

3. Most surprising / unexpected moment so far?

I was extremely surprised that a bus load of people took time from their workdays to travel to Toronto to observe my swearing-in as an MPP. Being recognized by complete strangers is another unexpected aspect of my job as MPP.

4. What was your first month like?

Just like when you start any new position, as a newly elected MPP, I had a large learning curve and continue to learn new things about my position. I took seminars on parliamentary procedure, house operations and have generally taken time to learn how to transition from a political candidate to an elected legislator.

5. Biggest difference between your Queen's Park duties and your constituency duties?

It is most clear when comparing the two aspects of this position. At home and in the constituency, local issues matter. Local people, local politics, local issues and local solutions; whereas while in Toronto there is lots of time spent meeting and discussing issues, but they tend to be larger issues, bigger projects, et cetera. I will enjoy being a constituency-based MPP and work hard for my constituents, trying to resolve their problems and increase access to government programs and services on their behalf.

6. Tell us about your specific role at Queen's Park?

As Critic for Economic Development and Innovation, I have an important role. It is my duty to monitor and observe the Ministry of Economic Development and Innovation and generally hold the Minister's feet to the fire during daily question period and house duties. I am also a member of the PC Party Jobs Task Force and look forward to bringing my experience as a small businessman to the Task Force.

Next week's interview will be with the NDP's Monique Taylor, MPP for Hamilton-Mountain.

