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**Annual Report:** 

**Riding Referenda** 

(continued from the front flap)

This absence of direct democracy seems to me to be the greatest failing of Canadian democracy. So I have attempted, to the extent possible, to create a local facsimile, within our constituency. of such referenda.

To ensure that each Constituency Referendum will provide a fair and accurate measure of the will of local voters, each one is constructed as follows:

- 1. In each Constituency Referendum, eligible voters are invited to answer a neutrallyworded question: "Should Scott Reid, MP vote for Bill C-\_\_\_? Yes / No."
- 2. I design and mail out a publication to every household in the riding, modelled on the impartial Voter Information Booklets that are sent by the government to voters in state referenda in places like Washington State and California, where referenda are used frequently to decide public policy matters.
- 3. Because more than one voter can live at a single mailing address, the mail-out sent to each home includes an official ballot, with space for up to four voters (I've found that it is rare for a single household in my riding to contain more than four eligible voters); this ballot can be detached and mailed to my office, postage-free.

Here are some more details on how I make sure that the information I send out will be impartial.

As is done in jurisdictions such as California and Washington State, where referenda take place frequently, I send out, as a part of the materials circulated in connection with a Constituency Ref-

- a neutrally-worded explanation of the measure in question.
- arguments from public figures or experts on both sides of the issue (or more than two sides, if applicable, as was the case with the assisted dying legislation); and
- a link to a dedicated page on my website (this is a more recent addition) that provides direct links to information from advocacy organizations related to the issue.

For instance, in the case of C-14, the assisted dying bill, the webpage I set up was: www.ScottReid.ca/BillC-14. That page is still active on my website for you to view (a few of the links that were active at the time may now be expired).

Respondents are asked to include their address and the names of each participating voter on their ballot. This is so that I can confirm that each vote originated from within the riding and from an individual eligible to vote in federal elections (as per the Elections Canada list of electors). I protect your privacy by keeping the ballots I receive in a secure location, and by destroying every ballot following the House of Commons vote. I always make the results of the referendum public prior to the vote in the House of Commons.

Once a constituency referendum has been collected, and the votes counted, I always vote in the House of Commons as I was instructed by the voters in our riding---even when this has meant voting against every other member of my party, and even when this has meant voting against my own policy preferences. Democracy is only democracy when the majority really is in charge.

I have added a page to my website where I have placed information related to each riding referendum that I have held. You can see this information at: <a href="https://www.ScottReid.ca/category/">www.ScottReid.ca/category/</a> constituency-referenda/.

This autumn, I will mail out another riding referendum, in which I will be asking you how I should vote on the government's legislation to legalize the consumption, possession, sale, and cultivation of marijuana. The question you will be asked is: "Should Scott Reid. MP vote for Bill C-45. the Cannabis Act?"

At the bill's final vote in the House of Commons (known, technically, as the vote on "third reading"), I will vote according to the will of citizens in Lanark-Frontenac-Kingston.

I hope you find this flyer informative. Please feel free to contact me if you have any further questions or comments.

Sincerely,

Lanark-Frontenac-Kingston

**SCOTT REID'S** 

## Annual Report to Constituents

2017

Dear Constituent.

Since I was first elected back in 2000. I have conducted seven "Constituency Referenda" asking how I ought to vote on pieces of legislation under consideration in the House of Commons, I've held several other referenda on other issues of similar importance (for example, on a \$25,000 pay increase for MPs, back in 2001, and on electoral reform in 2016). Given this long history, I thought I might take the opportunity, in this year's Annual Report, to explain why I do this.

First of all, I have always believed that Canada's citizens, not our politicians, should have the final say in the nation's most important policy decisions. The voters of Canada are no less thoughtful or reasonable than are their elected officials.

In some jurisdictions, including Switzerland and many American states, the People regularly get to vote directly, via referenda, on all truly critical legislation. But that is not how things usually work here in Canada (in living memory, our only national referendum was in 1992, on the Charlottetown Accord).

(continued on the inside flap)

Constituency Offices

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Toll-Free Fax 1-844-690-8358



Perth 105 Dufferin Square, Unit 1 Perth K7H 3A5

613-267-8239



Parliament Hill House of Commons Ottawa K1A 0A6

613-947-2277

www.scottreid.ca

www.scottreid.ca

Email me: scott.reid@parl.gc.ca

### Around the Riding:

Some activities I've attended around our constituency.

— Scott R.

LANARK

COUNTY

FRONTENAC COUNTY

KINGSTON T

**KINGSTON** 

Burying a time capsule for Canada's 150th



**CENTRAL FRONTENAC** 

Practice session with Parham Station, Central Frontenac Fire Department



SOUTH FRONTENAC
Canada Day



**ALMONTE**21st Annual Celtfest



SMITHS FALLS
Two Rivers Food Hub



**PERTH**Donating a defibrillator at The Table

#### **Annual Report: Financial Report**

# OPERATING BUDGET FOR THE MOST RECENTLY-PUBLISHED FISCAL YEAR

This report outlines the money spent by the office of Scott Reid during the most recently-published fiscal year (ending March 31, 2017). It compares Scott's total to the average expenses of all MPs, and provides Scott's ranking amongst all 338 MPs.

"Member's Office Budget" plus goods & services provided by the House of Commons	MP Average 338 MPs* (2016/17)	Scott Reid (2016/17)	Scott's Ranking (out of 338)
Staff Salaries and Service Contracts	\$252,291.67	\$294,400.71	24th
Travel & Residence Allowances (incl. housing allowances, per diems, and MP & staff travel)	\$68,974.40	\$0	338th
Hospitality, Gifts, and Events	\$4,741.02	\$2,400.00	250th
Advertising	\$16,703.14	\$6,016.00	292nd
Printing	\$16,399.56	\$7,373.31	297th
Office Leases	\$34,063.98	\$42,298.79	57th
Office Furniture and Equipment	\$4,094.68	\$3,982.25	133rd
Telecommunication Services	\$14,029.92	\$9,847.10	284th
Office Materials, Repairs, Postage & Training	\$9,802.70	\$2,774.45	329th
Total Spending	\$419,681.78	\$369,092.61	290th

\* A small number of MPs resigned or were elected in by-elections (and one passed away in office). Figures for those seats are pro-rated to a full year.

For a more detailed breakdown of my expenses, visit the Parliamentary website:

http://www.parl.gc.ca/membersexpenses.

#### Annual Survey:

- ☐ YES! Scott Reid is doing a good job of representing me.
- NO! Scott Reid is NOT doing a good job of representing

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Name:	
Address (incl. Road & 911 locator #)	:
Town:	_
Postal Code:	
Phone:	_
Email:	
Comments:	_ _ _ _
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Cut Along this Line