

## Looking Back

# Economic Forums 2009: Results for the Northwest

Last year, in the midst of one of the country's economic crisis, individuals from across the Northwest came out to share their ideas for building new opportunities throughout the region. The conversations in each of the 10 communities visited helped to shape priorities for Nathan and his team to work on during the year.

With the vision laid out at the economic forums and through cooperation and hard work by communities, businesses, and non-profits alike, we were able to help bring more than \$60 million in federal funding to support all kinds of projects across the riding. We also got a commitment for \$130 million to build the highway 37 transmission line.

### You Told Us:

The Forums are a great way to connect with people in our community to discuss important ideas

El must be reformed to extend the benefits period for laid off workers

Infrastructure dollars would be well used to create cultural and recreational facilities in municipalities across the riding

Stimulus money should be focused on creating local jobs and helping people get training and skills to find new employment

We need to think forward to new and innovative sustainable resource projects that balance social, economic and environmental benefits.

Government must protect our pensions. People are relying on their CPP and OAS to support them in retirement

### And We Worked To:

Do it all over again – We are thrilled to be here!

Secure an additional \$1 billion to extend EI benefits by up to 5 weeks

Help dozens of projects secure more than \$5 million in federal funding to build and restore great recreation and cultural facilities throughout the region

Get funding for new job-training programs and projects to create new value-added employment in the riding

Create 'Renewal Northwest' – a gathering of community and business leaders from across the riding focused on planning new economic opportunities for the region

Introduce a comprehensive Pension Reform plan, with our caucus colleagues. The proposal would strengthen CPP and OAS and double the benefits through just a 2.5% contribution increase

We are very excited to be on the road for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Economic Forums Tour and can't wait to get to work on the ideas and priorities you share with us.

**Let's Get Started!**

