

# DAVENPORT NEWS—FIRST NATIONS

SUMMER/ FALL 2017

Dear Friends and Neighbours:

It continues to be an absolute pleasure to serve as your Member of Parliament and represent your views in Ottawa. Working for you means carrying forward your concerns to government colleagues in a timely way to ensure that positive changes are made in Davenport. I sincerely appreciate that so many of you have taken time to share your ideas and concerns with me. I am excited by the many great initiatives that our federal government has already taken this year and the direction where our community and country are headed.

I hope you've had a great summer. I've celebrated with you at a wide range of events, festivals, and activities around Davenport. We have had the opportunity for many interesting conversations. You've shared your news and you've also asked for more details about my work. Specifically, a number of you have asked for more information about new federal government legislation and announcements.

I will be sending out information notes such as this one to keep you informed and to help you obtain more information. To view all topics with relevant information links, I invite you to visit my website at [juliedzerowicz.ca](http://juliedzerowicz.ca).

It is wonderful to be back home in Toronto for the summer. I am grateful to every constituent who has taken the time to call, write, or stop by my office to voice concerns and express delight about topics that are important to you and our community. Your engaged efforts allow me to successfully advocate for you on your behalf and to make Davenport a healthier, more vibrant neighbourhood.

When the House of Commons is in session, I am in Ottawa from Monday to Thursday but always back in Davenport on Friday and the weekends. As always do not hesitate to contact me if there is anything on your mind or if I can be of service to you and your family.

It is a pleasure and a privilege to serve you,

Julie Dzerowicz

Member of Parliament, Davenport

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT  
for DAVENPORT

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DZEROWICZ**



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WORKING HARD FOR OUR  
COMMUNITY

**JULIEDZEROWICZ.CA**

TRABALHANDO ARDUAMENTE  
PARA A NOSSA COMUNIDADE



*MP Julie Dzerowicz speaking with the Metis Nations of Ontario Senator Constance Simmonds at a Davenport Indigenous Roundtable*



*MP Julie Dzerowicz with the Chief of the Metis Nation, Clément Chartier on Parliament Hill*

ADVANCING RECONCILIATION

**NEW FUNDING AND STEPS TO FURTHER SUPPORT INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES**

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has continually stated that no relationship is more important to Canada than the relationship with our Indigenous Peoples. The federal government is committed to building a new nation-to-nation relationship – one based on respect, partnership, and recognition of rights.

I have heard from some of you that a lot of promises have been made but little action has been taken and I want to assure you that this is far from the case.

In Budget 2016, our federal government made a historic investment of \$8.4 billion towards building homes, schools, health and water treatment facilities on reserves across Canada. For too long we have heard of stories about homes on reserves with mold, lack of school and health care facilities and too many boil water advisories.

Indigenous children have had less funding for education and health care than non-Indigenous Canadians. The historic Budget 2016 investment – in addition to the \$828 million in Budget 2017 – goes a long way to address these issues. But change will not happen overnight. It will take more than two years to build new water facilities, new schools, and improve the health outcomes on reserves. Each reserve across the country has a different set of capacities and needs that need to be taken into consideration.

Progress has been made: 26 Long Term Drinking Water Advisories (LTDWAs) have been lifted; over 201 water infrastructure projects have been initiated, and the federal government is still committed to ending all boil water advisories on reserves by 2021. We are implementing Jordan’s Principle – ensuring that each Indigenous child has the same access to health care as other Canadian children. Over \$828 million in Budget 2017 has been allocated to improving health and mental health outcomes – and we will not stop until each child gets the support and care that they need.

The federal government has also made a number of symbolic gestures that I believe are very important. Our Prime Minister recently announced that the historic Langevin Block will be renamed in light of Mr. Langevin’s association with the creation of residential schools system, and we have converted the former US Embassy on Wellington Avenue directly across the street from Parliament Hill, into a Centre for Indigenous Peoples.

I too am disappointed with the process issues and lack of progress of the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women Inquiry. I have no doubt of our government’s commitment to the Inquiry and have confidence that working with our Indigenous partners we will agree to a new process as quickly as possible.

Finally, at the local level, I am proud of the Indigenous roundtable discussion I hosted in my office to discuss how Davenport can contribute to building a new nation-to-nation relationship with Indigenous communities. Please let me know if you are interested in joining us at future meetings and discussion



**LEARN ABOUT INVESTMENTS IN INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES: [HTTPS://WWW.AADNC-AANDC.GC.CA/ENG/1490379083439/1490379208921](https://www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/eng/1490379083439/1490379208921)**

**YOUR THOUGHTS**

What aspects of reconciliation would you like to see the federal government advance further?

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**To return: Cut along the dotted line, place in envelope, and mail to the address below – no postage required.**

**Send to:** Julie Dzerowicz, Member of Parliament, 1202 Bloor Street West, Toronto, ON, M6H 1N2