



CANADA

**CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF
FORMER PARLIAMENTARIANS**

MEMORIAL SERVICE

*A CELEBRATION OF PUBLIC LIVES
AND PUBLIC SERVICE*

Monday, June 4, 2018

THE SENATE

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CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF FORMER PARLIAMENTARIANS

MEMORIAL SERVICE—A CELEBRATION OF PUBLIC
LIVES AND PUBLIC SERVICE

Nancy Anctil, Chief of Protocol, Parliament of Canada: Ladies and gentlemen, good morning. As the ceremony is about to begin, I would like to remind you to put your communication devices on the silent mode and to kindly refrain from taking pictures during the ceremony.

My name is Nancy Anctil, Chief of Protocol for the Parliament of Canada, and I'm pleased to welcome you here in the Senate Chamber and those watching by way of television.

[*Translation*]

We are gathered in this historic setting where on certain occasions the three component elements of Parliament come together — the Crown, the Senate, and the House of Commons. We do so today to remember the service, contribution and lives of those former parliamentarians who have departed from us over the past year.

[*English*]

In a few moments we will greet the official party composed of the Speaker of the Senate, the Honourable George J. Furey; the Speaker of the House of Commons, the Honourable Geoff Regan; the President of the Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians, the Honourable Andy Mitchell; the Vice-President of the Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians, Mr. Jack Harris; the Interim Clerk of the Senate and Clerk of the Parliaments, Mr. Richard Denis; the Clerk of the House of Commons, Mr. Charles Robert; the Usher of the Black Rod, Mr. Greg Peters; and the Deputy Sergeant-at-Arms, Mr. Patrick McDonnell.

[*Translation*]

Ladies and gentlemen, please rise for the arrival of the official party, and remain standing for the official anthem.

[Musical interlude by Pipe Major Malcolm Odell]

[*English*]

Ms. Anctil: Please be seated.

[*Translation*]

Every year, the Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians organizes this ceremony in order to remember and to thank, from the bottom of our hearts, these men and women — all of them former Canadian parliamentarians — whom we have lost over the past year.

I must stop here to ask you once again to rise for our national anthem.

[The Ottawa Children's Choir sings *O Canada*.]

[*English*]

Ms. Anctil: Please be seated.

It is appropriate and timely to honour the parliamentarians who have left us in the last year, to remember their service and the mark they have left on us, our Parliament and our country.

[*Translation*]

First I will ask the Speaker of the Senate, the Honourable George Furey, to say a few words.

[*English*]

Hon. George J. Furey, Speaker of the Senate: Speaker Regan, former parliamentarians, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, it is my honour and privilege to welcome to the Senate today the families, friends and colleagues of those parliamentarians who passed away this past year.

[*Translation*]

Today we take time to remember those who dedicated themselves to the betterment of the lives of all Canadians. This is a moment to pay tribute to these parliamentarians who served their country with dignity and honour.

[*English*]

Reading the 38 names of those to whom we pay tribute this morning reminds us all of the fragility of life. I think in particular of the passing of our colleague Senator Tobias C. Enverga, Jr., who died in office and was taken from us much too soon.

To all the parents, spouses, partners, families and friends of those who have left us this year, I offer my deepest and sincerest condolences. May you find solace and peace in knowing that each of them has left behind a lasting legacy of service.

[*Translation*]

I would like to recognize all of the members of the Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians who are with us. I would like to thank you for organizing today's annual memorial service, as you do every year.

[*English*]

Being a parliamentarian is no small undertaking. While it is indeed a privilege to serve, such service does not come without many sacrifices and sacrifices that are most keenly felt by families and friends.

This solemn occasion reminds us that above the partisanship, parliamentarians past and present are bound by a kinship and a mutual respect that is borne of their shared experiences, a respect that transcends the everyday cut and thrust of partisan politics.

[Translation]

And in conclusion, I again welcome you to your Parliament to celebrate the life and extraordinary contributions of our departed colleagues.

[English]

We are forever in their debt, and may their memory serve always as an inspiration to us all. Thank you.

Ms. Anctil: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I now call upon the Speaker of the House of Commons, the Honourable Geoff Regan, to offer remarks.

Hon. Geoff Regan, Speaker of the House of Commons: Speaker Furey, fellow parliamentarians, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, I am honoured to be with you today as we gather to mark the passing of our colleagues in the last year. It is a somber and sorrowful duty, but a privilege, too, to remember our comrades who served their fellow Canadians in Parliament.

[Translation]

These parliamentarians formed a community of men and women who sought to represent their fellow citizens here, in the heart of our country's democracy, and have passed on the responsibility to you.

The life of a senator or member of Parliament is not without its challenges, but we all deem it a privilege to serve our nation and to speak on behalf of our electors.

[English]

Some of those who left us this year did so at a venerable age, such as the Honourable Allan J. MacEachen, a fellow Nova Scotian. Some were taken away suddenly, like my friend Gord Brown, or, also at a heartbreakingly young age, like Arnold Chan.

[Translation]

It is important that we take the time to pay tribute to the lives of our departed colleagues who have left us in the course of the past year. We are saddened by their departure, but grateful to have known them and to have benefited from their qualities and their contribution to the Parliament of Canada and to their fellow citizens.

[English]

John Donne said it better than anyone could, even if it was in the language of the time:

No man is an island
Entire of itself
Every man is a piece of the continent
A part of the main. . . .
Any man's death diminishes me
Because I am involved in mankind
And therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls;
It tolls for thee.

[Senator Furey]

[Translation]

Ms. Anctil: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The President of the Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians, the Honourable Andy Mitchell, will now say a few words.

[English]

Hon. Andy Mitchell, President, Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians: Mr. Speakers, parliamentarians, honoured guests, ladies and gentlemen, this year we honour 39 parliamentarians who passed away since our last service. Thirty-one served in the House of Commons, seven were senators, and one served in both chambers. Their time in Parliament varied. Some are associated with causes and legacies of national importance. Others are known for their service to their region, their constituencies and their communities. They all left their mark on Canada.

The people we honour today brought their diverse experiences, skills, passions into the crucible of public debate — the Senate and the House of Commons. That is the heart of our democracy. Their perspectives differed. They wrestled with the issues of the day, and often their ideas clashed. All were drawn by their strength of conviction and their desire to serve their fellow citizens.

A champion paddler and avid hockey player, Gord Brown was renowned for his ability to unite MPs from all parties to advance issues that he regarded as important to his constituents and to Canada. He was devoted to his family and to his community of Gananoque, and he contributed to many local organizations and causes.

Tobias C. Enverga, Jr. was the first Filipino-Canadian elected to public office in the city of Toronto. In the Senate, he was an advocate for people with Down's syndrome.

[Translation]

Quebec pays tribute to nine former parliamentarians from all political parties.

Louis-Paul Neveu, who represented Shefford, was a dignified and forceful man. He devoted his life to his family and to his country.

René Gingras was the member for Abitibi-Témiscamingue. He was an administrator, an electrician, a business person and a politician.

The Honourable Suzanne Blais-Grenier, who represented Rosemont, was an independent lady of great character.

Gérard Girouard was elected as a Créditiste and left the caucus to join the Progressive Conservative Party. He was later appointed to the bench.

Elected three times to the House of Commons, Clement Vincent then joined the Government of Quebec, where he was appointed Minister of Agriculture. He was a builder and had a gift for bringing people together. His motivation was to serve, and his children learned a great deal from him about public service.

In 1962, Gérard Lamy was elected as a Cr ditiste for the riding of Saint-Maurice-Lafleche. A year later, he yielded his position to a future prime minister.

Laurent Lavigne was a committed sovereignist: a simple, affable and dedicated man.

[English]

Normand Grimard was named to the Senate in order to help pass the GST. He served for nearly 10 years in the upper chamber. He later wrote a book in which he defended the existence of this place, the Senate. I'm sure it is reading material here.

Douglas Everett was named to the Senate at age 39 by Prime Minister Pearson. He was a vigorous supporter of free trade, open borders, individual and women's rights.

Dr. Charles Eug ne Marin was elected for two terms as the Progressive Conservative representative of Gasp  and served ably as the Chair of the House of Commons Fisheries Committee. His home was the community of Sainte-Anne-des-Monts, where he practised medicine, served as mayor, and supported the community in many other ways as well.

Community leadership was a pathway to politics for other parliamentarians as well.

Bernie Collins, MP for Souris—Moose Mountain, was active as a teacher, municipal councillor, and Mayor of Estevan, Saskatchewan, for four decades.

Royal Galipeau was a local councillor and active in municipal politics in Gloucester and Ottawa before being elected as MP for Ottawa—Orleans in 2006. His life was devoted to public service.

Derek Blackburn taught high school before entering politics as the NDP MP for Brant, Ontario. He served his constituents with dedication and compassion for 22 years.

Also an educator by profession, Stanley Hovdebo served the people of Prince Albert and Saskatoon—Humboldt from 1980 to 1993 before joining CODE, a Canadian NGO that is well known abroad for its work in support of education in the developing world.

Thelma Chalifoux was a teacher and a politician and an active figure in the Metis community in Alberta. Named to the Senate by Prime Minister Chr tien, she was the first Indigenous woman and Metis person to serve in the upper chamber.

Before being elected in 1974 as Liberal MP for Halton, Dr. Frank Philbrook worked as a medical officer in Kashmir and in Pakistan. This ignited a passion for travel, which he and his beloved wife, Midge, pursued through their lives.

Robert Bockstael was a long-time manager of Bockstael Construction in Winnipeg, where he entered politics in 1979 as the MP for St. Boniface.

Ron Fewchuk was a businessman and entrepreneur before being elected as MP for Selkirk—Red River in 1993.

Both Manitobans are fondly remembered for their service to community and love of family.

New Brunswick lost two prominent advocates.

Robert Howie was the popular MP for York—Sunbury from 1972 to 1988. He made history by passing, while in opposition, a private member's bill to protect battered children. It received unanimous consent. He succeeded in getting two other private members' bills passed. But despite all his political accomplishments, his greatest joy was still his family.

Keith Ashfield represented Fredericton and served in the government of Stephen Harper. He was known as a voice for New Brunswick. To quote a friend: "New Brunswick is a small province, but we seemed so much bigger when Keith was our ambassador."

Dianne Brushett was an ardent promoter of Nova Scotia. She co-founded and managed Dominion Biologicals before being elected as MP for Cumberland—Colchester in 1993.

The son of a coal miner, Allan J. MacEachen was a disciplined disciple of the Antigonish Movement before entering politics as MP for Inverness—Richmond in 1953. He served for nearly four decades in the House of Commons and later in the Senate. He was a skilled orator, a master political tactician, and a key minister in the Pearson and Trudeau governments. His achievements in government, including national medicare, have become part of the social fabric of Canada. In Nova Scotia especially, Allan MacEachen is revered for his progressive social views and devotion to his region. When asked to summarize his view of the responsibility of government, he often said very simply, "To put bread on the table."

Paul Dick is remembered as a Progressive Conservative party loyalist who worked tirelessly for his constituents and who transformed government procurement. His reforms to government contracting led to the open and transparent procurement system known today as MERX. Former Prime Minister Mulroney said of him: "He ran a very tight ship. He was an excellent administrator and knew how to do business. He exercised great leadership in federal government procurement, which is huge."

Howard McCurdy was an accomplished scientist and a prominent civil rights activist before turning to politics. During his nine-year term as a New Democratic MP from Windsor, he worked closely with then-Foreign Affairs Minister Joe Clark to lead the fight in Canada to end the South African racist system of apartheid. Their work drew the attention of Nelson Mandela, who asked to meet with Dr. McCurdy during his 1990 visit to Canada.

As Minister for Employment and Immigration in the Clark government, Ron Atkey played a pivotal role in enabling 50,000 Vietnamese refugees to immigrate to Canada and in creating the sponsorship programs that made that possible. These events created a framework for Canada's future welcoming approach to refugees that has helped define our national character today.

A farmer, Nelson Elliott briefly represented the constituency of London—Middlesex in 1979.

Another farmer, Bert Brown from Alberta, was a champion of the Triple-E Senate. He gained fame when he used his tractor to plow “Triple-E Senate or else” into his neighbour’s field. He was elected twice as a senator-in-waiting before being appointed to the upper chamber.

David Barrett was a passionate orator who led an activist one-term government as the NDP Premier of British Columbia from 1972 to 1975. Though his government was defeated, many of its initiatives have endured. He was later elected for one term as MP for Esquimalt—Juan-de-Fuca in 1988. Dave Barrett was a charismatic figure and a progressive force. He cared deeply about his province and he loved politics.

Douglas Stewart was another powerful orator from British Columbia. He served as the Liberal MP for the Okanagan—Kootenay district before joining the civil service. To his many friends, “Doug,” as he was affectionately known, was a master of language and words. Charismatic, charming and inspiring, he delighted in conversation, debate and story-telling.

A brilliant student from a prominent Montreal family, Michael Pitfield chose a career in the Canadian public service. He rose to become the Clerk of the Privy Council and Secretary to Cabinet under Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau, and was closely associated with many of the Prime Minister’s initiatives, including the repatriation of the Canadian Constitution and the establishment of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. He later sat as an independent in the Senate.

Robert Stanbury was a lawyer, journalist and corporate executive. After his 12 years in the House of Commons, including in several cabinet portfolios, he joined Firestone Canada as a senior executive and later became President of the Canadian Council for Native Business.

Simply known as “Bev,” Beverly Desjarlais won three elections as the MP for Churchill. Respected by all parties, she was known as an unbelievably hard worker and as a dedicated public servant who always put Manitobans first and fervently stood by her beliefs and her convictions.

As the New Democratic Party MP for Danforth, Reid Scott served on the all-party committee charged with recommending a new flag for Canada.

The northern Ontario constituency of Nickel Belt lost two of its prominent political figures, both of whom were teachers.

John Rodriguez served from 1972 to 1993 with one interruption and was a colourful figure in Canadian politics during his time in office.

Gaetan Serré served as the Liberal MP for Nickel Belt from 1968 to 1972. As a dedicated educator, Gaetan was an active member of his community. His entire life was devoted to helping the less fortunate in our society. He was a great advocate for social justice and may have established a family dynasty as well. His younger brother Ben was the MP from 1993 to 2004, and his son Marc is the MP for Nickel Belt today.

[Mr. Mitchell]

Senator Tommy Banks was a musical virtuoso and TV personality who could wow crowds around the world, but his heart remained in Edmonton. He got his start in the 1960s as host of a CBC program that ultimately became “The Tommy Banks Show.” Despite offers to move to larger musical centres, he insisted on staying in Edmonton where he continuously gave back to his community.

Arnold Chan studied urban planning and law before entering politics as the MP for Scarborough—Agincourt. He used his time in Parliament to advocate passionately for stability and respect in partisan debate. In one of his final addresses to the House of Commons, he made a passionate plea for Canadians “to give heart to their democracy, to treasure it and revere it.” He urged Canadians to engage in the small acts of common decency and civility because that is the foundation of what makes Canada great. Finally, referring to his wife and his family, he spoke of “dedication, duty and devotion.”

These are the ingredients that sustained the commitment of the 39 parliamentarians we honour today. Dedication, duty and devotion are also what you brought to their lives as their family and close friends. It is a contribution all of you have given to Canada and to Canadians. It is what you bring here today to this memorial ceremony.

To each of you, thank you; and to all who are in attendance, thank you.

Ms. Anctil: Thank you, Mr. Mitchell.

[*Translation*]

I now invite you to listen to Pipe Major Sergeant Malcolm Odell and the Brass Quintet of the Central Band of the Canadian Armed Forces, who will perform *Highland Cathedral*.

[Pipe Major Malcolm Odell and the Brass Quintet of the Central Band of the Canadian Armed Forces perform *Highland Cathedral*.]

Ms. Anctil: I now invite Ms. Diane Vincent, daughter of the late Clément Vincent, former Member of Parliament, and Ms. Caroline Pitfield, daughter of the late Honourable Michael Pitfield, former senator, to read two texts.

Diane Vincent, daughter of the late Clément Vincent, former MP: Honourable Speaker of the Senate of Canada, Honourable Speaker of the House of Commons, Mr. President of the Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians, ladies and gentlemen, this is an excerpt from the inaugural address of the Right Honourable General Georges P. Vanier, 19th Governor General of Canada, delivered on September 15, 1959.

Each one of us, in his own way and place, however humble, must play his part towards the fulfilment of our national destiny. To realize how mighty this destiny will be, let us lift our eyes beyond the horizon of our time. In our march forward in material happiness, let us not neglect the spiritual threads in the weaving of our lives. If Canada is to attain the greatness worthy of it, each of us must say, “I ask only to serve.”

[*English*]

Caroline Pitfield, Daughter of the late Honourable Michael Pitfield, former senator: This is a reading from the Right Honourable Adrienne Clarkson, Governor General from 1999 to 2005, her installation address delivered in Ottawa on October 7, 1999:

We must not see ourselves as a small country of 30 million people, floundering in a large land mass. We are among the healthiest, best-educated people in the world, with great natural riches. We have two of the world's great languages.

We must not see ourselves as people who simply react to trends but as people who can initiate them.

We must not see ourselves as people to whom things are done but as people who do things.

[*Translation*]

Ms. Anctil: Thank you.

David Charette will now perform a traditional song of tribute for those who have passed away, *BaAmaapii* ("See You Again").

[David Charette, First Nations Performer, performs *BaAmaapii* ("See You Again').]

Ms. Anctil: Thank you.

[*English*]

Each of the men and women whose public service we are honouring today contributed in their own way to the peace and prosperity that Canadians enjoy today, and they deserve to be counted among the people who have shaped Canada.

[*Translation*]

We will now listen to a piece performed by the Ottawa Children's Choir.

[The Ottawa Children's Choir sings *Chanter*.]

[*English*]

Ms. Anctil: The Vice-President of the Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians, Mr. Jack Harris, will lead us in the reading of the Honour Roll Call, followed by a moment of silence, *The Lament*, and the laying of the wreath.

Jack Harris, Vice-President, Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians: I would ask that the family members and representatives of deceased members being remembered today please rise as the name of the deceased is read, and remain standing until after *The Lament* is played and the wreath is presented by our Speakers.

The Honourable Keith Ashfield

The Honourable Ron Atkey

The Honourable Tommy Banks

Mr. David Barrett

Mr. Derek Blackburn

The Honourable Suzanne Blais-Grenier

Mr. Robert Theodore Bockstael

The Honourable Bert Brown

Mr. Gordon Brown

Ms. Dianne Brushett

The Honourable Thelma Chalifoux

Mr. Arnold Chan

Mr. Bernard Collins

Ms. Beverly Desjarlais

The Honourable Paul Dick

Mr. Nelson Elliott

The Honourable Tobias C. Enverga, Jr.

The Honourable Douglas Everett

Mr. Ronald Fewchuk

Mr. Royal Galipeau

Mr. René Gingras

Mr. Gérard Girouard

The Honourable Normand Grimard

Mr. Stanley Hovdebo

The Honourable Robert Howie

Mr. Gérard Lamy

Mr. Laurent Lavigne

The Honourable Allan J. MacEachen

Dr. Charles Eugène Marin

Dr. Howard McCurdy

Mr. Louis-Paul Neveu

Dr. Frank Philbrook

The Honourable Michael Pitfield

Mr. John Rodriguez

Mr. Reid Scott

Mr. Gaetan Serré

The Honourable Robert Stanbury

Mr. William Douglas Stewart

Mr. Clément Vincent

Ladies and gentlemen, please rise for the minute of silence, followed by *The Lament* and then the laying of the wreath by the Speakers of the House of Commons and the Senate.

[Minute of silence]

[Sergeant Malcolm Odell, Pipe Major, performs *The Lament*.]

Ms. Anctil: Please be seated.

We are truly honoured to have so many family members with us to pay tribute to their loved ones. In you, we see the same sense of dedication of purpose, of service, and of pride in what we, as a people and as a country, have built together and will continue to build.

[*Translation*]

In this regard, the circle of life continues.

I would once again like to introduce the Ottawa Children's Choir, who will perform *We Rise Again*.

[The Ottawa Children's Choir performs *We Rise Again*.]

Ms. Anctil: Our ceremony is drawing to a close, and I would like to thank you for being here. You are invited to a reception that will be held in the Senate Foyer. I would kindly ask that the members of the families remain in the chamber for the photo session before joining the reception.

Please rise for the royal anthem and remain standing for the departure of the official party.

[The Ottawa Children's Choir performs *God Save the Queen*.]

[Recessional music by Pipe Major Malcolm Odell]

[End of ceremony]

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