



Colin Carrie MP Oshawa

Celebrating Seniors in Oshawa

Oshawa, Ontario, September 19th 2011—To mark Canada’s first national Seniors Day, October 1, 2011, Colin Carrie, Member of Parliament for Oshawa and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Health, spoke out on the importance of this inaugural event.

“National Seniors Day is an occasion to celebrate seniors,” said Colin Carrie. “Today we recognize the many contributions seniors have made and we thank them and we thank them for continuing to be mentors and leaders in our communities.”

Legislation to introduce a National Seniors Day was first put forward by the Conservative Government in June 2010. The legislation received Royal Assent on November 18, 2010. Establishing National Seniors Day fulfills a Government of Canada commitment made in the 2010 Speech from the Throne. National Seniors Day will be celebrated every year on October 1. This date coincides with the United Nations International Day of Older Persons, and is an opportunity for Canadians to show their appreciation for the contributions of seniors to our country's past, present and future.

National Seniors Day is one of a number of initiatives that the Conservative Government has undertaken in recent years. In the most recent federal budget, the Conservative Government introduced the following: a new Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) top-up benefit to help Canada’s most vulnerable seniors; \$10 million over two years to increase funding for the New Horizons for Seniors Program, bringing the program’s total 2011–2012 budget to \$45 million; and \$50 million over two years to extend the Targeted Initiative for Older Workers until 2013–2014.

For tips and resources on how to celebrate the seniors in your life, or for more information on National Seniors Day and the Government’s programs and services for seniors, please visit www.seniors.gc.ca

- 30 -

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT

Greg Howard, Office of Colin Carrie MP, 613-996-0411