

The Senate

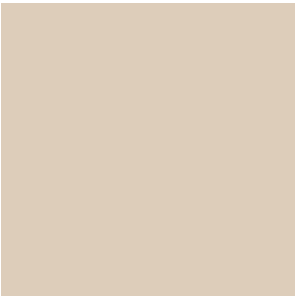
Report on Activities **2009**

As of March 31



In modern times, the Senate
has become a kind of high-end
policy think-tank.

Michael Den Tandt,
The Calgary Sun,
December 30, 2008



The Senate
Report on Activities 2009
As of March 31

On my first day as a senator, I came to Parliament Hill and looked at the statue of the Famous Five . . . [who] campaigned for years before women finally became “qualified persons”. It was only after their legal victory in 1929 that women could be appointed to the Senate. Without their courage and determination, I wouldn’t be on the Hill. The Famous Five wanted women to influence public policy and law — to bring women’s life experiences, values and aspirations into public choices. I do, too.

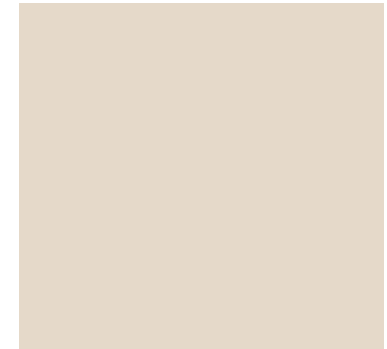
Senator Nancy Ruth, her website



While the “other Chamber” represents the will of the people, we represent the will of those who struggle to be heard; those who are inclined to remain silent; those who are too often set aside, who feel forgotten. The Canadian democratic system was founded on a respect for the rights of minorities, and we . . . are the guarantors of that promise.

History has promised the French-speaking linguistic minority a place in Canada. . . I stand before you today on behalf of those people, and insofar as I can be part of your family, they will be, too. I will keep my promise.

Senator Maria Chaput, *Debates of the Senate*



Literacy has been an important cause in my life since I began my first Senate assignment as a member of the Special Committee on Youth 22 years ago . . . We were stunned by something we did not expect and knew virtually nothing about: the lack of literacy skills and the enormous impediment to social and economic participation that such an absence of learning opportunity posed, to say nothing of the psychological anguish and the shame.

Senator Joyce Fairbairn, her website





We've never yet been on a [Canadian Forces] base — and we've been on every base, here and abroad, I think — where we haven't learned something new, heard something new, which can send us off in a new and different direction.

**Senator Tommy Banks, member of the National Security and Defence Committee,
interview with *Army News***

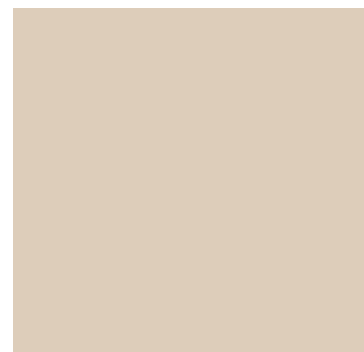


The Senate was born with our country in 1867. Roughly 900 senators have held office since then. Though the Senate itself has changed much over the years, the independence guaranteed to these men and women has not. It is this independence that has always allowed them to speak up, through our history, for the people they represent and causes they hold dear — no matter how small the group or how politically unpopular the cause.

This chain of representation stretches back to our foundation as a country. Today's senators continue this work, forging the newest links by tackling the issues that define our country today. They continue, in the best tradition of the Senate, to find solutions for the problems they see and stand up for Canadians.

In my view, we need to find new ways, tools and incentives to bring about a change in "spirit" and to motivate a mindset change in our society — to one that both understands and embraces the benefits of diversity and immigration as much-needed agents of positive change for our society. To this end, leaders in government, business and education need to actively model the way for our citizens and for our minorities, by providing real leadership and policies that support the business case for diversity.

**Senator Donald Oliver,
speech to the Canada Revenue Agency**



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The Honourable Noël A. Kinsella
Speaker of the Senate

Our success as a nation is founded on long-standing principles of parliamentary democracy.

The sense of freedom and stability that Canadians enjoy — even as 2008 marked one of the worst worldwide economic declines on record — should not be undervalued. Our freedom is a direct product of the systems and infrastructures that we, as citizens of a prosperous parliamentary democracy, have established for ourselves. As legislators, senators endeavour to respond to the needs of all Canadians not only by reviewing draft legislation, but also through policy studies, often in pursuit of solutions for minority and marginalized groups of our society.

Now in 2009, which marks the 150th anniversary of the groundbreaking for our original Parliament Building, we find ourselves continuing to help nations build the peace and freedom that Canada already enjoys. Parliamentary diplomacy — an important activity of the Speaker of the Senate as fourth in Canada's order of precedence, and a significant activity for many senators — has

become even more crucial as nations look to our model to overcome their domestic and international challenges.

Our success as a nation is founded on long-standing principles of parliamentary democracy, and preponderant opinion holds that the Senate has been effective. Senators of all backgrounds and regions unfailingly uphold their duty to serve all citizens. They ensure that legislative initiatives will produce the results that they propose to achieve, that policy is performing in the best interests of our citizenry, and that Canadians enjoy further democratic representation within Parliament.

This report presents an overview of the Senate's activities in fiscal year 2008–09, providing some insight into the operation and function of the Senate as it works to improve the future of our nation.



A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, reading "G. Furey".

The Honourable George J. Furey, Q.C.
Chair, Standing Committee
on Internal Economy,
Budgets and Administration

Like our basic commitment to democratic values, advocacy for parliamentary renewal remains strong, transcending party lines.

October 2008 marked a return to the polls for Canada and another minority government. It also marked my fourth year as the chair of the Standing Senate Committee on Internal Economy, Budgets and Administration. The economic downturn last fall ensured that the experienced members of the committee would exercise even tighter restraint on spending within the institution, resulting in a 9.4 per cent lapse on the 2008–09 total budget. Such lapses will prove more difficult to attain now that the Senate is closer to its full complement of 105 senators, but fiscal restraint will remain the order of the day.

Despite this fiscal restraint, the committee can boast several noteworthy achievements for 2008–09: the *Senators' Handbook on the Use of Senate Resources*; new policies on capital assets and asset management; the launch of a new intranet; funding for a pilot project on the use of Inuktitut in the Senate chamber; and adoption of the new Master Security Plan, setting a collaborative and

proactive framework for the Senate Protective Service, House of Commons Security Services and the RCMP.

Another focus of our work in 2008–09 was Senate operations. Renewal of Parliament has made only minor progress after several decades. Like our basic commitment to democratic values, advocacy for parliamentary renewal remains strong, transcending party lines. The Committee on Internal Economy thus appointed an advisory working group to review the tone and process of the Senate's operations.

As we progress as an institution, senators continue to count on the fine support of the Senate Administration to accomplish our ambitious agenda. The course we have set for 2009–10 is no less ambitious and we look forward to many challenges and successes in the coming year.



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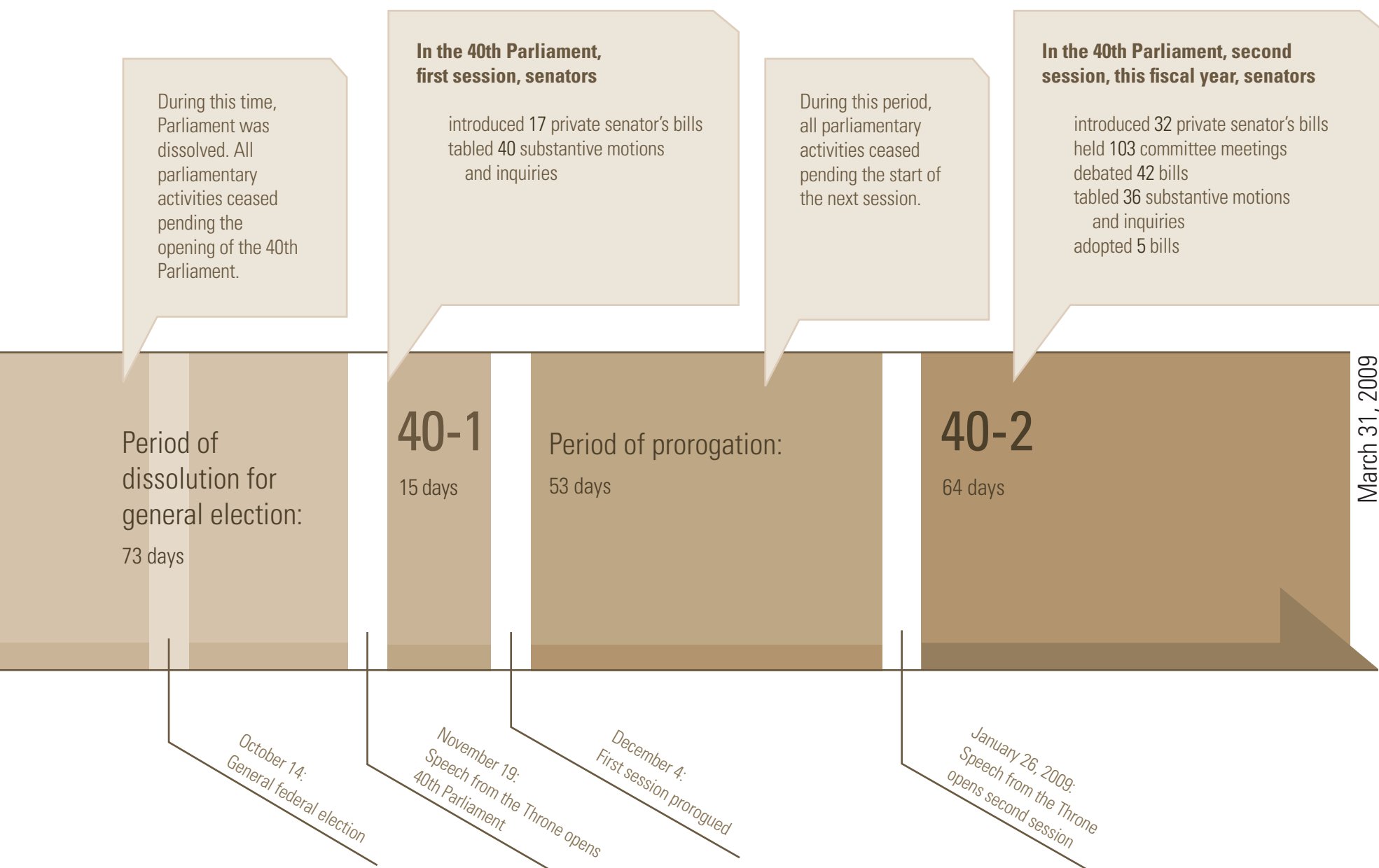


Fiscal Year 2008–09 in the Senate

Because it is a house of Parliament, the Senate is governed by the parliamentary calendar. This calendar's dividing lines are the **dissolution** of Parliament for an election and **prorogation** (the end of a session of Parliament). In each case, all activities and committees of the Senate and the House cease, to start anew when Parliament reopens with a new session or after an election. Fiscal year 2008–09 ran over **two Parliaments** — the 39th and the 40th — and **three sessions** (the second session of the 39th Parliament and the first and second sessions of the 40th).

Despite these interruptions, the Senate accomplished much, debating the political topics of the day, scrutinizing legislation and bringing new issues to light.





The Senate plays an important role in Canada's parliamentary system....

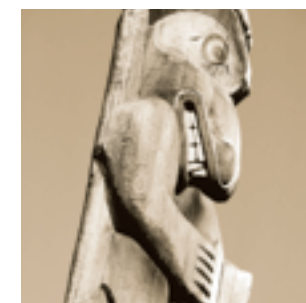
Anyone who follows parliamentary business in Ottawa at all will know that the Senate has sometimes made important amendments to legislation and that its committees do excellent work.

Pierre Jury, *Le Droit*, December 16, 2008

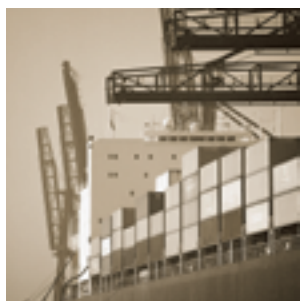
Tackling the Issues



Fiscal year 2008–09 in the Senate was stitched together out of two separate Parliaments and three different parliamentary sessions. Despite the challenges this presented — Parliament Hill work stopped for a general election and the beginning of a new session — the Senate still managed to tackle many tough issues important to Canadians. Senators' actions impacted and changed the course of our public policy debates.



This report details how they made that impact in — and across — **five forums for national and international action** to help improve conditions for Canadians.



1

They developed issues important to Canadians in Senate chamber debate.

Senators used their parliamentary tools of debate — Question Period, statements, substantive motions and inquiries — to build a better picture of Canadians' concerns and priorities, and better policy options. Debate in the Senate chamber keeps issues in the public eye, and the Senate can keep them alive over many consecutive sessions of Parliament because turnover is low.

2

They aimed to improve conditions in senators' public policy bills.

Senators introduced many private senator's bills this year to suggest legislative solutions to problems they perceived. Though bills that start in the Senate can't spend public money or raise or introduce new taxes, senators are adept at finding gaps in our social system that can be filled without increased spending.



3

They examined important issues in depth in committee special studies.

In groups of 5 to 15, senators delved into current issues such as agriculture or official languages. Committees pick topics to explore, and gather information by questioning witnesses, ordering official records to be produced, surveying academic literature and travelling to see the situation in Canadians' communities. The Senate's "special study" reports contribute to policy debates and often influence the government's solutions to public policy challenges.

4

They scrutinized policy in government bills.

Through scrutiny in Senate committees and full debate in the Senate chamber, senators examined bills proposed by the government and suggested improvements when necessary. Senate committees often undertake follow-up study after passing bills. This allows them to make sure that the legislation doesn't have any unintended consequences.



5

They worked outside the Senate to better our country and our world.

Senators worked individually on issues of their own choosing, often in response to Canadians in their region. They advocated for change in the halls of Parliament, spoke at rallying events, organized town hall meetings and presented at conferences.

Senators also cooperated with legislators in Canada and abroad to push for improved conditions worldwide. They worked to find solutions to shared problems, both on their own initiative and through interparliamentary groups, friendship groups and international associations.



1 In Senate Chamber Debate

The work that senators do in the Senate chamber is at the core of their job. It's in the chamber that they debate emerging issues and ongoing concerns, contrast political approaches, introduce, table and pass motions to make decisions. It's where senators decide on collective action on behalf of Canadians.

A sitting of the Senate begins with rapid statements on topics chosen by senators, usually issues of immediate or emerging concern. Senators made over 390 statements and asked hundreds of questions in Question Period (QP) this year. Hot topics in QP included the following:

39-2 (April 1 to September 7, 2008)

- budget 2008
- defence spending and operations
- the environment
- human rights
- government spending, purchasing and contracts
- health (general)
- health and social services on First Nations reserves
- international relations
- political party election spending

40-1 (November 19 to December 3, 2008)

- the economic downturn in Canada
- political events in the House of Commons

40-2 (January 26 to March 31, 2009)

- budget 2009
- the economy and financial regulation
- employment insurance and pension plans
- human rights
- national defence
- official language rights

Senate chamber debate digs more deeply into current issues through Senate inquiries and substantive motions. Inquiry debates allow senators to explore a public policy topic without the matter coming to a final vote. Substantive motions, if adopted, express the Senate's opinion or urge action. This year, senators launched 40 inquiries into topics like

- Canadian seniors not receiving CPP benefits
- maternity and parental benefits in Canada
- voting age for federal elections
- the state of official language rights in Canada

- the current credit crisis and its impact on Canadian financial services
- Iran's imminent nuclear war capability
- Canada's role in banning mines and cluster munitions worldwide

and debated 40 substantive motions, including ones that

- encouraged Canada to explore free trade with the European Union
- mandated the Senate to study a proposed guaranteed annual income system for Canada
- endorsed the London Declaration on Combatting Antisemitism
- highlighted the proposed sale of RADARSAT and the Canadarm to an American arms company
- encouraged G-20 and G-8 participants to meet the challenge of increased and enduring poverty in member states

PROFILES: SENATE CHAMBER DEBATE

Listening to Aboriginal Peoples



I hope this day can lead to healing and reconciliation and that we can use this opportunity to educate all Canadians on this sad part of Canada's history; namely, the Indian residential school system. I hope this day can lead to a respectful and liberating relationship between First Nations and the rest of Canada . . . I hope this day allows us to forge a partnership, a better working relationship, to help improve the lives of Aboriginal Canadians across our great country. I hope this day reminds us all of our common humanity and that there is far more that unites us as Canadians than divides us.

**Senator Marjory LeBreton, Leader of
the Government in the Senate, *Debates
of the Senate*, June 12, 2008**

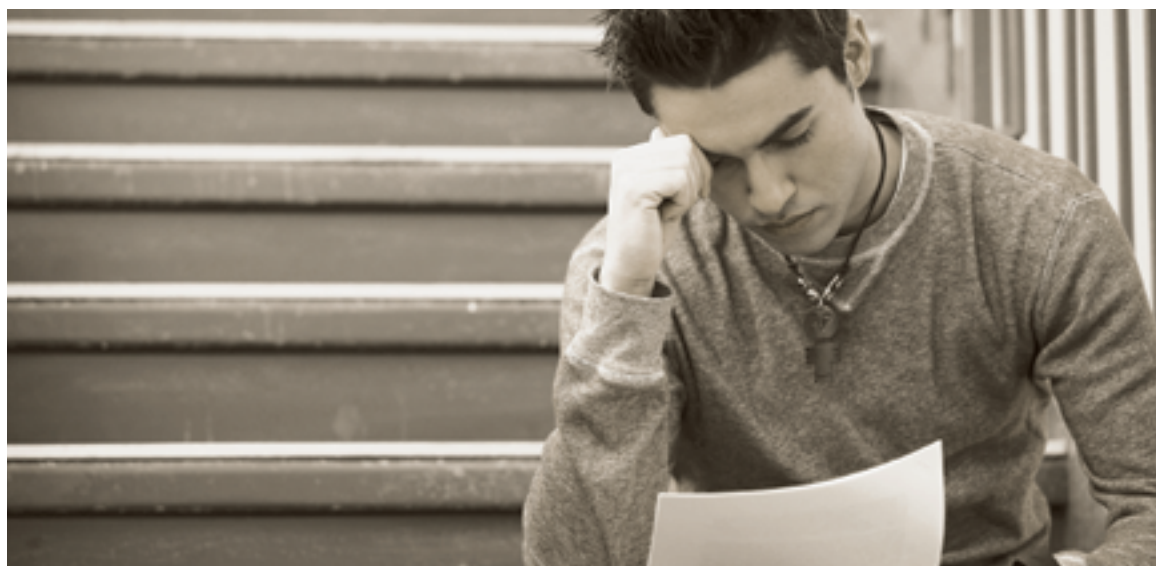
On June 11, 2008, leaders representing the Aboriginal peoples of Canada stepped onto the House of Commons floor for a special ceremony. They accepted the apology of the Government of Canada for the injustices inflicted on Indian, Métis and Inuit children taken from their families and sent to residential schools in the 20th century. The leaders had asked to address the Senate while they were in Ottawa, and senators welcomed them the following day. They had considerable time to speak, as well as to answer questions and share their views and experiences.

Senators wanted to ensure follow-up on the leaders' appearance before Parliament. A motion was tabled six days later, inviting the leaders back in one year to report on progress on the commitments made by Parliament the previous week. The motion passed in March 2009, calling the leaders to return on June 11.

Accessing Post-secondary Education

The current student loan system is difficult to navigate. It is discouraging many young Canadians from pursuing post-secondary education. High interest rates — the highest in the Western world — inadequate debt relief programs and vicious collections practices create a disincentive for those who must borrow money to attend college or university. This is wrong for both ethical and practical reasons. This is wrong and it must change.

Senator Yoine Goldstein, *Debates of the Senate*, May 14, 2008



The Senate traditionally supports a strong system of Canadian colleges and universities. This is witnessed by a special Senate committee report in 1997 that concluded that tight government budgets had squeezed universities to a point of crisis in only five years. As Senator Elizabeth Hubley pointed out during a spring 2008 Senate inquiry, though, most of its recommendations were never addressed — and, she posited, the crisis is still deepening, with rising tuition fees making higher education harder and harder to access.

Many senators took up the inquiry, raising issues like reduced funding for universities' operating costs and the status of the Millennium Scholarship Fund. One aspect highlighted was growing student debt, the subject of several senators' bills in recent years. The latest was Senator Yoine Goldstein's S-219,* aimed at quicker student debt forgiveness in the case of bankruptcy. In January 2009, Senator Catherine Callbeck renewed her motion to have a Senate committee launch a full-scale examination of the accessibility of post-secondary education in Canada.

* *An Act to amend the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act (student loans), introduced February 3, 2009.*

Challenging Credit Card Fees

It is very unfair. . . . For many Canadian businesses, it's a question of survival. If the government of Australia has legislated interchange rates and the interest rates for credit cards, and it seems that both the major credit card issuers are still doing business there and are still profitable there, they should be able to do the same here with the same kind of service with fair legislated rates. That would be fair to the economy.

Senator Pierrette Ringuette, quoted in *The Daily Gleaner* (Fredericton), December 4, 2008



Senator Pierrette Ringuette began speaking out strongly on the issue of Canada's credit card and debit systems at the end of November 2008. Her motion for a Senate committee study of rising credit card fees and interest rates hit the floor of the Senate two days before the end of the first session in December. She moved it again in January and it passed on March 3.

Senator Ringuette was particularly concerned by two costs that burden the consumer: "hidden" transaction fees paid by retailers who accept credit cards, and buoyant interest rates on credit card balances at a time of low Bank of Canada rates. She was determined to call credit card companies and banks to account and to see if regulation could help consumers. She was also concerned that the Interac Association, Canada's debit card network, was in talks with the Competition Bureau about giving up its not-for-profit status.

The Senate Committee on Banking, Trade and Commerce held its first meeting on March 25, 2009, where Senator Ringuette drew the committee's attention to 12,000 letters she had received supporting her efforts. With its long interest in consumer protection, the committee was well prepared for the study. It heard 10 witnesses before the end of March, and is determined to release a full report by the summer.

Evaluating the *Federal Accountability Act*

I do not think I am overstating the importance of administration when I say that how a government achieves its results is just as important as the results themselves. In our Westminster parliamentary system, Parliament is the key institution of public accountability of government. It is Parliament that confers authority on the government, which must then answer to Parliament for the way it uses this authority. This accountability, so fundamental to our representative democratic system, has been strengthened through the *Federal Accountability Act*.

Senator Donald Oliver, *Debates of the Senate*, February 5, 2008



In 2006, the Senate Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs spent over 100 hours studying Bill C-2. They recommended an unprecedented 156 changes, half of which were accepted by the House of Commons. That bill was the *Federal Accountability Act* (FAA), an omnibus piece of government legislation aimed at improving federal transparency.

Since their original study, senators have been keeping an eye on the FAA's implementation. Among other actions, in 2008, Senator Donald Oliver launched an inquiry about the government's progress under the FAA. It allowed senators like Senator Oliver, the chair of the committee that studied the bill, and Senator Joseph Day, the chair of the Senate National Finance Committee, to praise and raise questions about the Act's impact after two years.

Senate committees have also been scrutinizing the implementation of the Act. In March 2008, while studying the Main Estimates, the Senate Committee on National Finance identified some questions about the new officers created under the FAA. In May, the committee devoted an entire report to the topic. It encouraged the government to quickly finish implementing the FAA and to make very clear the independence of the new officers.

Seeing Both Sides of the Commercial Seal Hunt

...[T]he commercial seal hunt is our main industry and the only source of income for many Inuit... We appreciate the understanding of the European community in their attempts to exclude the Inuit from their ban on the subsistence hunt. Nevertheless this is not the issue — we are concerned about the commercial hunt. We market our product abroad, and internationally. We rely on the sale of our pelts and by-products. We need this industry for our economic survival.

Senator Charlie Watt, blog post, March 9, 2009



On March 31, 2009, Senator Mac Harb dumped a wheelbarrow filled with tens of thousands of letters, emails and phone messages from Canadians opposed to the commercial seal hunt at the Senate's front doors. The action punctuated the long, heated debate over whether seal clubbing is inhumane — a debate that heated up as the European Union considered an import ban on seal products. Senator Harb's protest followed his unsuccessful attempt to introduce a bill to end the commercial hunt. Undeterred, he launched three inquiries into the hunt as debate continued.

A passionate government spokesperson on the issue, Newfoundland and Labrador Senator Fabian Manning introduced a motion opposing Senator Harb's position in March. It encouraged senators to support the government's intent to maintain a commercial cull. Other senators continued their vocal support of commercial seal hunters on and off the Hill, and in the media. Senator Manning travelled to Europe to represent Canada's position on the issue. Senator Hervieux-Payette attended an information session in New Harbour, Newfoundland, in March 2009, to hear from the seal fishermen themselves and bring their views directly to the press's attention. And Senators Yoine Goldstein and Marcel Prud'homme defended the commercial hunt at the Council of Europe.

2 In Senators' Public Policy Bills

As members of Parliament, senators have a bird's eye view of public policy in Canada. They're also in a position to make positive change to that policy, and Canadians turn to them for help with problems that need a legislated solution. Senators may introduce a private senator's bill at any time during a session of Parliament, allowing them to propose such solutions directly.

Three sessions meant that an unusually high number of bills were introduced and reintroduced this fiscal year. Among the 86 private senator's bills* live in the Senate this fiscal year, senators created and debated bills on:

- easing access to generic pharmaceuticals for developing countries
- legislating clean public drinking water
- restricting corporal punishment of children
- offsetting high cost of living in Nunavik with tax relief
- protecting heritage lighthouses
- preventing bulk water removal from Canada–United States boundary waters
- protecting victims of human trafficking after their release from slavery
- banning smoking in all public places in Canada
- allowing municipal bonds in order to fund infrastructure development
- outlawing email SPAM
- establishing a consumers' ombudsman for the telecommunications industry
- allowing the spouses of foreign service workers greater access to EI benefits
- creating a carbon offset tax credit
- requiring quarterly financial reports from government departments
- preventing major Canadian investment in foreign companies that support human rights abuses

PRIVATE SENATOR'S BILLS ACTIVE BETWEEN APRIL 1, 2008, AND MARCH 31, 2009

Session	39th Parliament, second session (April 1 to September 7, 2008)	40th Parliament, first session (November 19 to December 4, 2008)	40th Parliament, second session (January 26 to March 31, 2009)
Introduced in fiscal year	12	17	32
Active in fiscal year*	37	17	32

* For complete lists of private senator's bills in this fiscal year, please see Appendix C.

* Introduced before the start of fiscal year 2008–09 but still on the Order Paper in the Senate, i.e. still under scrutiny and debate.

PROFILES: SENATORS' PUBLIC POLICY BILLS

Promoting Sustainable Development



In my experience, giving an official some independence and a decent budget affords them scope for creativity. The office of an independent commissioner of the environment and sustainable development could be a living laboratory, where new ideas can bubble up and be tested alongside existing practice. With its bird's-eye perspective, such an office could more easily see ways to balance all three elements of sustainable development — environmental, economic and social. Not only that, but its innovations could stand as good examples for the private and non-governmental sectors to follow.

Senator Elaine McCoy, her website

A former Cabinet minister in Alberta and a champion of sustainable development in Canada, Senator Elaine McCoy brought forth Bill S-206 in January 2009.* The bill sought to remove the position of the federal Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development from the Office of the Auditor General and make the office of the Commissioner a free-standing one directly responsible to both houses of Parliament.

In June 2008, the Senate passed a bill which became the *Federal Sustainable Development Act*. Studying it reinforced Senator McCoy's impression that practicing systemic sustainable development throughout the government is such a complex job that it needs a single champion. Making the Environment and Sustainable Development Commissioner an independent parliamentary officer, she feels, would free the commissioner from behaving reactively — i.e., simply auditing and critiquing current practices. It would allow the position to grow into a *proactive* role; the commissioner would be ideally situated to evaluate best practices, innovate better ones, and help the government evenly apply these across its many departments and agencies.

* This bill was first introduced in June 2008 as Bill S-243.

Preserving the Oath of Citizenship



The Crown is a symbol of our history, our roots and our future. . . . It is the embodiment of the clear sense that the society we share when reflected by the Crown is greater than any elected politician or first ministers du jour. First ministers and governments, as we all know, come and go, as should be the case in a democracy, but the enduring values of civility, due process, equality before the law, institutional memory, fairness and the public interest continue through the Crown. That is what the oath [of citizenship] affirms. That is what citizenship embraces.

Senator Hugh Segal, *Debates of the Senate*, April 10, 2008

As a self-proclaimed “unreconstructed monarchist,” Senator Hugh Segal is interested in protecting the institution of the monarchy in Canada. His Bill S-225,* introduced in February 2009, is in support of that interest. Specifically, the bill aimed to defend the current oath of citizenship sworn by new citizens, which includes a pledge of loyalty to the Queen of Canada.

The bill was a response to recent Charter challenges from prospective citizens who feel they cannot swear allegiance to the Crown because, as republicans, they would like to see it abolished in Canada. Senator Segal argues that the Crown is an integral part of our Constitution and allegiance to it is thus an integral part of the oath of citizenship. He does not object to changing the oath or the Constitution, but feels it should be done through due political process. “We should respect their right to petition, campaign and advocate for the removal of that allegiance,” he said in the Senate chamber. “However, neither they nor anyone else should have the right to use one part of the Constitution to eradicate another through the use of the Charter in the courts.”

Senator Segal’s bill proposed a rare parliamentary use of the “notwithstanding clause” of the *Constitution Act, 1982*, to exempt the Oath of Allegiance from challenges under sections 2 and 15 of the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*. The bill would thus protect the oath from Charter-based court challenges.

* The same bill was introduced in the 39th Parliament, second session, as Bill S-231. Quotes in this section are from Senator Segal’s speech to this original bill on April 10, 2008.

The Assembly of the Aboriginal Peoples of Canada Act



It is time to think about a system that gets Aboriginals involved in the management of this country's affairs, especially in affairs that concern them. It is urgent that we move forward, and do what has been recommended in all the sensitive and intelligent reports, including the one from the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples, which is to make Aboriginals more responsible [for their own fate].

Senator Aurélien Gill, *Debates of the Senate*, May 7, 2008

On May 7, 2008, Senator Aurélien Gill rose in the Senate chamber, saying, “Aboriginals must take their place in Canada’s political landscape. The 1982 Constitution recognizes us as peoples. It recognizes that we have rights. Therefore, it is time to take action and do what is needed to enable the Aboriginal peoples to take charge of their futures.”

According to Senator Gill, a Montagnais and former chief from Mashteuiatsh in Quebec, that action could begin with his Bill S-234.* The Assembly of the Aboriginal Peoples of Canada Act proposed to create an assembly in Ottawa uniting representatives of the Inuit, Indian and Métis peoples. They would form a proto-parliamentary chamber that would review all Canadian policy, bills, programs and spending that affect Aboriginal Canadians. Replacing the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (in which Senator Gill was once a director general), the assembly could, he feels, eventually form a third chamber of Parliament. This would allow full First Nations participation in political affairs and, he hopes, lead to an era of responsibility and reconciliation.

* Introduced in the 39th Parliament, second session

Seeking a National Securities Regulator

Canada still stands alone amongst all industrial nations in that we do not have a single national securities regulator for our securities markets. Having one regulator would improve the efficiency and — it should be emphasized — the productivity of Canada's capital markets at a time when the cost of capital is a crucial issue, not only within but also outside Canada.

Senator Jerahmiel Grafstein, *Debates of the Senate*, November 26, 2008



According to Senator Jerahmiel Grafstein, Canada's global competitiveness is significantly damaged by the fact that it has 13 securities jurisdictions jostling inside its borders. The 218-page Bill S-208,* introduced on November 20, 2008, is his solution. It proposes creating a single national commission to regulate securities.

After having come across the issue many times in his research, Senator Grafstein first proposed his Canada Securities Act in May 2007. A single regulator, he feels, will increase the productivity of our capital markets, protect investors from fraud and stimulate the economy. Letters of support and op-ed articles from economists, investors and members of the business community show that others concur. The Senate Banking, Trade and Commerce Committee has noted the need for such a measure in its reports for many years, and many experts in Canada and abroad have agreed. This includes the federal government, whose 2009 Budget cemented its intention to move ahead with a national commission.

* Introduced in the 40th Parliament, first session, this bill also existed in both the first and second sessions of the 39th Parliament, and was reintroduced in the 40th Parliament, second session, as Bill S-214.

Empowering Victims of Terrorism

Terrorism is a modern-day scourge that not only targets the innocent but also seeks to destroy the democratic principles we hold dear. It strikes at the heart of modern societies and, indeed, civilization. Terrorism is a weapon wielded by evil people who seek to destroy the way we live. It is a phenomenon that we need to fight with every resource available to us in our democratic society . . .

Senator David Tkachuk, *Debates of the Senate*, February 6, 2008



Senator David Tkachuk first introduced a version of Bill S-225* in 2005. He has introduced three versions of it, with improvements, in successive sessions of Parliament. He has worked on getting support for this bill with the Canadian Coalition Against Terror, a group made up of families who lost loved ones in the Air India bombing in 1984, the 9/11 attacks on the United States, and other acts of terrorism.

The bill aimed to give such families one way to address the powerlessness they feel in the aftermath of their tragedy. It proposed amending the *Criminal Code* to allow victims and their families who had suffered loss or harm as a result of terrorism to sue those responsible for the terrorist actions. It also proposed to remove immunity for any state that knowingly sponsors the activities of listed terrorist organizations, allowing victims to sue such states as well. Making clear that Canada will hold them to account for their actions, Senator Tkachuk feels, would give terrorists and terrorism-sponsoring states pause before launching an attack. The measure would thus not only empower victims and their families, but give Canadians an extra layer of protection against acts of terror.

* Introduced in the 39th Parliament, second session

3 In Committee Special Studies

Senate committee special studies allow senators to plumb a policy area deeply. These committees, made up of 9 to 15 senators, invite witnesses to give information on the chosen policy subject. They also consult more widely by conducting surveys, soliciting online input and travelling to communities across the country to see the situation on the ground. They then work toward consensus on their study's conclusions.

Despite the stoppages in parliamentary work that occurred in 2008–09, Senate committees* still managed to hear 1,112 witnesses and table 31 special studies* on topics such as:

- sustainable development in Canada
- Canada's role in the United Nations Human Rights Council
- human resource management issues in the public service
- infrastructure programs and regional development agencies
- reductions in long-term disability benefits for veterans
- the situation on the ground for Canadian Forces in Afghanistan
- reflecting our linguistic duality at the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games
- the use of Inuktitut in the Senate chamber
- honouring modern-day treaties with First Nations
- mobilizing science and technology to Canada's advantage
- population health
- the need for fully bilingual staff at Air Canada

Despite time limitations, Senate committees managed to travel in Canada and abroad to gather facts and perspectives for their studies. They visited:

Arctic Bay, NU
 Bathurst and Tracadie, NB
 Brantford, ON
 Fort Alexander, MB
 Halifax, NS (visited by three committees)
 Iqaluit, NU
 Kaskechewan and Fort Albany, ON
 Moncton, NB
 Nanisivik, NU
 Pangnirtung, NU
 Pond Inlet, NU
 Qikiqtarjuak, NU
 Resolute, NU
 Sherbrooke, QC
 Ste Anne, MB
 St. John's, NL (visited by two committees)
 Victoria, BC
 Vancouver, BC
 Welland, ON
 Whitehorse, YK
 Yellowknife, NT

Brussels, Belgium
 Dubai, United Arab Emirates
 Kandahar, Afghanistan
 Landstuhl, Germany
 London, England

* For a complete list of Senate committees active in fiscal year 2008–09 and the senators who participated in them, please see Appendix E.

* For a complete list of 2008–2009 committee special studies, please see Appendix D.

PROFILES: COMMITTEE SPECIAL STUDIES

Protecting Canada's Arctic Waters



With its vast and largely untapped natural resources, the Arctic is growing in strategic and economic importance. Marine activity is expected to increase significantly because of the converging circumstances of melting polar ice and high energy prices. The Canadian Coast Guard's role in the Arctic, a region of tremendous potential, will become ever more critical in the coming years.

The Senate Committee on Fisheries and Oceans, *The Coast Guard in Canada's Arctic: Interim Report*, June 2008

In December 2007, the Senate Committee on Fisheries and Oceans undertook to explore the role of the Canadian Coast Guard in the changing Arctic. With public interest and government policy increasingly turning north, the committee wanted to see if the Coast Guard was prepared for coming challenges in Canada's Arctic waters. In its June 2008 interim report, the committee concluded that the Coast Guard needed to be better prepared, mandated and funded by the federal government to meet future challenges in a rapidly changing Arctic.

The committee's report also asserted, though, that the Arctic should be seen as "first and foremost the homeland of Inuit who have been using the region and its resources for thousands of years." In early June, its members travelled to Nunavut to hear from northerners in their communities. In their meetings in Iqaluit and Pangnirtung, they reached out to Inuit by providing simultaneous interpretation in Inuktitut, a rare occurrence in official hearings. Northern residents briefed the senators on issues related to the Coast Guard, Arctic sovereignty, Arctic fisheries and the changing northern environment. The committee also traveled to Qikiqtarjuak, Pond Inlet, Resolute, Nanisivik and Arctic Bay, conducting fact finding for their final report.

Tackling Poverty

1. Rural Poverty



Our economy is rooted in rural Canada. It produces food, fuel, energy and building materials for our cities and for export around the world. As a nation we have been watching the international food and oil crises and the economic downturn with concern. How well we weather these difficult times will depend largely on the resilience of rural Canadians. And they have been dangerously neglected. It is time to give something back to those who have made our country strong.

Chair of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, quoted in *The Lethbridge Herald*, June 18, 2008

The plight of Canada's poor is a theme woven through the history of the Senate's work. Its landmark 1971 Croll Report on poverty is still referred to in public debate on the subject. It's not surprising, then, that two Senate committees tabled studies this year addressing poverty.

On June 16, 2008, the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry tabled a 365-page report that challenged our thinking about rural Canada. *Beyond Freefall: Halting Rural Poverty* was the first ever parliamentary study that examined rural poverty exclusively. It was the result of two years of scrutiny, fact-finding trips to rural communities in every province and territory — 17 in all — and the testimony of more than 330 witnesses.

Noting that Canada's rural population has dipped below 20 per cent for the first time ever, the committee concluded that years of policy neglect have contributed to the decline in rural Canada. This is despite the fact that our security and economy depend upon industries like farming, forestry, mining, energy and fisheries. The committee urged the government to establish a Minister of Rural Affairs to give Canada's six million rural residents a voice at the Cabinet table. It also encouraged the government to move non-front-line offices into small towns and to find better options for Canada's income support programs. In all, the committee made 68 recommendations aimed at helping rebuild rural communities and supporting those who live in them.

Tackling Poverty

2. Urban Poverty

In 1961, U.S. President John F. Kennedy warned that “if a free society cannot help the many who are poor, it cannot save the few who are rich.” He understood that no nation, however powerful, could ignore the plight of its most impoverished citizens; that no country, however prosperous, could afford to forego the contribution that millions could make, given half a chance. Today, in a global economy, the importance of creating those opportunities, of unleashing the creative contribution of those trapped in poverty, is more important than ever.

**Chair of the Senate Subcommittee on Cities,
New Brunswick Telegraph-Journal,
August 21, 2008**



In 2007, the Senate Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology created a subcommittee to study the challenges facing Canada’s cities, including social, economic and governance issues. It began by looking at three issues: poverty, housing and homelessness. But after hearing from 32 witnesses, its members found that these issues warranted a more in-depth study. They listened to 60 more experts and in June 2008 they put down policy and program ideas in the 90-page report *Poverty, Housing and Homelessness: Issues and Options*.

The committee broke the report into seven broad themes, like “Too many Canadians do not have access to adequate and affordable housing” and “Cities must be partners in poverty reduction.” Under each, it presented options for action, totalling 103 alternatives, meant as a starting point for further discussions with Canadians. The committee sought the opinions of Canadians on these options by providing the interim report to witnesses, posting the report on its website for comment and travelling to Halifax and St. John’s in August 2008. Trips to other major cities were postponed by the dissolution of Parliament in September. But the committee continued to seek input the following year, intent on helping Canada address the scourge of urban poverty.

Preparing Canada for Emergencies

Every country is beset by natural and human-made disasters from time to time — from tornados to floods to ice storms, from terrorist attacks to flu epidemics to water quality failures. These are, by definition, emergencies. The crucial difference between emergencies and disasters almost always comes down to one thing: *preparedness*.

The Senate Committee on National Security and Defence, from the executive summary of *Emergency Preparedness in Canada*, August 2008



Is Canada prepared for national emergencies like catastrophic weather events and terrorist attacks? The answer in August 2008, according to the Senate Committee on National Security and Defence, was “still no.”

The committee’s report, *Emergency Preparedness in Canada*, traces the progress made since its 2004 report on the subject. As the committee had done for the 2004 report, it sent a survey to 100 municipal emergency coordinators on the front lines. After comparing the survey responses, extracting evidence and questioning witnesses, the committee concluded that progress in preparing for emergency response has been painfully slow.

The report examines funding for municipal emergency plans and the usefulness of existing emergency supply caches. It notes steps forward, including better communication between emergency responders and the military. But it also reports lack of coordination, lack of protection for vulnerable infrastructure like bridges, and, particularly, lack of capacity in the Armed Forces. The committee has consistently argued for years that the military is underfunded and repeated that this will hobble its ability to help us in emergencies. The report made 30 new recommendations aimed at helping to heal these deficiencies.

Forging a Key Global Supply Link

Canada is ideally positioned to become a major player in the movement of goods through our container ports, our railways, our highways and our air routes. In order to make that happen, we must look at the gaps in the system country-wide and address them as quickly as possible. Of course, investments in infrastructure will cost money, but Canada will benefit with the creation of thousands of jobs and related investments. Now is the time

Chair of the Senate Committee on Transport and Communications, *Debates of the Senate*, June 16, 2008



In 2006, the Senate Transport and Communications Committee launched a study of the shipping of goods into, out of, and across Canada. As it met with witnesses and visited coastal ports, it began to see the ripe opportunity for our shipping industry — Canada sits between the United States and China, the two largest markets in the world.

Grasping these possibilities, the committee focused on practical measures to help our ports become key international players. Its June 2008 report detailed areas that need improvement in order to create seamless networks throughout Canada. These included improving railroad services, harmonizing provincial trucking regulations, preventing labour shortages, updating port policies and updating infrastructure.

In its report, the committee recommended that the federal government take the lead in coordinating the industry's many players. Early in the next fiscal year, the government announced funding for the CentrePort Canada initiative in Manitoba, an inland port designed as a hub for goods shipped from Asia. The committee welcomed it as a first step toward making Canada a key player in the global movement of goods.

4 In Government Bills

When it comes to government bills — laws, or changes to existing laws, proposed by Cabinet — the Senate serves some very useful functions. One of these is akin to a safety net. The Senate is adept at finding technical problems with bills, such as translation or drafting errors.

The Senate also adds another layer of public consultation on legislation, giving smaller groups or individuals affected by them a chance to discuss and review them. And these groups sometimes find that the bill will affect Canadians in a way no one expected. The Senate is usually the last chance to find and fix such unintended consequences and make sure that the bill does what it was meant to do.

But senators' ideas also often end up in government legislation. The Senate is a crucible for policy areas that are not politically immediate or that affect minorities who otherwise have little political influence. Senators can bring up an issue credibly and repeatedly — until it gets the attention it deserves.

LEGISLATION CONSIDERED BY THE SENATE, FISCAL YEAR 2008–09

	Considered	Passed*	Reported with amendments or observations by a Senate committee
Government bills	27	18	6
Private senator's bills	86	6	2
Private member's bills	14	7	4
TOTAL	127	31	12

* Passed third reading in the Senate between April 1, 2008, and March 31, 2009. Please note that other bills considered may have passed third reading after the end of the fiscal year.

PROFILES : GOVERNMENT BILLS

Breaking the Specific Claims Logjam



Honourable senators, we are keeping close track of the 54 specific claims resolved in 2007–08. As a committee, we feel it is our responsibility. . . . We were in conversation with [Indian Affairs and Northern Development] Minister Strahl last night as a group of committee members, and this subject was part of the conversation as well. We are well aware of the importance of not allowing these claims to languish on the sidelines.

**Senator Gerry St. Germain, Chair of the
Senate Committee on Aboriginal Peoples,
*Debates of the Senate, May 15, 2008***

Back in 2003, the Committee on Aboriginal Peoples considered a government bill called the *Specific Claims Resolution Act*. The bill had proposed a new tribunal to deal with the enormous backlog of First Nations specific claims — claims to land or other benefits that may have been taken illegally, badly managed by the state, or promised but never delivered. The bill drew great opposition from First Nations groups, who felt they had not been properly consulted. Responding to their concerns, the committee made six amendments. The bill passed into law in November of that year, but was never implemented.

Three years later, the same Senate committee reported on the continuing logjam of specific claims, then estimated at over 800 — and the anger and desperation this caused among First Nations. It urged the government to address the problem and gave concrete recommendations for moving forward. In June 2007, the government announced that it accepted this new way forward, and began by consulting First Nations. In 2007, it introduced Bill C-30 to implement the committee's recommendation for a new, effective tribunal to deal fairly with specific claims, lauded by the Assembly of First Nations. The bill arrived in the Senate in May 2008 and senators were proud to see it pass into law on June 18, 2008.

Defending Language Rights

[T]he rejection of both amendments perplexes me. I acknowledge that amendment number 1 required judges to personally inform the accused of their linguistic rights. However, would this not be a positive measure in terms of our linguistic rights and an active offer of service? I acknowledge that amendment number 3, which was also rejected, may be problematic in that provinces and territories do not keep statistics to report on the operation of the language of trial provisions. But would this not be an ideal opportunity to implement such practices?

Senator Maria Chaput, *Debates of the Senate*, May 1, 2008



The rights of our French and English minorities have many champions in the Senate, such as the members of the Committee on Official Languages. But it was the Senate Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs that handled Bill C-13. Considered by the Senate in winter and spring 2008, this bill aimed to reform the court trial process.

When the bill was sent to the Legal Affairs Committee, Quebec's Bar Association asked to appear to provide its point of view. While it supported most of the bill, the association felt that the changes in the process of choosing the language of trial could breach the rights of an accused Anglophone in Quebec.

The committee agreed. Among its six amendments, two addressed this problem: one to increase reporting by the courts about trial language; and one to require the trial judge to personally inform the accused of their language rights. The House accepted the other four amendments. But it felt these two would add excessively to the courts' administrative load and the bill proceeded to Royal Assent without them.

Protecting Reservists

I am thrilled, as I know are people on all sides of this house, that this bill ... is finally coming to its conclusion.... Our Canadian Armed Forces, while wonderfully trained and capable, now must rely on the support of their reserve force brothers and sisters when our military's presence is invited or needed around the world in armed conflict, or here at home to assist with disaster relief. Faced with these challenges for which they volunteered, reservists need not face the choice now of serving their country or losing their jobs upon return.

Senator Hugh Segal, *Debates of the Senate*, April 16, 2008



Until recently, military reservists were in a bind when called to active service: they could stay home and keep their civilian job, or they could go, and risk having no job when they return. Senator Hugh Segal felt that Canadians called to serve their country should be treated better. In 2006, he introduced a motion calling on the government to bring into force the job protection provisions of the *Public Safety Act, 2002*. The Senate passed it unanimously. In September 2007, the federal labour minister emphasized the importance of Senate support of reservists' right to their jobs, and the government committed to solving the dilemma in the Throne Speech of October 2007.

To keep momentum building in the public domain, Senator Segal went one step further. In October 2007, he introduced Bill S-202, which aimed to legally trigger those sections referenced in his motion. The bill never reached third reading in the Senate. But Senator Segal was proud to rise in the chamber on February 26, 2008, to speak to the government's Bill C-40 (examined by the Senate in March and April). Though it approached the problem from a different angle, the bill had the same objective as Senator Segal's: to secure the jobs of reservists in federal jurisdictions who are called to active service in emergencies and other situations designated by the Minister of National Defence. The bill received Royal Assent on April 17, 2008.

Studying the Budget 2009



What a terrible situation we find ourselves in. If we do our job to give careful consideration to legislation, which is at least supposed to receive some review in [the House of Commons], more and more families will suffer. As the depression deepens . . . I am not prepared to add to the difficulties already faced by so many Canadians.

Senator James Cowan, Leader of the Opposition in the Senate, *Debates of the Senate*, March 12, 2009

The bill to implement the Federal Budget 2009 arrived in the Senate on March 4. Knowing it could immediately help Canadians caught in the recession, senators quickly referred to the Senate Committee on National Finance. Many senators, however, had received letters and emails from Canadians objecting to some of the bill's measures, like changes to the *Navigable Waters Protection Act*. Since they felt these measures were not as urgent, senators considered splitting the bill. They argued that this would allow them to quickly pass the stimulus package but give those with concerns time to explain their position on other elements.

When it became clear the bill could not be split, the National Finance Committee created a schedule for 40 hours of meetings to hear from Canadians; it aimed to pass the bill by March 31. But in its first meeting, it found that if the Senate did not quickly approve the bill, additional EI benefits would not be available to anyone eligible as of March 1. Not willing to risk these benefits to Canadians who needed them, the committee quickly reported the bill without amendment.

When the Senate passed the bill on March 12, it ordered certain Senate committees to scrutinize the non-stimulus-package parts of the bill in more depth. These four separate studies gave Canadians who protested these measures a chance to voice their opinions. The committees were ordered to report by June 11.

5 Outside the Senate

Not all the Senate's work is done on Parliament Hill. Senators act as advocates for their communities or for causes they hold dear. Often these will be the subject of statements, inquiries or other actions in the Senate, but senators can help in many other ways — speaking at conferences or fundraisers, organizing and attending events, fostering public debate or just lending their credibility and parliamentary connections to a cause.

Senators are also active in interparliamentary diplomacy, an arena that is increasingly important in international relations. Most senators are members of at least one parliamentary association — groups of legislators from around the world, who work together to effect change on an international scale. Alongside colleagues from the House of Commons, senators take part in visiting delegations to build diplomatic relations, organize conferences and give training sessions in democratic governance abroad, conduct research and otherwise take advantage of their international connections to advance Canadian interests.

This year, Canada's Parliament took part in 12 parliamentary associations and four official interparliamentary groups, as well as many unofficial friendship groups and other coalitions of parliamentarians with common interests.

Multilateral associations

Assemblée parlementaire de la Francophonie
 Canada–Africa Parliamentary Association
 Canada–Europe Parliamentary Association
 (including the Canadian delegation to the
 OSCE Parliamentary Assembly)
 Commonwealth Parliamentary Association
 Inter-Parliamentary Forum of the Americas
 Inter-Parliamentary Union
 NATO Parliamentary Association

Bilateral associations

Canada–China Legislative Association
 Canada–France Interparliamentary
 Association
 Canada–Japan Inter-Parliamentary Group
 Canada–United Kingdom
 Inter-Parliamentary Association
 Canada–United States Inter-Parliamentary
 Group

Official groups

Canada–Germany
 Canada–Ireland
 Canada–Israel
 Canada–Italy

PROFILES: OUTSIDE THE SENATE

Championing Senate Reform



The Federation of the Provinces is a worthwhile sounding board for the concerns of premiers, but because it convenes only a few times a year, there is not ongoing input into federal legislation. Only an elected Senate in Session in conjunction with the House of Commons can be capable of continuous input into proposed federal legislation backed up with a vote and if necessary a veto by a majority of provincially elected representatives....

Our nation needs a counter-balance to federal parties that pursue party interests by buying votes on the national credit card. Only a reformed Senate can prevent any future return to a single federal party putting its interests ahead of national interests.

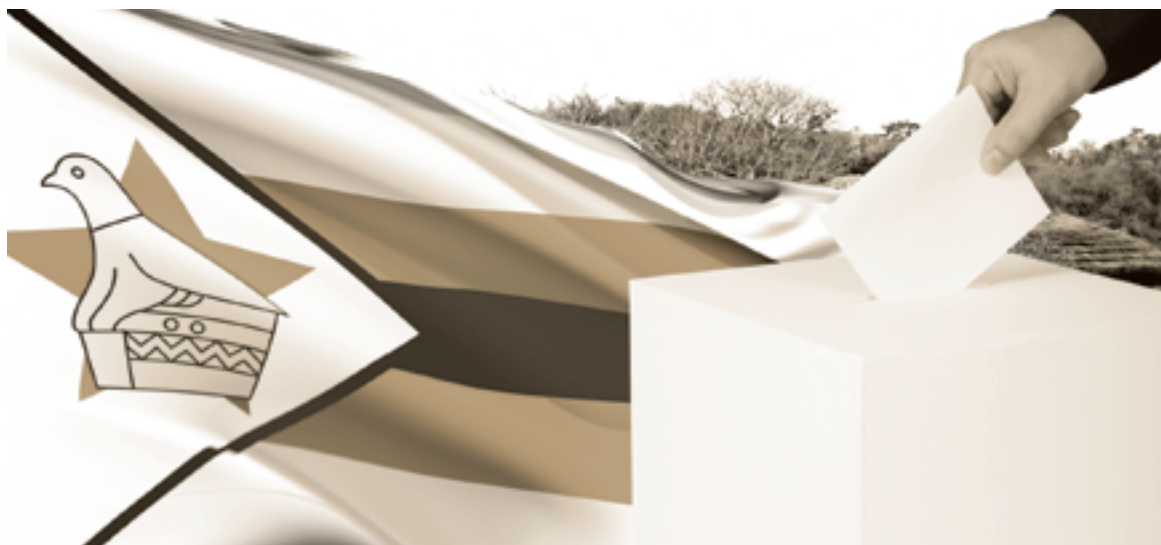
Senator Bert Brown, *Calgary Herald*, May 8, 2008

Senator Bert Brown is only the second Canadian senator to be picked by a provincial electorate, in the only province with an electoral process for Senate candidates (Alberta). Since his appointment on the advice of Prime Minister Stephen Harper in 2007, however, he has been working to change that.

Senator Brown criss-crossed the country in 2008–09, meeting with the premier or intergovernmental affairs minister of every province and territory to discuss provincial Senate elections. He prepared a package on Senate reform for provincial politicians, which was sent to every MLA and MNA in the country. To involve the public in reform discussions, he published more than 30 articles and letters to the editor on the subject in Canadian newspapers. He also started work on a YouTube channel devoted to interviews with public figures about Senate reform, to be launched early in the next fiscal year. Senator Brown firmly believes that senators should be elected as strong representatives of their province's or territory's interests, and is doing everything in his power to encourage others to follow Alberta's example.

In recent years, senators have brought forth many proposals for reforming their house of Parliament. These include ones to hold a referendum on its abolition; to add Senate seats to better represent the growing population in western provinces; to do away with the requirement of owning \$4,000 in property to qualify for a Senate seat; and to eliminate political party affiliation in the Senate.

Seeking Justice for Zimbabweans



Honourable senators, I rise today to ask you to join with me in supporting the people of Zimbabwe at this important time as they struggle and, in many cases, lose their lives in attempting to bring change and justice to their country. Zimbabweans deserve an open and transparent election process in which all parties can campaign and citizens can exercise their political rights without fear of persecution and retribution....

I call on the Government of Canada to continue its proactive efforts, particularly, in impressing upon SADDCC leaders that the time is now. The issue is critical, and it could be turned around to get the forces supporting President Mugabe to respect the international norms and the rule of law for campaign elections and for peace to return for its citizens.

Senator Raynell Andreychuk, *Debates of the Senate*, June 18, 2008

International opposition to reported human rights abuses by Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe's regime has been smoldering for years. The Senate, for instance, urged Canada to recall its ambassador in 2007. The crisis deepened with Zimbabwe's election in March 2008, with allegations of vote fixing and brutality to opposition members and voters.

This year, many senators worked toward finding solutions to the strife in Zimbabwe. Co-founder and Co-chair of the Canada–Africa Parliamentary Association, Senator Raynell Andreychuk helped organize the first parliamentary delegation allowed into the country to observe the post-election situation (April 2008). She also was part of a June delegation to several nearby African countries, where the situation in Zimbabwe was on the agenda in each, and she pursued the question with leaders at the African Union summit in January 2009. In addition, she worked through the international group Parliamentarians for Global Action to help Zimbabwean parliamentarians leave the country to share information with, and muster support from, other nations.

Senator Donald Oliver also played a direct role in Canada's diplomacy on the issue. In April 2008, he joined Canada's ambassador to Zimbabwe in Mauritius. They held bilateral meetings with African heads of state and foreign ministers, lobbying for an African solution to the ongoing crisis. Senator Sharon Carstairs continued to work for the rights of Zimbabwean parliamentarians under the Mugabe regime. As Chair of the Human Rights of Parliamentarians Committee of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, she reported on the cases of eight members of Zimbabwe's Parliament who had been allegedly displaced, beaten, jailed or tortured by government agents.

Fostering French Minorities

I find the plight of French-speaking communities outside Quebec most worrisome. The “CBC squeeze” will have a disastrous effect on these minority communities across Canada. The cuts will result in limited national news in French, fewer regional and local programs and hours of programming.... This is particularly disturbing when one considers that, in some instances, francophone communities are losing the only program they had in their language.

Senator Claudette Tardif, blog post, April 2, 2009



Many provinces have among their senators at least one who is a member of an official language minority — be it an Anglophone from Quebec, or a Francophone outside it. Two such senators were particularly active advocates this year.

Continuing her long advocacy for official language minority communities in her home province of Alberta, Senator Claudette Tardif took part in May 2008 in the opening of the first bilingual health care centre in her province. Through Question Period and interviews, she brought attention to the impact of the CBC’s funding shortfalls on its French radio and television programs, vital services to francophone communities outside Quebec. She advocated appointing bilingual Supreme Court judges. She stressed the importance of Canada’s linguistic duality in an academic article. She also participated in a round table on linguistic duality in Québec City and the intercultural conference on second languages in Edmonton.

As chair of the Senate Committee on Official Languages, Franco-Manitoban Senator Maria Chaput has led many studies on gaps in service to linguistic minorities in Canada, and she has long been an advocate in the Senate chamber. For the past few years, however, she has also been working to make sure that census questions reflect the demographic weight of French speakers in Canada. “The services offered and funds allocated to official-language minority communities depend on Statistics Canada census findings,” she wrote in fall 2008. “It is therefore important that measurement tools be properly calibrated to gauge the vitality of the French language across the country.” This year, she also successfully counselled against proposed electoral boundaries in Manitoba that she felt would have disadvantaged francophone voters.

Supporting Military Families

Military spouses work constantly to reconcile the demands of military life with their status as civilians. They have had to adapt to these constraints and to the resulting regular disruptions in their own professional lives. The moral strength and discretion they demonstrate are worthy of our admiration. I have always been overwhelmed by their will to take charge of their lives. They never give up. They are my heroes and heroines.

Senator Lucie Pépin, *Debates of the Senate*, May 7, 2008



The Senate is well known for its frankness on military policy; the Senate Committee on National Security and Defence is prolific in its reports and frequently weighs in about the strength and endeavours of the Canadian Forces. Its subcommittee on veterans also studies the services and support veterans receive.

It's not only those who are directly involved in the military who are affected by it, however. Senator Lucie Pépin has striven to give a voice to, and to increase the visibility of, the spouses and families of members of the Canadian Forces. Although these men and women are not in uniform, they share in the sacrifices of those who serve under the Canadian flag. In 2008–09, Senator Pépin crossed the country visiting military family resource centres. At each, she met with military spouses to listen to their concerns, motivate them, offer her support and take part in their activities.

Providing a Diplomatic Forum

Throughout these exchanges, I was a happy witness, like all of us I hope, of the essence of our role as parliamentarians of the OSCE, and the unique contribution of our organization to regional security and economic exchange. As we have all heard many times, there is a profound interdependence among these issues. The foundation of our organization is to nurture a clear dialogue, more important now than ever if we hope to find lasting peace in the OSCE region. We must not forget, particularly with reference to events in Georgia, that the diversity of viewpoints expressed in this assembly is rooted in the values that we all share.

Senator Consiglio Di Nino, remarks at the closing session of the Fall 2008 OSCE PA Meeting, September 20, 2008



In September 2008, Toronto played host to the annual fall meetings of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe Parliamentary Assembly (OSCE PA). Members, who hail from Parliaments across Europe as well as Canada and the United States, were welcomed by their host, Senate Speaker Noël Kinsella, and the head of the Canadian delegation, Senator Consiglio Di Nino.

In keeping with the theme of the conference, “The OSCE in an Open World: Trade, Migration and Security,” there were three subjects of discussion planned for the fall meetings: the Economic/Environmental Dimension, the Security and Political Dimension and the Human Dimension. But the topics to be covered under the Security and Political Dimension were amended close to the time of the conference to address a critical situation: the escalating conflict between OSCE members of Georgia and Russia over the South Ossetia region of Georgia. The OSCE PA meetings in Toronto were the first time that Russian and Georgian officials had discussed the situation in an open forum. Participants included Speaker Kinsella, Senator Di Nino and Assembly Vice-President, Senator Jeremiah Grafstein, who took part in discussion of the role the OSCE could play in helping Georgia and Russia find a solution. Though issues remained unresolved, the meeting provided an important first step towards an open global debate on an issue critical to European, and indeed world, security.



Our primary functions as parliamentarians include voicing the concerns and expectations of the people we represent, analyzing problems carefully and putting forward strategic legislative solutions to help guide the actions of governments.

Senator Noël A. Kinsella, Speaker of the Senate, on the occasion of an orientation day for new diplomats, January 30, 2009

The Speaker of the Senate



An imposing figure on the national and international scene, the Speaker of the Senate stands in fourth place on Canada's Order of Precedence, behind the Queen (or her representative), the Prime Minister and the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada. The Speakership is a venerable position, modeled on that of the Lord High Chancellor in the British Parliament.

In his domestic role, the Speaker is the "chair" of Senate sittings. He directs and moderates Senate debate, ensuring that proper procedure is followed, and provides leadership in the Senate chamber. The Speaker presides over official parliamentary ceremonies in the Senate, including the Opening of Parliament, the Speech from the Throne at the beginning of each new session and ceremonies of Royal Assent to bills. He also participates in many national events, sharing his knowledge and experience of parliamentary matters and other affairs.

The Speaker also has an important diplomatic role. He represents Parliament or the Senate when he visits other legislatures and states, sometimes accompanied by parliamentary delegations. Foreign dignitaries visiting Canada are often received by the Speaker and he also meets with ambassadors to our country for "courtesy calls" to keep diplomatic relations fresh and cordial.

The Speaker as Presiding Officer

PRESIDING OFFICER OF SENATE SITTINGS

As in the British House of Lords, upon which Canada's upper chamber is modelled, debate in the Senate is collegial and largely self-regulating. The role of the Senate Speaker, therefore, is more that of a moderator than a referee.

The Speaker is, however, charged with preserving order and decorum, and with guiding senators in the application of proper procedure according to the *Rules of the Senate*. He may be asked to rule on points of order and questions of privilege that arise during Senate sittings, and these rulings may establish precedent for the future conduct of debate. In fiscal year 2008–09, the Speaker made 12 formal rulings. They can be read at <http://sen.parl.gc.ca/nkinsella/English/Rulings-e.htm>.



Speaker Kinsella presides over a Senate sitting (January 2009).

PRESIDING OFFICER OF CEREMONIES IN THE SENATE

In the Senate chamber, the Speaker presides over formal and official parliamentary ceremonies. This year, he presided over the following:

April 17, 2008
Ceremony of Royal Assent

May 29, 2008
Ceremony of Royal Assent

June 18, 2008
Ceremony of Royal Assent

June 26, 2008
Ceremony of Royal Assent

November 6, 2008
Ceremony of Remembrance

November 19, 2008
Speech from the Throne
First Session of the 40th Parliament

February 26, 2009
Swearing-in of Senate Pages

January 26, 2009
Speech from the Throne
Second Session of the 40th Parliament

March 12, 2009
Ceremony of Royal Assent

March 26, 2009
Ceremony of Royal Assent

February 26, 2009
Ceremony of Royal Assent



Speaker Kinsella at the Speech from the Throne that opened the 40th Parliament (November 2008).

OUTREACH EVENTS

The Speaker meets with Canadians, attends special events and participates in a range of other activities, such as the following:

May 12, 2008

Reception for Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians

September 18, 2008

Fall Meetings of the Parliamentary Assembly of the OSCE in Toronto

September 26, 2008

Serving the Common Good: Ethics-Based Civic Education and Public Service, the 2008–2009 John J. Wintermeyer Lecture, St. Jerome's University

October 30, 2008

Launch of the Senate Poppy Campaign

November 7, 2008

Symposium commemorating the 400th Anniversary of Samuel de Champlain's arrival in Québec City

November 8, 2008

Tribute to artist Tom Forrestall

November 18, 2008

Formal Opening of the International Conference on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

November 21, 2008

St. Thomas University Auditorium Dedication

November 24, 2008

Celebration of National Child Day in the Senate chamber

December 10, 2008

60th Anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

January 14, 2009

Visit to Mexico's National Human Rights Commission

March 24, 2009

Reception in honour of the Dominion Institute's "Passages to Canada" Initiative on the occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination



Speaker Kinsella attends the observance of Remembrance Day at the War Memorial in Ottawa (November 2008).



Speaker Kinsella hosts members of the Girl Guides of Canada at a reception celebrating the Dominion Institute's "Passages to Canada" program (March 2009).

The Speaker as Diplomat

PARLIAMENTARY EXCHANGES

Canada fosters relations with other states and their legislatures as a way to promote our national interest and find international common ground. The Speaker is frequently called upon to host representatives and delegations from other national legislatures and governments when they visit Canada. He also makes diplomatic visits and leads parliamentary delegations abroad.

Incoming visits

In fiscal year 2008–09, the Speaker of the Senate received the following foreign parliamentary delegations:

May 12 to 13, 2008

Visit of Mr. William Hay, M.L.A., Speaker of the Northern Ireland Assembly and Chairman of the Northern Ireland Assembly Commission of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Outgoing visits

The Speaker participates in visits to meet Canada's international partners and leads delegations of parliamentarians to help accomplish our diplomatic objectives. In 2008–09, he led the following official visits and delegations:

May 16 to 21, 2008

Visit to France, accompanied by a parliamentary delegation

May 22 to 23, 2008

Participation in the European Conference of Presidents of Parliament, Strasbourg, France

May 27, 2008

Visit of His Excellency Gundars Daudze, Chairman of the Parliament of the Republic of Latvia (Saeima)

March 26, 2009

Visit of a parliamentary delegation from Mexico

July 2 to 5, 2008

Participation of the Honourable Noël A. Kinsella, Speaker of the Senate, to the Conférence des présidents d'Assemblée parlementaire de la Francophonie (APF), in Quebec City

January 11 to 18, 2009

Visit to Mexico, accompanied by a parliamentary delegation

January 15 to 18, 2009

Participation in VI Encuentro Mundial de las Familias (VI World Meeting of Families) in Mexico City

OTHER OFFICIAL VISITS

In fiscal year 2008–09, the Speaker of the Senate received the following individuals invited by the Government of Canada:

May 2, 2008

Visit of Their Excellencies the Honourable Anand Satyanand, Governor-General of New Zealand, and Mrs. Susan Satyanand*

May 9, 2008

Visit of His Excellency Francisco Santos Calderón, Vice President of the Republic of Colombia

May 26, 2008

Visit of His Excellency Viktor Yushchenko, President of Ukraine

May 29, 2008

Visit of His Excellency Toomas Hendrik Ilves, President of the Republic of Estonia

June 9, 2008

Visit of Her Excellency Michelle Bachelet, President of the Republic of Chile

February 19, 2009

Visit of the Honourable Barack Obama, President of the United States of America

* The Speaker's reports on these diplomatic missions can be found at <http://www2.parl.gc.ca/iiia/exchanges>.

* These guests were received by the Speaker pro tempore, Senator Rose-Marie Losier-Cool.

COURTESY CALLS

Other than these visits, the Speaker regularly receives foreign delegations, high commissioners and ambassadors, as well as other Canadian and foreign dignitaries and officials.

In fiscal year 2008–09, the Speaker held over 30 courtesy calls with representatives from Bangladesh, Brazil, Chile, China, Colombia, Czech Republic, Egypt, France, Great Britain, the Holy See, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Macedonia, Mexico, Nigeria, Northern Ireland, Romania, Russia, Slovenia, Turkey, Ukraine and Yemen.

PROTOCOL EVENTS

As part of his role as an ambassador of Canada's Parliament and Senate, the Speaker also hosts and takes part in many official events both at home and abroad.

This year, the Speaker participated in the following special events:

May 23, 2008

Meeting with the Chief Justice of India

May 26, 2008

Presentation of a bronze bust of Samuel de Champlain to the Speaker of the National Assembly of Quebec

May 27, 2008

Unveiling of the official portrait of former prime minister Joe Clark

June 20, 2008

Participation in the 49th International Eucharistic Congress in Quebec City

August 19 to 20, 2008

Visit to Fredericton of Her Excellency Vesela Korac, Ambassador of Croatia to Canada, and Rear Admiral Ante Urlic, Commander of the Croatian Navy

December 16 to 17, 2008

Participation in the 2008 Diplomatic Forum, Quebec City

January 30, 2009

Address at an orientation day for new diplomats



Speaker Kinsella greets Barack Obama, President of the United States of America (February 2009).

“That’s what the Senate does best, is study,” retired Queen’s University professor Ned Franks told *The Hill Times*. “Senate committees are very good at looking at things like this [the *Budget 2009 implementation Act*] Committees there tend to be less partisan than the House of Commons. The members tend to have more experience and they have more time. They’re immune largely from pressures of party politics. So they often do really good jobs of looking at programs and issues.”

Bea Vongdouangchanh, *The Hill Times*, March 23, 2009

Senators on March 31, 2009



Willie Adams
Lib — Nunavut



A. Raynell Andreychuk
C — Saskatchewan



W. David Angus
C — Alma, Quebec



Norman K. Atkins
PC — Markham, Ontario



Lise Bacon
Lib — De la Durantaye, Quebec



George Baker, P.C.
Lib — Newfoundland
and Labrador



Tommy Banks
Lib — Alberta



Patrick Brazeau
C — Repentigny, Quebec



Bert Brown
C — Alberta



John G. Bryden
Lib — New Brunswick



Catherine S. Callbeck
Lib — Prince Edward Island

ABBREVIATIONS

C	Conservative Party of Canada
Ind	Independent
Lib	Liberal Party of Canada
PC	Progressive Conservative



Larry W. Campbell
Lib — British Columbia



Sharon Carstairs, P.C.
Lib — Manitoba



Andrée Champagne, P.C.
C — Grandville, Quebec



Maria Chaput
Lib — Manitoba



Ethel Cochrane
C — Newfoundland
and Labrador



Gerald J. Comeau
C — Nova Scotia



Joan Cook
Lib — Newfoundland
and Labrador



Anne C. Cools
Toronto Centre—York,
Ontario



Eymard G. Corbin
Lib — Grand-Sault,
New Brunswick



Jane Cordy
Lib — Nova Scotia



James S. Cowan
Lib — Nova Scotia



Roméo Dallaire
Lib — Gulf, Quebec



Dennis Dawson
Lib — Lauzon, Quebec



Joseph A. Day
Lib — Saint John—Kennebecasis,
New Brunswick



Pierre De Bané, P.C.
Lib — De la Vallière,
Quebec



Fred J. Dickson
C — Nova Scotia



Consiglio Di Nino
C — Ontario



Percy E. Downe
Lib — Charlottetown,
Prince Edward Island



Michael Duffy
C — Prince Edward Island



Lillian Eva Dyck
Lib — Saskatchewan



Nicole Eaton
C — Ontario



Art Eggleton, P.C.
Lib — Ontario



J. Trevor Eyton
C — Ontario



Joyce Fairbairn, P.C.
Lib — Lethbridge, Alberta



Suzanne Fortin-Duplessis
C — Rougemont, Quebec



Francis Fox, P.C.
Lib — Victoria, Quebec



Joan Fraser
Lib — De Lorimier, Quebec



George J. Furey
Lib — Newfoundland
and Labrador



Irving Gerstein
C — Ontario



Yoine Goldstein
Lib — Rigaud, Quebec



Jerahmiel S. Grafstein
Lib — Metro Toronto, Ontario



Stephen Greene
C — Halifax—The Citadel, Nova Scotia



Mac Harb
Lib — Ontario



Céline Hervieux-Payette, P.C.
Lib — Bedford, Quebec



Leo Housakos
C — Wellington, Quebec



Elizabeth Hubley
Lib — Prince Edward Island



Mobina S. B. Jaffer
Lib — British Columbia



Janis G. Johnson
C — Manitoba



Serge Joyal, P.C.
Lib — Kennebec, Quebec



Colin Kenny
Lib — Rideau, Ontario



Wilbert Joseph Keon
C — Ottawa, Ontario



Noël A. Kinsella
C — Fredericton–York–
Sunbury, New Brunswick



Hector Daniel Lang
C — Yukon



Jean Lapointe
Lib — Saurel, Quebec



Raymond Lavigne
Lib — Montarville, Quebec



Marjory LeBreton, P.C.
C — Ontario



Rose-Marie Losier-Cool
Lib — Tracadie,
New Brunswick



Sandra M. Lovelace Nicholas
Lib — New Brunswick



Michael L. MacDonald
C — Cape Breton, Nova Scotia



Francis W. Mahovlich
Lib — Toronto, Ontario



Fabian Manning
C — Newfoundland and Labrador



Yonah Martin
C — British Columbia



Paul J. Massicotte
Lib — De Lanaudière,
Quebec



Elaine McCoy
PC — Alberta



Michael A. Meighen
C — St. Marys, Ontario



Terry M. Mercer
Lib — Northend Halifax,
Nova Scotia



Pana Merchant
Lib — Saskatchewan



Lorna Milne
Lib — Peel County, Ontario



Grant Mitchell
Lib — Alberta



Percy Mockler
C — New Brunswick



Wilfred P. Moore
Lib — Stanhope St. /
South Shore, Nova Scotia



Jim Munson
Lib — Ottawa /
Rideau Canal, Ontario



Lowell Murray, P.C.
PC — Pakenham, Ontario



Nancy Ruth
C — Cluny, Ontario



Richard Neufeld
C — British Columbia



Pierre Claude Nolin
C — De Salaberry, Quebec



Donald H. Oliver
C — South Shore, Nova Scotia



Lucie Pépin
Lib — Shawinigan, Quebec



Robert W. Peterson
Lib — Saskatchewan



P. Michael Pitfield, P.C.
Ind — Ottawa–Vanier, Ontario



Marie-P. Poulin (Charette)
Lib — Northern Ontario, Ontario



Vivienne Poy
Lib — Toronto, Ontario



Marcel Prud'homme, C.P.
Ind — La Salle, Quebec



Nancy Greene Raine
C — Thompson–Okanagan–
Kootenay, British Columbia



Pierrette Ringuette
Lib — New Brunswick



Michel Rivard
C — The Laurentides, Quebec



Jean-Claude Rivest
Ind — Stadacona, Quebec



Fernand Robichaud, P.C.
Lib — New Brunswick



William Rompkey, P.C.
Lib — Newfoundland and Labrador



Hugh Segal
C — Kingston–Frontenac–Leeds, Ontario



Nick G. Sibbeston
Lib — Northwest Territories



David P. Smith, P.C.
Lib — Cobourg, Ontario



Mira Spivak
Ind — Manitoba



Gerry St. Germain, P.C.
C — Langley–Pemberton–
Whistler, British Columbia



Peter A. Stollery
Lib — Bloor and Yonge, Ontario



Terry Stratton
C — Red River, Manitoba



Claudette Tardif
Lib — Alberta



David Tkachuk
C — Saskatchewan



John D. Wallace
C — New Brunswick



Pamela Wallin
C — Saskatchewan



Charlie Watt
Lib — Inkerman, Quebec

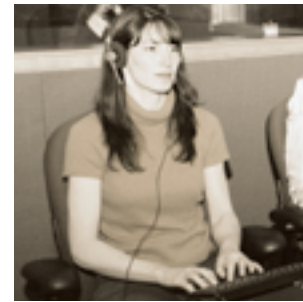


Rod A. A. Zimmer
Lib — Winnipeg, Manitoba

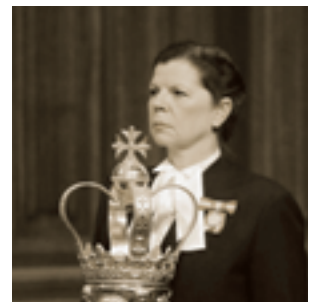
It is true it takes many hands to build a country. It takes many hands to operate the machinery of our parliamentary system. And their [Senate employees'] hands are very important in that process. None of it can be accomplished by any one member of Parliament, whether an honourable senator or a member of the other place. It takes a lot of support to make this happen.

Senator Noël A. Kinsella, Speaker of the Senate, interview, February 12, 2009

The Senate's Administration and Finances

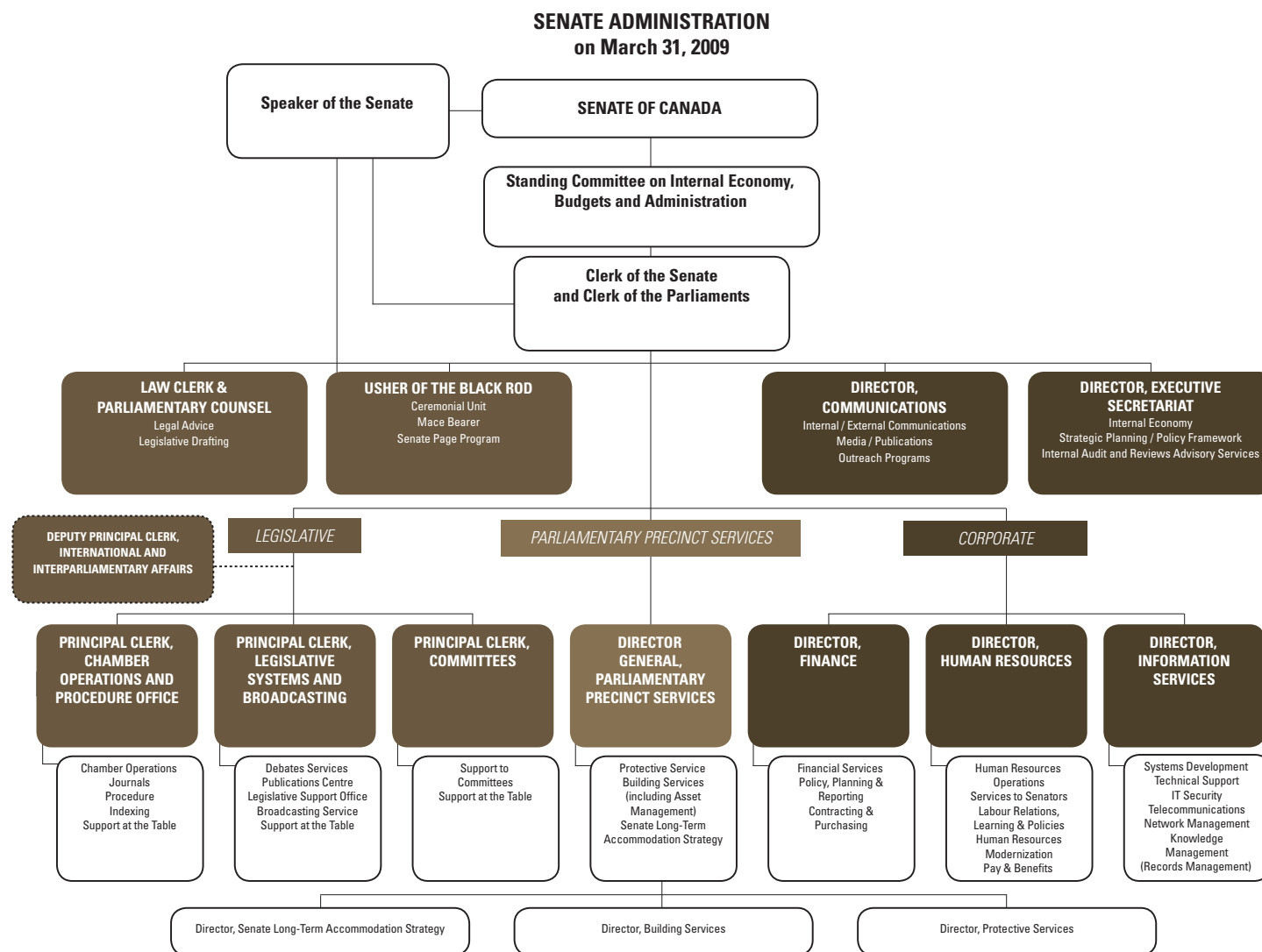


Senators work on solving public policy problems, but they need support to accomplish their goals. The Senate's annual budget provides the funds for committees and chamber sittings to function and for individual senators' offices to operate. The procedural, administrative and logistical support, however, comes from the Senate Administration. Its employees provide the behind-the-scenes expertise that allows the Senate to function smoothly year in and year out.



The Senate Administration

The Senate Administration's 450 employees provide the administrative, logistic, procedural and strategic support the Senate needs to function. They provide human resources and technical support; manage the Senate's materiel assets and finances; deliver mail and provide transportation; facilitate communication with the public; and ensure that all aspects of committee and Chamber sittings are run efficiently and properly.



Dotted line reflects a functional relationship

STANDING COMMITTEE ON INTERNAL ECONOMY, BUDGETS AND ADMINISTRATION

The Senate's administrative functions and budgets are overseen by the Standing Committee on Internal Economy, Budgets and Administration (COIEBA). This committee of 15 senators is responsible for approving administrative policy and overseeing the work of the Senate Administration. It also reviews and allocates the budgets of Senate committees, as well as funds for Senate-related activities not accounted for in senators' office budgets.

Members of COIEBA on March 31, 2009*

George J. Furey, Chair
David Tkachuk, Deputy Chair
Gerald J. Comeau
Joan Cook
Dennis Dawson
Stephen Greene
Elizabeth Hubley
Mobina S. B. Jaffer
Noël A. Kinsella
Michael L. MacDonald

Paul J. Massicotte
Jim Munson
Marcel Prud'homme, P.C.
Fernand Robichaud, P.C.
Peter A. Stollery

THE CLERK OF THE SENATE AND CLERK OF THE PARLIAMENTS

The Clerk of the Senate acts as clerk of Senate chamber sittings and is also responsible for the Senate Administration's day-to-day operations. He reports to the Committee on Internal Economy, Budgets and Administration, and is supported by a senior management team that implements his vision for the Administration.

Clerk of the Senate and Clerk of the Parliaments, 2008–09 Paul C. Bélisle

Senior Management Team, Senate Administration, on March 31, 2009

Usher of the Black Rod
Kevin MacLeod

Law Clerk and Parliamentary Counsel
Mark Audcent

Principal Clerk, Committees Directorate
Heather Lank

**Principal Clerk, Chamber Operations
and Procedure Office**
Charles Robert

**Principal Clerk, Legislative Systems
and Broadcasting**
Blair Armitage

Director of Communications
Diane Boucher

Director, Executive Secretariat
Catherine Pearl-Côté

Director of Finance
Nicole Proulx

Director of Human Resources
Linda Dodd

Director of Information Services
Hélène Bouchard

**Director General, Parliamentary
Precinct Services**
Gilles Duguay

* For a complete list of senators who served on this committee in 2008–09, please see Appendix E.

ADVANCING STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Like all good corporate bodies, the Senate Administration is constantly striving to improve its governance and its services. This is made possible by its strategic vision.

VISION

To provide exemplary support to senators

MISSION

To support senators in discharging their parliamentary duties

STRATEGIC OUTCOME

To provide the best possible environment for senators to effectively contribute to federal legislation and public policy issues in the best interest of all Canadians

Responsible for the direction of the Senate Administration, the Clerk has an overarching vision for continuous improvement supported by five pillars. The Administration's offices and directorates continued to work toward each of these five strategic priorities in fiscal year 2008–09.

1

Demonstrating good public management, accountability and transparency

- This year, the Senate Finance Directorate transitioned to auditable financial statements. This will increase transparency, and an associated new automated entry system will significantly reduce data entry time and error.
- The Senate Administration finalized its results management framework. Senior management is committed to implementing effective performance measurement both to enhance service delivery and to increase accountability.
- The Senate Administration adopted a policy development and implementation framework and a risk management policy for the Administration. This will ensure consistency and coherence in the corporate policy suite and establish standard mechanisms for risk identification and control.

2

Enhancing the administrative authority and operational effectiveness of the Senate

- The Senate, the House of Commons and the RCMP joined forces to develop the Master Security Plan (MSP) for the parliamentary precinct to guide the direction of security in the short, medium and long term. The MSP is aligned with Parliament's Long Term Vision and Plan, covering the direction of security over the next 20 years.
- The threshold for capital assets in the Senate's inventory was lowered from \$10,000 to \$3,000, recommended as a more appropriate threshold for the size of the institution and the nature of its equipment purchases. The physical inventory of these assets was consequently revised and is 98 per cent complete, going back five years.
- A joint printing strategy with the House of Commons was implemented to better take advantage of expertise and equipment.

3

Promoting effective communications

- The Standing Committee on Internal Economy, Budgets and Administration established a working group on communications to recommend strategic direction for this function within the Senate.
- The Senate Administration revamped the structure, look and content of the Senate's intranet and adopted a governance framework for the strategic direction and maintenance of the new site. The intranet is designed to grow into the role of the Senate's primary internal communications tool.
- The Senate Communications Directorate analyzed how other legislatures are reaching a variety of audiences with social media, in preparation for using these tools to increase communication between senators and the public.

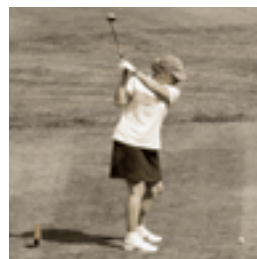
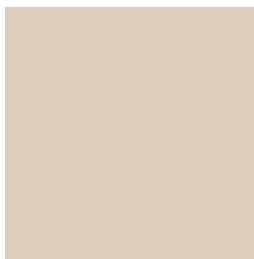
Donating their time and money

This year yet again, senators and the Senate Administration dug deeper for the Government of Canada Workplace Charitable Campaign. The Senate's 2008 fundraising total exceeded \$88,000, up 6 per cent from the previous year. It's become an annual challenge for the Senate, an organization of only 750 people, to beat the previous year's total. All proceeds from individual donations and fundraising events throughout the year go to the United Way.

4

Reinforcing the human resources management strategy

- The Senate Administration has maintained its diversity at levels higher than market availability in the National Capital Region. Ninety-five per cent of employees have attended diversity training.
- The demographic profile of the Senate Administration was issued in April 2008 and will be reissued yearly. It will help the Administration anticipate its staffing needs in the coming years and plan succession to a new generation of workers.
- By the end of 2008–09, almost 70 per cent of employees had completed values and ethics training associated with the Senate's new statement of values and ethics.



5

Leveraging information management / information technology

- A new digital asset and archiving system has been put into place to digitally record, store and archive the video and audio of Senate committee proceedings.
- Senate Information Services implemented new information technology security measures and process management to protect the Senate's network infrastructure.
- Senate Information Services implemented new Software Development Lifecycle practices to better align the Senate's development efforts with business objectives.



Financial Report

The Senate's budget is overseen by the Standing Committee on Internal Economy, Budgets and Administration. Its program activities architecture has four pillars.

Senators and their offices

- Senators' sessional indemnities, allowances and contributions for senators' pensions;
- senators' travel and communications expenses;
- senators' research and office expenses, including staff salaries and operations; and
- caucus research funds.

Chamber operations

- Salaries for additional duties for officers of the Senate, as well as salaries and operating costs for their offices;
- salaries and operating expenses for the offices of the Clerk of the Senate, the Parliamentary Counsel, the Usher of the Black Rod and the Chamber Operations and Procedure Office;
- the Senate Page Program;
- parliamentary exchanges; and
- Journals, reporting of debates and publications service in both official languages.

Committees and associations

- Committees' expenditures and support;
- parliamentary associations;
- reporting of committee debates and publications service; and
- broadcasting of committee proceedings.

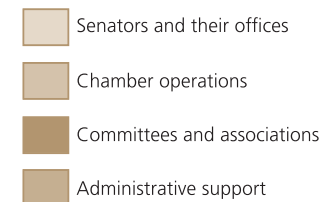
PROGRAM ACTIVITIES ARCHITECTURE

Program activity	Operations	Capital	Transfer payments	Total
Senators and their offices	38,109,466	333,554	42,729	38,485,749
Chamber operations	6,576,341	73,858	0	6,650,199
Committees and associations	8,695,435	27,038	424,537	9,147,010
Administrative support	25,539,303	1,755,782	0	27,295,085
Total	78,920,545	2,190,232	467,266	81,578,043

Administrative support

- Administrative support services in such areas as finance; human resources; communications; information technology and services; accommodation planning, maintenance and upkeep of premises; postal, messenger, printing, repair, trades and transportation services; and
- Senate precinct security.

Total Expenditures, 2008–09: \$81,578,043



BUDGETED VERSUS ACTUAL SPENDING BY STANDARD OBJECT, 2008–09

Operations	Budgeted	Actual
Salaries and wages	61,905,500	59,666,073
Transportation and communications	13,030,200	11,263,631
Information and printing services	280,500	734,183
Professional and special services	9,150,230	5,074,405
Rentals	129,500	118,933
Purchased repair and maintenance services	1,362,600	1,154,368
Utilities, materials and supplies	1,342,280	907,766
Total operations	87,200,810	78,919,359
Capital		
Acquisition of machinery and equipment	2,484,190	2,190,232
Total capital	2,484,190	2,190,232
Transfer payments		
Grants and contributions	547,000	467,266
Other subsidies and payments	0	1,186
Total transfer payments	547,000	468,452
Total	90,232,000	81,578,043

SENATORS' REMUNERATION

Effective April 1, 2008

Sessional allowance	130,400
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SUPPLEMENTARY ALLOWANCES

Speaker of the Senate	54,400
Residence allowance	3,000
Car allowance	1,061
Speaker <i>pro tempore</i>	22,500
Leader of the Government	74,400
Car allowance	2,122
Leader of the Opposition	35,500
Deputy Leader of the Government	35,500
Deputy Leader of the Opposition	22,500
Government Whip	11,000
Opposition Whip	6,500
Deputy Government Whip	5,600
Deputy Opposition Whip	3,100
Chair of Government Caucus	6,500
Chair of Opposition Caucus	5,600
Committee Chair	11,000
Committee Deputy Chair	5,600

EXPENDITURES BY STANDARD OBJECT

Operations	2007–2008	2008–2009	Variance %
Salaries and wages	57,506,577	59,666,073	2.82
Transportation and communications	11,439,444	11,263,631	-0.23
Information and printing services	244,082	734,183	0.64
Professional and special services	5,563,696	5,074,405	-0.64
Rentals	110,379	118,933	0.01
Purchased repair and maintenance services	949,449	1,154,368	0.27
Utilities, materials and supplies	879,046	907,766	0.04
Total operations	76,692,673	78,919,359	2.90
Capital			
Acquisition of machinery and equipment	1,749,253	2,190,232	25.21
Total capital	1,749,253	2,190,232	25.21
Transfer payments			
Grants and contributions	459,828	467,266	1.62
Other subsidies and payments	678	1,186	0.11
Total transfer payments	460,506	468,452	1.73
Total	78,902,432	81,578,043	3.39

EXPENDITURES BY PROGRAM ACTIVITY

Program activity	2007–2008	2008–2009	Variance %
Senators and their offices	37,002,000	38,485,749	1.88
Chamber operations	6,393,177	6,650,199	0.33
Committees and associations	9,055,381	9,147,010	0.12
Administrative support	26,451,874	27,295,085	1.07
Total	78,902,432	81,578,043	3.39

The numbers recorded under "Variance %" in these tables show the extent to which each line item contributed to the total expenditures.

Additional information on the Senate's finances is published in volumes II and III of the Public Accounts of Canada. They can be viewed at www.pwgsc.gc.ca.

Learn more about the Senate

Political participation is vital to vibrant democracy. Keep track of the debate by visiting parl.gc.ca, where you will find both broad and detailed pictures of the work of your national Parliament. Senate-related pages include:

- realtime streaming webcasts of the proceedings in the Senate Chamber and Senate committee meetings;
- full information about each Senate committee, its membership, its current work and transcripts of its hearings;
- the Senate Educational Video, an 18-minute audio-visual presentation on the Senate's role in Parliament and the work senators accomplish;
- fact sheets and other publications for children and adults on different aspects of the Senate's history, heritage and role in our democracy.

For more information about the Senate, to contact a senator or to request previous annual reports, Senate-related brochures or other informative publications:

Toll-free	1-800-267-7362
National Capital Region	613-992-1149
TTY	613-995-2266
Fax	613-995-4998
Email	sencom@sen.parl.gc.ca

WWW.PARL.GC.CA



Senate Membership 2008–09

CHANGES IN SENATE MEMBERSHIP

Appointments

January 2, 2009

Fred J. Dickson (Nova Scotia)
 Michael Duffy (Prince Edward Island)
 Nicole Eaton (Ontario)
 Irving Gerstein (Ontario)
 Stephen Greene
 (Nova Scotia — Halifax–The Citadel)
 Hector Daniel Lang (Yukon)
 Michael L. MacDonald
 (Nova Scotia — Cape Breton)
 Fabian Manning (Newfoundland and Labrador)
 Yonah Martin (British Columbia)
 Percy Mockler (New Brunswick)
 Richard Neufeld (British Columbia)
 Nancy Greene Raine (British Columbia —
 Thompson–Okanagan–Kootenay)
 Michel Rivard (Quebec — The Laurentides)
 John D. Wallace (New Brunswick)
 Pamela Wallin (Saskatchewan)

January 8, 2009

Patrick Brazeau (Quebec — Repentigny)
 Leo Housakos (Quebec — Wellington)

January 14, 2009

Suzanne Fortin-Duplessis
 (Quebec — Rougement)

Retirements

Michel Biron (Quebec — Mille Isles)
 March 16, 2009
 Aurélien Gill (Quebec — Wellington)
 August 26, 2008
 Leonard J. Gustafson (Saskatchewan)
 November 10, 2008
 Gerard A. Phalen (Nova Scotia)
 March 28, 2009
 Marilyn Trenholme Counsell (New Brunswick)
 October 22, 2008

Resignations

Michael Fortier (Quebec — Rougemont)
 September 7, 2008

Deaths

SENATORS BY PROVINCE/TERRITORY ON MARCH 31, 2009

	Sitting	Vacant seats
Alberta	6	0
British Columbia	6	0
Manitoba	6	0
New Brunswick	10	0
Newfoundland and Labrador	6	0
Northwest Territories	1	0
Nova Scotia	9	1
Nunavut	1	0
Ontario	24	0
Prince Edward Island	4	0
Quebec	23	1
Saskatchewan	6	0
Yukon	1	0
Total	103	2

POLITICAL AFFILIATION OF SENATORS ON MARCH 31, 2009

* denotes governing party

Conservative Party of Canada	38*
Liberal Party of Canada	57
Independent	4
Independent Progressive Conservative	3
...	1
Total	103

Holders of Key Roles in the Senate on March 31, 2009



Speaker of the Senate
Noël A. Kinsella



**Leader of the Government
in the Senate**
Marjory LeBreton, P.C.



**Leader of the Opposition
in the Senate**
James S. Cowan



Speaker *pro tempore*
Rose-Marie Losier-Cool



**Deputy Leader of the
Government in the Senate**
Gerald J. Comeau



**Deputy Leader of the
Opposition in the Senate**
Claudette Tardif



Government Whip
Terry Stratton



Opposition Whip
Jim Munson

Bills Considered by the Senate 2008–09

SECOND SESSION, 39TH PARLIAMENT (covering April 1 to September 7, 2008)

Government Bills

- S-4 An Act to amend the Energy Efficiency Act
- C-10 An Act to amend the Income Tax Act, including amendments in relation to foreign investment entities and non-resident trusts, and to provide for the bilingual expression of the provisions of that Act
- C-13 Act to amend the Criminal Code (criminal procedure, language of the accused, sentencing and other amendments)*
- C-21 An Act to amend the Canadian Human Rights Act*
- C-23 An Act to amend the Canada Marine Act, the Canada Transportation Act, the Pilotage Act and other Acts in consequence*
- C-29 An Act to amend the Canada Elections Act (accountability with respect to loans)
- C-30 Specific Claims Tribunal Act*
- C-31 An Act to amend the Judges Act*
- C-33 An Act to amend the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999*
- C-34 Tsawwassen First Nation Final Agreement Act*
- C-37 An Act to amend the Citizenship Act*

- C-40 An Act to amend the Canada Labour Code, the Canada Student Financial Assistance Act, the Canada Student Loans Act and the Public Service Employment Act*
- C-50 Budget Implementation Act, 2008*
- C-58 Appropriation Act No. 2, 2008-2009*
- C-59 Appropriation Act No. 3, 2008-2009*
- C-60 An Act to amend the National Defence Act (court martial) and to make a consequential amendment to another Act*

Private Member's Bills

- C-207 An Act to amend the Income Tax Act (tax credit for new graduates working in designated regions)
- C-253 An Act to amend the Income Tax Act (deductibility of RESP contributions)
- C-280 An Act to Amend the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (coming into force of sections 110, 111 and 171)
- C-287 An Act respecting a National Peacekeepers' Day*
- C-292 An Act to implement the Kelowna Accord*
- C-293 An Act respecting the provision of official development assistance abroad*
- C-298 An Act to add perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) and its salts to the Virtual Elimination List under the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999*

- C-299 An Act to amend the Criminal Code (identification information obtained by fraud or false pretence)
- C-307 An Act respecting bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate, benzyl butyl phthalate and dibutyl phthalate
- C-343 An Act to amend the Criminal Code (motor vehicle theft)
- C-377 An Act to ensure Canada assumes its responsibilities in preventing dangerous climate change
- C-428 An Act to amend the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (methamphetamine)
- C-459 An Act to establish a Ukrainian Famine and Genocide ("Holodomor") Memorial Day and to recognize the Ukrainian Famine of 1932-33 as an act of genocide*
- C-474 An Act to require the development and implementation of a Federal Sustainable Development Strategy and the development of goals and targets with respect to sustainable development in Canada, and to make consequential amendments to another Act*

Private Senator's Bills

- S-202 An Act to amend certain Acts to provide job protection for members of the reserve force (Sen. Segal)
- S-204 An Act respecting a National Philanthropy Day (Sen. Grafstein)

* Received Royal Assent in fiscal year 2008–09

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| <p>S-205 An Act to amend the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act (student loans) (Sen. Goldstein)</p> <p>S-206 An Act to amend the Food and Drugs Act (clean drinking water) (Sen. Grafstein)</p> <p>S-208 An Act to require the Minister of the Environment to establish, in co-operation with the provinces, an agency with the power to identify and protect Canada's watersheds that will constitute sources of drinking water in the future (Sen. Grafstein)</p> <p>S-209 An Act to amend the Criminal Code (protection of children) (Sen. Hervieux-Payette)</p> <p>S-210 An Act to amend the Criminal Code (suicide bombings) (Sen. Grafstein)</p> <p>S-211 An Act to regulate securities and to provide for a single securities commission for Canada (Sen. Grafstein)</p> <p>S-212 An Act to amend the Parliamentary Employment and Staff Relations Act (Sen. Joyal)</p> <p>S-214 An Act to amend the Income Tax Act and the Excise Tax Act (tax relief for Nunavik) (Sen. Watt)</p> <p>S-215 Heritage Lighthouse Protection Act (Sen. Carney)*</p> <p>S-217 An Act to amend the International Boundary Waters Treaty Act (bulk water removal) (Sen. Carney)</p> | <p>S-218 An Act to amend the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act and to enact certain other measures, in order to provide assistance and protection to victims of human trafficking (Sen. Phalen)</p> <p>S-219 An Act to amend the Public Service Employment Act (elimination of bureaucratic patronage and establishment of national area of selection) (Sen. Ringuette)</p> <p>S-221 An Act concerning personal watercraft in navigable waters (Sen. Spivak)</p> <p>S-222 An Act to establish and maintain a national registry of medical devices (Sen. Harb)</p> <p>S-223 An Act to amend the Non-smokers' Health Act (Sen. Harb)</p> <p>S-224 An Act to amend the Parliament of Canada Act (vacancies) (Sen. Moore)</p> <p>S-225 An Act to amend the State Immunity Act and the Criminal Code (detering terrorism by providing a civil right of action against perpetrators and sponsors of terrorism) (Sen. Tkachuk)</p> <p>S-226 An Act to amend the Business Development Bank of Canada Act (municipal infrastructure bonds) and to make a consequential amendment to another Act (Sen. Grafstein)</p> <p>S-227 An Act to amend the National Capital Act (establishment and protection of Gatineau Park) (Sen. Spivak)</p> | <p>S-228 An Act to amend the Canadian Wheat Board Act (board of directors) (Sen. Mitchell)</p> <p>S-229 An Act to amend the Constitution Act, 1867 (Property qualifications of Senators) (Sen. Banks)</p> <p>S-230 An Act to amend the Excise Tax Act (zero-rating of supply of cut fresh fruit) (Sen. Milne)</p> <p>S-231 An Act to amend the Citizenship Act (oath of citizenship) (Sen. Segal)</p> <p>S-232 An Act to prohibit the transfer of certain assets and operations from MacDonald, Dettwiler and Associates Limited to Alliant Techsystems Incorporated (Sen. Grafstein)</p> <p>S-233 An Act to amend the Library and Archives of Canada Act (National Portrait Gallery) (Sen. Grafstein)</p> <p>S-234 An Act to establish an assembly of the aboriginal peoples of Canada and an executive council (Sen. Gill)</p> <p>S-235 An Act concerning unsolicited commercial electronic messages (Sen. Goldstein)</p> <p>S-236 An Act to amend the Financial Administration Act (borrowing of money) (Sen. Murray)</p> <p>S-237 An Act respecting World Autism Awareness Day (Sen. Munson)</p> <p>S-238 An Act respecting Canadian professional football (Sen. Campbell)</p> |
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* Received Royal Assent in fiscal year 2008-09

- S-239 An Act to amend the Employment Insurance Act (foreign postings) (Sen. Carstairs)
- S-240 An Act to amend the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999 (Sen. Banks)
- S-241 An Act to amend the Investment Canada Act (foreign investments) (Sen. Hervieux-Payette)
- S-242 An Act to amend the Telecommunications Act (telecommunications consumer agency) (Sen. Oliver)
- S-243 An Act respecting the office of the Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development (Sen. McCoy)

FIRST SESSION, 40TH PARLIAMENT (covering November 19 to December 4, 2009)

Government Bills

- S-2 An Act to amend the Customs Act

Private Senator's Bills

- S-201 An Act to amend the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act (student loans) (Sen. Goldstein)
- S-202 An Act respecting commercial electronic messages (Sen. Goldstein)

- S-203 An Act to amend the Employment Insurance Act (foreign postings) (Sen. Carstairs)
- S-204 An Act to amend the Library and Archives of Canada Act (National Portrait Gallery) (Sen. Grafstein)
- S-205 An Act to amend the Criminal Code (suicide bombings) (Sen. Grafstein)
- S-206 An Act to amend the Food and Drugs Act (clean drinking water) (Sen. Grafstein)
- S-207 An Act to require the Minister of the Environment to establish, in co-operation with the provinces, an agency with the power to identify and protect Canada's watersheds that will constitute sources of drinking water in the future (Sen. Grafstein)
- S-208 An Act to regulate securities and to provide for a single securities commission for Canada (Sen. Grafstein)
- S-209 An Act to amend the Business Development Bank of Canada Act (municipal infrastructure bonds) and to make a consequential amendment to another Act (Sen. Grafstein)
- S-210 An Act respecting a National Philanthropy Day (Sen. Grafstein)
- S-211 An Act to amend the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999 (Sen. Banks)
- S-212 An Act to amend the Constitution Act, 1867 (Property qualifications of Senators) (Sen. Banks)

- S-213 An Act respecting World Autism Awareness Day (Sen. Munson)
- S-214 An Act to amend the Parliamentary Employment and Staff Relations Act (Sen. Joyal)
- S-215 An Act to amend the Parliament of Canada Act (vacancies) (Sen. Moore)
- S-216 An Act to amend the Federal Sustainable Development Act and the Auditor General Act (Involvement of Parliament) (Sen. Banks)
- S-217 An Act to amend the Income Tax Act (carbon offset tax credit) (Sen. Mitchell)

SECOND SESSION, 40TH PARLIAMENT (covering January 26 to March 31, 2009)

Government Bills

- S-2 An Act to amend the Customs Act
- S-3 An Act to amend the Energy Efficiency Act
- S-4 An Act to amend the Criminal Code (identity theft and related misconduct)
- C-2 Canada-EFTA Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act
- C-9 An Act to amend the Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act, 1992
- C-10 Budget Implementation Act, 2009*
- C-12 Appropriation Act No. 4, 2008-2009*
- C-17 An Act to recognize Beechwood Cemetery as the national cemetery of Canada

* Received Royal Assent in fiscal year 2008–09

- C-21 Appropriation Act No. 5, 2008-2009*
C-22 Appropriation Act No. 1, 2009-2010*

Private Senator's Bills

- S-201 An Act to amend the Library and Archives of Canada Act (National Portrait Gallery) (Sen. Grafstein)
S-202 An Act to amend the Canada Elections Act (repeal of fixed election dates) (Sen. Murray)
S-203 Municipal Modernization and Business Development Bank of Canada Act (Sen. Grafstein)
S-204 An Act to amend the National Capital Act (establishment and protection of Gatineau Park) (Sen. Spivak)
S-205 An Act to amend the Criminal Code (suicide bombings) (Sen. Grafstein)
S-206 Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development Act (Sen. McCoy)
S-207 An Act to amend the Employment Insurance Act (foreign postings) (Sen. Carstairs)
S-208 An Act to amend the Food and Drugs Act (clean drinking water) (Sen. Grafstein)
S-209 An Act to amend the Criminal Code (protection of children) (Sen. Hervieux-Payette)
S-210 An Act respecting World Autism Awareness Day (Sen. Munson)

- S-211 Drinking Water Sources Act (Sen. Grafstein)
S-212 An Act to amend the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999 (Sen. Banks)
S-213 An Act to amend the Income Tax Act (carbon offset tax credit) (Sen. Mitchell)
S-214 Canada Securities Act (Sen. Grafstein)
S-215 Constitution Act, 2009 (Property qualifications of Senators) (Sen. Banks)
S-216 An Act to amend the Federal Sustainable Development Act and the Auditor General Act (Involvement of Parliament) (Sen. Banks)
S-217 National Philanthropy Day Act (Sen. Grafstein)
S-218 An Act to amend the Parliamentary Employment and Staff Relations Act (Sen. Joyal)
S-219 An Act to amend the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act (student loans) (Sen. Goldstein)
S-220 Anti-Spam Act (Sen. Goldstein)
S-221 An Act to amend the Financial Administration Act (borrowing of money) (Sen. Murray)
S-222 An Act to amend the International Boundary Waters Treaty Act (bulk water removal) (Sen. Murray)
S-223 Victims of Human Trafficking Protection Act (Sen. Phalen)

- S-224 An Act to amend the Canada Elections Act and the Parliament of Canada Act (vacancies) (Sen. Moore)
S-225 An Act to amend the Citizenship Act (oath of citizenship) (Sen. Segal)
S-226 An Act to amend the Criminal Code (lottery schemes) (Sen. Lapointe)
S-227 An Act to amend the Income Tax Act and the Excise Tax Act (tax relief for Nunavik) (Sen. Watt)
S-228 An Act to amend the Financial Administration Act and the Bank of Canada Act (quarterly financial reports) (Sen. Segal)
S-229 An Act to amend the Fisheries Act (commercial seal fishing) (Sen. Harb)
S-230 An Act to amend the Bank of Canada Act (credit rating agency) (Sen. Grafstein)
S-231 An Act to amend the Investment Canada Act (human rights violations) (Sen. Goldstein)
S-232 An Act to amend the Patent Act (drugs for international humanitarian purposes) and to make a consequential amendment to another Act (Sen. Goldstein)

* Received Royal Assent in fiscal year 2008-09

Senate Committee Special Study Reports 2008–09

The Human Resource Management Issues in the Public Service

Standing Committee on National Finance
April 2008

Mobilizing Science and Technology to Canada's Advantage

Standing Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology
April 2008

Population Health Policy: Federal, Provincial and Territorial Perspectives

Subcommittee on Population Health (Standing Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology)
April 2008

Population Health Policy: Issues and Options

Subcommittee on Population Health (Standing Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology)
April 2008

The use of Inuktitut in the Senate Chamber

Standing Committee on Rules, Procedures and the Rights of Parliament
April 2008

Honouring the Spirit of Modern Treaties: Closing the Loopholes

Standing Committee on Aboriginal Peoples
May 2008

The Officers and Agents of Parliament created or modified under the *Federal Accountability Act*

Standing Committee on National Finance
May 2008

Review of amendments made by *An Act to amend the Canada Elections Act and the Income Tax Act* (S.C. 2004, c.24)

Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs
May 2008

Beyond Freefall: Halting Rural Poverty

Standing Committee on Agriculture and Forestry
June 2008

“Growing Costs” for Canadian Farmers

Standing Committee on Agriculture and Forestry
June 2008

Sustainable Development: A Report Card

Standing Committee on Energy, the Environment and Natural Resources
June 2008

The Coast Guard in Canada's Arctic: Interim Report

Standing Committee on Fisheries and Oceans
June 2008

Canada and the United Nations Human Rights Council: A Time for Serious Re-evaluation

Standing Committee on Human Rights
June 2008

Report on the Supplementary Estimates (A), 2008–2009

Standing Committee on National Finance
June 2008

Second interim report on the 2008–2009 Main Estimates

Standing Committee on National Finance
June 2008

Report on the Infrastructure Programs and Regional Development Agencies

Standing Committee on National Finance
June 2008

**How Are We Doing in Afghanistan?
Canadians Need To Know**

Standing Committee on National Security and
Defence
June 2008

**Report on Reductions of Service Income
Security Insurance Plan Long Term Disability
Benefits**

Subcommittee on Veterans' Affairs (Standing
Committee on National Security and Defence)
June 2008

**Reflecting Canada's Linguistic Duality at the
2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games:
A Golden Opportunity**

Standing Committee on Official Languages
June 2008

**Bilingual Staff at Air Canada: Embracing
the Challenge and Moving Forward**

Standing Committee on Official Languages
June 2008

**Progress Report: Study on the
Implementation of Part VII
of the *Official Languages Act***

Standing Committee on Official Languages
June 2008

**Poverty, Housing and Homelessness:
Issues and Options**

Subcommittee on Cities (Standing Committee
on Social Affairs, Science and Technology)
June 2008

**Time for a New National Vision:
Opportunities and Constraints for Canada
in the Global Movement of Goods**

Standing Senate Committee on Transport and
Communications
June 2008

**Four Generals and an Admiral:
The View from the Top**

Standing Committee on National Security and
Defence
August 2008

Bringing Our Wounded Home Safely

Standing Committee on National Security and
Defence
August 2008

**Emergency Preparedness in Canada
(Vol.s 1–4)**

Standing Committee on National Security and
Defence
August 2008

**Report on the Supplementary Estimates (B),
2008–2009**

Standing Committee on National Finance
February 2009

First Interim Report on 2009–2010 Estimates

Standing Committee on National Finance
March 2009

**Reinstatement of Bills from the
Previous Session**

Standing Committee on Rules, Procedures and
the Rights of Parliament
March 2009

**Study of document “Proposed Revision
to User Fees, November 2008”**

Standing Committee on Energy, the
Environment and Natural Resources
March 2009

**Report on the Supplementary Estimates (C),
2008–2009**

Standing Committee on National Finance
March 2009

Senate Committee Membership 2008–09*

■ ABORIGINAL PEOPLES

39-2

Chair: Gerry St. Germain, P.C.
Deputy Chair: Nick G. Sibbeston

Members of the committee:

The Honourable Senators Campbell, Dallaire, Dyck, Gill, Gustafson, *Hervieux-Payette, P.C. (or Tardif), Hubley, *LeBreton, P.C. (or Comeau), Lovelace Nicholas, Peterson, Segal, Sibbeston and St. Germain, P.C.

Also participated in this committee's work: The Honourable Senators Cowan, Nolin, Stratton, Tkachuk and Watt

40-1

This committee was not struck during this session.

40-2

Chair: Gerry St. Germain, P.C.
Deputy Chair: Nick G. Sibbeston

Members of the committee:

The Honourable Senators Brazeau, Brown, Campbell, Carstairs, P.C., *Cowan (or Tardif), Dyck, Hubley, Lang, *LeBreton, P.C. (or Comeau), Lovelace Nicholas, Peterson, Raine, Sibbeston and St. Germain, P.C.

Also participated in this committee's work: The Honourable Senators Banks, Fairbairn, P.C., Grafstein, Munson and Watt

■ AGING (SPECIAL)

39-2

Chair: Sharon Carstairs, P.C.
Deputy Chair: Wilbert Joseph Keon

Members of the committee:

The Honourable Senators Carstairs, P.C., Chaput, Cools, Cordy, *Hervieux-Payette, P.C. (or Tardif), Johnson, *LeBreton, P.C. (or Comeau), Mercer and Nolin

Also participated in this committee's work: The Honourable Senators Keon and Stratton

40-1

This committee was not struck during this session.

40-2

Chair: Sharon Carstairs, P.C.
Deputy Chair: Wilbert Joseph Keon

Members of the committee:

The Honourable Senators Carstairs, P.C., Chaput, Cools, Cordy, *Cowan (or Tardif), Keon, *LeBreton, P.C. (or Comeau), Mercer and Stratton

Also participated in this committee's work:
The Honourable Senator Greene

■ AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY

39-2

Chair: Joyce Fairbairn, P.C.
Deputy Chair: Leonard J. Gustafson

Members of the committee:

The Honourable Senators Bacon, Baker, P.C., Callbeck, Cowan, Fairbairn, P.C., Gustafson, *Hervieux-Payette, P.C. (or Tardif), *LeBreton, P.C. (or Comeau), Mahovlich, Mercer, Peterson, Segal and St. Germain, P.C.

Also participated in this committee's work: The Honourable Senators Biron, Campbell, Chaput, Eyton, Nolin and Oliver

40-1

This committee was not struck during this session.

40-2

Chair: Percy Mockler
Deputy Chair: Joyce Fairbairn, P.C.

Members of the committee:

The Honourable Senators Baker, P.C., Callbeck, *Cowan (or Tardif), Duffy, Eaton, Fairbairn, P.C., Housakos, *LeBreton, P.C. (or Comeau), Lovelace Nicholas, Mahovlich, Mercer, Milne, Mockler and Rivard

Also participated in this committee's work: The Honourable Senators Cordy, Meighen, Munson, Poulin and Tkachuk

*As nominated by the Senate Standing Committee of Selection, except where noted. Chairs and deputy chairs are elected by the committee.

* Indicates ex officio member

■ ANTI-TERRORISM (SPECIAL)

39-2

Chair: David P. Smith, P.C.
Deputy Chair: Pierre Claude Nolin

Members of the committee:
The Honourable Senators Andreychuk, Day, Fairbairn, P.C., Fraser, *Hervieux-Payette, P.C. (or Tardif), Jaffer, Joyal, P.C., Kinsella, *LeBreton, P.C. (or Comeau), Nolin and Smith, P.C.

Also participated in this committee's work: The Honourable Senators Baker, P.C., and Segal

40-1

This committee was not struck during this session.

40-2

This committee was not struck before the end of the fiscal year.

■ BANKING, TRADE AND COMMERCE

39-2

Chair: W. David Angus
Deputy Chair: Yoine Goldstein

Members of the committee:
The Honourable Senators Angus, Biron, Cowan, Eyton, Fitzpatrick, Goldstein, Grafstein, Harb, *Hervieux-Payette, P.C. (or Tardif), *LeBreton, P.C. (or Comeau), Massicotte, Meighen, Ringuette and Tkachuk

Also participated in this committee's work: The Honourable Senators Banks, Corbin, Dawson, De Bané, P.C., Fox, P.C., Gustafson, Jaffer, Johnson, Lapointe, Moore, Nancy Ruth, Nolin, Prud'homme, P.C., and Spivak

40-1

This committee was not struck during this session.

40-2

Chair: Michael A. Meighen
Deputy Chair: Céline Hervieux-Payette, P.C.

Members of the committee:
The Honourable Senators *Cowan (or Tardif), Eyton, Fox, P.C., Gerstein, Goldstein, Greene, Harb, Hervieux-Payette, P.C., *LeBreton, P.C. (or Comeau), Massicotte, Meighen, Moore, Oliver and Ringuette

Also participated in this committee's work: The Honourable Senators Banks, Duffy, Hubley and Tkachuk

■ CONFLICT OF INTEREST FOR SENATORS

Original members agreed to by motion of the Senate

39-2

Chair: Serge Joyal, P.C.
Deputy Chair: A. Raynell Andreychuk

Members of the committee:
The Honourable Senators Andreychuk, Angus, Carstairs, P.C., Joyal, P.C., and Robichaud, P.C.

40-1

This committee was not struck during this session.

40-2

Chair: Serge Joyal, P.C.
Deputy Chair: A. Raynell Andreychuk

Members of the committee:
The Honourable Senators Andreychuk, Angus, Carstairs, P.C., Joyal, P.C., and Robichaud, P.C.

* Indicates ex officio member

■ ENERGY, THE ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

39-2

Chair: Tommy Banks
Deputy Chair: Pierre Claude Nolin

Members of the committee:
The Honourable Senators Adams, Banks, Brown, Campbell, Cochrane, *Hervieux-Payette, P.C. (or Tardif), Kenny, *LeBreton, P.C. (or Comeau), Milne, Mitchell, Nolin, Sibbeston, Spivak and Trenholme Counsell

Also participated in this committee's work: The Honourable Senators Dawson, Grafstein, McCoy, Meighen and Munson

40-1

This committee was not struck during this session.

40-2

Chair: W. David Angus
Deputy Chair: Grant Mitchell

Members of the committee:
The Honourable Senators Adams, Angus, Banks, *Cowan (or Tardif), Kenny, Lang, *LeBreton, P.C. (or Comeau), Merchant, Mitchell, Neufeld, Peterson, Sibbeston, Spivak and St. Germain, P.C.

Also participated in this committee's work: The Honourable Senators Brown, McCoy and Milne

■ FISHERIES AND OCEANS

39-2

Chair: William Rompkey, P.C.
Deputy Chair: Ethel Cochrane

Members of the committee:
The Honourable Senators Adams, Campbell, Cochrane, Comeau, Cowan, Gill, *Hervieux-Payette, P.C. (or Tardif), Hubley, Johnson, *LeBreton, P.C. (or Comeau), Meighen, Robichaud, P.C., Rompkey, P.C., and Watt

Also participated in this committee's work: The Honourable Senators Baker, P.C., Eyton and Gustafson

40-1

This committee was not struck during this session.

40-2

Chair: William Rompkey, P.C.
Deputy Chair: Ethel Cochrane

Members of the committee:
The Honourable Senators Adam, Campbell, Cochrane, Cook, *Cowan (or Tardif), Hubley, Johnson, *LeBreton, P.C. (or Comeau), MacDonald, Manning, Raine, Robichaud, P.C., Rompkey, P.C., and Watt

Also participated in this committee's work: The Honourable Senators Munson, Peterson and Stratton

■ FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE

39-2

Chair: Consiglio Di Nino
Deputy Chair: Peter A. Stollery

Members of the committee:
The Honourable Senators Corbin, Dawson, De Bané, P.C., Di Nino, Downe, *Hervieux-Payette, P.C. (or Tardif), Jaffer, Johnson, *LeBreton, P.C. (or Comeau), Mahovlich, Nolin, Rivest, Smith, P.C., and Stollery

Also participated in this committee's work: The Honourable Senators Cools, Dallaire, Grafstein, Massicotte, Oliver, Peterson and Prud'homme, P.C.

40-1

This committee was not struck during this session.

40-2

Chair: Consiglio Di Nino
Deputy Chair: Peter A. Stollery

Members of the committee:
The Honourable Senators Andreychuk, Corbin, *Cowan (or Tardif), Dawson, De Bané, P.C., Di Nino, Downe, Fortin-Duplessis, Grafstein, *LeBreton, P.C. (or Comeau), Mahovlich, Segal, Stollery and Wallin

Also participated in this committee's work: The Honourable Senators Kenny, Kinsella, Prud'homme, P.C., Stratton and Zimmer

■ HUMAN RIGHTS

39-2

Chair: A. Raynell Andreychuk
Deputy Chair: Mobina S. B. Jaffer

Members of the committee:

The Honourable Senators Andreychuk, Dallaire, *Hervieux-Payette, P.C. (or Tardif), Jaffer, Kinsella, *LeBreton, P.C. (or Comeau), Lovelace Nicholas, Munson, Oliver, Pépin and Poy

Also participated in this committee's work: The Honourable Senators Cowan, Di Nino, Goldstein, Nancy Ruth, Nolin, Phalen, Ringuette, Stratton and Trenholme Counsell

40-1

This committee was not struck during this session.

40-2

Chair: A. Raynell Andreychuk
Deputy Chair: Mobina S. B. Jaffer

Members of the committee:

The Honourable Senators Andreychuk, Brazeau, *Cowan (or Tardif), Dallaire, Goldstein, Jaffer, *LeBreton, P.C. (or Comeau), Martin, Nancy Ruth, Pépin and Poy

Also participated in this committee's work: The Honourable Senators Munson, Spivak and Stratton

■ INTERNAL ECONOMY, BUDGETS AND ADMINISTRATION

39-2

Chair: George J. Furey
Deputy Chair: Terry Stratton

Members of the committee:

The Honourable Senators Comeau, Cook, Cowan, Downe, Furey, Goldstein, *Hervieux-Payette, P.C. (or Tardif), Jaffer, Kinsella, *LeBreton, P.C. (or Comeau), Massicotte, Nancy Ruth, Phalen, Prud'homme, P.C., Robichaud, P.C., Stollery and Stratton

Also participated in this committee's work: The Honourable Senators Biron, Dawson, Kenny, Mitchell, Moore, Nolin and Tardif

40-1

This committee was not struck during this session.

40-2

Chair: George J. Furey
Deputy Chair: David Tkachuk

Members of the committee:

The Honourable Senators Comeau, Cordy, *Cowan (or Tardif), Dawson, Downe, Furey, Greene, Jaffer, Kinsella, *LeBreton, P.C. (or Comeau), MacDonald, Massicotte, Munson, Rivard, Robichaud, P.C., Stollery and Tkachuk

Also participated in this committee's work: The Honourable Senators Cook, Hubley, Mitchell, Prud'homme, P.C., and Tardif

■ LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS

39-2

Chair: Joan Fraser
Deputy Chair: A. Raynell Andreychuk

Members of the committee:

The Honourable Senators Andreychuk, Baker, P.C., Bryden, Carstairs, P.C., Di Nino, Fraser, Furey, *Hervieux-Payette, P.C. (or Tardif), Joyal, P.C., *LeBreton, P.C. (or Comeau), Milne, Oliver, Stratton and Watt

Also participated in this committee's work: The Honourable Senators Adams, Banks, Campbell, Cochrane, Cowan, Grafstein, Gustafson, Hervieux-Payette, P.C., Mercer, Merchant, Moore, Murray, P.C., Peterson, Phalen, Robichaud, P.C., Tardif and Tkachuk

40-1

This committee was not struck during this session.

40-2

Chair: Joan Fraser
Deputy Chair: Pierre Claude Nolin

Members of the committee:

The Honourable Senators Angus, Baker, P.C., Bryden, Campbell, *Cowan (or Tardif), Dickson, Fraser, Joyal, P.C., *LeBreton, P.C. (or Comeau), Milne, Nolin, Rivest, Wallace and Watt

Also participated in this committee's work: The Honourable Senator Stratton

* Indicates ex officio member

LIBRARY OF PARLIAMENT (JOINT)

Original members agreed to by motion of the Senate

39-2

Co-Chair: Marilyn Trenholme Counsell

Members of the committee:

The Honourable Senators Lapointe, Murray, P.C., Oliver, Rompkey, P.C., and Trenholme Counsell

40-1

This committee was not struck during this session.

40-2

Joint Chair: Sharon Carstairs, P.C.,

Members of the committee:

The Honourable Senators Baker, P.C., Carstairs, P.C., Greene, Jaffer and Stratton

Also participated in this committee's work: The Honourable Senators Lapointe, Munson and Peterson

NATIONAL FINANCE**39-2**

Chair: Joseph A. Day

Deputy Chair: Terry Stratton

Members of the committee:

The Honourable Senators Biron, Cowan, Day, De Bané, P.C., Di Nino, Eggleton, P.C., *Hervieux-Payette, P.C. (or Tardif), *LeBreton, P.C. (or Comeau), Mitchell, Moore, Murray, P.C., Nancy Ruth, Ringuette and Stratton

Also participated in this committee's work: The Honourable Senators Chaput, Fox, P.C., Massicotte, Nolin, Oliver, Peterson, Tardif and Tkachuk

40-1

This committee was not struck during this session.

40-2

Chair: Joseph A. Day

Deputy Chair: Irving Gerstein

Members of the committee:

The Honourable Senators Callbeck, Chaput, *Cowan (or Tardif), Day, De Bané, P.C., Di Nino, Eggleton, P.C., Gerstein, *LeBreton, P.C. (or Comeau), Mitchell, Nancy Ruth, Neufeld, Prud'homme, P.C., and Ringuette

Also participated in this committee's work: The Honourable Senators Banks, Fox, P.C., Greene, Hubley, McCoy, Meighen, Murray, P.C., Oliver, Peterson, Rivard, Spivak and Stratton

NATIONAL SECURITY AND DEFENCE**39-2**

Chair: Colin Kenny

Deputy Chair: David Tkachuk

Members of the committee:

The Honourable Senators Atkins, Banks, Day, *Hervieux-Payette, P.C. (or Tardif), Kenny, *LeBreton, P.C. (or Comeau), Meighen, Moore, Nancy Ruth, Tkachuk and Zimmer

Also participated in this committee's work: The Honourable Senators Comeau, Mitchell, Munson, Peterson, Segal and Stollery

40-1

This committee was not struck during this session.

40-2

Chair: Colin Kenny

Deputy Chair: Pamela Wallin

Members of the committee:

The Honourable Senators Banks, *Cowan (or Tardif), Day, Kenny, *LeBreton, P.C. (or Comeau), Manning, Meighen, Moore, Tkachuk, Wallin and Zimmer

Also participated in this committee's work: The Honourable Senators Atkins, Lang, Martin, Mitchell and Nolin

* Indicates ex officio member

SUBCOMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS

Subcommittee membership lists as they appeared when the subcommittee was created

39-2

Chair: Michael A. Meighen
Deputy Chair: Joseph A. Day

Members of the subcommittee:
The Honourable Senators Banks, Day, Kenny, Meighen and Nancy Ruth

Also participated in this subcommittee's work: The Honourable Senators Dallaire and Downe

40-1

This subcommittee was not struck during this session.

40-2

This subcommittee was not struck before the end of the fiscal year.

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

39-2

Chair: Maria Chaput
Deputy Chair: Andrée Champagne, P.C.

Members of the committee:
The Honourable Senators Champagne, P.C., Chaput, Comeau, De Bané, P.C., Goldstein, Harb, *Hervieux-Payette, P.C. (or Tardif), *LeBreton, P.C. (or Comeau), Losier-Cool, Murray, P.C., and Tardif

Also participated in this committee's work: Corbin, Jaffer, Kinsella, Munson and Ringuette

40-1

This committee was not struck during this session.

40-2

Chair: Maria Chaput
Deputy Chair: Andrée Champagne, P.C.

Members of the committee:
The Honourable Senators Champagne, P.C., Chaput, Comeau, *Cowan (or Tardif), Fortin-Duplessis, Goldstein, Jaffer, *LeBreton, P.C. (or Comeau), Losier-Cool, Mockler and Poulin

Also participated in this committee's work: The Honourable Senators Martin, Munson, Murray, P.C., Rivard and Tardif

RULES, PROCEDURES AND THE RIGHTS OF PARLIAMENT

39-2

Chair: Wilbert Joseph Keon
Deputy Chair: David P. Smith, P.C.

Members of the committee:
The Honourable Senators Andreychuk, Angus, Brown, Champagne, P.C., Corbin, Cordy, Fraser, Furey, Grafstein, *Hervieux-Payette, P.C. (or Tardif), Joyal, P.C., Keon, *LeBreton, P.C. (or Comeau), Losier-Cool, McCoy, Robichaud, P.C., and Smith, P.C.

Also participated in this committee's work: The Honourable Senators Comeau, Cools and Kenny

40-1

This committee was not struck during this session.

40-2

Chair: Donald H. Oliver
Deputy Chair: David P. Smith, P.C.

Members of the committee:
The Honourable Senators Andreychuk, Brown, Cools, Corbin, *Cowan (or Tardif), Duffy, Fraser, Furey, Joyal, P.C., Keon, *LeBreton, P.C. (or Comeau), Losier-Cool, McCoy, Nolin, Oliver, Robichaud, P.C., and Smith, P.C.

Also participated in this committee's work: The Honourable Senators Milne, Tardif and Watt

* Indicates ex officio member

■ SCRUTINY OF REGULATIONS (JOINT)

Original members agreed to by motion of the Senate

39-2

Joint Chair: J. Trevor Eyton

Members of the committee:

The Honourable Senators Biron, Bryden, De Bané, P.C., Eyton, Harb, Moore, Nolin and St. Germain, P.C.

Also participated in this committee's work: The Honourable Senators Bacon and Zimmer

40-1

This committee was not struck during this session.

40-2

Joint Chair: J. Trevor Eyton

Members of the committee:

The Honourable Senators Bryden, Cook, Dickson, Eyton, Hervieux-Payette, P.C., Moore and Wallace

Also participated in this committee's work: The Honourable Senator Cordy

■ SELECTION COMMITTEE

Original members agreed to by motion of the Senate

39-2

Chair: Hugh Segal

Deputy Chair: James S. Cowan

Members of the committee:

The Honourable Senators Bacon, Carstairs, P.C., Cowan, Fairbairn, P.C., Fraser, *Hervieux-Payette, P.C. (or Tardif), *LeBreton, P.C. (or Comeau), Nancy Ruth, Segal, Stratton and Tkachuk

40-1

Chair: David Tkachuk

Deputy Chair: Jim Munson

Members of the committee:

The Honourable Senators Brown, Carstairs, P.C., Cochrane, *Cowan (or Tardif), Di Nino, Fairbairn, P.C., Hervieux-Payette, P.C., *LeBreton, P.C. (or Comeau), Munson, Robichaud, P.C., and Tkachuk

Also participated in this committee's work: The Honourable Senator Fraser

40-2

Chair: David Tkachuk (Chair from February 3 to 10, 2009)

Terry Stratton (Chair as of February 10, 2009)

Deputy Chair: Jim Munson

Members of the committee:

The Honourable Senators Carstairs, P.C., Cochrane, *Cowan (or Tardif), Di Nino, Fairbairn, P.C., Hervieux-Payette, P.C., *LeBreton, P.C. (or Comeau), Munson, Robichaud, P.C., Stratton and Tkachuk

Also participated in this committee's work: The Honourable Senator Corbin, Fraser and McCoy

■ SOCIAL AFFAIRS, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**39-2**

Chair: Art Eggleton, P.C.

Deputy Chair: Wilbert Joseph Keon

Members of the committee:

The Honourable Senators Brown, Callbeck, Champagne, P.C., Cochrane, Cook, Cordy, Eggleton, P.C., Fairbairn, P.C., *Hervieux-Payette, P.C. (or Tardif), Keon, *LeBreton, P.C. (or Comeau), Munson, Pépin and Trenholme Counsell

Also participated in this committee's work: The Honourable Senators Grafstein, Mercer and Milne

40-1

This committee was not struck during this session.

40-2

Chair: Art Eggleton, P.C.

Deputy Chair: Wilbert Joseph Keon

Members of the committee:

The Honourable Senators Callbeck, Champagne, P.C., Cook, Cordy, *Cowan (or Tardif), Dyck, Eaton, Eggleton, P.C., Fairbairn, P.C., Keon, *LeBreton, P.C. (or Comeau), Martin, Pépin and Segal

Also participated in this committee's work: The Honourable Senators Munson and Stratton

* Indicates ex officio member

■ SUBCOMMITTEE ON CITIES

Subcommittee membership lists as they appeared when the subcommittee was created

39-2

Chair: Art Eggleton, P.C.
Deputy Chair: Andrée Champagne, P.C.

Members of the subcommittee:
The Honourable Senators Champagne, P.C., Cordy, Eggleton, P.C., Keon, Munson and Trenholme Counsell

Also participated in this subcommittee's work: The Honourable Senators Pépin and Segal

40-1

This subcommittee was not struck during this session.

40-2

Chair: Art Eggleton, P.C.
Deputy Chair: Hugh Segal

Members of the subcommittee:
The Honourable Senators Cordy, Dyck, Eggleton, P.C., Martin and Segal

Also participated in this subcommittee's work: The Honourable Senators Champagne, P.C., Cook and Fairbairn, P.C.

■ SUBCOMMITTEE ON POPULATION HEALTH

Subcommittee membership lists as they appeared when the subcommittee was created

39-2

Chair: Wilbert Joseph Keon
Deputy Chair: Lucie Pépin

Members of the subcommittee:
The Honourable Senators Brown, Callbeck, Cochrane, Cook, Fairbairn, P.C., Keon and Pépin

Also participated in this subcommittee's work: The Honourable Senators Eggleton, P.C., Munson, Segal and Trenholme Counsell

40-1

This subcommittee was not struck during this session.

40-2

Chair: Wilbert Joseph Keon
Deputy Chair: Lucie Pépin

Members of the subcommittee:
The Honourable Senators Callbeck, Champagne, P.C., Cook, Eaton, Fairbairn, P.C., Keon and Pépin

Also participated in this subcommittee's work: The Honourable Senators Cordy, Dyck, Eggleton, P.C., Martin, Munson and Stratton

■ TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

39-2

Chair: Lise Bacon
Deputy Chair: Donald H. Oliver

Members of the committee:
The Honourable Senators Adams, Bacon, Dawson, Eyton, Fox, P.C., *Hervieux-Payette, P.C. (or Tardif), Johnson, *LeBreton, P.C. (or Comeau), Mercer, Merchant, Oliver, Phalen, Tkachuk and Zimmer

Also participated in this committee's work: The Honourable Senators Comeau, Fairbairn, P.C., Massicotte and Spivak

40-1

This committee was not struck during this session.

40-2

Chair: Lise Bacon
Deputy Chair: Janis G. Johnson

Members of the committee:
The Honourable Senators Adams, Bacon, Cochrane, *Cowan (or Tardif), Dawson, Eyton, Fox, P.C., Housakos, Johnson, *LeBreton, P.C. (or Comeau), Mercer, Merchant, Wallace and Zimmer

* Indicates ex officio member