



The Senate **REPORT**

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Senate Business Highlights

The work of the first session of the 37th Parliament continues at the Senate.

The many activities that have been undertaken include the presentation of important committee reports, the culmination of months of hearings, review and analysis into a range of public policy issues.

Since January, the Standing Senate Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology has presented three volumes of its interim reports on the federal government's role in the health of Canadians. The reports were, respectively, *Current Trends and Future Challenges* and *Health Care Systems in Other Countries*. On April 18, the Committee presented *Principles and Recommendations for Reform – Part I*, which outlines 20 fundamental principles for reforming the national health care system. The Committee Chair is Senator Michael Kirby; Deputy-Chair is Marjory LeBreton.

The Standing Senate Committee on Fisheries has presented its report, *Selected Themes on Canada's Freshwater and Northern Fisheries*. The Committee Chair is Senator Gerald J. Comeau; Joan Cook is Deputy-Chair. The study is intended to provide a better understanding of the fisheries in the North and to demonstrate its significance to household economies – and to help promote sustainable development.

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Senate Speaker Dan Hays, accompanied by the new parliamentary guides

The Standing Senate Committee on National Security and Defence issued *Canadian Security and Military Preparedness*, which covers, among other subjects, military funding and staffing issues and national security lapses at domestic airports, maritime ports and border crossings. Chair Senator Colin Kenny, and Deputy-Chair J. Michael Forrestall, presided over hearings in which 202 witnesses provided over 175 hours of testimony in hearings in Canada and the United States.

The Standing Senate Committee on National Finance, chaired by Senator Lowell Murray, has presented its fourteenth report, *On the Effectiveness of and Possible Improvements to the Present Equalization Policy*. The Committee recommended changes that will make the policy more consistent with the intent of equalization. The report notes that while the modifications "... will enrich the Equalization program, the increases – while significant for the recipient provinces – are in our opinion affordable for the federal treasury and appropriate for a program that is one of the pillars of Canadian federalism."

Senator's Forum

*The Honourable Marie-P. Poulin
(Charette), Senator*



Since being appointed to the Senate in 1995, I have been privileged to serve on more than seven committees. I have never ceased to be in awe at the complexity of issues that come before them, and I often marvel at the knowledge and intellect brought to committee hearings by witnesses. Their input underscores one of the principal purposes behind the Upper Chamber. In a word, it is relevancy.

Witnesses - ordinary Canadians and experts alike - can bring forth their views and concerns, and directly impact upon the legislative and investigative processes of our parliamentary system.

Too often, it is only when people experience first-hand the Senate's committee work that they come to realize and appreciate its value, and the contributions the institution makes to Canadian society through quality research and debate.

Whenever I am asked about the relevancy of the Senate, I recall a woman whose evidence to a Senate committee resulted in an important change to a piece of healthcare legislation. "Thank God for the Senate," she said.

As the former chair of a committee that studied communications and telecommunications industries, I am acutely aware of the power of the Internet and the influence of a highly competitive mass media on public opinion. All of this puts a tremendous burden on Members of the House of Commons to produce quick solutions to complicated situations.

In a time of rapid global change, the Senate's parliamentary function is needed as much today than ever before.

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Legislative Agenda

Some 20 Senate public bills are currently in various stages of examination in the Senate; two of these were added to the legislative agenda this year:

Senator Vivienne Poy introduced Bill **S-39**, *An Act to amend the National Anthem Act to include all Canadians*. The enactment substitutes the words "of us" for the words "thy sons" in the English version of the national anthem. Readers are no doubt aware that this proposal has garnered considerable public and media interest since it was announced.

Senator Nicholas W. Taylor introduced Bill **S-42**, *An Act to amend the Canada Post Corporation Act (householder mailings)*. This bill amends the *Canada Post Corporation Act* to authorize Senators to transmit, postage-free, up to four mailings of printed matter in any calendar year to a limited number of addressees residing in the province or territory represented by the Senator. At present, only Members of the House of Commons are authorized to send such mailings.

Since the beginning of the year, the government has introduced two bills in the Senate:

S-40, *An Act to amend the Payment Clearing and Settlement Act*, seeks to protect the netting agreements of a securities and derivatives clearing house and to such a clearing house to realize the collateral of a member in the event of the bankruptcy or insolvency.

S-41, *An Act to re-enact legislative instruments enacted in only one official language*, addresses certain legislative instruments that were originally enacted in only one official language so as to resolve any uncertainty with respect to their legal validity. Legislative instruments that were enacted in one official language but published in both official languages are automatically and retroactively re-enacted in both languages. The enactment also confers regulation-making powers on the Governor in Council to retroactively re-enact, in both official languages, legislative instruments that were enacted in one official language and published in that language only or not published at all.

Below you will find the status of various bills being examined in the Senate:

Government Bills introduced in the Senate

S-34, *An Act respecting royal assent to bills passed by the Houses of Parliament*

Reported with four amendments from the Standing

Committee on Rules, Procedures and the Rights of Parliament on March 6; an amendment was added at third reading.

S-40, *An Act to amend the Payment Clearing and Settlement Act*
Read a third time on March 19.

S-41, *An Act to re-enact legislative instruments enacted in only one official language*
In Committee: Legal and Constitutional Affairs.

Senators' Public Bills

S-6, *An Act to assist in the prevention of wrongdoing in the Public Service by establishing a framework for education and ethical practices in the workplace, for dealing with allegations of wrongdoing and for protecting whistleblowers* (Senator Noel Kinsella)
Reported from the National Finance Committee on March 28, 2001, with five amendments.

S-7, *An Act to amend the Broadcasting Act* (Senator Sheila Finestone, P.C.)
Adopted by the Senate and referred to the House of Commons for study and approval.

S-8, *An Act to maintain the principles relating to the role of the Senate as established by the Constitution of Canada* (Senator Serge Joyal, P.C.)
In Committee: Rules, Procedures and the Rights of Parliament.

S-9, *An Act to remove certain doubts regarding the meaning of marriage* (Senator Anne Cools)
Introduced and read a first time.

S-12, *An Act to amend the Statistics Act and the National Archives of Canada Act (Census Records)* (Senator Lorna Milne)

Reported from the Social Affairs, Science and Technology Committee on December 14 and referred back to the Committee on March 25.

S-18, *An Act to amend the Food and Drugs Act (clean drinking water)* (Senator Jeremiah Grafstein)
Reported without amendment from the Energy, Environment and Natural Resources Committee on November 27, 2001.

S-19, *An Act to amend the Canada Transportation Act* (Senator Michael Kirby)
In Committee: Transport and Communications.

S-20, *An Act to provide for increased transparency and objectivity in the selection of suitable individuals to be named to certain high public positions* (Senator Terry Stratton)
Introduced and read a first time.

S-21, *An Act to guarantee the human right to privacy* (Senator Sheila Finestone, P.C.)
Reported from the Social Affairs, Science and Technology Committee on December 14.

S-26, *An Act concerning personal watercraft in navigable waters* (Senator Mira Spivak)
In Committee: Transport and Communications.

S-29, *An Act to amend the Broadcasting Act (review of decisions)* (Senator Jean-Robert Gauthier)
In Committee: Transport and Communications.

S-30, *An Act to amend the Canada Corporations Act (corporations sole)* (Senator Norman Atkins)
In Committee: Banking, Trade and Commerce.

S-32, *An Act to amend the Official Languages Act (fostering of English and French)* (Senator Jean-Robert Gauthier)
In Committee: Legal and Constitutional Affairs.

S-35, *An Act to honour Louis Riel and the Metis People* (Senator Thelma Chalifoux)
Introduced and read a first time.

S-36, *An Act respecting Canadian citizenship* (Senator Noel Kinsella)
In Committee: Social Affairs, Science and Technology.

S-37, *An Act respecting a National Acadian Day* (Senator Gerald J. Comeau)
In Committee: Social Affairs, Science and Technology.

S-38, *An Act declaring the Crown's recognition of self-government for the First Nations of Canada* (Senator Gerry St. Germain, P.C.)
Introduced and read a first time.

S-39, *An Act to amend the National Anthem Act to include all Canadians* (Senator Vivienne Poy)
Introduced and read a first time.

S-42, *An Act to amend the Canada Post Corporation Act (householder mailings)* (Senator Nicholas W. Taylor)
Introduced and read a first time.

S-43, *An Act to protect heritage lighthouses* (Senator J. Michael Forrestall)
Introduced and read a first time.

Government Bills introduced in the House of Commons

C-10, *An Act respecting the national marine conservation areas of Canada*
In Committee: Energy, Environment and Natural Resources.

C-15A, An Act to amend the Criminal Code and to amend other Acts
Reported from the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee with a total of three amendments; Returned to the Senate with amendment.

C-23, An Act to amend the Competition Act and the Competition Tribunal Act.
Read a third time on May 9.

C-27, An Act respecting the long-term management of nuclear fuel waste
In Committee: Energy, Environment and Natural Resources.

C-43, An Act to amend certain Acts and instruments and to repeal the Fisheries Prices Support Act
In Committee: Legal and Constitutional Affairs.

C-50, An Act to amend certain Acts as a result of the accession of the People's Republic of China to the Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization
In Committee: Foreign Affairs

Commons Public Bills

C-441, An Act to change the names of certain electoral districts
Introduced and read a first time April 23.

Committee Activities

The Standing Committee on **National Security and Defence** was “on the road”, visiting defence and port facilities in Halifax and Gagetown.

In hearings held in Ottawa, officials from several government departments and agencies, including Foreign Affairs and International Trade, Canada Customs and Revenue,

Transport Canada, Citizenship and Immigration, Solicitor General, the RCMP and National Defence, appeared before the Committee.

Committee members travelled to Washington, DC, February 4-7, to speak to US Congressional and Administration officials, as well as to meet with representatives from think-tanks such as the Brookings Institution and the Carnegie Foundation. Among the witnesses were the Senators' US counterparts from the Senate and House Select Committees on Intelligence; the Senate and House Armed Services, and the Senate Judiciary Committee. Agenda items included bilateral military and security issues, homeland security co-operation and US-Canada defence arrangements.

The results of these meetings and

March 2002. The Report contains 19 recommendations on funding and staffing related to Canada's defence and deterrence capacity against military and terrorist threats. The recommendations also identify and address national security lapses that have occurred at national airports, maritime ports and border crossings. They include the following:

Defence

1. The Committee recommends that to sustain the level of tasking required of them over the last eight years, the Canadian Forces need at least 75,000 trained effective personnel.
2. The Committee accordingly recommends an immediate increase to the Department of National Defence baseline budget of \$4 billion.



From left to right, in front of the HMCS (submarine) Windsor: Senator Tommy Banks, Lt. Commander Arthur Wamback, Commanding Officer; Senators Michael A. Meighen, Colin Kenny, J. Michael Forrestall, John (Jack) Wiebe, Norman K. Atkins, Jane Cordy, Joseph A. Day and Laurier L. LaPierre

investigations, in addition to the preparatory work that was done in fall 2001, resulted in the report *Canadian Security and Military Preparedness*, presented to the Senate in

3. The Committee therefore recommends future annual budget increases, which are realistic, purpose-driven and adjusted for inflation.



In front of a Sea King helicopter: Colonel Joe Hincke, Commanding Officer, 12 Wing Shearwater; Lt. Colonel Wayne Krause, Commanding Officer, 423 Squadron Maritime Helicopter; and Chief Warrant Officer Bruce Amos 423 Squadron. From top left: Senators Laurier L. LaPierre, J. Michael Forrestall, Norman K. Atkins, Colin Kenny, Jane Cordy, Michael A. Meighen, John (Jack) Wiebe, Joseph A. Day, and Tommy Banks

determine what level of examination of containers will provide effective security; and

b. receive the funding necessary to equip significant ports and major border crossings with X Ray machines and other appropriate technology to inspect high risk containers.

Issues covered during the hearings included the state of agriculture in the Maritimes; obstacles to the expansion of the industry; stakeholder reaction to the national action plan to make Canada the world leader in food safety, innovation and environmental protection, agreed to by federal, provincial and territorial Ministers of Agriculture; the impact of the 2001 drought in the region; the international trade of agricultural products; and agricultural research.

The Committee concluded that Canada needs a comprehensive, flexible, national strategy to support and protect farmers and will examine what policies, laws and regulations need amendment or creation in order to realize such a strategy.

4. The Committee believes that Defence Policy should flow from Foreign Policy and that a Foreign Policy review should precede a Defence review.

National Security

5. The Committee recommends a full review of the fencing and entry/exit security systems currently in place at Canada's significant ports to determine their adequacy. This review should also consider the introduction of national standards for port security systems.

6. The Committee recommends the introduction of a compulsory background screening system at significant ports to identify from among those employees or candidates for employment, those persons who are identified by the Canadian Security Intelligence Service as posing a security risk.

7. The Committee recommends that in Canada's ports the Customs and Revenue Agency:

a. conduct sensitivity analysis to

The work of other Committees is summarized below.

Aboriginal Peoples continues its work on an urban Aboriginal youth study and has heard from several government witnesses. In continuing efforts to develop an "Action Plan for Change," the Committee will begin hearing from Aboriginal groups, including youth.

The Committee is expected to report its findings this summer. In addition to the special study, the Committee reported Bill C-37, *Claim Settlements (Alberta and Saskatchewan) Implementation Act*, without amendment.

Agriculture and Forestry undertook a fact-finding mission to New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia in February. Over 30 witnesses representing provincial and municipal governments, industry associations, processors, marketers and other non-governmental organizations, appeared before the Committee, as did operators of large and small dairy, potato, vegetable and organic farms.

Banking, Trade and Commerce finished its study into Canada-United States border issues. During hearings, the Committee heard from representatives of the Air Transport Association of Canada, the Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters, Canadian Trucking Alliance, the Canadian Vehicle Manufacturers' Association, the Conference Board of Canada, the Customs Excise Union, the Privy Council Office and the Railways Association of Canada. The report of the Committee is expected later this spring.

The Banking Committee also examined and reported to the Senate Bill C-41, *An Act to amend the Canadian Commercial Corporation Act*. It is also holding hearings on Bill C-23, *An Act to amend the Competition Act and the Competition Tribunal Act*.

As part of its study into the state of the domestic and international financial system, the Committee heard from David Dodge, Governor of the Bank of Canada.

Energy, the Environment and Natural Resources reported on Bill C-39, *An Act to replace the Yukon Act in order to modernize it and to implement certain provisions of the Yukon Northern Affairs Program Devolution Transfer Agreement, and to repeal and make amendments to other Act*. The Committee held hearings on the Bill and passed it without amendment.

The Committee is continuing its examination of Bill C-33, *An Act respecting the water resources of*

renewable energy, deregulation of electricity markets and supply and demand.

Fisheries submitted its report, *Selected Themes On Canada's Freshwater and Northern Fisheries*, in February. The study began in May 2000 and continued through both the 36th and 37th Parliaments. With two million lakes and rivers covering almost eight per cent of land mass, Canada has the world's largest freshwater system. As well, 60 per cent of Canada's freshwater flows

north toward the Arctic, which accounts for about two-thirds of the country's maritime coastline. Due to the region's expanse and diversity in terms of climatic conditions, fish species, fish habitat, fishing activity, and because of the many government jurisdictions involved, the

Committee limited the scope of its report to Lake Winnipeg, Nunavut, the Northwest Territories, and Nunavik (northern Quebec).

A major recommendation of the report was increased funding for multi-year fish stock and marine mammal assessments and related research capabilities in support of co-management in the North. The Committee also recommended that the work undertaken by the Freshwater Institute in support of sustainable development be expanded in the Lake Winnipeg watershed and in the North.

Human Rights' report identified a number of areas of concern with respect to Canada's human rights system, included a number of immediate recommendations, and also noted several issues for future study.

The Committee is following up on these findings with a study of Canada's adherence to international human rights instruments. This will include an examination of the processes whereby Canada enters into such agreements, as well as implementation and reporting procedures. This study will include an examination of the status of Canada's adherence to various human rights treaties and an investigation of the possibility of Canada adhering to the American Convention on Human Rights. In addition, the Committee will study parliamentary and public involvement in human rights agreements.

The Committee held a day of hearings to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms on April 15.

The Special Committee on **Illegal Drugs** continues its study into Canada's policies relating to cannabis. The Committee heard extensive testimony on experiences with alternative drug policies in Switzerland. National organizations and experts on international law will round out the Special Committee's information gathering phase.

The Special Committee is currently planning the second phase of its study, i.e., consulting with Canadians on the information it has received and some of the policy implications that might be considered in light of this information. A detailed discussion paper is expected to be distributed in advance of these hearings, which will take place in all regions of Canada.



From left to right: Senators Isobel Finnerty and Mira Spivak; Committee Clerk, Michel Patrice; Senator Nicholas W. Taylor; Barbara Grey, Permanent Mission of Canada to International Organisations, Vienna; Lynn Meyers, Library of Parliament; and Farouk U. Muhammed, Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries

Nunavut and the Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal and to make consequential amendments to other Acts. The Premier of Nunavut, Paul Okalik, is among the witnesses who have appeared before the Committee. The Energy Committee has begun its hearings on Bill C-10, *An Act respecting the national marine conservation areas of Canada*.

From February 24-March 1, Senators undertook a fact-finding mission to Sacramento and San Francisco. There they met with State legislators and representatives of utilities and environmental organizations on energy-related issues such as

Legal and Constitutional Affairs has begun its study of Bill **S-32**, *An Act to amend the Official Languages Act (fostering of English and French)*, proposed by Senator Jean-Robert Gauthier. The Commissioner of Official Languages has appeared before the Committee, which continues to hear witnesses on this Bill.

The Committee presented its report on Bill **C-15A**, *An Act to amend the Criminal Code and to amend other Acts* in February. Witnesses who appeared before the Committee made a number of recommendations, including: adding offences and other measures that provide additional protection to children from sexual exploitation, including exploitation involving use of the Internet; codifying and clarifying the review process for applications to the Minister of Justice with respect to allegations of miscarriage of justice; and reforming and modernizing criminal procedure.

In response, the Committee reported Bill **C-15A** with amendments on the protection of internet providers and the defense of artistic merit or the educational, scientific or medical purpose of written material that is alleged to constitute child pornography.

After holding hearings in fall 2001, the Standing Senate Committee on **National Finance** released its report on the effectiveness of, and possible improvements to, Canada's equalization policy. The report, issued on March 21, strongly favours the concept of equalization but urges changes to certain elements that it believes are inconsistent with the intent of equalization.

Among the two major changes recommended in the report are the removal of the ceiling on equalization payments to the provinces and

restoration of the 10-province standard in determining provincial entitlements under the equalization program.

In early March, the Committee held two meetings to examine the Supplementary Estimates (B) for the fiscal year 2001-2002 and the Main Estimates for the fiscal year 2002-2003. On both occasions, officials from the Treasury Board Secretariat appeared to answer questions on the Estimates.

Official Languages completed its hearings on the services offered in both official languages by Air Canada in the fall and has presented its final report, *Air Canada: Good intentions are not enough*. The Report reflected the witnesses' testimony that Air Canada is not meeting its obligations under the Official Languages Act. The Committee made 16 recommendations, addressed to both Air Canada and the federal government, on how Air Canada can better fulfill its bilingual service obligations.

Rules, Procedures and the Rights of Parliament presented its Ninth report, an updated version of the *Rules of the Senate*, on February 20. The Tenth Report, on Bill **S-34**, *An Act respecting royal assent to bills passed by the Houses of Parliament*, known as the *Royal Assent Act*, was tabled on March 5. Bill **S-34** provides the government with the alternative of a written declaration of Royal Assent. The written declaration provision provides a simpler, more expeditious and more practical alternative to Royal Assent in the Senate Chamber. Bills that receive Royal Assent by written declaration will be signed by the Governor General or her deputy. The legislation will be deemed effective after both Speakers have informed their respective Houses that Royal Assent has been

given. Under the new procedure proposed by the Committee, the customary Royal Assent, where all three elements of Parliament – the Commons, the Senate, and the Governor General or her representative – attend, will take place in the Senate Chamber at least twice a year. The Committee made several amendments to the Bill and also provided observations.

On March 6, the Senate adopted the Committee's report on Bill **S-34**, *An Act respecting royal assent to bills passed by the Houses of Parliament*.

The Committee is continuing its study on the Restructuring of Senate Committees and will report this spring. The Committee will also examine Bill **S-8**, *An Act to maintain the principles relating to the role of the Senate as established by the Constitution of Canada*, sponsored by Senator Serge Joyal, P.C.; assessing the time allocated to tributes in the Senate Chamber; and examining errors in the Official Parchments of Parliament. As well, the Committee, under the leadership of the Speaker of the Senate, Senator Dan Hays, will consider revisions to the Rules of the Senate.

Social Affairs, Science and Technology is continuing its study on the state of Canada's health care system. In January 2002, the Committee released Volumes Two and Three of its study. Volume Two examines existing and foreseeable pressures for change within the health care system, including an aging population; higher drug expenditures; technological advances in health care; disease trends; the health status of Aboriginals; human resources; health research and information; home care; and rural health. Volume Three reviews health care systems in other countries,

namely Australia, Germany, the Netherlands, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States. The fifth volume contains several recommendations, including the following:

Financing and assessing health care technology: That the federal government initiate a long-term program to assist provinces and territories in financing both the acquisition and ongoing operation of health care technology. Such a program should incorporate clear accountability mechanisms on the part of the provinces and territories on their use of these targeted federal funds. **Deploying a national health infostructure:** That, once the three-to five-year period is over, the federal government provide additional financial support to Canada Infoway Inc. so that Infoway develop, in collaboration with the provinces and territories, a national system of electronic health records.

Nurturing excellence in Canadian health research: That the federal government set, on a regular basis, national goals and priorities for health research in collaboration with all stakeholders.

Planning for human resources in health care: That the federal government: Work with provincial governments to ensure that all medical schools and schools of nursing receive the funding increments required to permit necessary enrolment expansion...

The Social Affairs Committee also examined Bill **C-11**, *The Immigration and Refugee Protection Act*. After receiving evidence from some 70 witnesses, the Committee passed the Bill without amendment, but attached to its report an extensive series of observations outlining concerns such as the lack of

resources to effectively implement Canada's immigration and refugee programs; the backlog of refugee claims; the Bill's broad regulation-making power; the definition of terrorism; and the appeal process.

The Committee dealt with two Private Members' Bills: Bill **S-12**, *An Act to amend the Statistics Act and the National Archives of Canada Act (census records)*, sponsored by Senator Lorna Milne, and the subject matter of Bill **S-21**, *An Act to guarantee the human right to privacy*, sponsored by (now-retired) Senator Sheila Finestone.

The **Transport and Communications Committee** has begun a special study on inter-city buses. Hearings were held in February in Ottawa, Montreal and Halifax. The Committee travelled by scheduled service bus to Montreal in order to see first-hand the type of service provided by bus carriers. Further public hearings are scheduled for early spring in Vancouver, Calgary and Toronto.

Veterans Affairs (a subcommittee of National Security and Defence) met with officials from Veterans Affairs Canada in Charlottetown on March 7 to discuss the department's work and the changing demands for its assistance. Issues covered by the Committee included pensions; appeal processes; post-traumatic stress syndrome; health care; and the home care program for veterans and their spouses.

Royal Assent

The fact that four Royal Assent ceremonies have taken place since the Senate reconvened after the New Year is a reflection of the myriad of legislation that has been considered by both Houses.

Twelve bills, two of which are Senate public bills, have received Royal Assent since February alone. Below are details of bills that are now incorporated in the Statutes of Canada.

Senate Public Bills

S-14, *An Act respecting Sir John A. Macdonald Day and Sir Wilfrid Laurier Day (Sir John A. Macdonald Day and the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Day Act)*. The bill was introduced by Senator John Lynch-Staunton, Leader of the Opposition in the Senate, in February 2001. The Act commemorates the former Prime Ministers' respective birthdays, i.e., January 11, as "Sir John A. Macdonald Day" and November 20, as "Sir Wilfrid Laurier Day".

S-22, *An Act to provide for the recognition of the Canadian Horse as the national horse of Canada*, introduced by Senator Lowell Murray in March 2001. This enactment declares the breed of horse known as the *Canadian Horse* to be the national horse of Canada.

Government Bills introduced in the House of Commons

Bill **C-7**, *An Act in respect of criminal justice for young persons and to amend and repeal other Acts* (known as the *Youth Criminal Justice Act*). The bill was initially introduced by the Minister of Justice in the House of Commons in early 2001. On December 18, 2001, the Senate passed the bill with an amendment on the provision of alternatives to jailing aboriginal youth. Members of the House of Commons adopted the amendment 145 to 61.

C-30, *An Act to establish a body that provides administrative services to the Federal Court of Appeal, the Federal Court, the Court Martial Appeal Court and the Tax Court of Canada, to amend the Federal Court Act, the Tax Court of Canada Act and the Judges Act, and to make related and consequential amendments to other Acts*

The Bill, introduced by the Minister of Justice in September 2001, has three main objectives: to establish a single administrative structure for the Federal Court, the Court Martial Appeal Court and the Tax Court to be called the “Courts Administration Service”; to amend the *Federal Court Act* to create a separate Federal Court of Appeal; and to change the status of the Tax Court of Canada to that of a superior court.

C-33: *An Act respecting the water resources of Nunavut and the Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal and to make consequential amendments to other Acts*. This enactment was introduced by the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development in September 2001. It implements obligations under the Agreement between the Inuit of the Nunavut Settlement Area and Her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada. The Agreement came into effect on July 9, 1993 by virtue of the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement Act*.

C-35: *An Act to amend the Foreign Missions and International Organizations Act*, introduced October 1, 2001, by the Minister of Foreign Affairs. This enactment modernizes the privileges and immunities regime of the Act. Among other objectives, it will allow Canada to comply with its existing commitments under international treaties and to respond to recent developments in international law. The enactment further provides that the Royal Canadian Mounted Police

has the primary responsibility to ensure the security for the proper functioning of intergovernmental conferences. This clearer statutory authority supports security measures taken by Canadian police in fulfilling Canada’s obligations to protect persons who have privileges and immunities under the Act.



Royal Assent Ceremony inside the Senate Chamber, March 2002

C-37, *An Act to facilitate the implementation of those provisions of first nations’ claim settlements in the Provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan that relate to the creation of reserves or the addition of land to existing reserves, and to make related amendments to the Manitoba Claim Settlements Implementation Act and the Saskatchewan Treaty Land*

Entitlement Act (Claim Settlements (Alberta and Saskatchewan) Implementation Act)

Introduced in the House of Commons in October 2001 by the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, the bill will facilitate implementing land claim settlements – primarily those resolving treaty land entitlement and specific claims – that

entail expansion of the reserve land base of concerned First Nation communities in Alberta and Saskatchewan. Bill **C-37** provides procedural mechanisms for communities that elect to opt into the bill’s scheme.

C-39, *An Act to replace the Yukon Act in order to modernize it and to implement certain provisions of the Yukon Northern Affairs Program Devolution Transfer Agreement, and to repeal and make amendments to other Acts*

Introduced by the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development in October 31, 2001, this enactment modernizes the

previous *Yukon Act* by reflecting responsible government in Yukon, renaming a number of public institutions to reflect current practice, and to provide the Legislature of Yukon with new powers over public real property and waters. As well, the bill provides new powers as part of the implementation of a number of provisions of the Yukon Northern Affairs Program Devolution Transfer

Agreement, which provides for the transfer of the administration and control of most public real property and water rights in Yukon to the Commissioner.

C-41, *An Act to amend the Canadian Commercial Corporation Act*, was introduced by the Minister for International Trade in November 2001. The Canadian Commercial Corporation (CCC) is an export sales agency, wholly-owned by the Government of Canada, which assists Canadian exporters to win international sales, on improved terms, in government and private-sector markets. The amendments affect the structure of the CCC Board; create a new position of “Chairperson”; authorize the Minister of Finance to loan the Corporation up to an aggregate outstanding amount of \$10 million without prior authorization of the Governor in Council; and permit the Corporation to charge an amount that it considers appropriate for providing its services.

C-49, *An Act to implement certain provisions of the budget tabled in Parliament on December 10, 2001 (Budget Implementation Act, 2001)* Introduced by the Minister of Finance in February 2002, the bill includes six parts:

1. The establishment of the mandate of the *Canadian Air Transport Security Authority Act*, including the effective and efficient screening of persons who access aircraft or restricted areas through screening points.

2. Implementation of the *Air Travellers Security Charge Act*, payable by purchasers of air travel and collected by registered air carriers or their agents at the time of sale.

3. Amendments to the *Employment Insurance Act* and the *Employment Insurance (Fishing) Regulations* that, among other provisions, extend the benefit period and the entitlement to special benefits for maternity claimants who, without the amendment, could not receive all of their special benefits.

4. Implementation of several *Income Tax Act* measures announced in the Budget of December 10, 2001, including provisions that: allow individuals to claim a deduction to offset the inclusion in income of tuition assistance for adult basic education received under certain government programs; make entitlements to the goods and services tax credit more responsive to changes in family circumstances; and provide for tax-deferred inter-generational transfers of commercial woodlot operations that are farming businesses.

5. Enactment of the *Canada Fund for Africa Act*, which establishes a program to provide contributions for economic and social development in Africa.

6. Enactment of the *Canada Strategic Infrastructure Fund Act*, which provides contributions for the carrying out of large-scale strategic infrastructure projects.

C-51, *An Act for granting to Her Majesty certain sums of money for the public service of Canada for the financial year ending March 31, 2002* (Appropriation Act No. 4, 2001-2002)

C-52, *An Act for granting to Her Majesty certain sums of money for the public service of Canada for the financial year ending March 31, 2003* (Appropriation Act No. 1, 2002-2003)

Inter-Parliamentary Activities

16th Annual Speakers and Presiding Officers Conference

January 7-10, Speakers Dan Hays of the Senate and Peter Milliken of the House of Commons and their respective Clerks participated in the Annual Speakers and Presiding Officers Conference in Kasane, Botswana. Representatives from 36 Commonwealth countries and five observer regions gathered to review issues including the use of information technology for parliamentary information-sharing; the relationship between parliaments and the judiciary; and the responsibilities and roles of parliaments in raising the political awareness of youth.

Canada-Europe Parliamentary Association (CEPA)

Senator John Lynch-Staunton and MPs Bill Graham and Francine Lalonde, attended meetings of the Political Affairs Committee of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe in Mexico City and Oaxaca, January 9-12. Delegates examined reports on the Chechen conflict, Yugoslavia's request for Council membership, terrorism and parliamentary oversight of international institutions.

Senator Lorna Milne and MPs Lorne Nystrom and Gérard Binet led a parliamentary delegation to meetings of the Committee on Economic Affairs and Development of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe in London, January 17-18. Among topics discussed at meetings at the Bank of England and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) were the EBRD's

contribution to economic development in Central and Eastern Europe.

Senator Milne and Mr. Binet then travelled to Strasbourg where they joined Senator Jean-Claude Rivest and MPs Aileen Carroll and Michel Guimond on Canada's observer delegation to the First Part of the 2002 Session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe. The agenda included a report on the recent elections in Kosovo; the campaign against trafficking in women; Bosnia and Herzegovina's application for membership to the Council of Europe; the role of the World Trade Organization in the world economy; and an urgent debate on terrorism. Members were addressed by, among others, Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and the Minister of Local Government of the Palestinian Authority, Saeb Erekat, on the situation in the Middle-East.

February 25-26, the CEPA hosted a joint seminar with members of the Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe. Some 15 European parliamentarians participated in workshops on social policies for children and seniors. The keynote address on children was delivered by Senator Landon Pearson; Senator Lorna Milne co-chaired the session on seniors; and former Senator Sheila Finestone presented a keynote address. A European session on health care issues included Senator Marjory LeBreton and other members of the Senate Standing Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology.

On February 27, the CEPA held its Annual General Meeting. Senator Lorna Milne was elected Vice-

President and Senators Terry Stratton and Consiglio Di Nino became members of the Executive Committee.

Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU)

On January 20 and 21, 2002, Senator Sheila Finestone, then-President of the Canadian Group of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, accompanied by Senator Joan Fraser, attended a meeting of the IPU Executive Committee in Geneva. The Senators then attended a meeting in Oslo, Norway, of the Steering Committee of the Twelve Plus Group, a geo-political group within the IPU that includes members of European countries, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. The main topics discussed were IPU reform, relations between the IPU and the United Nations, and the membership of Saudi Arabia's Consultative Council (Shura) in the Union. This was Ms. Finestone's last international mission in her capacity as Senator.

The 107th IPU Conference took place in Marrakech, Morocco, March 17-24. Attending were Senator Joan Fraser; Senator Donald Oliver, First Vice President of the Canadian Group and Member of the Union Council; and Senator Marcel Prud'homme in his capacity as advisor, along with six MPs, including Paddy Torsney, President of the Canadian Group. The topics on the agenda were: parliaments and globalization; the Kyoto Protocol; terrorism; the Israeli-Palestinian conflict; and reform of the IPU and its financial implications.

In addition to her responsibilities on the Executive Committee, Senator Fraser actively participated in the meetings of the Co-ordinating Committee of Women Parliamentarians, meetings of

Women Parliamentarians, and meetings of the Twelve Plus Group. Senator Oliver was elected rapporteur for the Committee on Political Questions, which focussed on the theme "Parliaments and Globalization". Pursuant to the terms of the Conference, Senator Fraser was elected by acclamation as a member of the IPU Executive Committee.

Canadian NATO Parliamentary Association (CNPA)

Senator Shirley Maheu was a member of the Canadian delegation to the joint meeting of the Defence and Security, Economics and Security and Political Committees of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly in Brussels, February 17-19. The delegation was led by Carolyn Parrish, MP, Chair of the CNPA and Vice-Chair of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly. The CNPA, founded in 1955, is affiliated with the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, a forum of the 19 NATO member and partner countries which addresses social, cultural, political, economic and military matters.

Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA)

The Canadian Branch of the CPA has presented to the House of Commons its report on its visit to Edinburgh, March 2-9. The delegation was headed by Sue Barnes, MP, and included Senators Gerald Comeau and Elizabeth Hubley, as well as six Members of the House of Commons. The Canadian parliamentarians' objective was to find out more about devolution – the reversal of several centuries of increasing centralization of government – in the UK. As well, they sought to reinvigorate parliamentary links and learn from a dynamic, new parliament; emphasize

relations between Canada and the UK and, in particular, Scotland; and update the parliamentary dialogue on current politico-economic events.

Canada-France Inter-Parliamentary Association

The members of the Executive Committee of the Canadian Group met His Excellency Philippe Guelly, France's new Ambassador to Canada, at an event organized in his honour.

From April 28-May 6, a Canadian Group delegation, led by Senator Lise Bacon, travelled to France to share with the French the end of the presidential election campaign; the second round took place on May 5. From June 9-17, another delegation will travel to France for the legislative election.

Canada-Mexico Inter-Parliamentary Meeting

Senator Céline Hervieux-Payette headed Canada's delegation to, and served as co-chair of, the 12th Canada-Mexico Inter-Parliamentary Meeting which took place in Ottawa and Mont Tremblant. The three

working group sessions, held May 11-12, focused on trade, security and transport challenges in the evolving North American context, energy and migration.

Members of the Canadian delegation included Senators John Lynch-Staunton and Joseph A. Day, and Members of the House of Commons Mauril Bélanger, Gérard Binet, and Pierre Paquette. Senator Silvia Hernández, President of the Commission of Foreign Relations of the Mexican Senate, led the 11-member delegation from the Mexican Congress.

Canada-United States Inter-Parliamentary Group

A delegation of 24 Canadian Parliamentarians, led by co-chairs Senator Jerahmiel Grafstein and Joe Comuzzi, MP, is attending the 43rd Annual Meeting in Newport, Rhode Island, May 16-20. As in previous years, the delegation meets with an equal number of members of the United States Senate and House of Representatives for a plenary session and two days of meetings of the Standing Committees on Trade and Commerce; Foreign Relations; and Bilateral Issues.

Other Activities

The Andrea and Charles R. Bronfman Award

This award provides annual tuition and travel costs to Ottawa for a student in Canadian Studies. The aim of the award is to provide students



Franceline Bugge with the Leader of the Opposition, Senator John Lynch-Staunton, in the Senate Foyer

with good academic standing "the opportunity to realize, physically and academically, exposure to a wider experience and knowledge of Canadian life outside of the Atlantic region". The winner spends February break in Ottawa, and is then required to deliver a presentation in March of that academic year describing his or her experience in Ottawa. Typically, the winner spends one day at the Senate and one day at the House of Commons, as well as visiting national museums and other points of interest.

This year's recipient is Franceline Bugge, a third-year student at Mt. Saint Vincent. Her areas of interest are Law and French Literature,



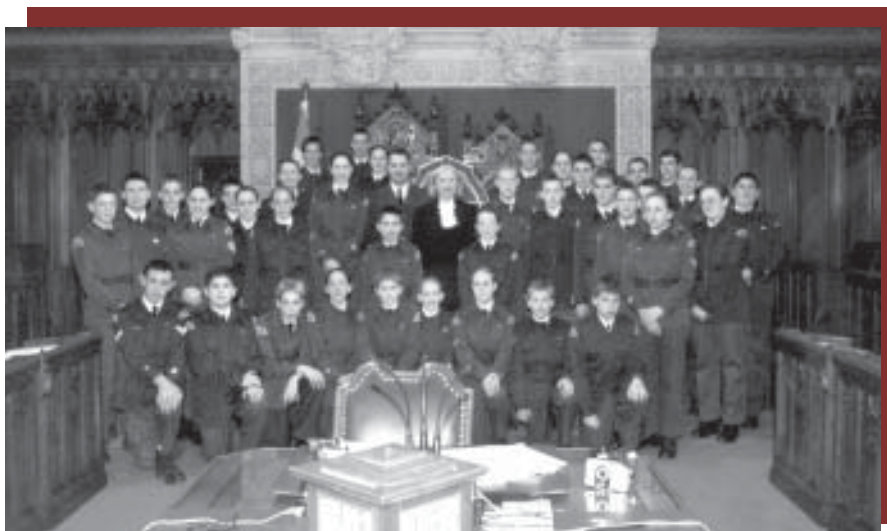
Seated centre, first row: Senator Céline Hervieux-Payette (left); Senator Silvia Hernández (right)

particularly Acadian literature. Ms. Bugge spent a day at the Senate in February and said that she felt “like a visiting dignitary”.

Senate Cadet Outreach Program

Members of the Royal Canadian Sea Cadets, Royal Canadian Army Cadets and Royal Canadian Air Cadets visited Ottawa to learn about the parliamentary process, specifically as it relates to the Senate.

On March 13, the cadets were welcomed to the Parliament Buildings and given a tour of major tourist sites on the Hill, including the House of Commons, the Peace Tower and the Library of Parliament. They then gathered in the Red Chamber for a briefing and a question and answer session on the role of the Senate. Speaker *pro tempore* Rose-Marie Losier-Cool hosted a reception, held in the Speaker’s Chambers, for the cadets and their officers, after which the guests were invited to sign the Book of Honour.



Air Cadets from 342 Bedford Lions Squadron, Lower Sackville, Nova Scotia, pictured with Speaker *pro tempore* Senator Rose-Marie Losier-Cool

The late Gildas Molgat, former Speaker of the Senate, initiated the Outreach program in 1999.

Senate Standings

The Senate has a regular membership of 105 Senators, including the Speaker, nominated by the Governor General on the recommendation of the Prime Minister. There are currently 97 Senators; their affiliation is as follows:

Liberals	62
Progressive Conservatives	30
Independents	04
Canadian Alliance	01

The eight vacancies are distributed as follows: Ontario (2); Quebec (1); Prince Edward Island (1); New Brunswick (2); Saskatchewan (1); and Nova Scotia (1).

Milestones

Retirement

Senator Sheila Finestone, P.C., appointed to the Senate in August 1999, retired on January 28, her 75th birthday. Ms. Finestone entered the Senate after having served as a Member of the House of Commons (Mount Royal) from 1984 to 1996. She also served as Secretary of State (Multiculturalism) (Status of Women), 1993-1996.



The Very Reverend Senator Lois Wilson, who entered the Senate from Toronto in June 1998, retired on April 8. Senator Wilson was the first woman Moderator of the United Church of Canada. During her term as Senator, she served as Canada’s Special Envoy to the Sudan Peace Process.



Awards

Senator Gerald Comeau and Senator and Speaker *pro tempore* Rose-Marie Losier-Cool received the Order of *la Pléiade* from the Canadian Branch of the *Assemblée parlementaire de la Francophonie* (APF) on March 20. The ceremony, held in the Canadian Museum of Civilization in Hull, marked the *Journée internationale de la Francophonie*. Both Senators have been made *Chevaliers* of the Order. Senator Comeau was honoured for his promotion and enhancement of

minority francophone communities; Senator Losier-Cool for her activities in national and international language, culture and education initiatives. The Senators received their awards from Senator Jean-Robert Gauthier, Honorary President and former President of the APF, himself the recipient of the Grand-Croix, the highest level of the Order of *la Pléiade*.

Appointments

On January 15, Governor General Adrienne Clarkson summoned Ronald J. Duhamel to the Senate. He had previously held the post of Minister of Veterans Affairs and Secretary of State (Western Economic Diversification) (Francophonie). Senator Duhamel, who was sworn-in in the Senate Chamber on February 5, represents Manitoba.

On March 26, George Baker of Newfoundland and Raymond Lavigne of Quebec were summoned to the Senate. Both are former Members of the House of Commons: Senator Baker represented Gander – Grand Falls and Senator Lavigne, Verdun – St. Henri – Saint-Paul – Pointe Saint-Charles. The Senators were sworn-in on April 16.



From left to right: The Speaker of the Senate, Dan Hays; Senator Ron Duhamel and the Clerk of the Senate, Paul C. Bélisle



From left to right: Government Whip, Senator William Rompkey; Senator George Baker and the Leader of the Government, Senator Sharon Carstairs



From left to right: Senators Céline Hervieux-Payette and Raymond Lavigne; the Leader of the Government, Senator Sharon Carstairs