this year, we had upwards of 4,000 small businesses.

However, small businesses have been some of the hardest hit during the COVID-19 crisis. As a government, we have created many small business supports which have helped many businesses stay afloat.

This year, we are bringing back the GEMS of Etobicoke-Lakeshore awards. We will honour businesses throughout our Etobicoke-Lakeshore community. Now more than ever is it time to thank frontline workers who have been working around the clock to keep us all safe, to keep food on our tables and ensure other essential services have been provided. We cannot thank them enough.

In the beginning, the GEMS focused on the southern part of the constituency and then they grew to include the whole riding. Business Improvement Area (BIA) after BIA joined in and here we are celebrating small businesses. Our BIAs are incredible organizations, there to help residents and businesses alike. Thank you to all of them and to all small businesses for your cooperation, support and for fighting the good fight over the last year in these extraordinary times we live in.

One of the aspects I love about our incredible constituency is the way we are there for each other, encouraging and providing opportunities for growth and prosperity. This year, honouring our small businesses takes on even more meaning in our COVID environment.

I hope you will think about a small business or someone who may fit into the new COVID-19 category in this year's GEMS of Etobicoke-Lakeshore.

Without them, we would not have gotten this far. We will get through this incredible challenge together. Now get your nominations in before midnight, March 31st.

I look forward to celebrating our small businesses, our heroes, online together, soon.

GEMS^{of} Etobicoke-Lakeshore

2021 Nomination Form



Name of business or community organization

Address

Why is this business/community organization a Gem of Etobicoke-Lakeshore?

Categories

- Michael O'Connor Thompson Award - presented to a business owner who best exemplifies "volunteerism and community spirit"
- Best Restaurant/Cafe
- Best Retail Business - Merchandise
- Best Retail Business - Food (includes Take-Out)
- Best Professional Service Business
- Best Personal Service Business (health, gyms etc.)
- Best Arts & Culture
- Best Social/Entertainment Venue (includes bars and clubs)
- Best New Business
- Favourite Frontline Worker
- Favourite Frontline Business
- COVID-19 Compassionate Community Member (Nominate more than one!)

Your Name

Your Phone Number

Your Email Address

Please submit all nomination forms by midnight on
March 31, 2021

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COVID-19 UPDATE

Towards a safe and effective COVID-19 vaccine for Canada



We are ensuring that Canadians have access to vaccines as quickly as possible, while advancing our long-term delivery schedules to immunize more Canadians earlier.

With Pfizer and Moderna doses alone, Canada is on track to receive 84 million vaccines before the end of September, which means we are on track.

Canada.ca/coronavirus

Canada

Our deliveries of Pfizer and Moderna are also on track and by the end of Q1 Canada will have received 4 million Pfizer vaccines and 2 million Moderna vaccines, for a total of 6 million doses in Q1.



As the provincial lockdowns continue, and I am not allowed to hold events or meet with constituents in person, I enjoy chatting with people on the phone. I am also holding Zoom calls with students, local groups and organizations.

If your group would like to schedule one, please get in touch with my office. I would welcome the opportunity to participate and connect with you.

My next Facebook Live will take place on:

Monday, MARCH 8, 2021 at 7 p.m.
The Hon. Jean Augustine will be my guest.

She was the first woman MP for Etobicoke-Lakeshore and the first Black woman elected to the House of Commons and appointed to Cabinet. We will mark **International Women's Day** virtually this year and celebrate Jean's accomplishments and hear directly from her about her amazing journey.

