



Julie Dzerowicz
Member of Parliament / Députée
Davenport



Davenport friends and neighbours,

I have heard from a number of you about the federal government's decision to acquire the Trans Mountain Expansion (TMX) project from Kinder Morgan. I want to thank everyone who has taken the time to send me an email, leave a voicemail, or visit my office in Davenport. I want to address the concerns you've raised, and offer you some insight into my own thinking on the situation.

The majority of you have asked me how the purchasing of Kinder Morgan impacts 1) the federal government's commitments *to move towards a low-carbon economy*, 2) *what was the reasoning behind the Canadian government buying the pipeline and*, 3) *how this will impact reconciliation with Canada's Indigenous peoples*.

Our government remains committed **to transitioning to a low-carbon economy** and have made significant investments and taken concrete major steps. The vast majority of Canadians are still using fossil fuels to keep their homes, vehicles, computers/smartphones going, so the transition to a low-carbon economy will not be an immediate process - as much as I wish it was.

We launched a \$2-billion [Low Carbon Economy Fund](#) as part of the [Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change](#), which will help to reduce emissions, create jobs, and deliver clean growth while meeting or exceeding our [Paris Climate Accord targets](#). Additional actions include:

- [Putting a price on carbon pollution](#);
- [Investing \\$1.3-billion to protect land and water in Canada](#);
- [Leading a global coalition to phase out coal power](#);
- [Banning microbeads](#);
- [Investing \\$2.65-billion to support climate action in developing countries](#);
- [Investing \\$80-million to combat oil spills](#), which represent Premier Horgan's concern with TMX;
- [Investing \\$700-million through the Business Development Bank of Canada to grow our clean technology industry](#); and,
- [A historic \\$8.34-billion investment in public transit across Ontario, including \\$4.8-billion for Toronto](#).



Ottawa
Room 502
Justice Building
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6
Tel.: 613-992-2576

Constituency
1202 Bloor Street West
Toronto, Ontario
M6H 1N2
Tel.: 416-654-8048
Fax.: 416-654-5083

Ottawa
Pièce 502
Édifice de la Justice
Ottawa (Ontario)
K1A 0A6
Tel. : 613-992-2576

Circonscription
1202, rue Bloor ouest
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Why did the federal government buy the Kinder Morgan TMX pipeline?

While honouring our Paris Accord commitments and staying within planned emission levels, as long as oil is still a key part of the Alberta economy, we would like to receive market value for all exports. Currently, most Alberta oil is being sent to the US and sold at a \$15-billion discount. Kinder Morgan TMX pipeline, will allow Alberta oil to flow to Asian markets at global rates (i.e. \$15 billion more for schools, healthcare, clean energy, etc.). I know there are many, including B.C. Premier Horgan who have indicated that they are worried about possible oil spills from increased oil tankers; we have created a world class oil spill strategy and the new pipeline will result in one extra tanker daily. To be clear, the Kinder Morgan TMX pipeline will not compromise our Paris Accord commitments and will not increase our existing emission levels.

The TMX strategy has already been approved - the livelihoods of thousands of people and jobs depend on its completion. The NDP government in Alberta has done an excellent job of taking steps to lower its carbon footprint, but it would be impossible to sustain long-term public support for progressive environmental policies if 15,000 jobs disappeared overnight.

Finally, I know how important our commitment to reconciliation with Indigenous peoples is to members of our community in Davenport. The decision to approve the TMX project was made after an extensive and unprecedented set of consultations with Indigenous peoples. While some have certainly voiced their opposition to the project, 43 potentially-impacted Indigenous communities support it.

Our federal government co-developed an Indigenous Advisory Monitoring Committee in conjunction with B.C. and Alberta First Nations which enables them to be part of the review and monitoring of the TMX project from beginning to end, and ensures that it will move forward in the safest and most sustainable way possible. We also continue to make progress on rebuilding trust and improving living conditions for First Nations communities. Here are a few examples:

- [On track to end all long-term water advisories by March 2021, with 64 advisories lifted and 444,000 people in 275 communities benefiting from 587 completed or ongoing water projects;](#)
- [\\$1.6-billion in federal funding for Indigenous-led Wataynikaneyap Power. This will connect 16 First Nations to Ontario's provincial power grid, providing these communities with clean, safe and reliable energy that will also reduce greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to taking 35,000 cars off the road;](#)



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- [Launching the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls;](#)
- [Building 3790 homes in 362 First Nations Communities;](#)
- [Reached an Agreement-In-Principle to support survivors of the Sixties-Scoop;](#)
- [Completed 70 community infrastructure projects, providing 163,000 people with new playgrounds, youth centres and sports fields;](#) and,
- [Tripled and ensured ongoing funding for the First Nations Policing Program to provide dedicated, responsive support to more than 450 Indigenous communities.](#)

In the end, I know that many Canadians would have preferred that our government didn't need to buy a pipeline. I would have preferred that too! But this difficult decision was made in the national interest, while Canada is transitioning towards a low-carbon economy, and has the full backing of the federal government.

Know that I will never stop pushing for progress on combatting climate change, protecting our environment, and rebuilding our relationships with Indigenous peoples. As always, I am available to meet with Davenport residents to answer any additional questions you may have.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julie Dzerowicz".

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