



**Honourable Deepak Obhrai, P.C.**  
Member of Parliament  
Calgary Forest Lawn

# Media Release

For Immediate Release

April 13, 2016

## Obhrai thanks Canadians for their generosity for Syria through Emergency Relief Fund

(April 13, 2016 – Ottawa, ON) Conservative Party International Development Critic Deepak Obhrai today thanked Canadians for donating \$31.8 million to the Syria Emergency Relief Fund:

“On behalf of the Official Opposition, I thank Canadians for donating to the Syria Emergency Relief Fund, a programme started by our previous Conservative Government.

“I also extend our gratitude to the NGOs which are engaged in providing humanitarian assistance in Syria and neighbouring countries affected by the influx of refugees.

“We ask the government ensure that no Canadian aid money falls into the hands of Islamic State fighters. The Minister of International Development has previously said that there is no oversight on the part of the Government to ensure Canada’s aid dollars don’t go to enemy combatants. This would be a great disservice to Canadians who contributed their hard-earned dollars to the Syria Emergency Relief Fund.

“Our previous Conservative government provided over \$500 million dollars since the start of the Syrian war, for relief efforts and to help refugees stay closer to home and refrain from undertaking dangerous journeys while risking their lives.

“Canada has a role to play in ending this crisis. The Liberal government must invest in an increased diplomatic and political effort to resolve the conflict by neutralizing ISIS and allowing refugees to return to their homesteads. This includes contributing to coalition airstrikes which have been effective at degrading the ability of ISIS to harm civilians and further contribute to the refugee crisis,” Mr. Obhrai said.

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