



Statement

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World Environment Day and National Clean Air Day

Ottawa - The residents of Thornhill have consistently worked hard to build a community that will provide their children and themselves a sustainable, healthy, and livable environment. Residents of our community and Canadians are now becoming increasingly vocal about the need to ensure that the federal government is doing its part to improve our environment and to make serious commitments to fight climate change, smog, and improve air quality.

In Ottawa, I am working with Stephane Dion to pressure the government to live up to Canada's international commitments and become an international leader on environmental issues. Unfortunately Stephen Harper and the conservative government have been reluctant to ensure that Canada meets our obligations under the Kyoto Protocol.

This week we recognize both World Environment Day and National Clean Air Day. Both days are designed to empower individuals to take responsibility for the environment. World Environment Day was established in 1972 by the United Nations General Assembly to mark the opening of the Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment. World Environment Day is meant to give

a human face to environmental issues and is commemorated around the world.

This years theme is “Melting Ice – A Hot Topic” to bring attention to the effects that climate change is having on polar ecosystems and communities, and the ensuing consequences around the world. Clean Air Day is celebrated on June 6th and was established by the federal government in 1988 to ensure a healthy environment by targeting transportation issues. Clean Air Day encourages environmentally-friendly activities that promote clean air and good health across Canada.

While I continue my efforts in Ottawa to support environmental legislation that will have a positive impact in the fight against climate change, World Environment Day, and Clean Air Day are reminders that individual choices regarding transportation, use of household products, and the use of clean energy all have a significant impacts on our environment. Let us all do our part.

For more information visit:

<http://www.unep.org/wed/2007/english/>

<http://www.cleanairday.com/>