

OMAR ALGHABRA

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT · MISSISSAUGA-ERINDALE

Critic for Citizenship and Immigration



The Alghabra Formula

JULY 2007

www.omaralghabra.ca

HAPPY 140th CANADA DAY!

Dear Constituent,

Thank you for taking the time to read the July edition of my "Alghabra Formula" newsletter. Canada is celebrating its 140th birthday this year and I want to wish all Canadians a very happy Canada Day.

As your Member of Parliament, I have been working hard on your behalf in Ottawa and in Mississauga. I consider myself part of a new generation of political representatives who have a deep understanding of the enormous responsibility we carry. These responsibilities bring serious challenges and offer promising opportunities. These responsibilities require MPs to be thoughtful, rational and deliberate in their actions and positions.

Canadians expect their political representatives to remain in touch with their constituents, to understand their needs and to pursue our collective aspiration as a strong country.

I have been working tirelessly with my team to promote and protect the Canada that you and I are proud of and also to build a country that will continue to be an example for the rest of the world. I have been doing so in two ways: first, by exposing the ideology and failed policies of Prime Minister Stephen Harper and their negative impact on the future of our nation, and second, by offering and promoting a vision and policy proposals that respond directly to the obstacles and opportunities that this generation is facing, and that future generations will encounter.

I am pleased to provide you with a summary of my accomplishments as your MP:

- **Strong voice in Ottawa:** You can review the transcripts of my contributions to various debates and discussions on my website at www.omaralghabra.ca.
- **Strong presence in Mississauga:** I have established and maintained an ongoing presence in the community and continuous communication with different stakeholders and constituents to ensure that their needs are responded to and addressed.
- **Strong policy advocate:** Through my statements, letters and newsletters, I have focused on matters of concern to all Canadians.
- **Honest communication:** My frequent newsletters and emails are meant to maintain a transparent and honest dialogue with all constituents.
- **Strong focus on constituents:** My staff and I have been offering exceptional service to our constituents.

I pledge to continue to work on initiatives that will promote a richer, fairer, safer and greener Canada with an independent voice in the international arena. If you wish to receive my weekly email newsletter that provides information on my activities each week, please sign up for my "Alghabra Bulletin" by sending an email to alghao1@parl.gc.ca.

Enjoy your summer and I look forward to seeing you at this summer's community BBQ.

Omar Alghabra, M.P.
Critic for Citizenship and Immigration

COMMUNITY BBQ

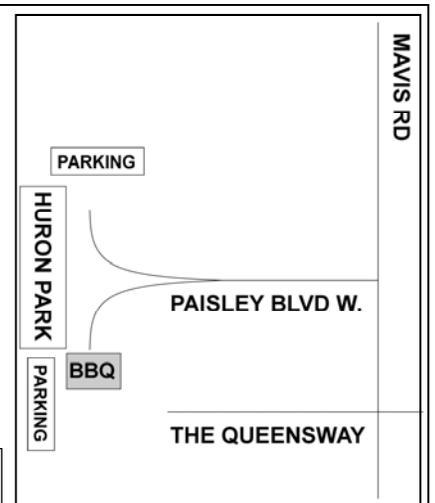
With Special Guest, the Hon. Ken Dryden, MP

Saturday, July 28th, 1 – 3:30 pm

Huron Park: 830 Paisley Blvd. West

Food • Drinks • Kids' Activities

A family event hosted by Omar Alghabra, MP and Minister Harinder Takhar, MPP



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Strengthening our Hate Laws

On April 19, Omar made a statement in the House of Commons condemning all forms of hate speech and calling for support for a motion to strengthen hate laws. The motion was put forward by Borys Wrzesnewskyj, MP for Etobicoke Centre and was introduced as follows:

Mr. Borys Wrzesnewskyj (Etobicoke Centre):

Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. Discussions have taken place among all parties with respect to Bill C-254, An Act to amend the Criminal Code (hate propaganda), first introduced during the 38th Parliament and reintroduced on May 24, 2006. This bill at long last includes the legal word for “gender” in the definition of what constitutes a hate crime.

I hope to find consent for the following motion:

That, notwithstanding any Standing Order or usual practice of the House, Bill C-254, An Act to amend the Criminal Code (hate propaganda), an act to amend the Criminal Code (hate propaganda), be deemed read a second time, referred to committee of the whole, deemed considered in committee of the whole, deemed reported without amendment, deemed concurred in at report stage and deemed read a third time and passed.

Mr. Omar Alghabra (Mississauga—Erindale):

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call on all parliamentarians to join me in condemning all forms of hate speech. Unfortunately, occasionally we see hate and intolerance rear its ugly head among us. On April 4 a small explosion outside a Jewish community centre in Montreal sent a chill as many Canadians celebrated Passover. Last week Professor Muriel Walker of McMaster University had hateful and racist slurs painted on her office door because she promoted understanding about Muslim Canadians.

These acts of cowardice and hate disgust all Canadians. As we celebrate the 25th anniversary of the charter, I am proud that our laws and institutions stand firm against hate. Today my colleague from Etobicoke Centre will be tabling a motion to strengthen our hate laws by adding gender as an unacceptable basis for discrimination and hate. I am calling on all parliamentarians to offer their unanimous consent to adopt this motion. Last Parliament some Conservative members refused to do so and I hope this time they will reconsider. We all must stand together against all forms of hate.