



The Senate **REPORT**

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Summer 2002

Senate Business Highlights

Parliament has now adjourned for the summer. Tourists in the thousands, from Canada and around the world, are back on Parliament Hill, taking in the magnificent buildings and enjoying the hot, humid Ottawa weather.

Although the Senate Chamber is silent, offices and committee rooms continue to buzz with activity. Senators have, for the most part, returned to their home regions to continue their public outreach in local communities. Many continue to commute to Ottawa, albeit on a less regular basis, to work on files that will remain active through the break. Committees such as those on Illegal Drugs, Official Languages (Joint), and Social Affairs, Science and Technology, are among those which will continue to meet through the summer, until the Senate reconvenes on September 17.

The ongoing work of Senate committees will be of little surprise to Canadians who have appeared before them as witnesses or observers during hearings across the country. Time and again, the committees have been lauded for their willingness to take on controversial and complex issues, for the range and depth of their public policy studies, and the thoughtfulness and thoroughness of their reports. Issues preoccupying committees at this time include the government restructuring of the national hospital and medical practitioner system, national security policy, fish habitat and inter-city buses – all of which, either directly or indirectly, affect the daily lives of citizens.

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Some statistical information on Senate committee work between the start of the calendar year and into the summer (February 5 - June 26) provides an overview of the range and quantity of the work of committees: members of the 24 Senate committees, sub- and joint committees held 267 meetings, sat for more than 500 hours, heard from 723 witnesses and issued 69 reports.

And their work is by no means slowing down. Several committees are expected to present major studies by the end of the year and will undoubtedly, over the course of the summer, continue to review witness statements, draft findings, and plan future meetings and hearings.

The year to date has been a busy one from the legislative perspective as well. Since January, the Senate has reviewed 13 "S" bills, i.e., those introduced in the Senate, as well as 15 "C" bills, i.e., those introduced in the House of Commons.

Senator's Forum

The Honourable Douglas Roche, O.C., Senator

The recent nuclear arms control agreement between the U.S. and Russia, and the welcoming of Russia into the Western alliance, demonstrate that real progress is being made toward a more peaceful world. These events also give us a chance to think about what more needs to be done to achieve lasting peace. "How can I contribute?" is a question I am often asked by Canadians.



Perhaps not fully appreciated by the mainstream media, the fact is that much important work is being done to make peace a reality. A focal point for these efforts has been UNESCO – the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, which sponsors hundreds of projects around the world as part of its "culture of peace" initiative.

A culture of peace means rooting peace in our everyday lives. Specifically, it means developing, on a daily basis, the values, ways of thinking and attitudes that are in keeping with equality, tolerance, sharing, generosity and respect. Building a culture of peace does not, therefore, only apply to countries with nuclear weapons, but also to our own society. Though ambitious, this is well within the reach of every Canadian.

We are fortunate in that we can freely express our ideas, participate in politics, and depend on a respect for different cultures and attitudes that enable everyone to find their place in our society, whatever their sex, ethnic origin, religion or language.

Whether through registering a community project with UNESCO or simply through a daily effort to understand and communicate with others and overcome biases, "ordinary" Canadians have an opportunity to contribute in a real way. No matter where it occurs, each seemingly small isolated action is part of a larger collective effort to which each person, in every country, contributes. Peace in our own communities is an initial and essential link to the achievement of world peace.

By taking the time to discover the organizations and associations in their provinces or municipalities that are working towards peace, and communicating this to Canadians, Senators can make a significant contribution to a culture of peace.

Legislative Agenda

The list below indicates the stage of review of bills in the Chamber and in committee when the Senate adjourned on June 13.

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, 2001, and referred back to the Committee on March 25, 2002.

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S-18, *An Act to amend the Food and Drugs Act (clean drinking water)*
(Senator Jeremiah Grafstein)
Sent to Legal and Constitutional Affairs on June 13.

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.

S-44, *An Act to amend the National Capital Act* (Senator Noel Kinsella)
Introduced and read a first time.

Committee Activities

The Senate's 21 Standing, Sub- and Special Committees continued their investigations into a range of issues.

Aboriginal Peoples continues its work on developing an urban Aboriginal youth "Action Plan for Change". Having heard from various government departments and national Aboriginal organizations regarding policy and program issues affecting young Aboriginal people in urban areas, the Committee will begin to hear more specifically from Aboriginal service agencies. The Committee will travel to selected urban centers across Canada in the autumn in order to hear from a broad range of witnesses, including youth. Given the importance of hearing from young Aboriginal people, a series of roundtables specifically devoted to them is planned for urban areas. Additional evidence from other regional centers, where travel may not be possible, will be received by videoconference. Given the broad scope and intensive nature of the study, the Committee expects to table a final report by February 2003.

In addition to the special study, the Committee reported Bill **C-37, *Claim Settlements (Alberta and Saskatchewan) Implementation Act***, without amendment.

Banking, Trade and Commerce continued its study of Bill **C-23, *An Act to amend the Competition Act and the Competition Tribunal Act***. The Committee held 12 meetings and heard from over 24 associations and/or individuals including David Collenette, Minister of Transport, and Allan Rock, Minister of Industry. The Committee also studied Bill **C-47, *An Act respecting the taxation of spirits, wine and tobacco and the treatment of ships' stores***.

As part of its study into the state of the domestic and international financial system, the Committee reviewed the Enron collapse from a Canadian perspective. The Committee held five meetings and

heard from over 12 witnesses, including Al Rosen from the Ontario Teachers Pension Plan Board, Barbara Stymiest from the Toronto Stock Exchange (TSX) Group, Professor Daniel B. Thornton from Queen's University and Thomas Caldwell of Caldwell Securities. Representatives of the Certified General Accountants Association, the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants and the Accounting Standards Oversight Council, also appeared before the Committee.

In its February 2002 report entitled *Canadian Security and Military Preparedness*, the Standing Committee on **National Security and Defence** recommended a study on a national security policy. During its 170 hours of meetings and visits with 200 persons from coast to coast and in Washington, it became increasingly

evident that executive direction and coordination of activities is required when dealing with national incidents, whether natural, such as ice storms, floods or earthquakes; accidental, such as toxic derailments, or pre-meditated, such as the acts of terror on September 11, 2001. The Committee discovered that there is no national policy guiding agencies at all levels of government to coordinate their efforts effectively.

The Senate agreed that the Committee should undertake a study on a national security policy, and report on the issue in October 2003.

Work on this new order of reference began in May with hearings in Ottawa, followed by visits to two local military installations, and a fact-finding tour to CFB Kingston. In addition, the Committee visited the land border crossing at Lansdowne, Ontario, to examine border issues. The Committee has held public hearings in Toronto on security at Pearson Airport and has visited military bases at Borden, Trenton and Petawawa in Ontario.

Veterans Affairs, the Subcommittee of National Security and Defence, continued its work on the health care provided to veterans. The subcommittee is focusing on post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and



National Security and Defence committee members at Canada Customs beside the Thousand Island Bridge

met with officials from the Department of National Defence, as well as the Office of the Ombudsman, to assess how well current programs assist veterans suffering from PTSD. The Subcommittee expects to table its report in October.

Energy, the Environment and Natural Resources reported on Bill C-33, *An Act respecting the water resources of 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 Committee passed the bill with one amendment. The Energy Committee completed its hearings on Bill C-10, *An Act respecting the national marine conservation areas of Canada*. A videoconference was held with eight north coast British Columbia communities which wanted to express their concerns with the bill. The Committee reported it to the Senate without amendment.

The Committee also tabled a report, "The International Aspects of Nuclear Safety." Among its recommendations was that Canada promote the development and implementation of an international nuclear safety regime. The report also provides an overview of international agencies that deal with nuclear issues.

The Standing Committee on **Fisheries** has begun in earnest its study on fish habitat. In modern fish management, fish conservation is generally understood to apply not only to fish, but also their habitat. Over the years, human actions have resulted in the loss of considerable fish habitat, which is vulnerable to a variety of threats, including the obvious, e.g., the release of municipal wastewater high in ammonia, to those that become apparent only when the fish are gone, such as clearing trees and shrubs from shorelines and spraying dandelions on river-front property. The Committee's study will concentrate on various small, community-based projects that have been undertaken to improve fish habitat. There will be a special effort to locate low-cost, effective projects.

On April 30, the Committee hosted the Romeo LeBlanc Awards for Responsible Fisheries ceremony. Each year, the Honourable Romeo LeBlanc presents these awards to

Congratulations on producing such a clear and unbiased perspective on northern fisheries issues... The report will go a long way towards the establishment of some much needed recognition for the sustainable development of Nunavut's fishing industry.

Olayuk Akesuk
Minister of Sustainable Development
March 6, 2002

four fishers from the different regions of Canada who have displayed excellence in promoting responsible fisheries practices. The Committee was especially pleased that Allen Gordon of Kuujuaq, Quebec, was one of the winners as Senators had visited his project as part of its study on northern fisheries.

The Committee on **Human Rights** is conducting an examination of Canada's adherence to international human rights instruments, including the processes of entering into such agreements, and implementing and reporting on them. In mid-March, the Committee began a consideration of whether Canada should accede to the *American Convention on Human Rights*, the principal human rights instrument of the Organization of American States. The Committee is examining the effects of participation in the *Convention* on Canada and Canadians, as well as any broader impact accession may have on strengthening human rights in the Americas. The Committee plans to receive evidence from as wide a range of groups and individuals as possible before reporting to the Senate.

On April 15, the Committee held a roundtable to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*. A distinguished panel of experts, including Antonio Lamer, the former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, retired Senator and human rights activist Lois Wilson, and academics with expertise in the field, participated.

The Special Committee on **Illegal Drugs** has

concluded its investigation into Canada's policies relating to cannabis. In its first phase of study, the Committee heard extensive testimony from national organizations and experts in such areas as international law, policing, the sociological implications of Canada's drug policies and laws, physiological issues related to the consumption of cannabis, and other related issues. Additionally, representatives from several countries, all of whom have experiences with different models of dealing with illegal drugs, testified before the Special Committee.

In May, the Committee issued a Discussion Paper, outlining conclusions the Special Committee had reached on the scientific evidence presented to it. The Discussion Paper proposed several questions probing Canadians' reactions

to the issues and the Committee's conclusions; the Paper was distributed to major media outlets and posted on the Committee's parliamentary web site. Canadians were then invited to respond either by mail, the Internet or in person at one of six Canadian cities visited in May and June. Through a combination of traditional hearings, town hall meetings and fact-finding visits, the Special Committee gauged the responses of Canadians to the issues, in order to guide Committee members in drafting the final report. The Special Committee is due to present its findings to the Senate no later than September 13, 2002.

The Standing Senate Committee on **Legal and Constitutional Affairs** presented four reports in Spring 2002. Two of the reports dealt mainly with administrative amendment bills: Bill 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*, and Bill C-43, *An Act to amend certain acts and instruments and to repeal the Fisheries Prices Support Act*.

The Committee also studied Bill S-41, *An Act to re-enact legislative instruments enacted in only one official language, a government bill introduced in the Senate*. The Committee carefully reviewed the underlying principles of this bill, which establishes a

I applaud the Senate committee looking at our illegal-drug policy for showing the courage to debate the topic of marijuana use.

Rick Reiner
Ottawa Citizen, May 15, 2002

process for examination of regulatory instruments and orders-in-council, which had been enacted in only one official language or published in only one official language, and which are therefore non-compliant with the essence of section 133 of the Constitution of Canada. The Committee reported the bill with eight amendments that strengthen considerably the original bill and which, in the Committee's view, are essential to ensure the constitutional obligations of Parliament and of the Government of Canada.

Senator Vivienne Poy was elected as Co-Chair of the Joint Committee on the **Library of Parliament**.

National Finance studied and held hearings on Bill C-49, *An Act to implement certain provisions of the budget tabled in Parliament on December 10, 2001*, which contained provisions for an airport security fee, an issue of particular concern to small airlines and the travel industry.

The committee continued to hold hearings on its examination of the Main Estimates for 2002-2003 and presented a report on the Government Contingencies Vote – Treasury Board Vote 5. The Vote is an amount provided in the Government's Main Estimates each year to allow it to meet minor, unforeseen expenses. Both the Auditor General and the Committee have raised questions as to whether the government is using this fund for its intended purpose and whether there is proper accountability to Parliament by the government. The committee also began hearings on the government financing of foundations at arm's length from the government.

The Joint Committee on **Official Languages** continued its study of Part VII of the *Official Languages Act*, more specifically on issues relating to immigration and to the legal interpretation of that part of the Act, and the government's responsibilities in implementing it. Under Part VII, the federal government has a responsibility to support and assist the development of English and French linguistic minority communities, and to advance the equality of status and use of English and French in

The Committee is continuing its three-part study on the Restructuring of Senate Committees entitled *Modernizing the Senate From Within: Updating the Senate Committee Structure*. Phase 1 of the review, *Operational Issues*, was presented to the Senate in early Spring; Phase 2, *Issues Raised by Individual Senators*, was presented to the Senate on June 11. These reports were, respectively, the Committee's Eleventh and Fourteenth reports. The Committee is working on Phase 3 of the restructuring study.



A Joint Committee on Official Languages hearing

Canadian society. The Committee also held hearings and presented a report on the views of francophone and anglophone communities from across the country with respect to the Action Plan being prepared by the Minister responsible for the co-ordination of official languages, Stéphane Dion.

On June 11, the Committee on **Rules, Procedures and the Rights of Parliament** presented its Twelfth report, which dealt with the official recognition of a third party. The Thirteenth report, on time allotted to tributes in the Senate, was presented on May 2.

The **Social Affairs** Committee is continuing its health care study. The Committee's sixth volume, to be released in October 2002, will present recommendations on how to move from the principles outlined in its fifth volume, released in April 2002, to a concrete plan of action for restructuring the hospital and doctor system. Over 300 witnesses – academics, health providers, policy makers, advocacy groups and individual Canadians – have contributed to the study thus far. Since the release of the fifth volume, more than 30 witnesses have given expert testimony to the Committee.

The sixth report will include a specific proposal for increasing federal revenue, so that it will be possible to finance the increased federal responsibilities and to help fund the restructuring of the hospital and doctor system. The Committee will meet during the summer of 2002 to review a draft of the sixth report.

The **Transport and Communications**

Committee is continuing its special study on inter-city buses. The study focuses on the users, i.e., mostly students, seniors and persons living in small communities. Public hearings were held in early spring in Vancouver, Calgary and Toronto. The final report is expected to be presented to the Senate in early December.

The Committee has also begun hearings on Bill **S-26**, *An Act concerning personal watercraft in navigable waters* with Senator Spivak, the sponsor of the Bill, as the first witness. Public hearings are expected to continue through the fall.

Royal Assent

On June 4, Justice John C. Major of the Supreme Court of Canada came to the Senate Chamber in order to give Royal Assent to the following legislation:

Government Bills introduced in the Senate

S-34, *An Act respecting royal assent to bills passed by the Houses of Parliament*, which provides the government with the alternative of a written declaration of Royal Assent.

Your work has also served to bring a measure of public respect and relevance back to the institution of the Senate and is a credit to the foundational idea that your institution would indeed be a place of sober second thought on public policy.

Walter Robinson, Federal Director, Canadian Taxpayers' Federation, in a presentation to the Social Affairs Committee, June 3, 2002.

The customary Royal Assent, which all three elements of Parliament – the Senate, the Commons, and the Governor General or her representative – attend, will take place in the Senate Chamber at least twice a year.

S-40, *An Act*

to amend the Payment Clearing and Settlement Act amends that Act to protect the netting agreements of securities and derivatives clearing houses, and to permit such clearing houses to realize the collateral of a member in the event of its insolvency.

Government Bills introduced in the House of Commons

C-15A, *An Act to amend the Criminal Code and to amend other Acts*, also cited as the *Criminal Law Amendment Act, 2001*, includes amendments that add offences and other measures that provide additional protection to children from sexual exploitation involving use of the Internet; increases the maximum penalty for criminal harassment; makes home invasions an aggravating circumstance for sentencing purposes; creates an offence of disarming, or attempting to disarm, a peace officer; and codifies and clarifies the review process for applications to the Minister of Justice

with respect to allegations of miscarriage of justice. The amendments also reform and modernize several aspects of criminal procedures and amend the *National Capital Act* by increasing the maximum fine available, and the *National Defence Act* by providing for fingerprinting.

C-23, *An Act to amend the Competition Act and the Competition Tribunal Act*, which includes amendments to facilitate cooperation with foreign competition authorities for the enforcement of civil competition and fair trade practices laws; to prohibit deceptive prize notices; to streamline the Competition Tribunal process by providing for cost awards, summary dispositions and references; and to broaden the scope under which the Tribunal may issue temporary orders.

On June 13, the Governor General gave Royal Assent to the following bills:

Government bill introduced in the Senate

S-41, *An Act to re-enact legislative instruments enacted in only one official language*, resolves any uncertainty with respect to those instruments' 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 Act 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.

Government Bills introduced in the House of Commons

C-10, *An Act respecting the national marine conservation areas of Canada*. This enactment provides for the establishment of national marine conservation areas to protect and conserve a variety of aquatic environments, subject to parliamentary approval. The enactment confers a range of regulatory powers for the protection of living and non-living marine resources and their management and use in a sustainable manner.

C-27, *An Act respecting the long-term management of nuclear fuel waste*, implements a key component of the Government of Canada's 1996 *Policy Framework for Radioactive Waste* – that the federal government, through effective oversight, would ensure that the long-term management of radioactive waste is carried out in a comprehensive, integrated and economically-sound manner. The Act, among other measures, requires the major owners of nuclear fuel waste to establish a waste management organization to carry out the managerial, financial and operational activities to implement the long-term management of nuclear fuel waste.

C-43, *An Act to amend certain Acts and instruments and to repeal the Fisheries Prices Support Act* amends several Acts and instruments, among them the *Access to Information Act*, *Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency Act*, and the *Canadian Film Development Corporation Act*. **C-43** also repeals the *Fisheries Prices Support Act*.

C-47, *An Act respecting the taxation of spirits, wine and tobacco and the treatment of ships' stores*, cited as the *Excise Act, 2001*, introduces a

modern framework for the taxation of spirits, wine and tobacco. It re-enacts existing provisions in the *Excise Act* and the *Excise Tax Act* relating to the excise levies on these products, together with technical improvements, and incorporates a range of new provisions. Among its key features are: the continued imposition of a production levy on spirits, tobacco products and raw leaf tobacco; the replacement of the existing excise levy on sales of wine with a production levy at an equivalent rate; and the replacement of the excise duty and excise tax on tobacco products, other than cigars, with a single excise duty.

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* amends the *Canadian International Trade Tribunal Act*, the *Customs Tariff* and the *Export and Import Permits Act* to authorize the Governor in Council to impose, under certain conditions and after an inquiry by the Canadian International Trade Tribunal, special trade measures (safeguards) to protect Canadian industries from injury or threat of injury that could be caused by imports from the People's Republic of China. These safeguards will be available until December 11, 2013. The enactment also amends the *Special Import Measures Act* to allow the Canada Customs and Revenue Agency greater flexibility in conducting anti-dumping investigations related to imported Chinese goods when the price or the cost of production of those goods in China is not determined by market economy conditions.

C-59, *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*.

Inter-Parliamentary Activities

The Assemblée parlementaire de la francophonie (APF)

The Canadian Branch of the APF has taken part in the following meetings since April 2002:

The Cooperation and Development Commission met in Monaco, April 10-14. Senator Rose-Marie Losier-Cool presented her report on poverty among women and children.

The Parliamentary Affairs Commission met in Beirut, May 13-15, with Commission Chair Senator Pierre De Bané presiding. The topics discussed included the action plan for implementation of the Bamako Declaration; preparations for the Summit of La Francophonie (Beirut 2002); the new information and communications technologies; the parliamentary network against AIDS in Africa; copyright and its recent evolution; and the phenomenon of voter indifference.

The Canadian Branch also organized a symposium on "The Emerging Role for Parliamentarians in Diplomacy," which was held on April 29 on Parliament Hill. The work of Branch President Bernard Patry, MP, and Senators De Bané and Losier-Cool, contributed to the event's success. The day's program consisted of three sessions on international relations and diplomacy in the context of globalization; international relations through other means; and the arguments for and against a new parliamentary diplomacy. The event brought together speakers who have distinguished themselves professionally in a number of different areas of the federal administration.

Canada-China Legislative Association (CCLA)

A delegation of seven parliamentarians, including Senators Joseph Day and Donald Oliver, led by CCLA co-chairs Senator Jack Austin and Joe Volpe, M.P., travelled to China for the 5th Bilateral Meeting of the CCLA, May 18-28. The participants discussed Western diversification; central-regional relations; China's accession to the World Trade Organization; and human rights and the rule of law. The delegation was struck by the challenges China faces in upgrading the economic and social conditions of its western population.

Canada-Europe Parliamentary Association (CEPA)

The Economic Affairs and Development Committee of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe met in Paris in April. Three parliamentarians, Senator Brenda Robertson and M.P.s Charles Caccia and Betty Hinton, attended the Committee meeting at the OECD, where the main agenda item was consideration of a preliminary report on the OECD and the world economy.

The delegation, joined by Senator Peter Stollery and M.P.s Francine Lalonde and Gérard Binet, then attended the Second Part of the 2002 Session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe. In addition to an urgent debate on the situation in the Middle-East, parliamentarians discussed, among other issues, the situation in Chechnya; the recent elections in Ukraine; the activities of the International Committee of the Red Cross; the "new economy" and Europe; and the honouring of

commitments and obligations of Russia. The Canadian delegation was active in committees and in Assembly debates, particularly those on forest management in Canada and on the preservation and management of fish stocks.

The Canadian and Mexican observer delegations took advantage of their presence in Strasbourg for an exchange of views on the investment provisions (Chapter 11) of the North American Free Trade Agreement.

On April 30, Ambassador Danièle Smadja, Head of the Delegation of the European Commission in Canada, shared with the CEPA her views of the Canada-Europe relationship. In her candid address, the Ambassador underlined that the relationship cannot be taken for granted and that "there is no place for complacency if we want the relationship to remain vibrant and dynamic." She also noted that "by focusing so much attention on the US market, and to a lesser extent on Latin America, Canada is missing out on some tremendous opportunities."

The Canada-France Inter-Parliamentary Association

A five -member delegation of the Canadian Group of the Canada-France Inter-Parliamentary Association was in France, April 29-May 6, for the second round of voting in the French presidential election. The delegation included Senators Lise Bacon, President of the Canadian Group and Head of the delegation; Gérald A. Beaudoin, Vice-President of the Canadian Group, and Shirley Maheu. Also participating were M.P.s Réginald Bélair, Deputy Speaker of the House of Commons, and Benoît Sauvageau. The Canadian parliamentarians were there to experience, first hand, an

important political moment in the life of a friendly country, to gain a better understanding of the French political system, and to learn the major issues facing French society, from which lessons might perhaps be drawn for Canada.

During the course of their visit, the delegation held discussions with a wide range of Canadian and French officials, including Canada's Ambassador to France, Raymond Chrétien; members of the Canada-France Chamber of Commerce; French parliamentarians, including representatives of President Jacques Chirac's campaign; representatives of the Ministry of the Interior; and French political commentators. As well, the delegation was invited to Louviers, in the Eure region of Haute Normandie, about an hour and a half from Paris, the constituency of François Loncle, Socialist deputy, President of the French Section of the Canada-France Inter-Parliamentary Association, and Chair of the French National Assembly's Foreign Affairs Committee. The Canadian parliamentarians also travelled to Mans, in the Département of La Sarthe, where they met with Senator Marcel-Pierre Cléach, Deputy President of the Canada-France Senatorial Friendship Group. Senator Cléach belongs to the Republicans' and Independents' Group in the French Senate, and is also councillor at large for La Sarthe. He participated in the last three annual Canada-France meetings, two in Canada and one in France.

The members of the delegation found that being present during the election was an exceptional opportunity to understand more fully that country's political system and the political, economic and social challenges confronting it.

Canada-Japan Inter-Parliamentary Group

During its annual general meeting in April 2002, the Group amended its rules so as to allow for co-chairs. Accordingly, the new co-chairs, Senator Marie-P. Poulin and Bryon Wilfert, M.P., will lead the preparations for the next bilateral meeting in Japan in September 2002.

Canadian NATO Parliamentary Association

Senators Raynell Andreychuk, Jane Cordy and Pierre Claude Nolin, and seven members of the House of Commons, attended the spring session of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly in Sofia, Bulgaria, at the end of May. Led by Carolyn Parrish, the President of the Canadian Association, the parliamentarians met with their counterparts from 19 NATO member countries, and 17 partner countries. Agenda items included the war against terrorism and the lessons of the September 11, 2001, attacks; NATO and European efforts towards improving defence capabilities; and the prospects for NATO enlargement.

Canada-New Zealand-Australia Friendship Group

The inaugural meeting of the Group was held in April. The executive, elected at the meeting, includes: Chair, Bob Speller, M.P.; Vice-Chairs, Senator Laurier Lapierre and Monte Solberg, M.P.; and Secretary-Treasurer, Paul Szabo, M.P. Members include Senator Lowell Murray, and Members of Parliament Beth Phinney, Tom Wappel, Ray Bonin and Rick Borotski.

Canada-UK Inter-Parliamentary Association

John Harvard, M.P., Chair of the Canada-UK Inter-Parliamentary

Association, headed a delegation of seven parliamentarians, including Senators Lowell Murray and Joan Cook, to meetings in London, Edinburgh and Cardiff in February. The meetings concentrated on the recent devolution of executive powers and the creation of the Scottish Parliament and the National Assembly of Wales. International terrorism, including Britain's response in the wake of the September 11 attacks, was also a central theme of the meetings.

In April, the Association co-hosted a reception for William McCarter, Chairman of the International Fund for Ireland (IFI), and the Fund's Joint Directors General, Alexander Smith and Derek Hannon. The IFI has worked toward improving the economic climate of Northern Ireland and promoting the peace process since its establishment in 1986, encouraging dialogue and reconciliation between nationalists and unionists throughout Ireland. Canada is a contributor to the Fund.

Canada-United States Inter-Parliamentary Group

The 43rd annual meeting of the Group took place May 16-20 in Newport, R.I. The Canadian delegation was co-chaired by Senator Jerahmiel Grafstein and Joe Comuzzi, M.P., and included Senators Norm Atkins, Roch Bolduc, John M. Buchanan and Céline Hervieux-Payette, as well as 16 Members of the House of Commons.

Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA)

Senators Raynell Andreychuk, Joan Cook, Jane Cordy, Janis G. Johnson and Nick Taylor were elected as members of the 2002-2003 Executive Committee at the Association's Annual General Meeting held on May 2.

Dan Hays, Speaker of the Senate, and Peter Milliken, Speaker of the House of Commons, hosted the 42nd Canadian Regional Council Meeting of the CPA in Ottawa on May 31 and June 1. The Council consists of the two federal legislature Speakers, as well as those from the provincial and territorial assemblies and the Regional Representative of the Federal Branch. The Council has started planning for the 50th CPA Conference, which is to be held in Canada in 2004.

Senators Noel Kinsella, Rose-Marie Losier-Cool and Lorna Milne attended the 41st Canadian CPA Regional Conference that took place in Fredericton, New Brunswick, July 16-21. Agenda items included inter-provincial trade, the selection process for party leaders and the Royal Assent ceremony.

Inter-Parliamentary Forum of the Americas (FIPA), Canadian Section

The 1st Annual Plenary Meeting of the FIPA was held in Mexico City in March. Canada's delegation was led by John Godfrey, M.P., and included Senators John Lynch-Staunton, Céline Hervieux-Payette and Lorna Milne. The meeting, at which 23 countries were represented, was inaugurated by Mexican President Vicente Fox, Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Bill Graham, and other dignitaries. Senator Hervieux-Payette was elected Chair of the Inter-Parliamentary Forum of the Americas for a two-year term.

Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) Parliamentary Assembly

The Canada-Europe Parliamentary Association's new Director, Clifford Lincoln, M.P.; Senator Jerry Grafstein, Treasurer to the OSCE

Parliamentary Assembly; and Svend Robinson, M.P., attended the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly's (PA) First Winter Session in Vienna in February.

The Session was held to facilitate the preparation of reports and recommendations prior to the Annual Sessions held each summer. The Session allowed the rapporteurs of the PA's three main committees to get feedback and direction from their fellow parliamentarians on their draft reports, as well as to hold meetings with national OSCE representatives in Vienna. The Annual Session was held in Berlin, July 6-10.

Other Activities

Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians (CAFP)

On June 3, Dan Hays, Speaker of the Senate, and Peter Milliken, Speaker of the House of Commons, together with Barry Turner, Chairman of the CAFP, presented the Association's fourth Distinguished Service Award to John M. Reid, who served as a Member of the House of Commons from 1965 to 1984. The CAFP also held a memorial service for deceased colleagues. Among the former Senators who passed away between April 30, 2001, and April 30, 2002, and who were remembered at the service, were: Jean Maurice Simard; Sid Buckwold; Joseph Guay; Solange Chaput-Rolland; Heath Macquarrie; Melvin Perry; Bud Olson; and Finlay MacDonald.

Aboriginal Awareness Week

On May 23, Senator Joyce Fairbairn served as host to a special event that took place during Aboriginal Awareness Week.

Senators, their guests, and employees of the Senate, gathered

for an information session presented by Chief R. Donald Maracle of Tyendinaga, situated at the Bay of Quinte on Lake Ontario. Chief Maracle, accompanied by elders and veterans from his community, presided over traditional rituals before recounting the history of his people and of the sacred silver chalices, presented by Queen Anne in 1710 to four Mohawk kings, which were on display.



Senator Joyce Fairbairn presenting a gift to Chief Donald Maracle

Senator Fairbairn has a long association with the Aboriginal community in her home province of Alberta. In 1990, she was inducted into the Kainai Chieftainship of the Blood Nation, and given the name "Morning Bird Woman."

Parliamentary Internship Program

The Parliamentary Internship program is designed to provide Members of the House of Commons with highly qualified assistants. At the same time, it gives university graduates an opportunity to supplement their theoretical knowledge of Parliament with practical experience of the day-

to-day work of Members of the House and of the functioning Canadian Parliament.

As part of the Parliamentary Internship program, interns participate in informal "brown bag lunches" throughout the year, with various parliamentarians and government and other officials. Dan Hays, Speaker of the Senate, hosts an annual gathering for the Parliamentary Interns to profile the key role the Senate plays in the legislative process. Held in May, this year's event provided an entertaining and engaging opportunity for the interns to further enrich their knowledge of the Upper Chamber.



The Speaker of the Senate, Dan Hays, accompanied by parliamentary interns

Senate Standings

As of August 6, 2002, the Senate, whose regular membership is 105, including the Speaker, numbered 97. The standings are as follows:

Liberals	62
Progressive Conservatives	30
Independents	04
Canadian Alliance	01

The distribution of the eight vacancies is: Ontario (2); Quebec (1); Prince Edward Island (1); New Brunswick (2); Saskatchewan (1); and Nova Scotia (1).

Milestones

Appointment

On June 25, Prime Minister Jean Chrétien announced that Her Excellency the Governor General had agreed to summon David Smith, P.C.,



Q.C., of Ontario, to the Senate. Senator Smith, a lawyer, comes to the Senate from Fraser Milner Casgrain LLP, where he was Chairman and Partner.

He previously served as Member of the House of Commons (1980-1984) and as Minister of State (Small Business and Tourism). Senator Smith's public service also includes three terms on Toronto City Council where, in 1976, he was appointed President of the Council and Deputy Mayor of Toronto.

Awards

On June 7, Senator Landon Pearson was awarded an honorary doctorate from the University of Ottawa.

According to the University Gazette, "When she was sworn in as a senator in 1994, Landon Pearson had two goals: to advance children's interests through legislation and to open up the political process so that children could participate in the decisions that affect them.



"During the eight years Senator Landon Pearson has graced the upper chamber, she has fulfilled these commitments in many ways. In 1996, she was named the minister of foreign affairs' advisor on children's rights. In 1999, Prime Minister Jean Chrétien appointed the senator his personal representative to the United Nations' 2001 Special Session on Children. Pearson has helped to empower children and young people by giving them a voice. She is genuinely interested and involved in their stories and their lives. And she makes certain, in the forums and conferences that she chairs, that children participate too..."

Retirement

Senator James Tunney, who was summoned to the Senate in March 2001 and represented Ontario (Grafton), retired on June 16, 2002.



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