

 \$10

FALL 2015

# Beyond the Hill

Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians

**Cross country  
receptions**

**CAFP reaches out**

**Magna Carta  
visits Canada**

**Doug Frith  
Dinner honours  
Kevin Vickers**

**AGM 2015**





# Muskoka Reception

Muskoka, Ontario, Aug 30 - Sept 1, 2015  
Photos by Susan Simms and Gina Chambers



*Relaxing on the Hon. Paul and Sandra Hellyer's dock during the CAFP reception in Muskoka.*



*Ed Harper, Nanette Zwicker and Hon. Trevor Eytton at Dr. Bethune Interpretation Centre.*



*Hon. Peter Milliken examines a beautiful handmade canoe.*



*John and Julia Murphy at Muskoka Boat & Heritage Centre*



*Ron and Marlene Catterall, Carol Shepherd and Serge Ménard.*



*Norwegian Ambassador Mona Brother at Little Norway Memorial.*



# Beyond the Hill

Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians

Volume 12, Issue No. 1

FALL 2015

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*Peace Tower on Parliament Hill.  
Cover photo by Dorothy Dobbie.*

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#### Our Mission Statement

*Beyond the Hill*, a magazine for former parliamentarians, is designed to engage, enlighten and inform its readers about each other, their Association and its Educational Foundation. Its aim is to encourage participation in the Association and to promote democracy. The views of the contributors to this publication do not necessarily represent those of CAFP nor its Educational Foundation. *Beyond the Hill* welcomes letters to the editor, submissions and suggestions. P.O. Box 1, 131 Queen St., House of Commons Ottawa, ON, Canada, K1A 0A6. Telephone 1-888-567-4764, Fax: 613-947-1764 E-mail: [ex-parl@parl.gc.ca](mailto:ex-parl@parl.gc.ca). Website: [www.exparl.ca](http://www.exparl.ca).

## New BTH Intern



**Hayley Chazan. Photo: CUSJC**

A natural curiosity and a love for speaking with others inspired Hayley to pursue a career in journalism. She is currently enrolled in the Master of Journalism program at Carleton University and commenced her second and final year this September. Hayley was born and raised in Montreal, Que. and graduated from McGill University in 2013 with a BA in economics. Her passion for journalism stems from her desire to write about economic policy issues, which in her experience are commonly misunderstood by the public and the media. Upon graduating from McGill, Hayley moved to Ottawa where she served for one year as political staffer to Minister Lisa Raitt. This past December, Hayley got the opportunity to intern at *The Windsor Star*, publishing over a dozen stories in just two short weeks. Hayley worked in Toronto as a chase producer at CTV News Channel. She has also interned at CJAD Radio in Montreal. She is excited to join the *Beyond the Hill* team and to contribute to a publication that honours the legacy of former parliamentarians.

## Thank yous

Congratulations to you, Hon. Andy Mitchell, and all the staff of the Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians for this morning's beautifully orchestrated service remembering former parliamentarians.

From arrival to departure, Senate/As-

sociation staff were most accommodating – with a wonderfully warm greeting; with considerate service in providing directions to waiting rooms, restrooms, and the Senate Chamber; and, with ready and informed responses to questions. The official programme was thorough and explained exactly what would take place, and the corsages were a very kind gesture. The service itself was thoughtful and considerate without being maudlin, which I'm sure made it much easier for those who very recently suffered the loss of their loved one. As well, the proceedings were well timed and followed the programme faithfully – often an unusual feat. Well done!

Many thanks from the Kelly family for all your consideration and care.

**Michael and Sharon Kelly**

We had a lovely time in Ottawa, thank you for including us. We all enjoyed the Memorial service very much and then had a lovely meal in the Dining room.

**Vivien Young**

Just wanted to say thank you to everyone who was involved in putting this memorial together. Every part of this memorial was so touching and all of my family felt so honored to be there, and we were treated with such respect & dignity.

It was a very emotional time and the final chapter in Dad's life. We are very proud of Dad's accomplishments, some we knew but some we had just found out about when Dad was mentioned.

Again, thank you to everyone who made this tribute so special.

**Bruce Harley**

## Corrections

From the previous issue:

- p. 14, we incorrectly stated that "Michael Wilson was born in Toronto in 1957". Mr. Wilson was in fact born in 1937. *Beyond the Hill* apologizes for the error.

- p. 39, portions of our interview with Madeleine Daphond-Guiral were translated incorrectly. *Beyond the Hill* conducted a follow up interview and printed it in this most recent issue. We regret the error.



*Hon. Andy Mitchell.*

# How the President sees it

It has been an eventful first year as President of the Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians. I have been impressed by many things, but nothing more than the ongoing willingness of our colleagues to continue their engagement in public life.

Former parliamentarians have great knowledge and experience, and have formed relationships with Canadian stakeholders across the country. One of the important roles I see our association playing is providing members with ongoing opportunities to engage in the public dialogue.

This was one of the reasons we partnered with the Library of Parliament at our AGM, for a full day symposium on how MPs could most effectively engage in the public policy process. It was wonderful to observe the interactions of former parliamentarians, and to hear their ideas based on commendable careers in the Senate and House.

One of my objectives is to continue and expand these types of opportunities and to forge additional partnerships that facilitate this type of communication.

One of my other priorities is to ensure that we have the opportunity to remain in touch with each other and maintain the friendships forged during our time in Ottawa. I want to do this not just in the capital, but also across the country.

To that end, I was pleased to see us institute regional receptions across Canada. This past year we held events in Vancouver, Toronto, Montreal, Halifax, and Muskoka. I want to make special note of two of our former colleagues Denis Coderre, Mayor of Montreal and Michael Savage, Mayor of Halifax for hosting events at their city halls.

It is our intention to hold these events next year and I look forward to seeing you.

In closing, I want to take an opportunity to thank the staff of the CAFP: Céline Brazeau Fraser, Jennifer Nehme, Jack Silverstone, and Susan Simms. Without their dedicated effort we could not accomplish all that we do.

Thanks to all our members for your support and encouragement.

**Hon. Andy Mitchell,  
President**



Executive Director's Report

# The Khaki Election

By Jack Silverstone



Jack Silverstone.

In this khaki election, military personnel were given the right to vote regardless of their period of residence in Canada, by virtue of the Military Voters Act of 1917.

When I first became aware of the extraordinary military and political career of Lieutenant-Colonel Cyrus Peck (thanks to the Hon. Anthony Abbot) and read the book *Cy Peck, V.C., A Biography of a Legendary Canadian* by his son Edward Peck, I was intrigued by the notion of someone being elected to the House of Commons while out of the country; in this case while serving on the battlefield during the First World War. After receiving the guidance of former CAFP President and past president of Friends of the Canadian War Museum Douglas Rowland, I soon discovered that the federal election of 1917 was sometimes referred to as a “khaki election” and in all, eight members were elected under the Unionist or Liberal banner while serving overseas. In addition to Cyrus Peck, who is the only sitting member of Parliament in the British Commonwealth to be awarded the Victoria Cross, at least two other names stand out as Canadian firsts, albeit unhappy ones.

Lt.-Col. George Harold Baker, to whom there is a monument in Centre Block, was elected as a Conservative member for Brome, Quebec in 1911. He volunteered for active duty while retaining his seat in the House. Unfortunately he was killed at the age of 39, making him the only sitting Canadian MP who died in action during the First World War.

Lt.-Col. Samuel Sharpe was a lawyer and member of Parliament first elected in 1908 in what is now Ontario's Durham region. He served

overseas, seeing action at Vimy Ridge and Passchendaele, all the while maintaining his seat in Parliament. He was re-elected in absentia in 1917, making him the only MP returned to the House of Commons while serving on the battlefields of Europe. He survived the war, but died soon after in sad circumstances at a Montreal hospital.

In this khaki election, military personnel were given the right to vote regardless of their period of residence in Canada, by virtue of the Military Voters Act of 1917. A military voter would cast his ballot for the current government or the opposition. If the constituency in which the voter resided at the time of his or her enlistment was specified, that was where the ballots were counted. Failing this, the governing party would assign the vote to a riding.

The Military Voters Act along with the 1917 Wartime Elections Act had an important impact on women's voting rights in this country. These two pieces of legislation enfranchised women who were British subjects and on active service for Canada and women who were British subjects ordinarily residing in Canada, who were on active service for Great Britain or an ally, (including Aboriginal people) all until demobilization. Also included were women who were related as a wife, widow, mother, sister or daughter of persons in the military, who served or were serving with Canada or Great Britain, but again only until demobilization. These women were given the right to vote as a result of

these wartime measures prior to the Act to confer the Electoral Franchise upon Women, which took effect in January 1919.

In speaking about military personnel who served as elected representatives, mention should be made of Lt. Roberta Catherine MacAdams Price. She was commissioned in 1916 in the Canadian Army Medical Corps and served in an English hospital. She was the only dietitian ever accepted by the Canadian Army Medical Corps at that time. She was one of the first women elected to a British Commonwealth legislature and won her seat as a nonpartisan in the Alberta legislature while serving overseas.

The nexus formed by all these little-known pieces of Canadian parliamentary, electoral and military history is worth recalling and studying.

## New Members

We look forward to benefiting from the talent, skills, and experience of more than 50 members of the House of Commons who indicated that they would not seek re-election in October. This is comparable to the 58 of 308 incumbents who did not seek re-election in the June 2004 general election. We hope that many of them will become active members of the Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians and that their transition from public life will be smooth.

## Farewell to Jack

*This will be Jack's final report as Executive Director of CAFP. Jack has decided to retire in order to spend more time with his family. We thank him for his dedicated service to our Association and wish him well in the future.*



# Distinguished Service Award

## And the winner is . . . Hon. David MacDonald

Story by Scott Hitchcox, photos by Harrison Lowman

The Distinguished Service Award, granted annually on the basis of outstanding contributions to the promotion and understanding of Canada's parliamentary system, was this year presented to the Hon. David MacDonald for, as President Andy Mitchell aptly stated, "years of parliamentary service, contributions to, and respect for Canadian Parliament, and for ambition and activity in the area of human rights".

The ceremony took place in the House of Commons Speakers' quarters in Centre Block, with several prominent speakers preceding the award recipient. After an opening address by President Mitchell, the Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians was grateful to welcome a member of its sister organization, The European Association of Former Parliamentarians, Management Committee Honorary Secretary Brigitte Langenhagen, who thanked the Association for the opportunity to speak and as she said, "reaffirm the bonds that link our two associations."

"We are one community of people who have dedicated their lives to the common good, who believe in democracy, and fight for such principles with passion and determination," she told the crowd.

Speaker *pro tempore* of the Senate, Nicole Eaton, followed, bringing the conversation back to the Distinguished Service Award and praising David MacDonald for "embodying the commitment to public service that is the hallmark of CAFP" in activities ranging from his time as Secretary of State, his humanitarian efforts both at home and abroad, and his contributions to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, where he acted as The United Church's Special Advisor on residential schools.

Speaker of the House Andrew Scheer also had kind words to say, describing a "celebration of a life and a contribution to public policy". He noted that David was one of the few parliamentarians



*Hon. Andy Mitchell awards Hon. David MacDonald with the Distinguished Service Award.*



*Hon. David MacDonald, Deborah Sinclair, Bill Clarke, Senator Nicole Eaton and Hon. Andrew Scheer.*

to represent multiple political ridings throughout his career. Speaker Scheer thanked him on behalf of the House of Commons for his years of sacrifice and service.

Upon receiving the award from President Andy Mitchell, David MacDonald professed his thanks to the speakers for their kind and generous remarks, and also to a large family procession representing four provinces and one state; all of whom made the trip to show their support.

Reflecting upon his time on Parliament Hill, David said that the thing he missed most was the people, recalling



*Midge Philbrook, Scott Hitchcox, Mark Hitchcox, Shelly Hitchcox and Dr. Frank Philbrook.*

advice from a wise Aboriginal man, who told him that in truly effective politics, "It's all really very personal." MacDonald also used his time to question the current voting age, asking if 18 was really low enough.

"Isn't it important that people who are now part of our society and are going to be playing more of an active role have the opportunity to participate?" he said. When it comes to democratic elections, David joked, one should vote early and vote often! One can only imagine how many votes he personally received over the course of his 50-year relationship with Parliament Hill.



# Remembering those who have served

Story by Harrison Lowman, photos by Neil Valois Photography

On the first of June, current and former parliamentarians and bereaved family members gathered in the Senate Chamber to honour the service, contribution and lives of former parliamentarians who left us over the past year.

Following a lyrical recital from Dominion Carillonneur Dr. Andrea McCrady in the Peace Tower and an introduction by Chief of Protocol Elizabeth Rody, attendees watched the official party enter the chamber. This included the Speaker of the Senate, The Hon. Leo Housakos, the Speaker of the House of Commons, The Hon. Andrew Scheer, CAFP President, The Hon. Andy Mitchell, The Hon. Don Boudria, and Marc Bosc, Acting Clerk of the House of Commons.

The Speakers from both Houses welcomed attendees to the service. In doing so they also addressed the tragic fact that former Speaker of the Senate, Pierre Claude Nolin, had passed away just a few weeks before the service.

"I cannot help but think of the recent sudden passing of my predecessor Speaker Pierre Claude Nolin, a dear friend, a mentor, an inspiration to many," said Speaker of the Senate The Hon. Leo Housakos. "Perhaps we can collectively find comfort and hope that those who have departed remain with us in some way. Though they are gone, they will never be forgotten for their service to their country."

This was followed by words from President Andy Mitchell, who read through the names of the deceased, along with a collection of their key accomplishments.

Speeches, readings, wreath laying, and prayers were accompanied by Pipe Major Sergeant Thomas Brown, The Brass Quintet of the Central Band of the Canadian Armed Forces, and the Ottawa Police Chorus, whose notes rose to the ceiling of the Red Chamber.

Among those who attended the moving tribute was former prime minister Jean Chrétien.

The Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians has been organizing this event for 16 years.



*Hon. Andrew Scheer, Speaker of the House of Commons and Senate Speaker, Hon. Leo Housakos, lay the wreath.*



*Family members, former and current parliamentarians gather in the Senate Chamber for the annual Memorial Service.*





*Hon. Andy Mitchell.*



*Speaker of the Senate, Hon. Leo Housakos.*



*Greg Peters, Usher of the Black Rod.*



*Speaker of the House, the Hon. Andrew Scheer.*



*Jaclyn Day and Jean-Martin Masse, family representatives of Hon. Richard Stanbury and Hon. Marcel Masse.*



*Family members and representatives.*



*The wreath.*



# Willie Littlechild brings Truth and Reconciliation to the AGM

By Scott Hitchcox

"And a little child shall lead them." Isaiah 11:6



Chief Willie Littlechild speaks at the CAFP Annual General Meeting. Photo by Harrison Lowman.

The CAFP Annual General Meeting featured Guest speaker, J. Wilton Littlechild, a former member of the House of Commons who represented the riding of Wetaskiwin, Alta. from 1988 to 1993. Chief Littlechild was introduced by the Hon. Sue Barnes under the playful moniker of the world's only "Honourable Doctor-Lawyer-Indian Chief", a

name given half in jest and half in awe of the breadth of expertise that would merit such a lengthy title.

Chief Littlechild spoke in the wake of the public release of the report compiled over the course of six years by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. The Commission, of which he had been one of the three commissioners, was a requirement of the

2007 Indian Residential Schools Settlement, the largest class action settlement in Canadian history. Its purpose: to unearth the horrors suffered by 150,000 Aboriginal children at the hands of residential schools. It collected 6,740 witness statements and 1,355 hours of recorded testimony. Residential schools were in operation across Canada from 1883 to 1996.



Himself a student and survivor of residential schools, Willie Littlechild (as he is known to his friends) lived in one of these institutions, starting at the age of six, for 10 months a year for 14 years of his life. Aerial photographs of Alberta's Ermineskin Indian Residential School reveal a fence encompassing the perimeter of the grounds. This fence was electric, a malicious measure used to keep children from running away from the school. This was one of 139 schools that the Commission and Chief Justice Beverley McLachlin have likened to sites of "cultural genocide."

Willie Littlechild's story became one of thousands chronicling a myriad of physical, mental, cultural, spiritual, and sexual abuses compiled from former students into a final public report. The report's summary alone spans six volumes that contain two million words.

Chief Littlechild was eventually able to discover a way out. He found relief from his terrors through sports and athletics and he was able to stay on track and get into university. Looking to further his hockey coaching career, he attended a National Hockey League School of Management, where, upon seeing the résumés of many of his competitors, he resolved to attend law school, becoming one of only five Aboriginal law students in Canada.

Despite these obstacles, he would go on to have a prestigious career in athletics, as an MP, with the United Nations and, finally, returning to his reserve to practice law. He helped develop the North American Indigenous Games, served as a torchbearer and ambassador in the 2010 Vancouver Olympics, and worked with the UN for over 30 years. In 2006, he was awarded CAF's Distinguished Service Award.

When approached to become a com-



*Students outside the Ermineskin Indian Residential School, which Chief Littlechild attended. Photo courtesy of the Engracia De Jesus Matias Archives and Special Collections.*

missioner for the Truth and Reconciliation, Chief Littlechild was initially skeptical. The role was a daunting one; the previous three to inhabit it had all resigned within a few months. Today, he says he's glad he answered the call.

"In retrospect, I feel it was such a great blessing for me," he says. "We were asked to search out the truth about what happens to children when you remove them from their families at six years old and put them in an institution for ten years, and what happens to the parents that are left behind after their children are taken away."

In this search for truth, Willie travelled coast to coast attending public hearings where he listened to the stories of thousands through speech. If the stories proved too painful, witnesses used other media such as poetry, theatre, or even dance. This process proved extremely difficult for Willie. "I heard my story day after day," he says a little emotionally. But the telling created an opportunity for closure for the thousands whose suffering had previously gone unheard.

According to Willie the purpose of the report is not to prompt vindication or sympathy, but to provide Canadians with a proper education on the topic of residential schools and then to find subsequent methods of healing and moving forward for all parties involved. Indeed, the truth re-

vealed by the commission fulfils only half of its mandate.

Chief Littlechild says the aftermath of residential schools, "...is not an Aboriginal problem, it is a Canadian problem, and it will take all of us to work together for reconciliation. We gather the truth in different ways, but now the challenge as of this week is beginning this path to resolution, in whatever forms that may take."

Indeed, it will be up to Canadians of all walks of life to educate themselves on the findings of this commission, and create some way of restoration.

After his speech, several members of CAF expressed their gratitude to Wilton Littlechild for his presence at the AGM. Former Association President Léo Duguay recounted his first meeting with him in perhaps the only arena more ruthless than politics: the realm of university hockey. When Léo Duguay's University of Manitoba Bisons met Willie Littlechild's University of Alberta Golden Bears, Léo was instructed during the opening faceoff to dump the puck into the corner and run the pursuing defenseman into the boards, as per the Bisons' typical physical style of play. This defenseman happened to be Willie Littlechild, and Léo likened the experience to, "the first time in my life that I ran into a piece of concrete."

"I've gotten a chance to watch your career for a long time," Léo exclaimed. "And that piece of concrete that you were physically, it's pretty clear that you are emotionally, mentally, and ethically. Canadians owe you a great deal."

All of CAF shares this gratitude, and hopes that the work of Wilton Littlechild and all others involved in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission will bear fruit to an era of healing amongst all Canadians, Aboriginal and otherwise.

# All good news at this year's AGM

Story by Scott Hitchcox



*Léo Duguay (left), Francis LeBlanc (right), with Maurice Harquail and Geoff Scott who received certificates of appreciation for their service to the Foundation Board.*

The Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians is happy to report another successful year. The Association maintains a steady level of membership, with 370 association members in good standing, and the promise of more members after the federal election this fall.

According to President Andy Mitchell, highlights of the last 12 months include a successful regional meeting held in Whitehorse, Yukon, and a study tour to Normandy that members took to commemorate of the 70th anniversary of D-Day.

CAFP also reported the success of its newest initiative, regional receptions held throughout the country. Events in Vancouver, Toronto and Montreal have attracted as many as 130 members, with more scheduled for the future.

This year, however, had its challenges for the Association. The annual

Douglas C. Frith Foundational Dinner, which has raised \$1.3 million for the Educational Foundation in the past decade, was initially postponed due to the attack on Parliament Hill.

Thankfully, due to the hard work of Association staff and the generous accommodations of the Chateau Laurier, the dinner was successfully held on March 31, with 300 representatives from Canadian businesses and public service, along with former and current MPs and senators in attendance.

The Association is also, in conjunction with the Library of Parliament, undertaking exit interviews with departing members of parliament, so as to acquire a better understanding of members' perceptions of their own personal contributions, as well as to get to understand some of the services they would like to see.

From a financial perspective, treasur-

er Marlene Catterall announced a clean bill of health from auditors, and thanks to the fundraiser organized under former president Léo Duguay for the Hon. Michael Wilson, a revenue stream that puts the Association in good financial standing now, a status that will likely continue for several years to come.

Finally, Educational Foundation President Gerry Weiner reported the success of youth engagement programs implemented by the Association, with the purpose of exposing students and teachers to an inside perspective on relevant political issues and institutions.

Partnerships with multiple organizations around the country, including CVIX, Elections Canada, and the Canada School of Public Service, have helped to propagate the CAFP brand and promote the Association's role as an educator and a builder of democracy in both Canada and abroad.





*Hon. Andy Mitchell (left) and Léo Duguay (right) present certificate of appreciation to outgoing Vice-President, Hon. Jean Bazin.*



*Hon. Marlene Catterall gives the financial report.*



*Above and below: Questions and comments during the AGM.*



*Sherrie and John Maloney and Ken Boshcoff.*



*Hon. Don Boudria and Brigit Langenhagen representing the European Former Members Association.*



*Below: Dinner in the Hall of Honour.*







*Former CAFPP Presidents from left to right: Hon. John Reid, Léo Duguay, Roland Comtois, Doug Rowland, Hon. Andy Mitchell, Bill Clarke.*



*Yvan Côté (left), Gilles Morin, representing the Ontario Association of Former Parliamentarians and Carole Thériault, representing Amicale des Anciens Parlementaires du Québec.*



*Zaida Nuñez, Madeleine Dalphond-Guiral and Osvaldo Nuñez.*



*Hon. Yoine and Elaine Goldstein.*





*Carol Thérberge, Hon. Andy Mitchell, Gilles Morin, Marlene Catterall, Brigit Langenhagen, Hon. Don Boudria, Mary Ann Boudria and Yvan Côté.*



*Johanne Gass, Sharon MacRoberts and Mel Gass attending the AGM from PEI.*



*Marlene Catterall, Hon. Andy Mitchell, Brigit Langenhagen of the European Parliamentarians, and the Rt. Hon. Jean Chrétien.*



*Hon. Sue Barnes and Madeleine Dalphond-Guiral with House of Commons security members. Back right: Peggy Bosc and Marc Bosc, Acting Clerk of the House of Commons at dinner in the Hall of Honour.*



*Mariette Mercier, Henri Tousignant, Yves Demers and Roland Comtois.*



*Hon. Walter McLean with family representatives.*



*Maurice Harquail, Rt. Hon. Jean Chrétien and Brenda Morrissey.*



*Left: Doug Rowland (centre) and family representatives.*



# AGM Policy Conference

Story by Scott Hitchcox, photos by Harrison Lowman



*Hon. Sue Barnes, Hon. Don Boudria, Barry Wilson and Jack Stilborn - Information Overload panel.*

The Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians partnered with the Library of Parliament for a joint conference on “Parliamentarians and Public Policy”. It was held within the Library and Archives Canada Building after the AGM.

According to chair and CAFPP president, the Hon. Andy Mitchell, the purpose of the conference was to provide former parliamentarians with a stage upon which to continue their contribution to public service.

The event was split into three panels lasting the course of the day, each focusing on a different aspect of public policy in relation to a parliamentarian’s career.

## **Policy-Relevant Knowledge**

The first panel focused on what kinds of information and analysis parliamentarians need to address complex policy issues. The speakers sought to shed some light on how parliamentarians should balance the input they receive from a large pool of resources.

Parliamentary Librarian, Sonia

L’Heureux, acted as the moderator of the first panel, which consisted of the Hon. Joe Jordan, the Hon. Ted Menzies, and President Andy Mitchell.

The speakers took a varied approach to the subject, with Joe Jordan advocating for MPs to focus on “policy relevant knowledge”, without being bogged down by action plans unlikely to lead to tangible results.

Ted Menzies expanded upon this idea, asserting that public policy is not pertinent only to those within the political field, but indeed to all businesses.

President Andy Mitchell recalled the steep learning curve he faced as a budding MP in 1993; one undoubtedly shared by all newcomers to the Hill.

“I was struck by two things: one, which is quite obvious, is how much I didn’t know,” he said. “But I think as important was the fact that I didn’t know how much I didn’t know.”

For Andy, experience allowed for the greatest understanding of the public policy process in Canadian government.

## **Citizen Engagement in Policy Making**

The second panel, moderated by Assistant Parliamentary Librarian, Catherine MacLeod focused on the integration of Internet-based technologies into parliamentarians’ repertoire. The speakers were assistant professor at the School of Public Policy and Administration at Carleton University, Dr. Amanda Clarke, our Editor-in-Chief, Dorothy Dobbie, and research analyst at Samara Canada, Laura Anthony.

Dorothy focused her presentation on the emergence of social media in political campaigns, with the campaign of newly elected Ontario Progressive Conservative leader Patrick Brown serving as the primary example. She urged parliamentarians to utilize tools on the Internet to better connect with constituents. “Patrick Browne sold 40,000 memberships with the aid of social media,” she said. “Take heed.”

Dr. Clarke advocated for the integration of political techniques into pre-ex-





*Hon. Joe Jordan, Hon. Ted Menzies, Sonia L'Heureux and Hon. Andy Mitchell - Policy-Relevant Knowledge Panel.*



*Laura Anthony, Dr. Amanda Clarke, Dorothy Dobbie and Catherine MacLeod - Engagement in Policy-Making Panel.*

isting online tools.

"Many Canadians aren't participating in public policy discussions...that doesn't change because you put it online," Clarke said. "When you want to get citizens involved, it might be that you actually have to ignore your motivation as an MP or as a member of a committee, and instead say, 'Okay, what are citizens already doing online, and can we show up for that conversation?'"

Anthony spoke about the work of Samara, a non-profit non-partisan advocacy group for citizen engagement. The group launched a research project to evaluate the effectiveness of MPs' websites. One suggestion for improvement was that MPs make room for sim-

ple policy discussions on their websites, allowing members to enter into an informative dialogue with their constituents.

Adapting to modern Internet tools is vital for parliamentarians to continue to provide those they are representing with the greatest amount of public service.

#### **Information Overload**

Jack Stilborn, member of the board of directors at the Canadian Study of Parliament Group, moderated the final panel, concerning how parliamentarians ought to manage massive amounts of information. The speakers were the Hon. Susan Barnes, the Hon. Don Boudria, and author and journalist Barry Wilson.

Sue Barnes focused her presentation on the practicalities of information overload. She emphasized prioritization, benchmarking, and evidence-based legislation. For Sue, trusting one's staff and recognizing one's limitations is key.

Don Boudria spoke from the perspective of a former cabinet member in the Chrétien government, where he learned from his party leader how to sift through information.

"If you gave a note to Jean Chrétien and it had more than one page it would be sent back to you," he said. "You walked into his office there were two or three pieces of paper, the rest of the desk was completely clean. He took the document on one page, made a decision, wrote a little note on the corner and put it aside for someone else to handle. He ran the country that way and I happen to think he did a rather good job of it."

Wilson capped the session off with some historical perspective, claiming that an overabundance of data is hardly a new development for parliamentarians. The largest impact of the Internet's information sources, Wilson argued, was access to endless and mostly irrelevant information chatter.

"In my view, too much of parliamentarians' modern information overload burden is really their inability to unplug themselves from the constant gossip, evolving but unconfirmed narratives, and innuendo that dominates so much of social media," he said.



# Halifax reception

Photos by Jennifer Nehme



*The Halifax City Hall.*



*The CAFP hosted a reception for Nova Scotia colleagues on June 25, 2015, with the Mayor of Halifax, Michael Savage in attendance at Halifax City Hall. Hon. Andy Mitchell with Michael Savage.*



*Michael Savage, Michelle Raymond and Jeremy Akerman.*



*Jim Smith and Hon. Stewart McInnes.*



*Derek Wells, Alison Wells and Carol Regan.*



*Peter Mancini and Maurice Smith.*



*Alexa McDonough and John Murphy.*



*Jane Earle, Alison Wells and Julia Murphy.*



# Montreal reception

Photos by Eric Bolte



*The CAFP hosted a reception on May 6, 2015, with the Mayor of Montreal, the Hon. Denis Coderre at City Hall.*



*Hon. Raymond Setlakwe, Hon. Denis Coderre, Gérard Binet, Diane St-Jacques and Hon. Lucienne Robillard. These receptions are a very good way for former parliamentarians to get re-acquainted with old friends and colleagues.*



*Elisabeth Nadeau, Hon. Denis Coderre and Hon. Pierre DeBané.*



*Hon. Jean Lapierre, Yolande Gauthier and Marcel Roy.*



*Hon. Yvon Charbonneau, Hon. Eleni Bakopanos, Ian Watson, Hon. Denis Coderre and Hon. Warren Allmand.*



*Hon. Monique Landry.*



*Nancy Gagnon and Pierre Paquette.*



*Hon. Michel Biron.*



*Hon. Pierre Vincent and Lise Bourgault.*



*Hon. Lucie Pépin, Hon. Denis Coderre and Hon. Francis Fox.*



# Postponed Douglas C. Frith Dinner held in March

Story by Scott Hitchcox, photos by Neil Valois Photography



*Presentation of an Honorary Membership to Kevin Vickers, Former Sergeant-at-Arms and Canada's Ambassador to Ireland by the Hon. Andy Mitchell.*

“Triumphs and Tribulations”—that was the title of guest speaker Steve Paikin’s, host of TVOntario’s *The Agenda*, speech at this year’s Douglas C. Frith Dinner, hosted at the Fairmont Château Laurier in March.

Held annually since 2005, the dinner raises funds for the association’s educational programs, designed to assist young Canadians in becoming powerful, politically active citizens.

Fittingly enough, this year there were indeed trials, certainly tragedy, and subsequent Canadian triumphs, that saw the dinner moved from its original scheduled date of October 22, 2014, to a new date over four months

later. The new date had an added event on the agenda - the induction of former sergeant-at-arms and current Canadian ambassador to Ireland Kevin Vickers as an honorary member of The Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians.

## Parliament’s Protector

Kevin Vickers was introduced before dinner when the Hon. Andy Mitchell, President of CAFPP, paid tribute to the heroics of the parliamentary security team; who for so long, he said, “...have allowed us to work in a safe and peaceful environment in freedom and without fear, even on a day that we were reminded just how precious and how vulnerable that is.”

Taking his place at the podium, Am-

bassador Vickers was greeted with thunderous applause, however, looking mildly uncomfortable with all the attention. Indeed, as he revealed, this newfound celebrity status had not been his goal when he bravely defended the nation’s capital from a lone gunman.

“This is not about me,” he said, “This is about a remarkable security team, a remarkable team of individuals that have dedicated their lives to protecting you, the staff, and all members who come to Parliament Hill. They’re my heroes. So I humbly accept this award, but I do so on behalf of our entire team.”

After guests had eaten their collective fill, the event’s guest speaker and host Steve Paikin took the stage.





*Steve Paikin, host of TVOntario's The Agenda, was the keynote speaker.*



*Hon. Jack Murta, Lyn Murta, Kevin Vickers and Liam Murta.*



*Hon. Ted Menzies with Kevin Vickers.*



*Doug Rowland, Donna Hilsinger and Peter Dobell, Honorary Member of CAFB.*



*Mary Dawson, Ethics Commissioner and Maureen Comartin.*



*Kevin Vickers and Léo Duguay.*



*Hon. Don Boudria.*



*Hon. Andy Mitchell with Steve Paikin.*



*Russell Williams, President RX&D.*

### **The Triumphs and Tribulations of Public Life**

As mentioned previously, Paikin educated the crowd about the "Triumphs and Tribulations of Public Life". He told stories of public servants past, taking a journalistic stance dissimilar to so many of his colleagues, who, the broadcaster said, "...spend so much time trying to find out what's awful about politics and politicians and report about that."

Paikin instead focused his journalistic lens on what it is that makes politics such an alluring life; looking at those

who respond to the siren's call due to an altruistic nature, a love of public policy, or even familial obligations. He's even written books on the subject.

More fascinating to Paikin, and more relevant to the former parliamentarians in the room, was the direction life can take after a politician's tenure in office.

Indeed, for every anecdote about a triumph - a politician who ended his or her career in the public sector and immediately became a hot commodity amongst corporate boards, there were stories of tribulation. Paikin spoke about former MPs that had difficulty

even finding a part-time job.

The overarching message of Paikin's speech rang true for all the current and former public servants in attendance. Mainly, that it has become too easy for politicians to become caricatured as absolutes- as winners or losers after each election.

In reality, Paikin said, "...the vast majority [are] just trying to make their postage stamp part of the world a little better, something they often pay a hell of a price for doing, and something that probably isn't a bad thing that we remember from time to time."



# Canada's champion

## The Hon. Jean Charest

By Harrison Lowman



*Hon. Jean Charest shares a laugh with his old boss, the Rt. Hon. Brian Mulroney. (Ryan Remiorz / The Canadian Press)*

**T**he Hon. Jean Charest is the only Canadian politician to have ever used his passport within Canada. He did not use the passport for travel however; instead, the former Quebec premier used it in a passionate fight to keep this country alive.

During the 1995 referendum, the then 37-year-old vice-chair of the National Committee of Quebecers for the “No” side could be seen brandishing his travel documents while giving speeches at federalist rallies.

It was the perfect prop, an exclamation point for statements about the embodiment of the provinces and territories as a single nation. A united Canada has been the headline of Jean Charest’s 28-year career in politics.

“The common theme of my political life is Canada. It boils down to that,” he explains. “And I think also the common thread has been my very strong belief in Canada, and the affection I have, and the love I have for my country. My own view that this country is



*Jean raises his Canadian passport before an audience in St-Joseph-de-Beauce during the 1995 referendum campaign. Photo courtesy of CBC.*

only whole with Quebec in it.”

If border checkpoints did exist between Canada’s provinces and territories, the first stamp Jean would have received would have read “Ottawa”.

### Journey to the Capital

In 1984, at the tender age of 26, Jean Charest became the Progressive Conservative MP for Sherbrooke, Que. Soon he was deputy speaker. Prime Minister Brian Mulroney then appointed the young civil liberties lawyer to Minister of State for Youth, making him the youngest cabinet minister in

Canadian history.

Jean says he can relate to the young politicians who found themselves in the House of Commons and the Legislative Assembly of Alberta recently. He adds that it takes a solid year to get your bearings. “But, we all have our first year,” he says. He says he believes that our government benefits from a diversity of ages and backgrounds. Sherbrooke’s current MP was elected at the age of 19.

In December of 1993, after various cabinet postings and the worst defeat a governing party had ever faced on the federal level, Jean became interim leader of the Progressive Conservative party, the first ever of Francophone descent. His caucus consisted of himself and Elsie Wayne, plus, thankfully for him, a full cadre of senators.

At the time, Jean says he was looking forward to building the party. But his time on the Hill as a party leader was short-lived. On April 3, 1998, he left to





*Hon. Jean Charest as Premier of Quebec. Photo by Yvan Tremblay.*

become the new leader of the Quebec Liberal Party. Jean says his departure was spurred by a demand for a federalist leader in Quebec to oppose then Quebec premier Lucien Bouchard's push for what looked like yet another referendum.

"I am responding to a call and, after listening to the people of Quebec, I decided...to listen to my heart," he told the Commons floor that day.

Many in the public viewed the decision as a setback for a promising federal career. Although he had not originally planned on it, he says this was the decision he was compelled to make.

"Sometimes these challenges are set in front of you and you're called upon to deal with them," he explains. In doing so, "Quebec" would have been the second stamp on Charest's passport.

#### **A difficult adjustment**

Jean's journey home would prove to be more difficult than he could have imagined. He had lived in *La belle* province his entire life and thought he was

well versed in the intricacy of Quebec society. He was wrong.

"It was tough, because I had lived in an environment where I was fairly popular. And all of the sudden I'm thrust into a place where there's a lot of people who dislike you by virtue of the ideas for what you represent," says Jean. "I had to relearn politics."

Opponents tested him relentlessly on the complex details of the Quebec government and its programs. The steep learning curve also included an element Jean had not come across in the rest of Canada – "exacerbated nationalism".

"Which means when your adversaries hate you they're very sincere about it," the former Quebec premier says.

Jean adds that because he was presented as a sort of federalist saviour, the Francophone press was initially very tough on him.

Following his first provincial campaign, in 1998, in which he became Leader of the Opposition, he promised himself that, by the next election,

there would be no one who better understood Quebec. "And that was exactly the case," he says. In 2003, Jean brought the Quebec Liberals to a majority government, ending nine years of Parti Quebecois rule. He brought Canada nine years of constitutional peace.

#### **Taking the temperature of separatism**

Taking the faceoff against the separatists – the very reason Jean returned home to Quebec – is a far less important position today than it once was.

According to the former Quebec premier, separatism has left mainstream Quebec politics. He says the most recent provincial election results demonstrate the population would rather move on to other things. It is the media, Jean notes, that continues to give it play.

He does however stress that we should never underestimate the resiliency of the movement. "The separatist movement is not dead; it will always be there," he warns.



On September 5, 2012, Jean Charest announced his resignation as leader of the Quebec Liberals. At that point, he says, there was no unfinished business.



*Jean and his wife Michèle Dionne. Wikipedia photo.*

### Respecting the land

Beyond being the one to wave the maple leaf flag in French Canada, Jean says he views his legacy as that of a man who had the utmost respect for the land we live on.

As federal Minister of the Environment, Jean led Canada's delegation to the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro. As Quebec's premier, he introduced the first carbon levy in North America.

He also created Plan Nord (Northern Plan), a major project meant to ensure the sustainable development of Northern Quebec, addressing energy development, mining, infrastructure, tourism, and conservation. Participants include Quebecers, Inuit and Cree.

He continues that mission today, taking the plan on an international tour, sharing it with influencers.

Plan Nord deals with 1.2 million sq. km of land above the 49th parallel. Under the new Quebec Liberal government, the initiative calls for the province to invest approximately \$1.3 billion in infrastructure and other projects, with the aim of attracting \$22 billion in private sector investment in the next five years. The region contains major untapped deposits of copper, iron ore, nickel, zinc, gold, uranium, cobalt, diamonds, and other minerals.

### Stepping away

In 2012, having been in power for an historic three consecutive terms, Canada's longest-serving premier lost an election to the PQ.

It came after massive student strikes in Montreal surrounding proposed post-secondary tuition hikes, and during the Charbonneau Commission, a public provincial inquiry into allegations of corruption in the Quebec construction industry.

On September 5, 2012, Jean Charest announced his resignation as leader of the Quebec Liberals. At that point, he says, there was no unfinished business.

Following the advice of friends, Jean waited six months before taking offers in the private sphere. The break gave him and his wife, Michèle Dionne, the chance to travel through Southeast Asia.

He now serves as a partner at the Montreal offices of law firm McCarthy Tétrault. The position allows him to traverse the globe as a strategic advisor that assists clients in navigating projects.

His first big file was negotiating an agreement for a Canadian mining company in Senegal.

A common French language gives Canadians a leg up when it comes to doing business in the former French colonies of West Africa.

Jean is also on the board of the com-

munications firm, Publicis Groupe, and he does consulting work with Cavalia.

While Jean was happy to bid adieu to the partisanship and parties of politics (though he still confesses he is a fiscal conservative), what he truly misses are the people who populated the most intense 28 years of his life.

"The great secret of political life is the intensity of the relationships we have with the people around us," he says. "There are few places that offer that level of intensity. We go to war together, we battle together, we win and we lose and we lick our wounds."

What the 57-year-old missed most while he was in office was the unified country he worked to save. While he was premier of Quebec, Jean rarely travelled outside the province to see the rest of Canada.

The same Quebec press that hounded him in those early years, would have jumped on the opportunity to show him looking happy outside the borders of Quebec's distinct society, he says. Jean says travelling would have raised the suspicion he might go elsewhere.

He now has the chance to travel freely across the country he helped save. Today, if checkpoints did exist between Canada's regions, Jean's passport would have stamps from all 10 provinces and three territories.



# Former MP was Victoria Cross winner

By Harrison Lowman

Only one man can be said to have fought in both the House of Commons and on the true battlefield. His name was Lieutenant-Colonel Cyrus Wesley Peck, VC, DSO and Bar. Peck remains the only sitting member of Parliament in the British Commonwealth to be awarded the Victoria Cross. He was given this honour during the First World War, which broke out exactly a century ago.

## A New Brunswick boy, a B.C. man

Peck was born on April 26, 1871 in Hopewell Hill, New Brunswick. At the age of 16, his family moved to New Westminster, B.C., and then to Skeena. In order to make a living, Peck found work prospecting in the Klondike, helping to establish a salmon canning facility, and working in insurance and real estate.

When Canada was called to war, Peck, who had previously served in the militia, enlisted in the 30th Infantry Battalion of the Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF), and received a commission as major. He and his men were deployed to England in February of 1915. While in the United Kingdom, his company was drafted into the Canadian Scottish's 16th Battalion, CEF. In November 1916, it was decided that he would command the unit.

## A fearless leader

On the true battlefield, Peck quickly developed a reputation of fearlessness in the face of death. He was awarded a Distinguished Service Order for his brave actions at Vimy Ridge in April 1917. He was given a second DSO in August 1918.

As one of his contemporaries noted, "Accompanied by his piper, he always went forward with the battalion in the attack, and sometimes, contrary to reporters, ahead of the team."

In 1917, Peck was rewarded by his constituents in Skeena, who elected him as their member of Parliament while he was still overseas. During the election, the Unionist Peck declared himself an, "independent soldier of Canada for the federal riding of Skeena." He did not take his seat in the House of Commons until March, 1919.

## Earning the Victoria Cross:

Peck's highest honour was received following the extraordinary leadership he displayed on September 2, 1918, on the Drocourt-Quéant Line near Cagnicourt,



Lieutenant-Colonel Cyrus Wesley Peck. Photo courtesy of The Canadian War Museum.



The medals of Lieutenant-Colonel Cyrus Wesley Peck, VC, DSO and Bar. Photo by Harrison Lowman.

France.

His battalion was pinned down under intense German machine-gun fire. In order to ensure their advance, Lieutenant-Colonel Peck completed a reconnaissance of the enemy position under continuous machine-gun and sniper fire. Returning to his men, he restructured the battalion so they could meet German forces head on, while still protecting his flanks, under a heavy rain of bullets. Peck again stepped out into intense artillery and machine-gun fire to locate friendly tanks and direct them towards the enemy. His fearlessness eventually allowed another Canadian Infantry battalion to push forward, while he provided them with support.

"His magnificent display of courage and fine qualities of leadership enabled the advance to be continued, although always under heavy artillery and machine-gun fire, and contributed largely to the success of the brigade attack," reads his citation. Peck was granted one of 73 Victoria Crosses awarded to Canadians in the First World War.

The Victoria Cross is the highest military decoration in the British Empire and the Commonwealth. It is awarded for valour "in the face of the enemy." In 1993, a unique Canadian Victoria Cross was created. Recipients of both awards often receive it posthumously.

## When the guns fell silent

Peck did not emerge from the First World War unscathed. He was injured on two occasions: once when he was shot through the thighs and again when he

inhaled poison gas. This did not faze the warrior politician however. He offered his services again in the Second World War. He was kindly turned down.

In 1921, he ran as a Conservative federally and lost. In 1924, Peck was elected to the Legislative Assembly of B.C. He was re-elected in 1928. Today, a plaque dedicated to Peck sits within the House of Commons.

He passed away on September 27, 1956, in Sydney, B.C. The Canadian Scottish still exists today as one of the primary reserve regiments of the Canadian Forces. Peck's son can attest to the fact that his troops revered him until the end.

"His son said that he was one of the rarest of human beings," explained former MP the Hon. Tony Abbott, who met with Edward Peck who was in his nineties. "That Cy Peck was absolutely fearless, he feared nothing."

"Who better to represent the ideals of public service than Lieutenant-Colonel Peck?" asked Eric Fernberg, arms and technology collections specialist at the Canadian War Museum.

As someone who served his country on two fronts, Fernberg may have found his man.

Former parliamentarians had the chance to hear Peck's story and view his medals during an event at this year's AGM. This occasion was organized by the Hon. Tony Abbott, Eric Fernberg, arms and technology collections specialist at the Canadian War Museum, CAF executive director Jack Silverstone, and former CAF president, Doug Rowland.



# Vancouver reception

Photos by Susan Simms



*The Vancouver reception took place on September 17, 2014, following the Yukon Regional meeting, at the Vancouver Lawn Tennis & Badminton Club. Thanks to our organizers, the Hon. Mary Collins, Bill Clarke and Ian Waddell.*



*Hon. Mary Collins, Hon. Stockwell Day and Marlene Catterall.*



*Val Day, Dawn Black and Lynn Hunter.*



*Hon. Andy Mitchell and Sophia Leung.*



*Ian Waddell, Lynn Hunter, Hon. Roger Simmons and Dawn Black.*



*Michael Kruger, Ian Waddell, Blaine Culling and Jack Silverstone.*



*Hon. Andy Mitchell, Hon. Mary Collins, Hon. Roger Simmons and Hon. David Collenette.*





Dorothy Dobbie

# Social media has the power to change everything in politics

## But are politicians ready for it?

Although the recent election has under-employed social and digital media, change is inevitable. The ultimate winners will be those who learn how to utilize these channels effectively.

**T**his spring, Canadians were surprised to learn that Patrick Brown, a little known backbench MP from Ontario, had scooped the leadership of the Ontario Progressive Conservative party out from under the nose of Jim Flaherty's widow, Christine Elliott, who had been largely expected to win.

Almost everyone was surprised, except former CAF president, Léo Duguay. Léo was sitting with Patrick in Air Canada's Maple Leaf Lounge in Ottawa when he introduced him to me as the next leader of the Ontario PC party. Patrick was the numerical winner, said Léo.

I learned that he had sold over 40,000 memberships in the Ontario P.C. party, much of them through social media. I don't know the details of Patrick's campaign, but I have heard rumours about how he did it; first he connected with a wide variety of ethnic groups, making contacts, collecting data and broadening his social network. In practical terms, he attended every event he could and met people, kept lists and stayed in touch.

Then, most importantly, using a variety of Internet tools such as Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn, he kept his new friends engaged – and in a very personal way. One former senator, who had planned to vote for his friend Christine, ended up being

persuaded to vote for Patrick. "He contacted me at least five times," the former senator said.

Given Patrick Brown's remarkable success, it has come as a surprise to see how little the parties have actually taken advantage of this amazing new media this election. We see causal tweets and some Facebook action (largely by party militants who have circulated a variety of material dissing the opponents of their favourite candidate), but I personally have not been drawn into anyone's campaign online – and I keep an active watch.

There are exceptions to this. One has been Allie Szarkiewicz, Conservative candidate in the anti-Tory riding of Winnipeg Centre. She used expert help to get her name out and ahead of the competition. Google ads were employed to ensure that anyone looking for political or election information in the geographic vicinity of her riding would come up with her name and a link to her website. After just four days of activities, her site had about 1,000 hits. It is an effective way to engage interested people when you have a small budget and a shortage of volunteers.

### Choosing your targets

There are many other tools that can be called into action on the Internet. If you know the audience you want, you can call up the age, habits, preferences, geographic parameters

and various demographics of current communities. You can also create communities of like interests, and all for free, or for a reasonably small sum of money.

You can aggressively pursue this audience, personalizing your contacts and making the message very intimate.

Nor do you have to be particularly technical to do any of these things. All the instructions are easily found on the Internet and they will walk you through what you need, step-by-step. This leaves campaigns money to spend on good political analysts and communicators, who understand how to spin the messages. However, the wise campaigner will use an expert to make it all happen, to be sure that the job is done effectively.

Political people find it hard to change and change comes slowly and with much anguish, but clearly change must be faced squarely. Face-to-face encounters at the door during elections are becoming scarcer – people are either not at home or unwilling to answer the doorbell. Any intimate contact is much more likely to happen digitally, if at all, today.

The winners will ultimately be those who adapt quickly and learn how to use the technology in a proactive, positive way.

Dorothy Dobbie was a Progressive Conservative MP from 1988 to 1993.



# Magna Carta tours Canada

## 800 years and its place in history

By Harrison Lowman

The bog. Lily pads sit atop still waters, reeds peak out of grimy depths. It is difficult to imagine that what some have described as the “greatest constitutional document of all time”, the “foundation of democracy” was born in a meadow near this soggy place in June of 1215. But it was. This is Runnymede. And this is where Magna Carta, was sealed exactly 800 years ago.

The “Great Charter” is making the rounds on its 800th birthday. As part of the celebration, it has made the long voyage across the pond. The Durham Cathedral 1300 copy of Magna Carta arrived in Canada earlier this year, and is making appearances across a country that was inspired by its words.

### Time for change

In the early 1200s, the tyrannical King John of England managed to alienate almost every one of his subjects. The monarch had a reputation for arbitrary rule and brutal, capricious punishments. He is recorded as having murdered his own nephew, having sexually abused the wives and daughters of his nobles, and having starved to death the wife and children of one of his former friends. It is no coincidence that no English king has taken the name “John” since.

By 1215, his friends were few. Pope Innocent III had excommunicated him from the Catholic Church in 1209 after he refused to accept his nomination for the Archbishop of Canterbury. His barons were gravely concerned by John’s military foibles. He had lost much of the Anglo-French empire he had inherited to Philip II of France. Previous kings



*King John meets with his barons at Runnymede to agree to Magna Carta. Photo by Alamy.*

had made assurances to their subjects in coronation charters. King John regularly violated these customs.

In order to guarantee their titles, lands and sources of revenue, the barons decided it was time to stand up against John’s arbitrary misuse of power. They captured London and began “contract” negotiations. The tenets of Magna Carta would redefine the relationship between the monarch and his subjects, and lay the groundwork for governments and legal systems around the world.

“In Magna Carta itself we see the origins of the common law system that’s used throughout the English speaking world, and we also see the beginnings of the development of the parliamentary system,” says Carolyn Harris, author of *Magna Carta and its Gifts to Canada*. She is a historian who teaches at the University of Toronto’s School of Continuing Studies.

### A short life span

Magna Carta was destined to die in infancy. It is likely that the document’s founders could never have imagined the seminal status their work would receive centuries later. For

King John, the agreement was merely a practical solution to the political problem of the day, a peace treaty to avoid war.

“As soon as John had affixed his seal to the document, he was already looking for ways to break his oath,” says Harris.

Magna Carta, in its original form, lasted merely three months. After placing his seal on the document, John won the favour of the Church by declaring his kingdom a

papal fiefdom. In return, the Church found Magna Carta to be illegitimate, viewing it as having been exacted by force. Meanwhile, the rebel barons declared war on the King for his renunciation of the agreement, kicking off the First Baron’s War.

The ideas enshrined in this Charter of Liberties might have been lost if it was not for the further excesses of King John. In October of 1216, the monarch tried to cure himself of a fever by overindulging in peaches and cider. He quickly died of dysentery. Shakespeare is said to have believed that the monks who made the cider poisoned him.

The slow ascension to the throne of John’s nine-year-old son Henry, gave the barons the chance to entrench Magna Carta. When Henry III was of age, he was encouraged to reissue the document to regain the support of the barons.

### The significant bits

While the administrative clauses of the original 1215 Magna Carta (rules for the placement of fish traps on the Thames, the release of Welsh and Scottish hostages...etc.) quickly faded to black, its timeless clauses lived



## Clauses 39-40:



*The Durham Cathedral 1300 copy of Magna Carta on display in Canada. Photo courtesy of CBC*

"No Freeman shall be taken or imprisoned, or be disseised [dispossessed] of his Freehold, or Liberties, or free Customs, or be outlawed, or exiled, or any other wise destroyed; nor will We not pass upon him, nor condemn him, but by lawful judgment of his Peers, or by the Law of the Land. We will sell to no man, we will not deny or defer to any man either Justice or Right."

on; specifically clauses 39 and 40.

"That central part of the document that guarantees freedom from arbitrary punishments, and trial by peers, and that justice will not be denied or delayed," says Harris. "These are the clauses that have resonated throughout the ages."

These clauses were incrementally improved upon over the course of centuries. The original document spoke merely of "Freemen" (the aristocracy), ignoring the vast numbers of serfs bound to their masters. Following the breakdown of the feudal system after the Black Death claimed 30 to 50 per cent of England's population in the 14th century, the clauses were expanded to include men of any station.

"So it's important when looking from 1215 to today to not simply look at the 1215 Magna Carta, but at the series of documents over the past eight centuries that Magna Carta inspired and informed as this very rich political and legal tradition," asserts Harris.

Harris says the Six Statutes, the Petition of Right, the British Bill of Rights 1689, France's Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen, The United Nations Declaration of Human Rights, are all rooted firmly in Magna Carta.

### An American Obsession

Another document inspired by Magna Carta is the one established by those who chose to break with the British and forge their own path; The American Constitution.

In August of last year, United

States Supreme Court Chief Justice John Roberts remarked, "Our American experiment has not reached a third of the age of Magna Carta, but we have given Magna Carta's core concepts concrete meaning...in our constitutional framework."

The United States' obsession with Magna Carta is visibly evident. Its words are echoed in the American Bill of Rights. The towering bronze doors of the Supreme Court feature a carving of the sealing of the document at Runnymede. In fact, the Runnymede memorial was funded by the American Bar Association.

"I would say Magna Carta has achieved totemic status in the United States," Harris explains.

According to the historian, this interest can be traced back to the 13 colonies, during the lead up to American Revolution. Jurist and politician Sir Edward Coke, who argued in his writing that freedom from arbitrary rule included freedom from arbitrary taxation, revived the document.

Soon, the colonists quoted Magna Carta to the British Parliament, just as British parliamentarians in the 17th century quoted it to their king. However, while the British saw Magna Carta as a promise of parliamentary supremacy, the Americans saw it as a document that superseded both Crown and Parliament.

### Canadian Connections:

Canadians generally view Magna Carta as a far more symbolic document that began a process of constitutional, political, and legal reform, rather than one of literal meanings.

According to Harris, our interpretation of The Great Charter informed our choice of a constitutional monarchy form of government, our common law system, and our Constitution, with its now entrenched rights and freedoms.

"I would also argue if you compare Magna Carta and the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, there are a number of parallels. Mobility rights, for example, the right to leave and enter the country as a citizen, justice shall not be delayed or denied, and due process, and freedom from arbitrary rule," she says.

Much like how the organisms that would eventually become humans emerged from the water's edge, so too did the document that built our way of life- Magna Carta, the greatest bargain ever struck.

*The exhibit MAGNA CARTA: Law, Liberty and Legacy, featuring one copy 1,300 exemplars of Magna Carta and the Charter of the Forest sealed by Edward I, from Durham Cathedral, is currently touring Canada. Sponsored by Magna Carta Canada, it was in Winnipeg at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights from August 15 to September 18; in Toronto at the Fort York National Historic Site from October 4 to November 7; and in Edmonton at the Legislative Assembly of Alberta Visitor Centre from November 23 to December 29. Historian Carolyn Harris will be touring alongside the document with her book Magna Carta and its Gifts to Canada. You can visit [magcartacanada.ca](http://magcartacanada.ca) for details.*



# Former MP takes on leadership of Alberta's Wildrose Party

By Hayley Chazan

**“W**hat you do for yourself dies with you, but what you do for others remains and is immortal.”

Those words lay handwritten in a post-it note next to 24-year-old Michael Jean's bedside, just prior to his passing.

Much like his father, Brian Jean, Alberta Wildrose leader and former Fort McMurray-Athabasca Conservative member of Parliament, Michael believed in the importance of public service and helping others. He passed away in March, following eight months of fighting an undiagnosed illness, fuelling his father's initial decision to get into provincial politics.

Brian Jean, a lawyer and businessman, was first motivated to seek elected office in 2006 because of his desire to make a difference.

“I saw what was going on in Ottawa and at least my perception was that they were out of touch with Albertans,” he says. “I thought that somebody could do better, and thought I could do some good.”

Influenced by his parents, Brian Jean learned the value of hard work from a young age. At the age of six, he was already doing janitorial work and delivering papers for The McMurray Courier, a newspaper his parents worked for in Fort McMurray. By the time he was 10 years old, he was able to independently operate a printing press and do basic bookkeeping and accounting. Jean's entrepreneurial upbringing paid off. After a successful career, he retired at the age of 40, devoting himself completely to public life.

After serving as a federal MP in Stephen Harper's government, including a stint as Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Transport, Jean resigned his seat in 2014 and returned



*Derek Fildebrandt (left) and Brian Jean (right). Photo courtesy of the Wildrose Party of Alberta.*

to Alberta to spend more time with his family.

A long-time Alberta Progressive Conservative supporter, Jean became disillusioned with the provincial Tories' rapid expansion of the oil sands. While he toyed with the idea of running for the Wildrose Alliance Party of Canada back in 2014, he ultimately decided to support then PC leadership candidate and future Alberta Premier Jim Prentice, who he viewed as a better choice to lead Alberta than Wildrose leader Danielle Smith.

## Planting Wildrose seeds

However, after Smith led a mass defection of nine Wildrose MLAs to the PC caucus in December, leaving the Wildrose Party in disarray and without a leader, Jean was encouraged to step up to the plate.

Running for the leadership was a difficult decision for Jean, especially with his son in and out of hospital. He soon admitted that one of the reasons he wanted to become a provincial politician was because of what he witnessed first-hand in the health care system. Jean saw an opportunity and he took it.

“He decided to run for the Wildrose leadership during the darkest days of the party, when the entire political class and punditocracy had written us off

for dead,” recalls Derek Fildebrandt, Wildrose MLA for Strathmore-Brooks and current shadow finance minister. “He did it because he believes in Alberta and did not believe that the easy path – joining the PCs – was the best path forward for conservatives.”

When Jean's son Michael passed away with just one week remaining in the leadership race, Fildebrandt filled in for him on the campaign trail, replacing him at speaking engagements in order to keep the momentum going.

Fildebrandt says normally you smile and try to be cheerful when you are campaigning for yourself or for someone else, but given the circumstances it was impossible. He says that like all Wildrosers, between the leadership race in December and the general election in May, they just had to keep a stiff upper lip.

Fildebrandt adds that it took tremendous courage for Jean to stay in the leadership race.

“It would have been entirely reasonable for him to have dropped out, and everyone would have understood,” he says. “But he understood that the party and Alberta needed him.”

Fildebrandt says that in those dark days in March, when there was no rest in sight, they knew Prentice would break the fixed election date and call an election within days of the leadership race's conclusion.

Fildebrandt says he believes Jean was the right leader to take the party through this difficult period and move it forward past election day.

He says that Jean showed incredible strength by pushing on.

“The only thing that he likes talking about more than politics is his family,” he says. “It might sound corny and canned, but I believe that he does it for them.”

# Prayer breakfast still strong after 50 years

By Scott Hitchcox

For the 50th consecutive year, excepting a forced cancellation due to the 1968 federal election, Ottawa held the National Prayer Breakfast, continuing its status as the longest-running annual event on Parliament Hill.

Held on April 21, this year's gathering was hosted under the theme "50 Years of Making a Difference" and was chaired by MP Bob Zimmer. It was attended by an audience of nearly 1,200 guests, including Governor General David Johnston, Speaker of the House of Commons The Hon. Andrew Scheer, now deceased Speaker of the Senate The Hon. Pierre Claude Nolin, MPs from various parties, government officials, and Christian leaders.

Dr. Kent Brantly served as this year's keynote speaker at the gathering's Leadership Dinner. Brantly works as a medical missions advisor for Samaritan's Purse, a Christian humanitarian organization.

In 2014, while working at a medical mission in Liberia, Brantly became the first American to contract Ebola, and subsequently be treated and cured of the disease. Brantly implored guests to, "Love your neighbour as yourself." The next morning, Dr. Ravi Zacharias spoke at length of what it means to be human in a faith-based context. This annual gathering serves as an opportunity for those from Canada and other walks of life to come together in a setting of faith.

## Meeting around the table

While the annual event garners the most attention, the Prayer Breakfast has another component, equal in age and importance- a weekly congregation held amongst some members of parliament, where breakfast is also served. The purpose of these weekly meetings, said former Executive Director and current CAFP member Jack Murta, is, "For members of parliament to get to know and understand each other better."

This is done in a strictly non-politi-



Governor General David Johnston. Photo courtesy of The National Prayer Breakfast.

cal, non-partisan forum, with the expectation that MPs, "leave their label at the door, and get one hour to be themselves, with no pretences and no outsiders, so you can be honest and upfront and get to know your colleagues," said Murta. He added that the ultimate goal is to forge intimate personal relationships amongst politicians, which will eventually lead to better legislation.

Since 2004, Murta has played an integral role in the organization and implementation of both the Annual Breakfast and the smaller weekly meetings. Each Wednesday morning, from 7 a.m. to 8 a.m., in one of the restaurants in Centre Block, Murta acts as a mediator of sorts for the meetings, ensuring that discussion remains personal not political, a daunting task especially in cases when the gathering follows on the heels of a particularly contentious issue in Parliament. Each week, an MP is asked to speak for 10 to 15 minutes, which spurs a free-flowing conversation amongst attendees that soon become friends. Though inevitably by 9:30 a.m. they will once again fill their roles as politicians.

Before he was a conciliator, Murta was an attendee himself. The former

parliamentarian was first exposed to the breakfast in 1975, five years into a lengthy political career. Growing weary of the treadmill he seemed to be running on in politics, he attended with a friend, and from then on his participation grew. After a 16-year hiatus from the political world, in 2004 Murta was again, as he said, "feeling the need for something that might have a bit more meaning. And the Prayer Breakfast I felt would be a good way to make a contribution, to give back, and to help others."

## With open arms:

Although the National Prayer Breakfast is grounded in Christian ideology, it welcomes subscribers of all variations of religious and spiritual faiths. The event's website, professes that the breakfast is, "Christ-centered but not just a Christian event. It does not seek to convert people to Christianity."

Rather, they say the goal is to reach out to political opponents and various theologically based groups.

"Reaching out with respect and love to people from different faith groups," explained Murta.

Regardless of the religious medium it inhabits, Murta said he believes that the prevailing message of all the events relating to the National Prayer Breakfast can be distilled down to politicians and people seeking an answer to the question.

That question being, "How do we, in our lives, act out the golden rule for others? How can we, as politicians and as people, seek to do unto others as we would have them do unto us?"

This answer is not easily found in a dynamic world, but the mere duration of the National Prayer Breakfast, as both a large annual event and a small weekly forum, is indicative of the impact that it has, and is testimony to the fact that it is indeed serving a need. For devout Christians, and observers of all faiths, the breakfast seeks to bring people together under this message of mutual respect and camaraderie.



# Staying in touch

By Hayley Chazan, Scott Hitchcox and Harrison Lowman

**Hon. Anne McLellan**  
(Liberal MP, 1993-2006)

**Q. What are some of your responsibilities as the new Chancellor for Dalhousie University?**

Being chancellor of a Canadian university is largely a ceremonial role. But of course, the most important thing I do is confer degrees on all the students who have met their program requirements. And then, I shake every hand of every student who comes to the actual convocation. I have the opportunity to look them in the eye and wish them the best of the luck in the rest of their lives. It's a happy time and an important milestone. And whether they go on to further study or enter the job market, it's a moment for them of completion, but it's also a time of new beginnings.

**Q. How important is higher education to you?**

Education, in my personal story, was crucial. I was born on a farm in rural Nova Scotia. I started my undergraduate degree at Dalhousie in the late 60s, which was a time of all kinds of social change, not only in Canada but around the world. The role of women, expectations around what women could do, were changing radically at that time.

I think that when you look around the world today, and when you look at international development strategies to help people in emerging economies, it's all about educating one's population. The education I received at Dalhousie was part of the foundation on which the rest of my life has been built. Education plays that role for most people. **Q. What initiatives do you hope to bring forward at Dalhousie?**

Dalhousie will be celebrating its 200th anniversary in 2018. The president and I have begun general discussions about what I can contribute in the lead up. Obviously, we know that we need to work more on attracting Aboriginal and Indigenous Black Nova Scotian students

to Dalhousie. Whatever I do, it will be student focused in some way.

**Q. How are you using your political past to guide you in this new position?**

Politics should be a people-oriented profession. And I think in politics, to be truly successful and make a difference you have to listen to the people you're elected to represent. You have to understand their aspirations and their challenges. I think, in the role of chancellor, those attributes are also important. Politics should help you be an active listener; empathetic and understanding of both the opportunities and the challenges that face others.

**Q. What do you hope to bring to the position?**

I hope to share my belief in the power of education with others who dream of receiving a post-secondary education. I hope to encourage them to pursue that dream.

**Q. What do you do in your spare time?**

I don't have a lot of spare time! But I love to travel with friends and spend time with my grandchildren. I am also the owner of an 11-year-old Clumber Spaniel named Emma. I have a regular trainer and I'm part of a running/walking group. I like to stay active, but also enjoy on a summer afternoon just sitting on the deck and quietly reading.

**Q. If you could give one piece of advice to young graduates, what would it be?**

I live by one simple rule: what goes around comes around. I think if people remember that, life will be more fulfilling and easier. It's about how you treat people, regardless of where you are in your life at a given time. People leave your life and they re-enter your life, and you don't know when this will happen. Treat people with respect.



*The Hon. Anne McLellan.  
Photo courtesy Dany Abriel.*

**Madeleine Dalphond-Guiral**  
(Bloc Québécois MP, 1993-2004)

*\*Note: these answers have been translated from French.*

**Q. What have you been up to since your time as a member of Parliament?**

One of my main objectives has been to become a more involved grandmother and get to know my grandchildren better. When I left politics, I got involved in the Société Littéraire de Laval, a cultural organization founded in 1985. I have been the society's vice president for almost 10 years, during which I've had the privilege of hosting numerous literary cafés and meeting some 50 authors from Quebec, France, and Haiti. I also served on the board of the Association québécoise pour le droit de mourir dans la dignité (AQDMD). The work of this provincial association for the right to die with dignity led to the adoption of the Act Respecting end-of-life care by the Quebec National Assembly and, more recently, the Supreme Court of Canada ruling in Carter v. Canada, the case launched by Kay Carter and Gloria Taylor.



*Madeleine Dalphond-Guiral.*

In my spare time, I enjoy attending the theatre, movies, concerts, and eating good food.

**Q. Do you still have strong connections with the riding you represented as a member of Parliament (Laval Centre)?**

*Où, bien sur!* Unfortunately, the riding no longer exists as it was redistributed between the ridings of Laval and Marc-Aurèle-Fortin in 2004. But I remain very involved with my community. I am connected with some of the constituents, and I try to help and contribute wherever I can.

**Q. What was your proudest accomplishment as a Member of Parliament?**

I was very honoured to have intro-

Sig Enns is still going strong at 91. Elected in 1962, he remembers the Diefenbaker, Pearson, Trudeau years and when the Canada Pension Plan came into being. . .

duced Motion M-380, to acknowledge the Armenian genocide, and to witness its adoption. I was very passionate about this cause, and when the motion passed in 2004, I was deeply moved. This meant that the Canadian government officially acknowledged Turkey's responsibility for the events of 1915 and the irreparable and unjustifiable human rights violation suffered by the Armenian people.

**Q. What do you think are the most important roles of the Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians?**

The Association has an important responsibility when it comes to promoting democracy. However, I believe that the Association should be galvanizing its efforts by encouraging CAFP members to discuss major social issues such as end of life care, gun control, Canada's involvement in international conflicts, and the emergence of religious fanaticism; and to share their ideas with the public.

**Siegfried "Sig" Enns**

**(Progressive Conservative MP, 1962-1968. He is 91 years old)**

**Q. What brought you into politics?**

In my mid-thirties I got to be executive director of the Children's Aid Society of Central Manitoba, a big area, which actually became my future riding. We'd have foster parents looking at foster kids. I was sort of known as a good guy, I wasn't selling bad used cars to anybody. I joined the Rotary Club, I was elected to the school board in Portage la Prairie, Manitoba.

And then when we moved from Winnipeg to take this new job in Portage, what does a person do? They look for a house to live for the family right? I didn't know anybody in Portage. I rent my house and it just so happens to be next to the sitting member of Parliament Dr. Fairfield (Progressive Conservative MP, 1957-1962). And the president of the Conservative Association lived across the street, and his kids and our kids were about the same age so we got to be good friends. And when the sitting member said, "No I'm not going to

run again," Well they said, "Why don't you run Sig?". Just like that, I had no ambitions of becoming a politician. In fact, I don't think I am a politician at all.

**Q. What was like becoming an MP?**

That was 1962. That was my first election, when Mr. Diefenbaker won with a minority in June. Having worked with Children's Aid, and always telling to foster parents how they need to include the foster children as part of the family, I figured well ok if I'm now going to live in Ottawa for four years, I'll move the family to Ottawa.

And in February, Diefenbaker gets defeated on a nuclear warhead issue. So I thought I'd have four years and I got eight months! I'm out of a job!

So then I get persuaded to run again in '63, and then Pearson comes in with a minority, and all the pundits say, "Well that's not gonna last either." And sure enough he gets persuaded to try for a majority, and I get elected for the third time in '65. In the centennial year, that is 1967, I chaired the Parliamentary Prayer Breakfast here in Ottawa.

But then Trudeau replaces Pearson, Stanfield replaces Diefenbaker. And then Trudeau calls an election in 1968. And that was my fourth federal election in seven years, and I got defeated by the equivalent of one vote per poll; about 400 votes.

**Q. What did you focus on while you were in the House?**

For example, we did divorce legislation. Up until then, infidelity was the only reason you could have a divorce. And now you can say marriage breakdown, mental illness...etc. So that was bill that was widely discussed and some opposition to it. I was able to contribute to that discussion.

The Canada Pension Plan also came into being, which I fully supported.

And Mr. Trudeau was still Justice Minister then; we had some exchanges in the House.

And so while we had only minority governments in those years that I served, significant things were done. We got a new flag, The Order of Canada was established, and the Columbia River Treaty in the U.S. and B.C. was signed by Pearson and Kennedy.

**Q. So what did you do afterwards?**

I joined a senior position in the provincial department of health and social services. And then I retired as a CEO of Winnipeg's Concordia Hospital in 1991.

This for me was a very good way to end a career; working with people that were educated, skilled and well qualified.

Earlier, I had become a member of the Vanier Institute of the Family as well as the National Council of Welfare. I was also appointed, for some reason, to be a lay public member of the Committee on Accreditation of Canadian Medical Schools for three years. There were the deans of the medical faculty, and here I am sitting as a social worker!

I was also chairman of the Manitoba Human Rights Commission. And as a commissioner I attended an international convention on human rights at the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland.

But then my wife got to be very ill and I finally had to leave all that. My wife died about four years ago after about 15 years in a wheelchair.

**Q. What comes to mind when you look back at your time in Parliament?**

I will treasure forever my chance of being in the House. I was born in the Ukraine. I was a kid born after the Russian Revolution in 1924. Many immigrants were expected to live the first five years on the farm; not to take away jobs from Canadians. So we started on the farm. And for that young kid to be able to claim a seat in the Canadian House of Commons is filled with a tremendous sense of satisfaction for me.

*Interviews have been edited for length.*



*Sig Enns.*



# Former B.C. Premier honoured with Wallenberg-Sugihara Civil Courage Medal

By Hayley Chazan

**U**jjal Dosanjh has never been afraid to stand up for his beliefs. Advocating for human rights was always important to the former B.C. premier and federal cabinet minister, who was awarded the Wallenberg-Sugihara Civil Courage (WSCC) Award earlier this year for his bravery in speaking out against Sikh extremism.

Dosanjh was born in India and grew up in the aftermath of the Indian independence movement. Inspired by members of his own family who spent years in British jails fighting for Indian independence, Dosanjh was a pacifist who was raised to stand up for freedom and fight for democracy.

Dosanjh explained that in the 80s, there was a movement to carve a little state out of India's Punjab region called Khalistan. It was a state imagined by the separatists, Dosanjh said.

In order to fight the separatists, the Indian Army attacked the Golden Temple in Punjab in the mid-1980s, in an attempt to flush out the extremists. As a result, a lot of anger surfaced in both India and abroad and people started becoming violent towards those who disagreed with them, all in the name of Khalistan.

In the 1980s while running for the provincial NDP leadership, Dosanjh regularly made use of his political platform to speak out against individuals committing violent acts and threatening the Vancouver community. As a result of his pacifist views, the moderate Sikh was attacked with a metal bar outside his law office and was severely beaten. Fourteen years later a Molotov cocktail was left in his constituency office.

"There were threats left in the mail or on my answering machine saying that my house was going to be firebombed or that my children were going to be kidnapped," said Dosanjh.

"These threats went on for a long time. My kids grew up under the shadow of all



*Left to right: The Honourable Judith Guichon, Lieutenant Governor of BC; The Honourable Ujjal Dosanjh, Award Recipient; Henry Grayman, WSCCS President; Thomas Gradin, Honorary Swedish Consul. Courtesy of the Wallenberg-Sugihara Civil Courage Society.*

of this. It was scary."

Despite the persistent threats against his family, Dosanjh continued to speak out against violence and extremism. He said he believes that all individuals deserve the right to express themselves freely, without fear of being frightened into submission.

It was this display of bravery against Sikh extremism that caught the attention of the Wallenberg-Sugihara Civil Courage Society, who have awarded Dosanjh with their inaugural medal of courage. The award is bestowed in honour of Swedish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg and Japanese diplomat Chiune Sugihara, two men who used their positions of power to help save thousands of Jews from Nazi persecution during the Second World War.

"We honoured Ujjal Dosanjh with the civil courage award because, throughout his life, he has been an advocate for social justice and a critic of sectarian violence, often at great risk to his personal safety.

As a critic of extremism and champion of liberal democracy, he has been a benefit to Canada and an inspiration to us all," explained WSCCS president Henry Grayman.

Dosanjh, who never sought recognition for his actions of bravery, said he felt honoured to be chosen, particularly in the name of people like Wallenberg and Sugihara, who are world-renowned for their courageous acts.

During his acceptance speech, Dosanjh acknowledged that Canada is no stranger to terrorism, noting the recent murder of two Canadian soldiers at the hands of ISIS sympathizers. He said in order to combat extremism today, individuals in Canada, and more importantly in predominantly Muslim countries, need to speak out against terrorism and create a dialogue, even in the face of persecution.

"Individuals must be free to express themselves and to be able to live in peace without threats or fear," concluded the former MP.



Hon. John Reid.

# Where have all the cowboys gone?

By Hon. John Reid

Last fall, my eldest grandchild went off to university. Not only was it a milestone for her, but it also was one for her grandfather! Since that time, I have been thinking of what her experience must have been like and what mine was so long ago. Originally from a small mining town in northwestern Ontario, I attended St. Paul's College at the University of Manitoba. It was a shock to enter an environment where few people knew who you were, as opposed to a small town where too many people knew who you were; all too well. By contrast, my granddaughter went from a large urban environment in Dartmouth Nova Scotia to Mount Allison University, a relatively small university in Sackville, New Brunswick.

By the early 1950s, Canadian universities housed a large number of returning veterans. Their schooling was largely subsidized by the federal government, in recognition of their valour during the Second World War. This generation, hardened by war and highly educated, provided the leadership needed in Canada after the war.

When my generation went to university, we came in on their coattails and the universities were grateful to accommodate us. Since they had expanded to teach the veterans, they now needed others to take up the places newly created.

Gaining two degrees, I attended university from 1954 to 1961. According to Statistics Canada, in 1955, there were 72,737 Canadians enrolled in full-time undergraduate and graduate degree programs. Approximately 73.5% of them were male.

For the university men seeking a social life, the question was, "Where are the women?" St. Paul's at that time was all male, with a few women taking a course or two. For those students from Winnipeg (the great majority), this was no problem, since they still had many of their high school contacts. At the uni-

versity, the women were in arts courses, social work, and home economics.

Those outside the university were enrolled in nursing schools or teachers' college. For the women at university, there were many gentlemen callers with a ratio of what seemed to be something like five to one. Men had to find dates usually outside the university.

For my granddaughter, things are different. For one, far more people are seeking out a post-secondary education. According to the OECD's 2014 Education at a Glance Report, Canada has the highest percentage of adults ages 25-54 who have obtained tertiary education (53 per cent), among member countries. The OECD average is 32 per cent. Canada has occupied this spot for years.

The mix at university and in the workforce has also dramatically changed. The new question is: where are the boys? Boys are not at universities or colleges, but women are. According to Statistics Canada, in 2012 a higher percentage of women (73.2 per cent) than men (65.1 per cent) aged 25 to 44 completed post-secondary education.

Four years ago, my youngest son graduated from law school, attending both the University of Calgary and the University of Toronto. He reported that he was in the minority – claiming 60 per cent of his classmates were women. In departments like engineering, we still see men as the significant majority, but women are gradually entering these hallowed testosterone-filled halls, as well as working efficiently in science courses.

The learning environments these young men and women are entering have also changed drastically. I spoke recently with a professor emeritus of economics from Carleton University, a gentleman of my vintage. I asked him what he felt were the biggest changes universities have experienced in recent years.

He said the hardest thing to get used to was the silence. When we went to

university, it was all talk, talk, talk; occasionally about our schooling. Now, it is all about texting. People will sit next to each other and text rather than talk. In class, it can be difficult for some to answer questions, and when lecturing, the professor has no idea if the students are listening because they are all focused on their smart phones or laptops. They all attend the University of Google.

The digital revolution has changed the university experience because of students' access to so much information. In our day, we went off to the library in hopes of finding the relevant material. When we got into graduate school, we had access to the "stacks" and a free hand in the library, away from the library index cards. Now the students often quote from websites that are not always there. This has put an additional burden on the marker to check up on these references, which may or may not exist.

For my granddaughter, who just started university, this is an exciting time. From a dating point of view it is her best time, as she has many boys in higher years to choose from. But she is now in a majority position at university and she will remain in this position when she graduates. Back in my university days, it was the men who overwhelmingly had university educations. Now, increasingly, it is women who have advanced education, including graduate degrees. Women in many relationships make more money than their partners; many are now unmarried because of a lack of suitable prospects. There is no lack of books and articles on this subject.

In our time, we have seen society change dramatically in the relations between men and women. The women have moved to take advantage of these changes. The question is, "Where are the boys?" Followed by, "How are these changes going to play out?"

Hon. John Reid served as a Liberal MP from 1965-1984 for the riding of Kenora-Rainy River.



# Uniting the Right

## How Peter MacKay changed the landscape of Canadian federal politics

By Hayley Chazan

At the end of May, Prime Minister Stephen Harper joined Justice Minister Peter MacKay in Pictou County, Nova Scotia, to bid his longtime colleague farewell as Peter announced he would not be running for re-election.

In an 18-year career that has afforded him numerous senior cabinet posts, many former and current parliamentarians believe Peter MacKay's greatest accomplishment was the role he played in uniting Canada's Conservative movement more than a decade ago.

In October 2003, Peter MacKay's Progressive Conservatives and Stephen Harper's Canadian Alliance signed an agreement in principle to establish a new, united Conservative Party of Canada.

"That moment in October 2003 changed, without a shadow of a doubt, the course of Canadian politics." "It took a sense of destiny; it took a spirit of humility; and it took a willingness to compromise," said Prime Minister Harper in his speech back in May.

Since the merger, Canadians have elected three consecutive Conservative governments, including a majority Conservative mandate in 2011.

However, achieving harmony within Canada's right wing factions wasn't easy. While Peter MacKay is seen by some as a hero for his role in the merger, many politicians to this day still blame him for what they see as a takeover by Harper's radical, socially conservative reformers.

### Leader of the Progressive Conservatives

Peter was born and raised in New Glasgow, Nova Scotia. Son of Mulroney cabinet minister, Elmer MacKay, he was exposed to politics at a young age.

The Maritime boy trained as a lawyer and worked as a Crown attorney for the Central region of Nova Scotia prior to entering federal politics in 1997, at the



*Peter MacKay playing lawn darts with Stephen Harper. Photo from Peter's Facebook page.*

age of 31. Following in his father's footsteps, he took over as member of Parliament in his home riding of Central Nova.

Peter was narrowly elected leader of the Progressive Conservative Party in May 2003, in a tight race that went to four ballots. It was his last minute deal with fellow leadership hopeful David Orchard that ultimately allowed him to emerge victorious.

In order to gain Orchard's backing, MacKay had to agree to certain conditions, one of which was that he would never allow the Progressive Conservatives to merge with the Canadian Alliance.

### The Merger

But with both the Alliance and the Progressive Conservative parties fighting for support from a similar voter base, it quickly became evident that defeating the governing Liberals would be a near impossible feat without a merger.

A few months later, with a federal election looming and the takeover of the Liberal Party by former finance minister and eventual prime minister, Paul Martin, Peter reneged on his promise. He signed a merger agreement that for-

malized the birth of the Conservative Party of Canada, with Canadian Alliance leader Stephen Harper at its helm.

At the time, the merger was favoured by 96 per cent of Canadian Alliance members, and 90 per cent of those Progressive Conservatives who were allowed to vote or attend the conference.

According to Carleton University political science professor Jon Pammett, not only did Peter MacKay compromise his personal leadership ambitions with the signing of this merger, but he also damaged his overall credibility.

"Ever since the merger, MacKay has had the image of being somebody you couldn't quite trust, or somebody that would go back on his word," Pammett says.

"Leadership isn't always 'I'm the one,'" says former Progressive Conservative Manitoba MP and former CAF President Léo Duguay, who served in the 1980s with Peter's father. "Sometimes it's saying, 'This has to be done and I'm going to help do it, even though it doesn't help me personally.'"

But even to this day, many of MacKay's opposition colleagues still harbour resentment for the merger.

Former Manitoba MP, Bill Blaikie, who served as Peter's NDP House Leader counterpart in the late 90s, says he took every occasion to discourage his colleague from merging with the Canadian Alliance.

"I think the loss of the Progressive Conservative Party, which was, in my view, a superior right wing party to the one we have now, is a loss to the country," Blaikie says.

Fellow Nova Scotia NDP MP, Peter Stoffer, was also disappointed with Peter's move to join the Canadian Alliance. He says he believes the merger was damaging to Canada because it allowed the radical right wing faction of the Conservative movement to take over.

"Peter reneged on his promise. He signed a merger agreement that formalized the birth of the Conservative Party of Canada, with Canadian Alliance leader Stephen Harper at its helm . . ."

"That's when we started seeing things pass that I thought no Progressive Conservative could ever agree to," Stoffer says.

#### Casting off

Regardless of political affiliation, there is no denying that when Peter agreed to merge with the Canadian Alliance, he altered the Canadian political landscape, putting Canada's conservatives back on a path to government.

As he leaves politics to spend more time with his young and growing family, Peter's father, Elmer, says he's proud of all his son has accomplished.

"He leaves with a good record and a general realization among his peers that he's honest and that he works hard."

Fellow East Coaster, Minister of Transport Lisa Raitt, also wishes MacKay well.

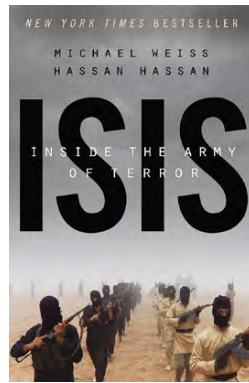
"Peter has dedicated many years to serving his country and will be missed as a colleague and as a friend," she says.

It is this desire to serve Canadians that Prime Minister Stephen Harper tried to describe as he bid adieu to his colleague and friend in Nova Scotia.

He highlighted that the signing of the merger agreement 12 years ago was an important moment that allowed the right to continue to have a voice, while changing the course of Canadian politics for the next decade.

"So as a good Atlantic Canadian, as two guys descended from good Atlantic Canadians, we had to be able to read the waters, to see that a tide was running which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune, to success, and that if we missed it, to pursue Shakespeare's famous statement, the voyage of all of our lives – the lives of all Canada's conservatives – would have been bound in shallows and miseries," said Prime Minister Harper.

"Peter recognized that moment."



**ISIS: Inside the Army of Terror.** By Michael Weiss and Hassan Hassan. Published by Regan Arts, February 2015. 288 pages. ISBN 978-1941393574.

**ISIS:** *Inside the Army of Terror* is a crucial read for policy-makers, as it provides a framework to understand what drives ISIS leaders and fighters.

Much is still misunderstood about this brutal terrorist organization, that, with horrific beheadings of hostages and explosive expansion has shocked the Western world.

Before Mosul fell to ISIS, President Obama flippantly dismissed the group, calling it the "jayvee team" (junior varsity team) of terrorists. These comments proved regrettable and may have contributed to significant strategic errors in the United States' fight against them.

Written by American journalist Michael Weiss and Syrian analyst Hassan Hassan, the book seeks to clarify misconceptions about ISIS and answer these simple questions: Where does ISIS come from, and how did it manage to do so much damage in so short a period of time?

As the book explains, the key to understanding ISIS, is to appreciate how it differs from its first incarnation, al-Qaeda. One of the most significant differences between the two involves the issue of the establishment of a caliphate (a political-religious region ruled by a caliph, deemed to be the successor of Muhammad). Osama bin Laden viewed the formation of a caliphate as a long-term goal; one that he never expected to see in his lifetime. The opposite is true of ISIS, who declared a caliphate last June. This declaration has been key to recruiting foreign fighters and has paved the way for ISIS to achieve its end goal: defeating

# ISIS: Inside the army of terror

Reviewed by Hayley Chazan

the army of "Rome" and bringing about the apocalypse.

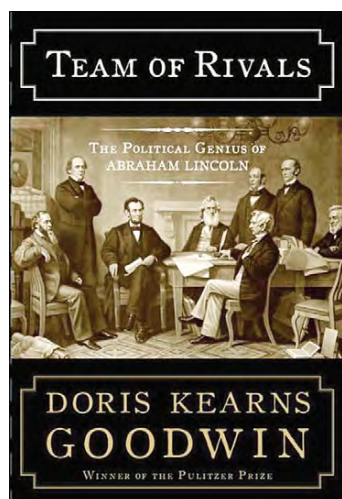
Perhaps more importantly, what sets ISIS apart most from al-Qaeda is how religious it is in nature. As Weiss and Hassan explain, bin Laden was far more secular. ISIS leaders, on the other hand, are deeply Islamic and follow Sharia law to a tee. They have reverted to medieval traditions, following the prophecy and example of Muhammad with precise detail. Their religious fervour and unwavering set of beliefs make them more brutal than al-Qaeda ever was, as they aim to cleanse the world of unbelievers.

Where the book succeeds most is in its rich historical content. Instead of merely chronicling the events since ISIS was formally created just over a year ago, the book travels back to the early 1990s, profiling some of ISIS's key players. The authors spend nearly a quarter of the book dissecting the character of Abu Musab Al-Zarqawi, the founder of ISIS's predecessor, al-Qaeda in Iraq; examining his rise to power in the early 2000s along with his complicated relationship with bin Laden. The book continues chronologically, drawing on original interviews with U.S. military officials and current ISIS fighters. Its authors recognize that understanding the history of how ISIS was formed is key to understanding how to stop its expansion.

While *ISIS: Inside the Army of Terror* is hard to criticize, the main drawback is that the most recent developments in the Middle East can't be included. This makes the book useful on a strategic level, but not on a tactical level.

Nonetheless, the wealth of research, level of detail and eloquent first-hand accounts present in this book make it an essential read for anyone who wants to understand the risk we all face from radical Islam.





# Team of rivals

## The political genius of Abraham Lincoln

Reviewed by Scott Hitchcox

**Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln.** By Doris Kearns Goodwin. Published by Simon and Schuster, September 2006. 944 pages. ISBN 978-0743270755.

To take extreme liberties in paraphrasing a line from a particular favourite read of mine (Ishmael, a simplistically deep social commentary told from the vantage point of a talking gorilla), a story can be likened to journey, and upon reaching its end one does not need to recall every stop along the way to appreciate the path bringing him to his destination. In the story told by author Doris Kearns Goodwin in her book *Team of Rivals*, one could very well lose track of the path, because there are so many beautiful trees planted on either side of it.

In this incredibly insightful and alarmingly thorough account, the mere reference sheet for which spans 150 pages. Goodwin's tale is an exciting narrative, beginning with an awkward gangly Illinois lawyer who, through a mastery of political manoeuvrability, an affinity for story telling, and strong conviction in his own abilities, became arguably the most politically influential figure in U.S. history. However, this is not simply a biographical piece on Lincoln, following a narrow trajectory from birth to tragic death. Instead, Goodwin masterfully creates a story of the president she likens to the expansion of a two-dimensional rendering into a hologram. This is a hologram where every detail is given depth and substance. A hologram where

points diverge and intersect to create a three-dimensional representation, that is much more accurately reminiscent of the original subject than any depthless plane could hope to be.

As indicated by its title, this is accomplished primarily by situating Lincoln in a context against his primary political rivals, the born-politician William H. Seward, the stuffy yet effective Salmon Chase, and the reluctantly brilliant Edward Bates. Together, these men formed the chief opposition to Lincoln in the chase for the Republican presidential candidacy in 1860, and would also become some of the most integral components of his cabinet.

Goodwin traces the stories of each of these men, exceptional in their own way, each with a claim to a presidency that would begin in the heart of the most tumultuous era in United States history.

Indeed, as four men travelled four different paths to power, the storm of secession brewed in the South. The issue of slavery had reached a boiling point. Abolitionists condemning slavery as a moral outrage clashed with Unionists seeking preservation of the United States under the Constitution, who clashed with secessionists seeking to escape what they viewed as northern tyranny; all in the backdrop of Lincoln's rise to the White House.

Lincoln's task of preserving the Union, peace, and reconciling two regions was somehow even more daunting than the process of earning such a responsibility in the first place. He was

able to throw political grudges to the wayside as a result of the respect he had gained from colleagues who had done everything in their power to deny him the role of president. Through artful political management, Lincoln was able to direct the actions of his cabinet without losing the influence of these powerful figures. As the country crumbled around him and entered the deadliest war in U.S. history, he had to use these talents to salvage a Union seemingly in a state of permanent disrepair. He did all this while dismantling the villainous institution of slavery. Along this path, Lincoln earned the respect of even his most begrudging political companions; forging a life, and a political team, that profoundly impacted the United States.

Ultimately, Goodwin's tale combines the personable story of a biography with the broader social narrative of a history book, creating something else entirely. Lincoln and his political cohorts are positioned as actors in the temporal and spatial plane that they occupy, both affecting and being affected by it. For the reader, this creates a greater appreciation for the men both as distinct individuals, and as a blended network intertwined with the greater social contexts and social ailments they were seeking to overcome. Though seemingly overwhelming due to the sheer volume of information it provides, Goodwin's *Team of Rivals* is sure to satiate even the most eager of history buffs, while keeping the casual reader enthralled by its captivating delivery.

# There's more to the Senate than scandal

By Ada Slivinski

In recent years, much of the conversation about Canada's "Red Chamber" has centred around scandal, but while media cameras were focused elsewhere, senators in the upper house continued their work.

"Despite the controversies of the past 3 years, the Senate of Canada continued to produce first-rate committee reports to inform public policy in Canada," said Conservative Senator for Manitoba Janis Johnson.

Even back in 2004, the now-late Senator Al Graham said the average Canadian often misunderstood the work of a senator.

"Let us never forget that senators work long hours to ensure that our laws are crafted to safeguard the peace, the security, the basic rights and freedoms of our talented people, no matter where they live, no matter what their circumstances," he said in his farewell speech to his Senate colleagues.

"We are here in this chamber to protect regional, provincial, and minority interests. We are here to focus greater public attention on those people in society whose rights and interests are often overlooked — the young, the poor, the elderly, the dying, our veterans and our wonderful Aboriginal friends," he said.

## The Success of Senate Committee Reports

The work the Senate is probably most praised for is its committee reports. Unlike those put forward by the House of Commons, those in the chamber of "sober second thought" tend to be bipartisan or even non-partisan in their findings and final recommendations.

Opposition senators are very rarely

blocked from calling witnesses from whom they wish to hear. This helps ensure that the submissions and testimony of all witnesses are reflected in the final reports and recommendations.

Over the years, Senate reports have had significant impacts on federal government policy.

Senator Johnson points to the prohibition of rBST hormone in dairy products in 1999, due to the risks it posed to animal health.

She also cites the ground breaking final report on the state of the health care system in Canada, led by Senator Michael Kirby and the Standing Senate Committee on Social Affairs, Sciences and Technology. The 2002 report stressed that our publicly funded model is not fiscally sustainable in its current form.

In May 2006, the same committee released a three-year study on mental health, mental illness and addiction, entitled *Out of the Shadows at Last*. It is considered to be the first national report on mental health in Canada. It demonstrated that there were large gaps in Canadian mental health care and led to the establishment of the Mental Health Commission of Canada in 2007.

In 2013, the Senate compiled a report on the Canada-U.S. price gap.

That year they also comprehensively studied various modes of transport of hydrocarbons in Canada, where they were told that pipelines are the safest option for the bulk transportation of oil and gas.

In 2014, the chamber put out a report examining why the Registered Disability Savings Plan Program isn't helping more people.

They studied how to best help veterans transition back into civilian life.

A year later, they produced a report on the rise of digital currencies, such as Bitcoin.

They also produced a report on Canada's prescription drug regulatory regime, and studied the challenges and successes of housing on First Nations reserves.

More specifically, the Standing Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade has produced a number of timely and impactful reports. Significantly, in 2012, they examined developments in Iran, detailing Canada's policies toward the regional power. The committee has also looked into developments in Burma (Myanmar), Nigeria, Venezuela, and other nations where conflicts may require Canadian assistance.

## Scrutinizing Legislation

The Senate's role is not only to put out reports but to also scrutinize legislation. The "Red Chamber" has expressed its concern involving a number of pieces of legislation. Recently, The Fair Elections Act was amended to take into consideration some of the concerns the Senate expressed.

While the elected representatives in the House of Commons are often focused on working for those who voted for them and ensuring they get re-elected, senators focus greater attention on those people in our society whose rights and interests are often overlooked.

The young, the poor, the elderly, the dying, veterans — these are just some of the groups who have reaped the benefits of having a public forum through Senate committee investigations and legislation scrutiny.



# Our tribute to those who have passed on

By Harrison Lowman and Ada Slivinski

## Rev. Roland de Corneille

Former Liberal MP, Rev. Roland de Corneille, passed away peacefully on Dec. 30, 2014 at the age of 87.

Roland was born in Lausanne, Switzerland. He would spend his early years in France, before moving to the U.S. due to the threat of war, where he attended Amherst College.

He was ordained an Anglican priest in 1953, the year he moved to Canada. While there he attended the University of Toronto's Trinity College. He worked as a curate at St. John's Anglican Church in West Toronto and St. John the Evangelist in downtown Montreal. His own parishes included St. Andrew by-the-Lake and St. Laurence Anglican Church.

Rev. Roland de Corneille made extraordinary efforts to bridge the gap between Christian and Jewish communities in this country. His father had helped smuggle Jews out of France to Spain during the war. In 1971, he became national director of the League for Human Rights of B'nai Brith Canada. He was the only non-Jew to be appointed to the position.

"He was among the pioneers in bringing Jews and Christians together," described Bernie Farber, former CEO of the Canadian Jewish Congress. "His biggest issue was anti-Semitism, and he felt somewhat guilty as a Christian for anti-Semitism. He basically devoted his life to eradicating [it]."

Roland also used his position to raise funds and awareness for civil rights marches in the U.S. In the 1960s he had the chance to meet Martin Luther King, face-to-face.

Roland was first elected to the House of Commons as a Liberal in 1979, for the riding of Eglinton-Lawrence. He became founding chairman of the Canada-Israel Parliamentary Friendship Group. In the early 1980s, he served as chairman of the National Committee for a Human Rights Charter, lobbying Parliament to have the Charter of Rights and Freedoms entrenched in the Constitution.

"He worked with Pierre Trudeau on the Charter of Rights and played



*Rev. Roland de Corneille.*

a huge part in that," said his wife Julie de Corneille.

When he sat in the House of Commons, Roland de Corneille often wore his Roman collar, a reminder that he was still a priest as well as a politician. Roland was defeated in 1988 and returned to the church. He retired from pastoral duties in 1995 but was still active in politics.

He leaves his wife, Julie; his two children, Christopher and Michelle, from an earlier marriage; their mother, Elizabeth de Corneille; two step-daughters, Jessica and Adrienne; grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

## Hon. Aurélien Gill

Former Liberal senator Aurélien Gill passed away peacefully with his family by his side on Jan. 17, 2015, at the age of 81.

He was born in Mashteuiatsh or, as it is also known, Pointe-Bleue, Que. After his studies at Laval, he attended the National Defence College in Kingston. He worked as a teacher, public servant and businessman.

Aurélien had the opportunity to travel around the world, where he saw firsthand the conditions of Aboriginal peoples and how foreign governments interacted with them.

He was a committed community activist and advocate for the interests of indigenous peoples in Quebec and Canada. From 1974 to 1985, he was chief of the Montagnais. Aurélien also helped established the National Indian Brotherhood, now known as the Assembly of First Nations.

Summoned to the Senate by the Right Honourable Jean Chrétien in 1998, Senator Gill promoted Abo-



*Hon. Aurélien Gill.*



*Michel Guimond.*

original causes through his work on the standing Senate committee on Aboriginal peoples and the standing senate committee on social affairs, science and technology. He retired from the chamber in 2008, having represented Wellington, Que.

His Senate colleagues described him as a "spontaneous man who showed great generosity in his everyday life."

Besides his wife, Aline Castonguay, he leaves his daughters, Guylaine, and Marie-Claude; his grandchildren, Matthew, Stephen, Laurence Olivier-Jean-Gabriel, Mary, Aurelie, Jérôme Samuel, Jonathan, Patrick, Jeremy, Shimun and Marc-André. He also leaves behind his great-grandchildren, Antoine and Rosalie.

## Michel Guimond

Former Bloc Québécois MP, Michel Guimond, died of heart failure on Jan. 19, 2015 while at home. He was 61.

Michel was an MP for nearly 20 years, representing the constituents of what became Montmorency-Charlevoix-Haute-Côte-Nord, from 1993 to 2011.

He was a lawyer by training, who resumed his practice after he became one of the many Bloc MPs defeated by the NDP in the 2011 federal election.

Last year, Michel became chief of staff for Démocratie Quebec, a municipal party in Quebec City.

"This is someone who has always been very involved in his community, very enthusiastic, determined," said Bloc Québécois leader, Gilles Duceppe.

He leaves behind his wife Johanne Deschamps.

## Maurice Dumas

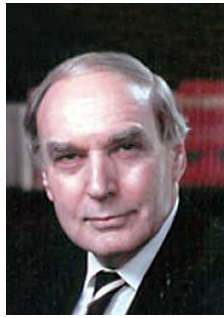
Former Bloc Québécois MP for Ar-



Maurice Dumas.



Simma Holt.



Louis (Bud) Sherman.



Bernard St-Laurent.

genteuil-Papineau-Mirabel, Maurice Dumas, passed away Jan. 19, 2015 at the age of 87.

Maurice was first elected during the 1993 federal election. He was re-elected in 1997. Maurice decided not to run for office in the 2000 election.

While in the House of Commons, he advocated for seniors and was deputy critic for Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

"With the death of Maurice Dumas, the separatist family loses a remarkable man," said former Bloc Québécois leader, Mario Beaulieu.

The federal sovereigntist party lost Maurice and Michel in the space of just a few hours.

#### Simma Holt

Simma Holt, prominent journalist, author and former Liberal member of Parliament, passed away in Vancouver on Jan. 23, 2015 of cancer. She was 92.

Simma was born in Vegreville, Alta., the sixth of eight children. She attended the University of Manitoba, becoming the student paper's first female managing editor.

Her first day as a paid journalist at the Canadian Press also happened to be D-Day. Simma managed to jam the national teletype machine, meaning that news feeds across the country were delayed.

In 1944, Simma joined The Vancouver Sun. She would end up working for the paper for 30 years, taking on the role of reporter, feature writer, and columnist. Simma entered a workplace where few women had dared to venture.

She was tough when it came to taking on crime and waterfront beats, but showed the utmost of compassion when it came to telling the stories of Canada's prostitutes or our forgotten

and abused children. She also wrote five books. In 1996, she was inducted into the Canadian News Hall of Fame.

"Working with her was like working in the eye of a hurricane," said former Vancouver Sun columnist Lisa Koerner. "There are not enough adjectives to describe her. She loved investigating stories and went after information like a hungry shark."

In 1949, she married Vancouver freelance photographer and later teacher, Leon Holt. They were together until his death in 1985.

Simma was the first Jewish woman elected to Parliament. She became Liberal candidate for Vancouver-Kingsway in 1974. She was defeated in 1979.

In 1996, Simma was inducted into the Order of Canada. She also sat on the National Parole Board for four years. Simma also served on the editorial board of *Beyond the Hill* for several years.

"I always wanted to help people," Simma said years ago. "You can't change the whole world, but you can change one person at a time."

"She was fearless," remembered former B.C. Supreme Court Justice Nancy Morrison, who became a close friend of Holt's after meeting her in 1970.

The assisted living facility where Simma lived had a custom of putting out a notice whenever a resident died, writing that they had "passed away peacefully". Simma however, left her friends with strict orders not to let that be said about her.

"I said, 'Don't worry, you've never done anything peacefully in your life,'" said Koerner.

Simma is survived by her many nieces, nephews and cousins.

#### Louis (Bud) Sherman

Former PC MP, Louis (Bud) Sherman, passed away on Jan. 9, 2015, after a short illness, at the Health Sciences Centre in Winnipeg. He was 88.

Bud was born in Quebec City. Moving frequently, he eventually attended the University of Manitoba, graduating in 1949 with a BA.

In 1949, he graduated from the Royal Canadian School of Infantry at Camp Borden, with the rank of second lieutenant.

A wire service, newspaper and broadcasting career would take him across the country. He acted as bureau chief and western Canada manager for UPI, director of news and public affairs, and eventually anchorman for CJAY-TV.

In 1965, Bud began a 19-year career in federal and provincial politics. He was elected as a Progressive Conservative for the riding of Winnipeg South.

Four years later, he shifted to provincial politics, where he was elected as a member of the legislative assembly of Manitoba for Fort Garry. He represented the riding for the next 15 years, becoming deputy premier, minister of community services and corrections, minister of amateur sport, deputy House leader, and a health and labour critic.

In 1985, Bud left politics but remained fascinated by health administration, publishing articles on Medicare and acting as a speaker and resource person for numerous health care and communications conferences and studies.

Bud served on the CRTC for 10 years, becoming vice-chair telecommunications in 1987, until his retirement in 1995.

After his retirement in the mid nineties Bud focused his attention on volunteer activities in the military, sports, education and cultural fields.

He was predeceased by his wife Elizabeth. They were married for almost 55 years. He is survived by his three children Cathy, Christopher and Todd. He is also survived by five nephews and a niece.

#### Bernard St-Laurent

Former Bloc Québécois MP, Bernard St-Laurent, passed away on Jan. 22, 2015. He was 61 years of age.

Bernard was born Arvida, Que. on



Dec. 14, 1953. Before entering politics, Bernard worked as a public servant and correctional services officer.

He was first elected to the House of Commons in 1993, in the riding of Manicouagan, Que.

While in office, he was associate critic to the solicitor general and attended the standing committee on fisheries and oceans. He left politics following the 1997 federal election.

#### **Robert Gourd**

Former Liberal MP, Robert Gourd, passed away peacefully in Montreal on March 22, 2015. He was 82.

Robert was born in Amos, Que. in 1933. Before becoming a politician, he was a manufacturer and administrator.

Robert was elected in 1979 in the riding of Argenteuil, Que. He was re-elected in 1980. While in office, he served as the chairman of the House standing committee on communications and culture and parliamentary secretary to the Minister of State (Multiculturalism).

Since leaving the House, Robert became a commissioner on the International Joint Commission, which supports the International Boundary Waters Treaty between the U.S. and Canada.

Robert donated his body to McGill University, for medical education and scientific research.

He is survived by numerous friends and acquaintances.

#### **Neil Young**

Former NDP MP, Neil "Scotty" Young, passed away from stroke complications surrounded by his loving family, on Mar. 7, 2015, at Toronto East General Hospital. He was 78.

Neil came into this world on Aug. 28, 1936 in Edinburgh, Scotland. He emigrated to the Great White North in the 1950s. Before entering public life, he was a machinist in the electrical industry. Neil successfully organized a local union within the United Electrical Workers.

In a 1977 closely contested nomination race, Neil won by two votes.

Neil was an MP from 1980 to 1993, originally representing the Toronto riding of the Beaches.

Young served as the NDP's critic on pensions and veteran's affairs. The "feisty Scotsman" also took portfolios



*Robert Gourd.*



*Neil Young.*



*Ken James*



*Robert Hicks.*

addressing the disabled and seniors.

During his retirement, Neil worked as a consultant on issues impacting persons with disabilities.

Outside of the office, Neil loved travelling, golfing, gardening and working in the wood shop with his grandsons.

"He loved fighting for people and just felt no wrong should be allowed to pass," said his wife Vivien of 52 years.

"He was well-respected and well-liked. He was a lovely man," said current Beaches-East York NDP MP, Matthew Kellway.

Former NDP leader, Ed Broadbent, commended Neil on his work on the repatriation of Canada's Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

Neil leaves behind Vivien, his sons Neil and Fraser, his daughters Leslie and Moira, and his grandchildren Daniel, Marshall, Drew, Lucas and Elyse.

#### **Ken James**

Former Progressive Conservative MP, Ken James, passed away on Sept. 24, 2015, after years of battling health problems. He was 80 years of age.

Ken was born in Sarnia, Ont. in 1934. He attended Michigan State University, receiving a business degree. In the late 1960s he was elected to the region's township council. He served numerous terms as a councillor and as a township reeve.

He would go on to represent Sarnia-Lambton in the House of Commons from 1984 to 1993. In doing so, he was parliamentary secretary to the Secretary of State for External Affairs, parliamentary secretary to the Minister of Labour, and parliamentary secretary to the Minister of Supply and Services.

Local city councillor and good

friend Dave Boushy described him as "one of the honest politicians."

During his retirement, Ken helped with the family's farming business and became a member of numerous local groups and committees, including being appointed chair of the Blue Water Bridge board of directors. He also worked to bring more family doctors to Sarnia.

"Ken served his community and country well," said the area's current Conservative MP, Pat Davidson. "He never lost sight of his roots and we will miss his quiet strength."

Ken leaves behind his wife, Mary Ellen, along with many children and grandchildren.

#### **Robert Hicks**

Former PC MP, Robert (Bob) Hicks, passed away unexpectedly at the South Muskoka Memorial Hospital in Bracebridge, Ont., on Nov. 25, 2014. He was 81.

Bob was born on June 4, 1933, in Toronto.

He went on to graduate from both McMaster University and the University of Ottawa.

He was first an educator, working as principal of Joseph Howe Senior Public School in Toronto.

Bob represented the riding of Scarborough East, where he won during the 1984 federal election. He was re-elected in 1988.

Friends remember Bob for his kind heart, quick wit, and his contribution to his community.

He was married to his wife Joan for 60 years. Bob leaves behind his daughter, Sandra, and grandchildren, Gemma and Austin Hicks-Breese.

#### **Hon. Alasdair Graham**

Former Liberal Senator, Alasdair



*Hon. Alasdair Graham.*



*Hon. Pierre Claude Nolin.*



*Hon. Christine Stewart.*

(Al) Graham, passed away in Halifax on April 22 at the age of 85.

Al was brought up in the mining communities of Bridgeport, Dominion and Glace Bay. A graduate of St. Francis Xavier University, he spent his youth as a teacher, journalist and broadcaster.

Al was appointed to the Senate in 1972 by Pierre Trudeau, representing The Highlands Nova Scotia. He went on to be president of the Liberal Party from 1975 to 1980, deputy leader of the government in the Senate from 1995 to 1996 and served in Prime Minister Jean Chretien's cabinet as leader of the government in the Senate from 1997 to 1999. He left the Senate in 2004, having reached the mandatory retirement age.

Al also took part in election-observing missions with The National Democratic Institute for International Affairs in South and Central America, Africa, Eastern Europe and Southeast Asia. He often travelled with former U.S. president Jimmy Carter.

He was also the first national patron and ambassador for L'Arche Canada, an organization that seeks inclusive communities for adults with special needs.

The former senator's favourite moments were spent with his children and grandchildren – especially at the Mahoneys Beach family cottage in Antigonish, “where he was known to go shirtless from dusk ‘til dawn.”

“He was passionate about our region and its people and he represented us with great distinction. That is an example we should all aspire to,” said Nova Scotia Premier Stephen McNeil.

He is survived by his 10 children, 24 grandchildren and four grand-

children. He will be deeply missed by his longtime companion, Elizabeth McIninch.

#### **Hon. Pierre Claude Nolin**

Pierre Claude Nolin, former Conservative Speaker of the Senate, passed away tragically on April 23, 2015, while still at his post. His death came after a five-year battle with a rare form of cancer. He was 64.

Pierre was born in Quebec on Oct. 20, 1950. He had just recently gained his driver's license at the age of 16, when his father, who was active in Conservative politics, encouraged him to taxi voters to polling booths.

During the 1980 Quebec referendum, Pierre represented the Progressive Conservatives at the provincial bargaining table.

Pierre Claude was appointed to the Senate, in 1993, by Brian Mulroney, having been a key Quebec organizer for the party for years. In the upper chamber, where he represented De Salaberry, Que., he focused on prison reform, the legalization of marijuana, and humanitarian immigration policies.

In November of 2014, Prime Minister Harper appointed him Speaker. Everyone saw Pierre as the best choice to help lead the Senate through tumultuous times ahead. In doing so, Pierre promised to act in a non-partisan manner, devoting himself to restoring the reputation of the red chamber.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper paid tribute to Pierre Claude at his funeral.

“On behalf of the government of Canada, I'm paying tribute to one of the most distinguished, devoted and courageous parliamentarians of our generation,” Prime Minister Stephen Harper told hundreds of mourners at

Montreal's Notre-Dame Basilica.

“He had a big personality and although we only worked together as speakers for a short period of time due to his illness, I could tell right away he had a real passion for Parliament,” commented Speaker of the House Andrew Scheer. “He loved the institution ... and he really brought a great perspective to our dealings with each other.”

“Our thoughts and prayers are with the Nolin family as well as all Canadian parliamentarians who benefited from his ever-wise counsel,” said The Queen in a statement.

Pierre's funeral was also attended by former prime minister Brian Mulroney, Gov. Gen. David Johnston, Quebec Premier Philippe Couillard, Montreal Mayor Denis Coderre and ex-premier Lucien Bouchard.

Pierre leaves his wife Camille, his three children Simon, Louis and Virginie, and his grandchildren.

#### **Hon. Christine Stewart**

Former Liberal MP, Christine Stewart, died on April 25, 2015 at the age of 74.

Christine was born in Hamilton, but raised her own family in Cobourg, Ont. where she served as a school board trustee.

She received a nursing degree from the University of Toronto. After a short stint in nursing, she became involved in international development work. In doing so, she co-founded the non-government organization Horizons of Friendship. In 1986, she founded the Northumberland Fare Share Food Bank.

Christine represented the riding of Northumberland from 1988 until 2000. When she was first elected in 1988, it was by a mere 27 votes.

She served in the cabinet of Prime Minister Jean Chrétien as Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa) and as Minister of the Environment. She headed the Canadian delegation to the Kyoto climate change negotiations and signed the Kyoto accord on behalf of Canada. Christine left politics before the 2000 election citing personal reasons.

After leaving Canadian politics, Christine acted as special envoy to Cameroon for the Commonwealth



Secretary General until 2006.

“Christine will always be remembered as a humanitarian, a passionate advocate for those who have no voice, for environmental causes on a global scale, and a passionate parliamentarian,” remarked Kim Rudd, Liberal candidate for Northumberland-Peterborough South.

“I would describe Christine as a constituency MP. She was a very passionate individual, someone who had a very high regard for her constituents. She was very non-partisan and worked hard for everyone in the riding. Holding a cabinet post did not deter Christine from helping her constituents,” said her campaign manager Murray Workman.

Christine was predeceased by her husband David and is remembered by her three children Doug, John and Catherine.

#### **Claude G. Lajoie**

Former Liberal MP, Claude G. Lajoie, died May 15, 2015 at the age of 87.

Claude, who once worked as building contractor, was elected for the first time in Trois-Rivières in 1971 in a byelection. Claude remained an MP until 1984.

While in the House, Claude served as parliamentary secretary to the Minister of National Revenue and parliamentary secretary to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs.

He was also vice-chair of the standing committee on national resources and public works.

In the Senate, Claude was Usher of the Black Rod from 1984 to 1985.

“He was a guy who did his job well, a guy who took it very seriously. For me, it has always been a guy that was correct. I enjoyed working with him in that time,” said former councillor Fernand Lajoie (no relation).

#### **Edward McWhinney**

Former Liberal MP, Edward McWhinney, passed away on May 19, 2015, on his 91st birthday.

Edward was born in New South Wales, Australia on May 19, 1924, where he first attended the University of Sydney.

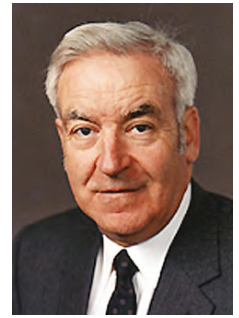
As secretary to then premier of New South Wales Bill McKell, Edward received special permission to enlist in



*Claude G. Lajoie.*



*Edward McWhinney.*



*Hon. John Stewart.*

the army during the Second World War at a young age. In 1944, he was deployed to Canada for training, an act that began his love affair with this country.

At Yale, Ted received a doctorate in constitutional and international law. He would go on to hold professorships at universities across the globe and pen 30 books and 500 scientific articles. In 1950, he was called to the New South Wales Bar. A year later, he married Emily Sabatzky. They would be together for nearly 60 years.

Edward was elected as the Liberal member of Parliament for Vancouver Quadra in 1993. He would keep this role for seven years. During these years, he served as parliamentary secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and parliamentary secretary to the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans.

Edward was a professor emeritus at Simon Fraser University and an expert on the Canadian Constitution and international law. He was called upon to advise leaders in Canadian government, whether they be prime ministers, premiers or governors general.

While working at the United Nations, he acted as a legal consultant as well as a special advisor for the Canadian delegation at the UN General Assembly.

Edward was a member of The Hague's Permanent Court of Arbitration, the Institut Grand-Ducal of Luxembourg, and Paris' Académie Internationale de Droit Comparé.

Ted is survived by his nephews Noel, Peter, Michael and Roger. He is predeceased by his loving wife Emily.

#### **Hon. John Stewart**

Former Liberal MP, John Stewart, left us on June 11, 2015, in Antigonish

County, N.S. He was 90.

John was born in Charlottetown, P.E.I. and raised in Southport. He attended Acadia University, earning a BA and MA in history. He completed a PhD at Columbia University, in the field of political law and government. He would eventually become an assistant professor there. John also put pen to paper and published books on House of Commons procedure and reform, as well as on philosopher David Hume.

In 1962, John was elected the Liberal member of Parliament in the riding of Antigonish-Guysborough. He would remain in the House until 1968. He served as the parliamentary secretary to the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the parliamentary secretary to the Secretary of State of Canada, and the parliamentary secretary to the Minister of Public Works. These postings would take John around the world, and had him acting as Canada's representative at then-American president John F. Kennedy's funeral service.

After politics, John returned to teaching political science at St. Francis Xavier University. However, his time on Parliament Hill was not complete. In 1984, Prime Minister Trudeau appointed him to the Senate. Here he had the opportunity to chair the standing committee on Foreign Affairs. John remained in the red chamber until his retirement in 1999.

#### **Hon. Flora Isabel MacDonald**

On July 26, 2015, former Progressive Conservative MP, Flora MacDonald, passed away in our nation's capital in her 90th year. Flora was the first woman in the western world to serve as foreign minister. The Cape Breton politician is seen as having blasted



*Hon. Flora MacDonald.*



*Hugh Anderson.*

through barriers that kept women from reaching high office in this country.

Growing up in Nova Scotia, Flora had politics and the world introduced to her at an early age. She was only 11 when she attended her first PC party meeting. During the Second World War, she could be found watching coal and munitions ships leave her province, en route to Allied soldiers in Europe. The fact that her father was a trans-Atlantic telegraph operator also helped quench her thirst for international knowledge. She later hitchhiked across war-torn Europe.

As a young adult, Flora was soon off to Empire Business College, to learn the skills of a secretary.

She toiled away at John Diefenbaker's national campaign in Ottawa. After leaving "the Chief's" office, she headed to Queens University's department of political science, working as an administrator.

She then worked on Robert Stanfield's 1967 leadership campaign, and stood by his side throughout the ensuing election.

In 1972, Flora offered her own face to the Tories, winning a nomination race in Kingston and the Islands. She wound up winning the election, the only female PC elected, and one of only five women in Parliament during Trudeau's minority government. As a comparison, in 2011, this country elected 76 women MPs.

Flora then stepped forward even further, seeking party leadership. Her campaign would be low budget, but high in spirits. Flora took in small donations from across the country, through her "Dollar for Flora" campaign. It was a regular sight to see

strangers approach her in the street to hand over bills.

"I am not a candidate because I am a woman. But I say to you quite frankly that because I am a woman, my candidacy helps our party," she said at the time. "It shows that in the Conservative Party there are no barriers to anyone who has demonstrated serious intentions and earned the right to be heard."

Flora faced major disappointment when many of those donning Vote-for-Flora buttons entered voting booths only to break their promise and select one of the male candidates. The experience would become known as "Flora Syndrome".

During Joe Clark's eventual 1979 minority government, he made Flora his foreign minister. The female Tory proved her worth during the Vietnamese "Boat-People" crisis and the Iran hostage crisis.

In the Mulroney government, Flora was made Minister of Culture and Communication. She disagreed with the party's stance on free trade and lost her seat during the 1988 election. She had been in the House for 16 years, often speed skating to her parliamentary office.

Beyond the Hill, Flora was free to experience the international scene as a member of the public. She travelled the developing world, representing Oxfam, CARE, and Doctors Without Borders. She had the honour of being appointed by the UN Secretary-General as a member of the Eminent Persons Group, studying transnational corporations in South Africa. She even founded her own NGO "Future Generations Canada", educating women and others in places like Afghanistan.

She received the Order of Canada in 1992.

"I mourn the passing of Flora MacDonald, whose compassion, leadership and example changed lives across our country and around the world," said former prime minister, Joe Clark.

"When Flora gets committed, she really locks in and pours all her energy into whatever the cause may be," said Ottawa columnist Geoffrey Stevens. "She was always determined not to let being a woman in a man's world stop her, especially not in politics."

The great Flora will be dearly missed by her family, including her nieces and nephews.

### **Hugh Anderson**

Former Liberal MP, Hugh Anderson, left us on April 22, 2015 in Port Alberni, B.C. He was 81.

Hugh entered this world on Sept. 25, 1933, in Saskatoon, Sask. He lived out his early years in Yorkton.

Hugh met the love of his life, Doreen May Kneep, at university, where he received a degree in history and political science. They soon tied the knot and were married for 58 years, until her death in 2010.

During the Second World War, Hugh enlisted as a navigator in the RCAF. Before becoming an MP, he worked in the insurance industry.

In 1974, Hugh became the Liberal member of Parliament for Comox-Alberni, B.C. The politician had the good fortune to be named parliamentary secretary to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and parliamentary secretary to the Minister of Fisheries and the Environment. He represented the area until 1979.

Hugh also served his community as a CJAV talk show host, while sitting on the Port Alberni Harbour Commission, as a City of Port Alberni alderman, and as chair of the Regional District of Alberni Clayoquot. He was named a Freeman of the City in 2001.

He adored his animals and automobiles.

Hugh is survived by daughters Leslie, Cathie, and son, Alan, as well as 14 grandchildren and 23 great grandchildren.

*Continued on inside back cover.*





Geoff Scott.

# On the campaign trail

By Geoff Scott

I owed my five elections and 16 years in Parliament to the 84,000 souls in an area not normally warm and fuzzy to Conservatives.

**H**ad enough of campaigning already? Or could you still take a couple of stories from back in the day, as a nerve balm relief from the everybody-mad-at-everyone-else atmosphere of this endless campaign?

Having survived five federal elections, I ran the gamut of weird happenings in my old riding of Hamilton-Wentworth.

These are stories you couldn't possibly make up. Locked in the dark with a strange dog? Check. Candidate embarrassed at a senior citizen's home? Check. Monkeys invading a nudist colony? Check.

They used to warn us at candidate schools never to go anywhere alone on the campaign trail; we should always be accompanied by someone when door knocking. That advice somehow didn't seem necessary when canvassing in my own neighbourhood.

It all started out as a leisurely Saturday afternoon of door knocking in an upscale Ancaster, Ontario survey, just a few blocks away from where I lived. My driver, canvassers, and sign carriers went a few doors ahead, as usual, letting folks know their neighbour MP was on the street, and that I just wanted to say hi. In such a familiar and idyllic setting, what could possibly go wrong?

In our largely rural area, I learned it's bad form to ring the front doorbell on a farmhouse porch; better to always knock on a side or rear door. I assumed the same approach would apply in Ancaster suburbia, especially on a lazy

Saturday afternoon. And so, on my own, I strode up a laneway, through a neatly laid out garage, found a red button at the side door, and rang it. The low, rumbling mechanical sound and growing darkness was ominous enough. The growl of a Very Big Dog somewhere over in a corner of the now pitch-black garage made me suddenly wish I'd heeded the "never go alone" campaign school advice.

Knowing and liking dogs, I immediately got down on my hands and knees on the garage floor, and mumbled "good doggie" and other animal sweet nothings. I was rewarded with gentle panting and a slobbering tongue, and assumed that crisis had passed for the moment.

But out on the street, it was a different story. My half-dozen workers, campaign manager, driver - and, oh yes, my wife - were by now frantic. I could hear them hollering up and down the street, wondering where in hell their candidate had gone. ("Oh, no, is he out stopping traffic again?")

The candidate, by now accompanied by his canine companion's joyous barking, was still banging on the heavy garage door. (The little red "doorbell" was still lost in the pitch-black). It took many minutes for one of my people to locate the perplexed owner, way at the back of his property, and find out about the commotion in his garage. Once he learned of his MP's idiocy, we put his vote down as doubtful.

## Do you know who I am?

In the more urban, residential area

of my riding on Hamilton Mountain I had what seemed to be an amazing number of senior citizens' homes. They contained, it must be noted, very loyal, very observant, and mostly delightful voters.

During an earlier campaign, the official opening of a new wing of a seniors' residence had me a little apprehensive about the best way to approach the dear old souls. As a conversation starter in order to jog their memories, it was suggested that I ask any lady or gentleman I met individually, "Do you know who I am?"

One sweet tiny little resident in a wheelchair, her big blue eyes glistening with merriment, rolled up to me and said, "Hello."

I remembered my opening line - "Hello, do you know who I am?" Without missing a beat, she replied, "No, dear, but if you go to the front desk, I'm sure they'll tell you."

## Monkeying around nudists

Then there was the time I was told I would be much better off campaigning on my own. In a far-flung part of my riding, in the former Flamborough Township, there exists the famed African Lion Safari. My companion and driver that day was a distinguished but rather prudish resident of a small town nearby.

The Lion Safari wasn't the only magnetic animal attraction going on in the area. There were, back in the '70s, at least three nudist colonies sharing the secluded and deeply forested land alongside the Lion Safari.

"I immediately got down on my hands and knees on the garage floor, and mumbled "good doggie" . . ."

My straight-laced driver was all in favour of touring the animal kingdom with his MP, along with the owner of the Lion Safari. But, at the suggestion we also drop in on the owners of the neighbouring Ponderosa Nature Resort (they were, after all, constituents and voters), he reddened and said, "Oh, no! Not on your life, Geoff! You're on your own with Gertrude; you won't catch me dead in the place!"

And that's how I met two very respectable nudist colony owners: Hans, nicely dressed in hot weather clothing, and Gertrude, an all natural blonde, statuesque, and as naked as the day she was born.

I did get one memorable story from them. Apocryphal or not, Nature Resort folks swear it happened. The only problem the nudists ever encountered with their neighbours was the day a troupe of monkeys scampered over the safari fence and gleefully invaded one of the camps. I leave to your imagination how the mischievous monkeys and their handlers performed before they were rounded up.

#### Postscript

Long ago, comedian Paul Lynde once came up with an answer to this quiz question:

Q. It is considered in bad taste to discuss two subjects at nudist camps. One is politics, what is the other?

A. Lynde: Tape measures.

Geoff Scott served as a Progressive Conservative MP from 1978-1988 for the riding of Hamilton-Wentworth.



Don Paul Wood.



Joseph Reid.

*Continued from page 45.*

#### Don Wood

Former Liberal MP Don Paul Wood died on July 7, 2015 in Kensington P.E.I., at the age of 82.

Don was born in Charlottetown, P.E.I. on March 22, 1933.

Before entering politics, he was a businessman and farmer. Don became the MP for Malpeque P.E.I. in 1977, during a by-election to replace P.C. MP Angus MacLean. He remained in office until 1979. He served as parliamentary secretary to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion and sat on standing committees including agriculture, fisheries and forestry, and public accounts. He left the house in 1979.

Don leaves behind his sons, Dayle and Kent, his daughter, Lori, his grandchildren, Andrew, Laura, Glenn, Lisa, Ian, and Jaimie.

#### Joseph Reid

Former Progressive Conservative MP, Joseph Reid, passed away on Aug. 14, 2015, in St. Catharines, Ont. He was 97 years of age.

Reid entered this world in Sept. of 1917 in Govan, Saskatchewan.

During the Second World War, Joe served with the Royal Canadian Armoured Corps in the Mediterranean and Northwest Europe as a captain.

In 1949, after having previously attended the University of Saskatchewan, he left Osgoode Hall as a barrister and made his way to St. Catharines.

Joseph devoted his life to the city of St. Catharines. He acted as an alderman from 1958 to 1962, and as a councillor for the new Niagara Re-

gion government in the early 1970s. Joe went on to serve as the city's mayor from 1973 to 1976.

In 1979 Joseph dipped his toe into the federal political scene, becoming elected under the P.C. banner in St. Catharines. He won back his seat in 1980 and 1984. While in the House, he served as parliamentary secretary to the Minister of the Environment and parliamentary secretary to the Postmaster General. He left in 1988.

Joseph served in leadership roles at the St. Catharines Chamber of Commerce, Branch 24 of the Royal Canadian Legion, the Optimist Club of St. Catharines and the Lincoln County Law Association. He also had a passion for gardening with the beautiful plants to prove it.

"He was able to attract support from people of all political affiliations...because he was liked so much personally and provided good leadership when he was mayor and he certainly advocated well for St. Catharines when he was an MP," said current St. Catharines MPP Jim Bradley, who served as a councillor with Joe. "He'll be missed very much."

"First and foremost, he was a wonderful, kind, loving and caring person," added his wife Shirley. "He was always concerned about you and how things were going with you."

Joseph leaves behind his wife Shirley, and his children, Joanne and John. He also leaves behind his stepchildren, Dale and Kim. He is predeceased by his first wife, Ann, and son, David.



The Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians sends its warm thanks to those who helped us host this year's annual Douglas C. Frith Dinner.

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