

# PARLIAMENTARY REPORT



**The Hon. John McKay, P.C., M.P.**  
**Scarborough-Guildwood**

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## THE VALUE OF IMMIGRATION TO CANADA

The past several months have seen a series of world-wide changes that have caused turmoil in every country, including our own. Troubling economic losses have resulted in job losses and financial disruption for too many families, and the lack of response by the federal government has added to the problem for Canadians.

In the midst of this situation, the Liberal Party of Canada has chosen a leader for our times, whose views on the issues facing us give me renewed hope in this period of crisis. This is the first of a series of articles outlining where we stand on the vital areas of immigration, the environment, national unity and the economy.

### **AN UNACCEPTABLE BACKLOG**

Our immigration system is not working the way it should. We have huge queues of potential new Canadians waiting to be admitted, and an economy that can't afford to wait for them.

### **FAMILIES KEPT APART**

We have families desperately waiting for their loved ones, as the success gap between newcomers and the rest of the population has continued to grow.

### **OUTDATED POLICIES**

We have a patchwork of policies that stifle success and deter hope.

### **WASTED TALENTS**

As a country, we cannot afford to let skills go to waste, nor can we afford to have new Canadians fall behind. Our economic

success depends on our ability to mobilize the talents and ingenuity of every Canadian.

### **INVESTMENT IN POTENTIAL**

Michael Ignatieff stands for policies that would harness the potential of all our population by investing in the **language training, skills training and accreditation** that new Canadians need in order to contribute to the best of their abilities.

**"It's time to be nation builders again. As soon as we have improved our application process, we need to ultimately boost immigration, and we also need to do more for new Canadians already here."**

*Michael Ignatieff,  
Leader of the Official  
Opposition*

## MICHAEL IGNATIEFF - A LEADER FOR OUR TIMES

Michael Ignatieff is an author, journalist, scholar and skilled parliamentarian. He was elected as their MP by the people of Etobicoke-Lakeshore in 2006, re-elected in 2008 and unanimously chosen by his colleagues and a cross-section of men and women across Canada as leader of the Liberals in the House of Commons.

### **TORONTO ROOTS**

Growing up, Michael studied at the University of Toronto, just a short distance from where he and his family still live. After continuing his studies at Oxford and Harvard, he returned to Canada to teach history at UBC in Vancouver. He has also taught at Cambridge, l'école des Haut Études in Paris, and Harvard.

### **REPRESENTING CANADA ABROAD**

He is one of Canada's leading voices on the world stage in the field of human rights, democracy and international affairs. He contributed to the World Economic Forum and served on several international commissions considering the future of NATO, citizenship and minority rights. In 2001, Michael was appointed as a Canadian Commissioner on the International Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty, an effort

to help guide a UN response to crises such as Kosovo, Rwanda and Darfur.

### **A MANY-FACETED CAREER**

His wide-ranging career includes broadcasting, hosting programs on the CBC, TVO and the BBC. He has written 16 books, many in the area of his passionate concern for human rights and freedoms.

### **ON THE POLITICAL SCENE**

Ignatieff has been a member of the Liberal Party for forty years, starting out by knocking on doors for Lester B. Pearson in 1965 and serving as a delegate and National Youth Coordinator for Pierre Trudeau in 1968. The values he learned at the side of such towering figures as Pearson and Trudeau have

**"I am proud to call Michael Ignatieff a friend and colleague. Canada is well served when men and women of his stature offer themselves in the governance of our country."**

*John McKay*

followed him through his career, inspiring his writing, teaching and decades-long commitment to public policy.

### **PREPARED FOR THE CHALLENGES**

This is a man whose whole life has prepared him for the great challenges facing Canada today. He brings a world view, a formidable intellect and the ability to build a team of colleagues who will work together, using each one's gifts in all the vital areas of legislation our country needs.

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