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SPRING 2019

Beyond the Hill

Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians

**Farewell Party for
the old House**

**Sir John A. Macdonald
and the residential
schools issue**

**An MP's commitment
to its constituency**

Malta Study Tour



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Beyond the Hill

Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians

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Dorothy Dobbie.

How the President sees it

A year in transition

The last year has been a busy one for the Association as we examine our mandate and determine where we want to go over the next 12 months. A major priority is finding a way to help retiring MPs through their transition from public to private life. Francis LeBlanc began this initiative last year and it is now underway with the help of John Bosley and former Clerk, Audrey O'Brien. Jack Harris and Merv Tweed have also volunteered to be involved.

In that regard, we have already reached out to those MPs and senators who have announced that they will not run again and have invited them to join CAFP.

Farewell to Francis

I would personally like to thank Francis for his service to the Association over the past three years. Although he has decided to move on, his love and enthusiasm for CAFP will have left a deep impression. In addition to the transition issue, he has worked to create a new web presence for our Association and he has been successful in establishing a group travel insurance plan that I am sure you will want to access.

We will not replace Francis in the short term, pending a return to fiscal health by CAFP. In the meantime, we will look for support from someone with digital expertise to assist our staff in completing the job of updating the website and its behind-the-scenes capacity to accept membership payments, etc. A candidate search committee will be established for the longer term.

Fundraising for CAFP

My focus is on fundraising and im-

proving our services to members. By the time you read this, the first fund-raising initiative of the plan will have taken place. This year, CAFP will have honoured the Hon. Jean Charest, former MP and former premier of Quebec, with a Lifetime Achievement Award at a dinner in Montreal. Warm appreciation goes out to The Rt. Hon. Brian Mulroney and the Rt. Hon. Jean Chrétien for serving as honorary patrons of the event.

Co-chairs The Hon. Jean Bazin and Leo Duguay have been ably assisted by the Hon. Eleni Bakopanos, the Hon. Marie-P. Charette-Poulin, Sean Finn, Jodi White and Merv Tweed. A warm thank you to each of you for your help and support.

Special thanks to Leo Duguay

I especially wish to thank your past president, Leo Duguay, for his unflagging efforts to raise funds on our behalf. His creative energy and hard work have kept your association afloat over the past number of years. Not only has he conducted several fund raising events but he has also organized a variety of study tours, the latest one, a very successful and sold out trip to Malta. Leo and his team of our own Sue Barnes and Céline Brazeau Fraser were so efficient that they were actually able to refund almost \$20,000 to the participants.

Further fund raising events are in the planning, with the establishment of a new award, the Nation Builder award, which will honour former prime ministers. The proposal for this award are listed in the article on page 27.

Enlisting your help

The strength of our Association depends on the participation of our

members and I have therefore begun the task of creating new committees and assigning new responsibilities. Some of this work has already been done. Thank you to the Hon. Mary Collins, CAFP secretary, for following up on a resolution from last year's AGM to determine whether or not we need an expensive formal audit of our books. Conjunctive to that task, Ian Waddell was appointed by the Hon. Gerry Weiner, President of the Foundation, to recommend on the future of the Foundation now that the CRA has insisted that it be essentially severed from CAFP.

The conclusion of one led to the recommendation of the other. As a result of Ian's work, the Foundation Board has recommended that its activities in funding organizations that already receive funds from other sources, be curtailed. The Board of the Foundation is now studying how best to manage the funds remaining. Other than that, the Foundation will basically remain dormant until needed, some time in the future. With this in mind, Mary has recommended that we do not need a formal audit. An internal audit committee chaired by our Finance Chair, Marcel R. Tremblay, will be struck to oversee our financial affairs.

For the time being, the Association will focus its fund raising efforts on its own needs and use the funds it raises to provide more opportunities for democracy building by its own members, including facilitating speaking engagements and election monitoring.

The Hon. Con Di Nino has taken on the task of opening new doors to election monitoring.



The Ottawa editorial team (L to R): Maya Gwilliam, Wade Morris and Ellie Sabourin.

New interns

Our long term assistant editor, Harrison Lowman was promoted in his job and therefore was forced to resign. I wish to thank him for his dedication and hard work. He did a wonderful job for us over the several years of his tenure. Unfortunately, he worked from Toronto which was awkward for the office and so we have replaced him and his team with an all-Ottawa based cohort consisting of Ellie Sabourin, assistant editor; Maya Gwilliam, returning intern; and Wade Morris, intern.

Let's help Joe

Our very best wishes for a speedy recovery go out to Joe Daniel, a one-term Conservative member from 2011 to 2015, who represented the Toronto riding of Don Valley East. He was the first Canadian MP of Malayali descent. Joe suffered a severe stroke last September resulting in the paralysis of his left side. He has no medical coverage and obviously, no pension or group benefits to fall back on. It will take him up to 12 months to recover.

The cost of medical and physi-

otherapy for Joe is beyond his means as all he had managed to find since his return to private life was a part time teaching job. Physiotherapy alone is \$990 a week. Some of his friends started a gofundme page to help Joe get through this. We have emailed our members to let them know how to get involved, but we know that emails often go astray, so I am appealing to you, once again, to help Joe out. You can contribute at <https://www.gofundme.com/friends-of-joe-daniel>

Contact me

I will be looking to each of you to bring forward your ideas about how to make CAFP more accessible and useful to you as former members. You can reach me at dorothy@pegasuspublicaitons.net or call me at 204-940-2716. Meanwhile, I hope I will see many of you at the Annual Meeting this June 2 and 3. There will be an opportunity to see the temporary Commons and the Senate along with some exciting new features at the meeting.

**Sincerely,
Dorothy Dobbie
President**



A view of the new Senate Chamber where members will sit for the next decade while Centre Block is under renovation.

Photo by Sarah Dea.

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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. Website: www.exparl.ca.



Francis LeBlanc

Executive Director's Report

By Francis LeBlanc

In a few short months, Canadians will go to the polls to elect a new Parliament and government. The 43rd general election will take place on October 21st, 2019. Following the election, the attention of Canadians, and official Ottawa, will be focused on the 338 new or re-elected men and women who will take their seats in the House of Commons.

For those not re-elected, or who chose not to present themselves for re-election, the period following their departure from the House of Commons can be a painful process of adjustment in their personal and professional lives. Many MP's, sacrifice important careers to serve in the House of Commons, and devote themselves totally to their work as MP's. They have very little time to think, much less plan for, the possibility of not being re-elected. Even those that decide not to reoffer, or

choose to retire early, can find their new reality difficult.

Serving as a welcoming refuge for these now former MP's, and helping them adjust to this new stage in their lives, should be a central purpose of the Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians. And, over the past year, it has been one of my priorities as executive director.

With the encouragement of the party whips, and guidance from our members, the Association has embarked on a review of current transition support provided by the House of Commons for members not re-elected or who choose not to reoffer. We have made important suggestions to the House of Commons team charged with this task in order to improve these provisions and the way in which they are applied and communicated. In the coordination of this project, I have benefitted from

the wise advice and assistance of former Speaker, John Bosley, and former Clerk, Audrey O'Brien, as members of our steering committee.

As the election approaches, we are asking former members, especially those who have served recently in the House of Commons, and therefore whose experience is fresh, to volunteer to act as mentors to newly departing MP's, as they prepare for this next phase in their lives. If you are interested, or would like to know more about this mentorship opportunity, please contact the CAFP office at 1-888-567-4764 or by email at ex-parl@parl.gc.ca.

So long but not good-bye...

At the end of March 2019, I will be resigning from my position as executive director. I have enjoyed the friendships I've made with colleagues from across Canada and I look forward to staying in touch.

The last supper



Francis LeBlanc and the Hon. Don Boudria.



Hon. John Reid, Barry Turner and Keith Penner.



Two former CAFP Presidents, Léo Duguay and Doug Rowland.

Farewell Party for the old House

By Dorothy Dobbie



The old chamber had a warm feeling in spite of the many interesting “discussions” that have taken place there.

The country will now be familiar with the new House of Commons chambers which were brought into action early this year. Before the traditional House closed, however, there were two events. The first was a grand farewell party hosted by the House of Commons in November to which former members were all invited.

Before the party started, former members had an opportunity to tour the new facility which was still receiving its final touches. It was a tour of nostalgia for many of us as we viewed what was to be a replica of the chamber in Centre block, but which

couldn't really hide its newness.

As for the Party, itself, the speakers of both the House and the Senate spoke. The Prime Minister spoke. The Leader of the Opposition spoke and the Governor General also said a few words at the end. There were children's voices, throat singers and hoop dancers and tons of delicious food.

Later, as party goers left the Centre Block, the halls seemed to echo with voices of the past, surely going quiet now as the work begins to rehabilitate the old House over the next decade. The keepers of the memories and the many important traditions of the past have always been vested

in you, the members of CAFB, but now, perhaps more than ever, Parliament needs the counsel you can give through your many contacts with all sides of the House. Our job is to help preserve democracy and our peculiar notion of Peace, Order and Good Government.

The second event took place in December as the staff of CAFB hosted a “last supper” in one of the private rooms of the parliamentary restaurant, a facility that will be sorely missed by many.

Farewell, old House. We look forward to your resurrection ten years from now.



A last look at the Parliamentary Restaurant, the scene of so many intriguing conversations.



The beautiful entry hall to Centre Block with its gothic arches.



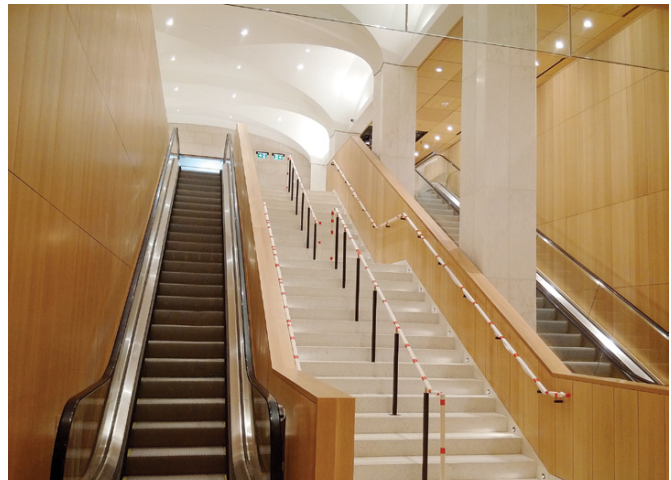
A mural in the Railway Committee room.



The Commons chamber still under construction in November.



One of the new committee rooms in West Block.



There is an upstairs downstairs element that takes members below grade level where the new visitor reception centre is.



A youth orchestra and the throat singers.



Celebrations at the closing.



Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.



The Governor General Julie Payette attended the ceremonies.



A lovely feast in the Railway Room where some members hid out when the gunman burst into the house some years ago.



Ellen and Derrek Konrad.



Chungsen Leung and Bob Dechert.



Hon. Joseph Day, Hon. Marjorie LeBreton and Hon. Peter Harder.



James Bezan, MP and Hon. Pamela Wallin, Senator.



Joseph Comartin.



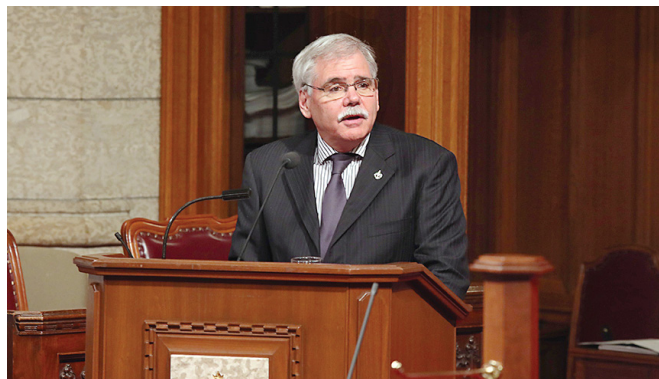
Dr. Gary Gurbini and Hon. Jack Murta.

2018 AGM and Memorial Service

Photos by Christian Diotte



Pipers march in the dignitaries.



Former CAF President Hon. Andy Mitchell.



Chief of Protocol, Nancy Anctil, speaking to the families at the memorial service. In the background is Senator Pat Bovey. In blue, is Lila Goodspeed Everett, widow of the late Senator Douglas Everett.



One by one, the families stand in honour of their departed one.



The soaring voices of the Ottawa Children's Choir fill the chamber.



The faces reveal the sadness of the day.

It is one of the most solemn moments on the Hill. Everyone is dressed in their best. They have come from far and wide to pay their respects to departed members who served their country with dedication and distinction, each giving up a precious part of his or her life to make Canada a better place.

Faces are sombre. Some cannot help the stray tear that escapes whether

family member or former colleague. The ceremony is a poignant reminder that in spite of all the fight and fury once demonstrated in support or rejection of ideas, the energy is now spent, extinguished by the passage of time.

As each name is called, family members stand. Sometimes, there is no family, so a member or CAFP stands in their place feeling the heavy hand of sorrow as sharply as if they were re-

lated. The pipes play. The choir sings. The wreath is laid.

But we remember their service. We remember their passion and their love for our democratic institution, stronger than any single one of us, enduring because of the foundation laid by those who had walked this way before in defence of our Canada.

We remember them. And we thank them.

Luncheon speaker National Chief Perry Bellegarde

2018's theme of the AGM was the process of reconciliation with Canada's First Nations and how former parliamentarians can contribute.



Hon. David McDonald introduced the guest speaker, Perry Bellegarde, to the AGM.



Assembly of First Nations, National Chief Perry Bellegarde spoke on Truth and Reconciliation.



Maurice Harquail asks a question of Chief Perry Bellegarde.



Leo Duguay and Ian Waddell.



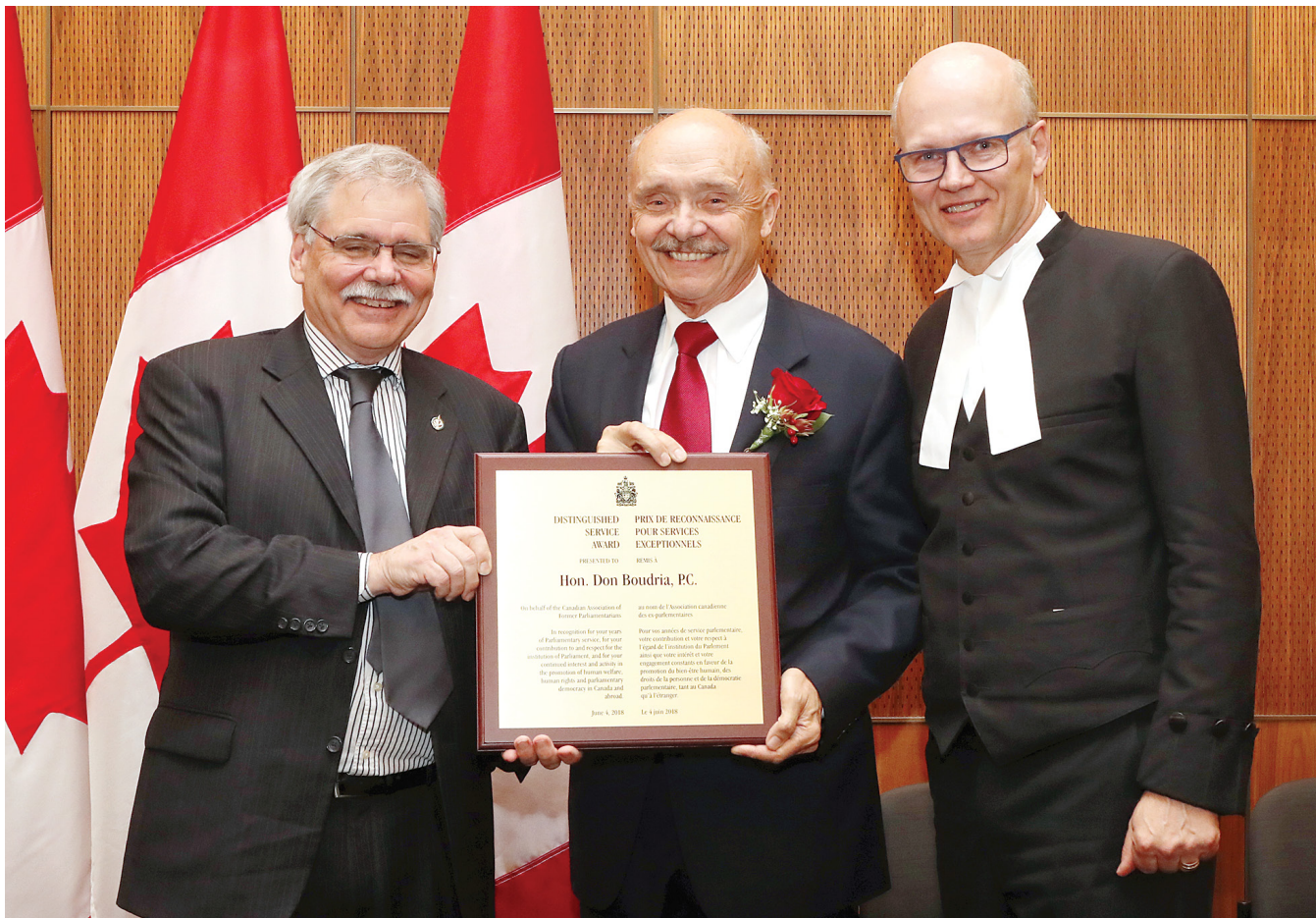
Continuing with the theme of reconciliation, Indigenous Services Minister Hon. Jane Philpott was invited to speak at the AGM.



The Hon. Jane Philpott with Eleni Bakopanos and Ian Waddell.

Don Boudria receives CAFP's Distinguished Service Award 2018

Photos by Christian Diotte



President Hon. Andy Mitchell, Hon. Don Boudria and Speaker Geoff Regan. Don is holding his Distinguished Service Award.



The Boudria family poses with Speaker Geoff Regan.



Doug and Helen Rowland, William Young and David Daubney.



Hon. Andy Mitchell.



Mary Ann and Don Boudria.



Vice-president of CAFB, Jack Harris.



Osvaldo and Zaida Nuñez speak with Claude Bachand and Madeleine Dalphond-Guiral.



Jack Murta shares a drink with Richard Cohen.



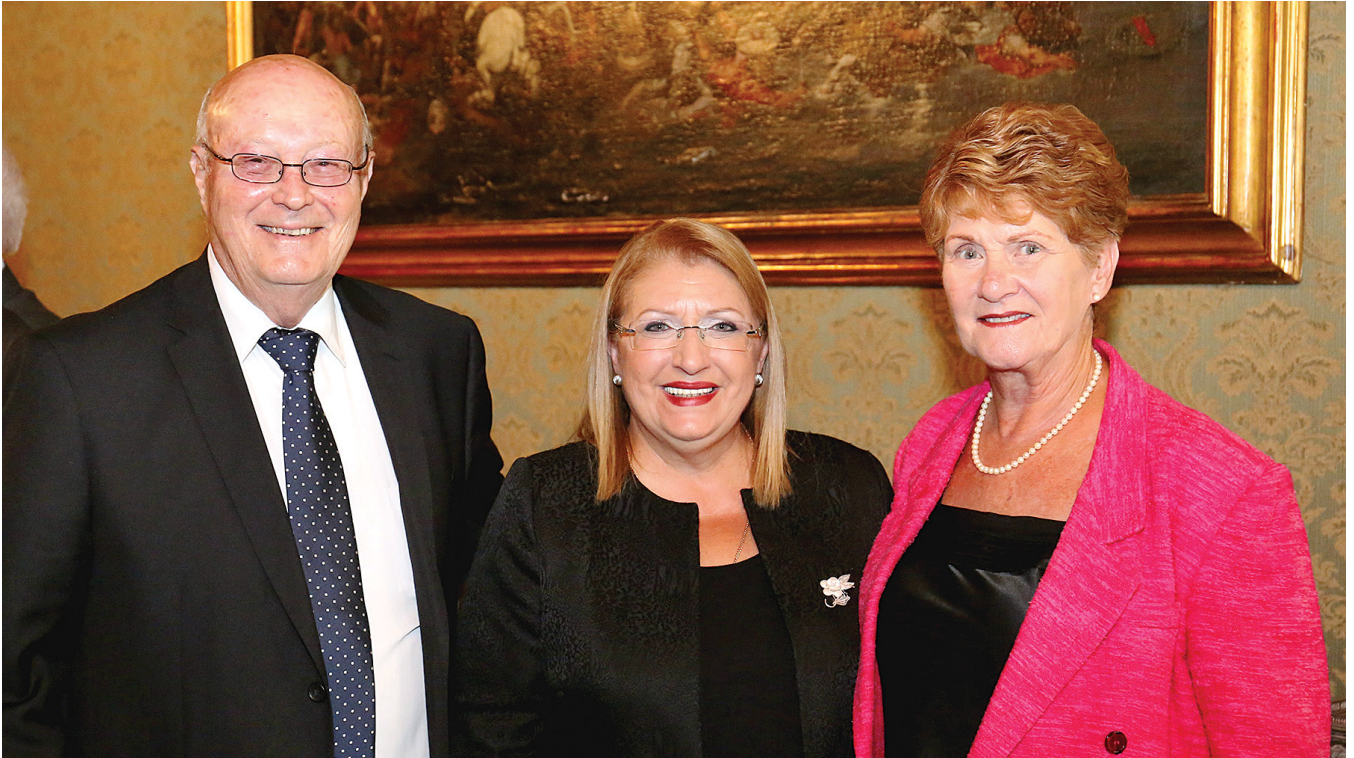
Hon. Andy Mitchell and Jack Silverstone, former executive director of CAFB.



Hon. Don Boudria with the Hon. Raymond Setlakwe. Hon. Eleni Bakopanos is in the background.

CAFP delegation tours Malta and Gozo

Story by Francis LeBlanc



President of Malta Marie Louise Coleiro Preca (centre) surrounded by Lino De Bono, the President of the Association of Former Parliamentarians of Malta, and his wife Alice.

In November 2018 a multi-party delegation of former parliamentarians and their spouses (25 in all) carried out an 11-day study tour of the islands of Malta and Gozo. The tour comprised extensive sightseeing of these scenic and strategically significant islands, as well as visits to the Maltese Parliament, a meeting with the President of Malta, and events organized and facilitated by our gracious host, the President of the Association of Former Parliamentarians of Malta, Lino De Bono, and his wife, Alice.

The small Islands of Malta (316 km²) and Gozo (67 km²) are situated in the central Mediterranean, south-east of Sicily. From this strategic location, they have been the scene of more than 7,000 years of fascinating human history. They have been settled since the Stone Age, and, over the centuries, have been conquered by the

Greeks, the Phoenicians, the Romans, the Normans, Muslims, (to name but a few). Thanks to the legendary Order of Saint John, Malta withstood the invasion by the Ottoman Turks in the epic siege of 1565. Malta was captured by the French under Napoleon in 1798, and became part of the British Empire in 1814 until achieving independence in 1964. The capital, Valletta, sustained massive bombing by Hitler's forces in World War II, evidence of which is still visible today.

The history of Malta is vividly represented in numerous fortresses and fortifications, archeological sites of global significance, and magnificent museums. Our delegation toured many of these sites including the Stone Age Gigantica Temples, the Hypogeum (both UNESCO World Heritage Sites), the Citadella in Gozo, the Domus Romana Church and Catacombs

in Rabat, the fortifications and museum of St. Elmo's in Valletta, and other remarkable sites.

Malta is today an independent country, a strong democracy, and a proud member of the European Union. Our delegation met with the President of Malta, Her Excellency Marie Louise Coleiro Preca, at her residence in the San Anton Palace in Valletta. We toured the Parliament of Malta, courtesy of the Speaker of Parliament, the Honorable Anglu Farrugia, who graciously hosted a reception in our honour, following the Remembrance Day services on November 11th.

The Study Tour was also a great way to create and deepen friendships among our members. The tour provided a number of group meals at some of Malta and Gozo's best restaurants and plenty of opportunity for relaxation and informal sightseeing.



Group photo at Palace Valetta.



Leo Duguay and Jack Harris at Remembrance Day.



Sue Barnes and Angelo Farrugia, Speaker of the House of Representatives at the Parliament of Malta.

As in previous CAFP Study Tours, the visit to Malta and Gozo was ably led by Leo Duguay. We were privileged, this time, to have as our resident guide, our colleague, Sue Barnes, who was born in Malta and was intimately familiar with the Islands and their treasures. Céline Brazeau Fraser of the CAFP Staff devoted countless hours to the detailed planning and arrangements for the tour itinerary and provided excellent support to the participants.

Of course, words cannot, by themselves, adequately describe the experience and participants snapped many wonderful photos on their cameras and smartphones. We've collected the best ones, which are available on our website at www.exparl.ca.



Marlene Shepherd and Midge Philbrook enjoying the beautiful Palazzo Parisio Palace and Garden.



Ann Martin and Jack Harris.



Group visiting Citadel in Gozo.



Hélène Bertrand, Leo and Charlette Duguay on the ferry from Gozo to Malta.



Group dinner in Gozo.



Group going in to visit the Citadel in Gozo.



Céline, Sue Barnes and Ann Martin walking through the narrow streets of Gozo.



Lynn Hunter in Gozo.



Group visiting Holy Infirmary in Malta.



Herb Grubel chatting with the Marquis of Casa Piccola's parrot.



Francis LeBlanc and Jack Harris at Ggantija Temple.



Group enjoying a stroll through the Palazzo Parisio Palace and Garden.



Hon. Jean Augustine and Hon. Audrey McLaughlin taking a pause in Valetta.



Hon. Raymond Setlakwe at the Palazzo Parisio Palace.



Hon. Raymond Setlakwe and Marlene Shepherd enjoying the view at Upper Barrakka Gardens in Malta.



Herb Grubel, Hélène Bertrand and Jean-Jacques Blais walking through Valetta.

Canada's first Prime Minister and the residential schools issue

By Maya Gwilliam

When it comes to Sir John A. Macdonald, the country is divided on whether he should be honoured or expunged from Canadian history. For the former, Canada's first Prime Minister has slowly become an antagonist for many people due to what they see as his intolerance towards the Indigenous community. But should his actions be considered in the context of the attitudes of the time?

Although it should be acknowledged that the majority of 19th century Canadians held a different perspective regarding ethnic diversity, some members of today's society are adamant that, despite his contribution to our country, Sir John A. should be held accountable for the actions taken during his time as prime minister. As a consequence, in August 2017, the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario instructed all school boards in the province to retitle the schools named after Macdonald.

Macdonald was credited with playing a significant role in the creation of the Indian Act, but the residential school system was actually started in New France. The program grew and from 1880 to the late 1960s, these institutions saw about 150,000 Indigenous children removed from their families, sometimes, but not always, without parental consent, and placed in church-run educational facilities in order to educate and thereby assimilate them into Canadian culture.

In some of these institutions, severe physical, sexual, and emotional abuse was meted to many children. An estimated 6,000 died without ever returning home, according to the Canadian Encyclopaedia. In spite of this, society must also reflect on the motives behind Macdonald's actions. Macdonald and the rest of the Canadian government, which included Liberal members who did not close the schools when they took power, staunchly believed residential schools would benefit Indigenous children by teaching them the practical skills and lead them to be as successful



*Portrait of John A. Macdonald by photographer Mathew Brady.
Photo courtesy of the United States Library of Congress.*

as Euro-Canadians.

Despite the current controversy over residential schools and the role of the first prime minister, it is a fact that Macdonald was the key force behind Confederation in 1867, from which emerged the modern country we live in today. This leads to the question of how Canadians should reflect on his character as a whole.

Former NDP member of Parliament Jack Harris states that while John A. Macdonald did have his faults, he was both a key player in the formation of Canada and a major influence on the kind of country we live in – both good and bad.

“Our historical people have played

a role in the creation of the nation of Canada and in John A.'s case, both have their good points and their flaws,” he said. “You have to talk about the history along with the good points and the bad points about what was happening and who was doing it. You have to have perspective on these things and we do need to learn from them.”

Jack made clear that Indigenous people have the right to be upset about residential schools and colonization. It's imperative we work with them when it comes to moving forward as a nation.

“There's no quick fix, as they say. You can't wave a wand and fix the history of colonialism. You have to engage, respect and listen to people who

had different experiences and have to try to work towards the future,” Jack continued. “The issue is how to build a country that is inclusive, that recognizes the inherent rights of the Indigenous people and works with them to find solutions that are fair and just, that make them participants in Canadian society. But it’s going to be a different society.”

Christopher Dummitt is a history professor at Trent University. He believes that when judging past historical figures, the beliefs of their time should be taken into consideration.

“I think it’s easy to judge anyone by one thing they do. But good citizenship should be judged by looking at the whole person,” Christopher said.

He added that today’s society should try to understand our Canadian ancestors, as opposed to judging them.

“We ought to acknowledge and pay attention to the things he got wrong, but it’s also important to look at everything he did,” the history professor said. “I think you need to understand why he did what he did. The controversy is around indigenous people. If you understand him at the context of his time, you’d see him as quite a typical figure, who believed in assimilation and the superiority of his culture.

“We don’t approve of it now, but back in his time, there were exceptionally few people who didn’t believe that,” he added.

So it makes sense that Christopher believes removing Macdonald’s name from elementary schools is a step too far.

“People who say we should get rid of his name entirely or only keep it as a teachable moment are promoting a false dichotomy. Yes, any historical figure is someone that could represent a teachable moment, but there are things you would be proud to have his name attached to,” he said.

“I think people ought to be a little less offended about the names of things, monuments to people you may not like. Canada is an extraordinarily big country. People have never agreed on who the heroes and villains are. There’s nothing new in that and to assume we do agree is to want a uniform view of the past,” Christopher concluded.

The Honourable Eleni Bakopanos shared similar sentiments when it comes to maintaining John A. Macdonald’s



How we perceive Sir John A. Macdonald's historical legacy has proven to be complicated.

name on public landmarks and having him be taught at schools.

“How do you undo a wrong that was made centuries ago - that’s the question. Would it be by removing historical figures from everything and obliterating them from history? He can’t make amends for what he did, he doesn’t exist anymore, he’s dead and he can’t apologize,” she explained.

“We have to find the middle ground somewhere between totally obliterating him as if he didn’t exist, because he did exist, with his faults, with the injustices and everything else. But I think we can find fault in any political leader,” the former Liberal parliamentarian continued.

Although Eleni said she doesn’t have the answer about how to rectify the strife caused by the decisions taken back then, she said educating the public is a step in the right direction.

“The government did apologize for what was done to aboriginal people in the past. We can only move forward and have reconciliation if we move on,” she added.

“We need to make another generation aware so those errors and injustices are not repeated. That’s the whole point, to not repeat past injustices and we should do better than the generation before us and the ones way before us.”

Dorothy Dobbie added, “To single out a historical figure for any decision made in the context of the times that is seen as wrong in hindsight and according to quite different standards today, would expose every former prime minister and political leader to condemnation. Tommy Douglas thought homosexuals suffered from mental illness. McKenzie King refused haven to a ship load of Jews escaping the holocaust. Today, we view those attitudes and decisions as shameful, but these men also did much good for the country in other ways.

“We cannot rewrite history, nor should we. That’s like blaming our parents for living in the context of their times. This is not only pointless, but damaging to progress. If we expunge the past, we have no road map to the future.”

What it takes to cross the floor

By Maya Gwilliam

For the majority of politicians, the party they initially join is the one where they will ultimately retire. In those rare instances where Members of Parliament have chosen to switch caucuses while still in office, they may often face controversy and criticism; the Canadian political realm can be unforgiving to those who cross the floor.

Nevertheless, more than 274 MPs have done so in Canadian history, either through joining a new party or by becoming an Independent. Although each one did so for their own reasons, whether personal or ideological, the nature of floor-crossing calls into question the very foundations of our electoral democracy.

When we vote for a candidate, are we casting a vote for the individual or for the party they represent? Do MPs represent their constituents, or their party? The troubles faced by those who have crossed the floor exemplifies a fundamental dissonance in our political culture.

Here are the stories of two former parliamentarians who made the ultimate decision to change their party affiliations and the ways in which their experiences differed.

Approached by Politicians

Peter Ittinuar first entered federal politics in 1979 when Metis politician Wally Firth persuaded him to run for the electoral district of Nunatsiag in the House of Commons. He took the risk and won his seat for the NDP by only 76 votes.

"I started becoming interested in what the NDP stood for, and I was drawn to its ideological leanings. It was my first real experience in partisan politics, running and jumping into it with both feet," he mused. "I don't think the people at the time were very partisan, they voted for a young, fresh face. I didn't expect to win by any means. It was a huge shock."

Unlike Peter, Françoise Boivin always held political aspirations, but it wasn't until the Hon. Paul Martin



Peter Ittinuar was an NDP, Liberal and independent MP from 1979 to 1984.
Photo credit: The Cord.

approached her that she decided to run for office with the Liberal party.

Françoise said it was Paul's political philosophy of representing their constituents to the fullest extent that truly resounded.

"I wanted to go into politics and do something positive. I wanted to have a positive impact on the people of Gatineau and really have a representation," she said. "I liked the approach Paul Martin had, which was to come up with a democratic reform."

But while Françoise said the work was fulfilling, she wished she had more time in office.

"The thing is, it was a short-lived government with Paul Martin. I really enjoyed those years. It was a year-and-a-half and it was heavy politics," she said. "I really felt I had a role. I enjoyed my time and I was a member of the committee that was reviewing democracy reform and electrical reform."

Party Transitions

Françoise said that after losing the

2006 election she had reopened her law office, but still felt the urge to return to Parliament Hill, a dream she held since she was a kid.

However, after Paul Martin stepped down as the leader of the Liberals, Françoise felt it ceased to be the same party she had joined. It was during this time that she was recruited by Thomas Mulcair to join the NDP and although she didn't officially cross the floor, she did make a bold statement when she switched political parties.

"I did take a few weeks to think about it. There's not one party that represents 100% of your views on everything, Françoise admitted. "But I was attracted to the NDP because we were hearing more about them. We saw Jack Layton being more present in Quebec and he was trying to form a good, strong team to bring the social democracy values dear to his heart."

Luckily for Françoise the risk paid off, and she was re-elected in 2011. While some members of their team decided to stick with the Liberals, she never received backlash for her decision from those closest to her. By political standards, she did things "the right way"; she only switched parties while out of office, and ran again under her new banner.

But what about doing things "the wrong way"? Peter Ittinuar describes a far more contentious experience, even though several high-ranking officials approached him to join the Liberals directly.

Peter noted that when he first crossed the floor to the Liberals in 1982, only very few people had done so beforehand.

"The first time it was very difficult, you feel a sense of betrayal to the party that put you in," Peter said. "People saw you as someone who was not trustworthy. Even if you tried to explain in the most analytical way why you made the decision, people don't see it like that. They see it as an emotional issue."

Yet, despite the pushback Peter

Peter Milliken's most memorable decisions

By Wade Morris

defends his decision by noting the favours he received from the Liberals in exchange.

"When I crossed the floor it was in trade for a couple of things. One, I was grateful for having the recognition of Metis and Inuit rights accepted in the constitution," Peter disclosed. Two, it was in trade for a process to partition the Northwest Territories to come up with boundaries – the Eastern part would be Nunavut and the Western part would stay the Northwest Territories."

He also asked Pierre Trudeau to appoint Charlie Watt from Northern Quebec to the Senate, the second Inuk to achieve this post. Despite the pushback he received, Peter's crossing meant a victory for Inuit people throughout Canada, and, by extension, his constituents. It's certainly something worth considering, when serving one's constituents to the best of one's abilities may make you the subject of anger and derision.

Advice on Crossing the Floor

When asked what advice she would give politicians who are considering changing parties, Françoise said they should only shift their affiliation if they feel that the group no longer fits their political beliefs.

"The only recent reason to change parties is if you disagree profoundly with your party or the people at the helm," Françoise said. "Make sure you know exactly what you're getting into, like the players and what kind of attitude they have."

Peter agreed with Françoise's sentiments, but added that an individual must be aware of the potential backlash for leaving their party.

"It's a very hard decision. It's a very serious one for you. There's no pleasing yourself as a person, I was happy about it and I was unhappy about it," he asserted. "There is no pleasing your constituents. Some are happy about it, some are not. I had jumped into politics feet first without even being a member of the NDP. But if you wanna do it go for it, but think about what it'll achieve."

In the House of Commons, the Speaker serves a vital role. They supervise the House of Commons, leading question period and acting as an impartial voice of reliable control. Nobody knows that role better than Kingston-born Peter Milliken, who holds the record as the longest-running Speaker in Canadian parliament. Peter served as Speaker between 2001 and 2011, holding that role over four Parliaments. Peter also has a peculiar claim to fame as a speaker. Speakers only ever vote in the rare case of a tie. Only 11 tie-breaking votes have been cast – and Peter is responsible for five of them. These pivotal votes reflect years of Canadian history, and, perhaps, demonstrate Peter's willingness to take initiative.

Non-confidence motion in 2005

In the summer of 2005, Paul Martin's minority Liberal government narrowly survived a non-confidence vote in relation to the federal budget. Had they lost, a federal election would have likely been held that summer, only a year after the previous one. The vote was deadlocked at 152 votes on each side, as a handful of independent MP's sided with the minority leadership. This would be the first time in Canadian history that a tie-breaker would determine the result of a non-confidence vote. Peter voted in support of the budget, implicitly to maintain the status quo and allow the House to further debate the bill, as a Speaker would normally do. Peter's decision would allow the government to continue operations, and the decision lasted until November 2005, when the Liberals finally lost a confidence vote that wasn't attached to any legislation. They would go on to lose the following election, held in early 2006.

Privacy ruling in 2010

The treatment of Afghan detainees and Canada's knowledge of that treatment were both highly contest-



Peter Milliken as the Speaker of the House of Commons.

ed topics during Stephen Harper's reign as Prime Minister. In the fall of 2009, Harper's minority conservative government was ordered to produce documents that pertained to the issue. They did not comply, saying that producing the documents would compromise national security. The following spring, opposition parties called on Peter to make a ruling. Peter gave the Harper government two weeks to produce documents, hoping to ensure that all parties could continue fairly. "It is no exaggeration to say that it is a rare event for the Speaker to be seized of a matter as complex and as heavy with consequence as the matter before us now," Peter said in parliament on Apr. 27, 2010.

Peter's final call in 2011

When Peter ended his decade as Speaker, he went out with a bang. In March 2011, Peter made rulings against Harper's minority Conservative government, finding there to be a case of contempt against Parliament. Later that month, the Harper government lost a non-confidence vote. Notably, the vote took place on Milliken's final day in the House of Commons. As Milliken retired from parliament, he left to the sounds of applause and respect, and he left behind an environment of anticipation as the country prepared for an upcoming federal election.

Q&A with Dennis Gruending about speeches that changed Canada

By Wade Morris

Many of Canada's most historically significant actions took a bit of convincing. In his new book, *Speeches That Changed Canada*, former MP Dennis Gruending curates a collection of speeches that were pivotal in shaping the country. Dennis navigates through centuries of Canadian politics, looking at issues from confederation to women's right to vote. He deeply examines the speeches, looking at both their context and delivery.

Aside from being a former parliamentarian, Dennis has written several books, including best-seller *Great Canadian Speeches* in 2004. Dennis also runs two blogs – *Great Canadian Speeches* and *Pulpit and Politics*.

• • •

Beyond the Hill: You wrote a book called *Great Canadian Speeches* over a decade ago, and you've blogged about speeches. How is *Speeches That Changed Canada* different from your past work?

Dennis Gruending: *Great Canadian Speeches* was really a big research project. I didn't have the time or room to put speeches into context in any great detail, but I gave very brief introductions to the speeches. As I did the book, it occurred to me that there were so many interesting things to write about related to many of these speeches. In *Speeches That Changed Canada*, I would tear the speeches down, look at what the orator was doing to his or her audience to convince them to do what they wanted them to do. I got a contract to write such a book, but then I ended up taking a very busy job for six years, and didn't get back to the book. I retired not long ago. I was asked by my publisher if I was interested in doing such a book, and I was very much interested. That's how *Speeches That Changed Canada* came to be.

Beyond the Hill: The book talks about history, politics, language,

and performance. What audiences were you considering while writing *Speeches That Changed Canada*?

Dennis Gruending: I was thinking of anyone who is interested in Canadian history, which, I am. I've always been interested in politics – I was briefly an MP. I have a degree in English literature and another in journalism, so I'm very interested in language, and its uses, and helping myself and other people know how to analyze what they're being told, and to get some sense of what the person talking to us expects us to do and what tricks they're using on us. So, it's for anyone with an interest in Canadian history, politics, or literature, with a special emphasis on students, professors, and people on Parliament Hill.

Beyond the Hill: So the book combines several experiences that you've had.

Dennis Gruending: That's one of the very exciting things about it. As I said, the first book was mainly an immense research project. I read for several years. This book contains some of the speeches from the first book, and some new ones. There are fewer – There are eleven of them. That gave me the freedom to write more about each speaker and each speech.

Beyond the Hill: What was the research process like for *Speeches That Changed Canada*?

Dennis Gruending: First, I had to find the speeches. Each had to be important, in the sense that there had to be something at stake. It couldn't be an 'after dinner' speech. It had to be like, Louis Riel trying to save his life, or John A. McDonald trying to convince the people of Canada to have confederation. The speaker also had to be able to rise to the occasion. They had to have the rhetorical skills to take on their topic, to take on a point of crisis in some cases. That's how I chose the eleven speeches.

Then, a lot of reading. For each

speaker, I would read biographies, and give a great deal of attention to footnotes. I find that biographers will write about a speech in passing. I would go to the footnote and find that speech. Anybody who wrote about someone as a speaker, I would follow that. For example, someone wrote about John A. McDonald and they talked about how he spoke, and what his voice sounded like. Those nuggets are not very plentiful, so I kept and used the ones I found. I was looking for the person's rhetorical ability probably more than I was looking at their ability as a politician.

Beyond the Hill: If someone is interested in speechwriting or public speaking, what lessons could they learn from *Speeches That Changed Canada*?

Dennis Gruending: I think the message goes all the way back to Aristotle. In Greek society, rhetoric was highly prized. Aristotle was trying to teach his students how to analyze what they were being told. A very important thing for us in our democracy is for people to be educated, in a sense that they can assemble and tear down what speakers are telling them, and say, 'well, he's saying that, but that's not really quite so', or, 'they're playing around with my emotions'.

Beyond the Hill: Do you have any plans to publish more writing?

Dennis Gruending: I have no immediate plans, but I have a few ideas. One is about my family's history, and the society in which I grew up: Saskatchewan in the 1950s, '60s and '70s. I would go back in time to my grandparents – one case came from Germany and another came from Ukraine – and try to look at what life was like for them, and why they came to Canada, and what happened when they came here. That's a fairly commonly told story, but not deeply researched. Right now, I'm focusing more on *Speeches That Changed Canada*, and keeping my blogs going.

Hon. Jean Augustine: empowering young women to pursue the impossible

By Maya Gwilliam

Long before the Honourable Jean Augustine entered politics, she was a seasoned and accomplished education professional, as well as a strong advocate for social justice issues.

Jean's endeavors helped instill inclusion, diversity and multiculturalism into Canadian society through her work as a member of the National Black Coalition of Canada, the Board of Governors of York University, the Board of Trustees for The Hospital for Sick Children and Chair of the Metro Toronto Housing Authority.

It was Jean's activism with women and their families that eventually persuaded her to run for the Liberal party as the Member of Parliament for Etobicoke-Lakeshore.

"I was asked by all three political parties if I would run as a member of their party and I kept saying 'no, no, no.' I felt I was more... someone who worked in the area of policy and was supportive of others, rather than going into political office myself," Jean said, before explaining that there are certain obstacles she faced as a female Grenadan-Canadian.

"Remember, I had no one in terms at the federal level of a black person or a Canadian person to look at as a model. I didn't see myself reflected in the Parliament of Canada, so I had to be convinced that it was possible," she remarked.

However, once Jean was persuaded to put her name in the running for the Liberal party, she was motivated to win and said it's a crucial belief every politician should feel going into an election.

"I had to have the confidence I would win, and therefore be an inspi-



Hon. Jean Augustine.

ration to those who came on the campaign and who were of assistance to me," she said.

As the first African-Canadian woman voted into the House of Commons, she defines her two legacies as a politician as when she installed Black History Month in Canada – she said she never imagined it would be the calibre it is today – and the success of her motion to put statues of the Famous Five on Parliament Hill. Both bills were unanimously adopted.

Every politician knows there are challenges that come with the job, especially once they become a member of Parliament. But when asked about the roadblocks she faced, Jean asserted that while there were obstacles in her path, such as raising money for campaigns, living between two different cities and the age-old belief of a man's superiority in office, she doesn't view them as setbacks, but rather something she simply had to deal with.

And while other people may have regrets from moments in their careers, she promptly remarked that she had none.

"Each thing builds on the other and each thing gave me the experience to do the next. So to change one thing or do something differently would give me a different life story," Jean shared, adding that just because she retired from politics doesn't mean she hasn't kept busy.

Since leaving politics in 2006, Jean became the Fairness Commissioner of the province of Ontario, the first Fairness Commissioner in Ontario, a position she held from 2007 to 2015.

Jean divulged that she now focuses her energy on mentoring youths and participating in the community. She collaborated on the book, *100 Accomplished Black Canadian Women 2016 and 2018*. She's currently busy on the 2020 edition.

The rest of her time is spent at Jean Augustine Centre for Young Women's Empowerment in Toronto, where girls from ages seven to 17 learn to build their self-esteem and self-worth through art classes, computer workshops and a self-defence course.

As one would expect, young women who are considering entering politics frequently approach Jean looking for advice, which is to surround oneself with a group that continuously supports each other.

"The advice I give is to build your network and know exactly what it is and why it is you want to enter politics," she said. "Know what you need to bring to the table and who you are supporting and have them support you."



Dorothy Dobbie.

Falling off the cliff

The high personal cost of parliamentary separation

By Dorothy Dobbie

There is an election later this year and inevitably a number of current members of Parliament will not return, most involuntarily and some through choice.

Regardless how the separation occurs, there is a serious transition from public to private life facing each of those who will not return, but especially the one-term members who cannot look forward to any pension and cannot access the group insurance health plan even if they wish to pay for it themselves. Surprisingly, few are prepared for what's ahead and many probably, naively, believe that there will be some sort of transition assistance enabled by the House of Commons.

Sadly, when a member loses an election, that's it. Pay stops immediately and there is no offsetting compensation or separation amount. The member is left to his own resources. Even multi-term members cannot access pension funds until they are 55.

On the table for departures are a few minor items, such as a couple of airline tickets to enable you to come and clear out your office – you have a short time span to do this, but you may be working alone as your staff is also terminated, albeit with a small severance. And you have to pay for your own accommodation while in Ottawa to do this. The House will pay, however, to ship your personal goods home.

If you are very determined, you might be able to access some funds set aside for “career planning”, but this must be accessed within the first six months of termination. Few get this far and most of that money remains in the pot. All told, the most help anyone can get amounts to some \$15,000. If you have served less than six years, you recover the contributions you made to the retirement plan in a lump sum.

What is most disheartening for mem-

bers, though, is the cavalier way in which they are treated. The attitude is, “You’re finished. You’re done. Move along.” Staff focus is entirely on transitioning the new members and, while this is a critical part of the staff mandate, many departing members feel hurt, disillusioned and sometimes humiliated by the treatment.

At the initiative of our executive director, a committee of CAFPP, led by former speaker John Bosley and assisted by former Clerk, Audrey O’Brien, and most recently by Jack Harris and Merv Tweed, is working to try to change this before the 2019, election. Hopefully their hard work will make things a little easier for the upcoming departees. The House has been co-operative as the issues are brought forward.

What happens when you go home

While you are in office, it is all consuming. You focus intensely because you have to. Your job comes first, even over family. Your schedule is in the hands of others. There are always demands on your time and your attention. Then it all comes to an abrupt halt. It is impossible to change momentum on a dime, so many head over the cliff and fall very hard to the bottom.

A shockingly large number of Canadian members leave the House each election. The average turnover is 30 per cent, but some years it is as high as 50 and even 60 per cent, a very large percentage amongst democracies. A number of studies have examined this phenomenon without any satisfying conclusion.

A few of the departing cohort will make a smooth transition back to their old careers or to another career. Even so, with such an abrupt cessation of income, the first six months to a year can be tough financially for principal or only breadwinners. Savings, if any, can be absorbed quickly in such circum-

stances. Obviously, it is harder for the involuntary departing members than for those who decided not to run again.

Many, who had a “job” find it very difficult to become re-employed and even those who worked in occupations that guarantee re-employment (as professionals or in the public service, for example), find the transition very hard. Often, they leave after a short period of reinstatement because they no longer “fit in”.

The why, leads up to the hardest part of all: “rehabilitation”.

Rehabilitation?

When I lost office in 1993, a former Liberal cabinet minister, Judy Erola, asked me to go to lunch when I returned to do my Ottawa cleanup chores. What she said shocked me but also prepared me for what I certainly had not expected. “Some of us go as long as a decade before we are “rehabilitated” in the eyes of the community, Dorothy,” she said. “It takes them a long time to forget.”

Why forget? I wondered. She had been an amazing minister, one of only three women at the time, and it was my impression that she had been doing a very good job. But none of that mattered, she explained. You are now part of an alien group, an outsider.

As I thought about it, I realized that she was right and that this “alienation” had started the minute I agreed to put my name forward for election. Immediately, I felt attitudes around me change and that change – that setting apart – continued and increased, as I became a member. Even close friends treated me differently, but I was too focussed on the job to take notice.

I always understood while I was an MP that both the special treatment and the rough handling by the media and others was not about me, personally, but reflected the office and the government of the day. I could keep this sepa-

rate in my head – I was still the same person – but others, even close friends, couldn't make that differentiation.

Political PTSD

But even worse can happen. Many newly separated members enter a state of post-traumatic stress – there is no other way to describe what happens. Some recover more quickly than do others, but those who don't, suffer greatly. First is the physical let-down – they stop pumping adrenaline, which often brings a corresponding deterioration in health. Some become ill. Then there is the stress, both emotional and financial. Former members have to find a way to re-establish in an environment totally altered from pre-political life, and without the community support they thought they had. Some may have lost their families because of the separation and shift in priorities that come with the job. They are truly alone.

This is a sad reflection on the way we reward political sacrifice. We should and can do better. It is my pledge to our members that I will do everything I can to help our colleagues through that time.

As a start, we will have a network of mentors to help new members through these tough days. You matter and what you have given your country is important. The Association of Former Parliamentarians is there for you.

Looking for mentors

Would you like to be the Judy Erola of the next Parliament? CAFP is looking for sympathetic individuals of all parties who are willing to share their experience with a newly defeated member of the House after the next election.

You don't need any special training – just a sympathetic ear, an understanding heart and a willingness to reach out and ask the defeated member out for coffee. If you would like to volunteer, please contact our staff at (613)947-1690 or email us at exparl@parl.gc.ca and we will try to match you up with someone in your area.

Dorothy Dobbie was the Progressive Conservative MP for Winnipeg South from 1988-1993.

CAFP helps departing MP's with new initiative

By Wade Morris

When a candidate wins an election, their entrance into parliament is usually laced with celebrations and anticipation. But what happens to parliament members who are not re-elected? What challenges do they face as they adjust to life outside of politics?

A new initiative aimed at helping former parliament members transition out of parliament is considering those questions. The Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians (CAFP) is cooperating with the House of Commons on the initiative, which former executive director Francis Leblanc is tentatively calling the "transition project for parting MP's."

The initiative's goal is to provide support – both career-based and emotional – to members of parliament who leave. Among them are MP's who ran for re-election, but did not win.

"Most MP's who are not re-elected don't plan for that," says Francis. "It comes as an emotional shock. It's a big change in their lives."

Exiting MP's have several duties to complete as they leave, such as emptying their office, moving back to their original location, and addressing the future of their staff members. This initiative, Francis explains, hopes to provide assistance with those tasks.

"For those voluntarily leaving the house, it's different," says Francis. "They've planned for it, so the emotional side might not be quite the same, but they still have

transition issues to take care of."

The initiative also considers the career status of departing MP's.

"They may have given up their profession to become an MP," says Francis. "Sometimes, they can't go back to their profession."

He explains that exiting MP's may return to their previous career, or, in cases where that is not an option, they may enter a new career path or retire. The initiative aims to add to the support that the House of Commons already provides.

Additionally, Francis explains, the initiative would provide "mentorship services" to MP's who have had similar experiences, so they'll know what to expect.

Development of the initiative began in 2018. The committee contacted whips in the House of Commons to get them on board, and reached out to members of the CAFP for their suggestions.

"Part of this process has involved reaching out to [CAFP members], since many of them are MP's who have lost elections," says Francis. "They've experienced support from the House of Commons, and we've taken suggestions on what can be improved."

Joining Francis on the project's committee are John Bosley, former Speaker of the House of Commons, and Audrey O'Brien, former Clerk of the House of Commons.

According to Francis, they are hoping to complete the initiative before the next election, so departing members at that time will receive the added support.

Is an MP's commitment to its constituency too much?

Most members take pride in their heavy workloads

By Maya Gwilliam

“Members of Parliament are facing growing responsibilities from their constituents. This which is damaging to the lives of MPs, their staffers, and is harmful to Canadian democracy as a whole.” This is the conclusion provided by a recent report from the non-partisan Samara Centre for Democracy. Titled *Beyond the Barbecue*, the report makes use of 54 interviews from former MPs (those who served in the 2011 House of Commons) to paint a picture of an unprecedented rise in the amount of obligations MPs have to their ridings.

According to the report, the trend is clear: “Many interviewees described a full week of parliamentary work in Ottawa followed by weekends filled with back-to-back community events. Of constituency work in particular, Samara heard that ‘it’s easy to get burnt out’ or ‘if you want to do everything well, it’s overwhelming.’”

More and more of an MP's time is being devoted to constituency and case work; that is, helping constituents with something that is supposed to be handled by the public service. In conjunction with a growing pressure to attend social events, the offices of parliamentarians are overworked, understaffed, and the MPs are unable to give the attention necessary to parliamentary issues in Ottawa.

Differing Experiences

In speaking with a few former parliamentarians, their varied experiences both support and contradict the conclusions given by the Samara report.

Brian White represented the Manitoba riding of Dauphin-Swan River for the Progressive Conservatives from 1984 to 1993. In describing



Hélène LeBlanc.

his constituency work, he maintains a different tone, one that reflects a more moderate – yet still significant – workload.

“It was very time consuming, but I never felt overwhelmed once I fell into a system of organizing phone calls and setting up meetings in the ridings – that sort of thing. I don’t think it took away from my work in Ottawa at all,” Brian explained.

However, his description sits in contrast to more recent former parliamentarians. Anita Neville represented the Manitoba Riding of Winnipeg South Centre from 2000 to 2011 for the Liberal party. She paints a more stressful picture.

“The days were long and people think it’s a glamorous job. It’s an interesting job and a stimulating job, but you work hard, in both Winnipeg and Ottawa,” she said. “In Winnipeg, I probably had more control over my time but the days were long and every hour the topic changed. You had to be able to respond to various issues and know what you were talking about. I did feel burnt out at the end of the term, always.”

As a member of the Liberal party, Sue Barnes represented the Ontario

riding of London West from 1994 to 2008. Although Sue insisted she was never overwhelmed by constituency work, there were still sacrifices she had to make.

“I don’t think MPs should be at events for hours at a time, there should be some appreciation that you can’t stay for five hours, just because it’s an event they’d like you to attend for the full component, which I did,” Sue said. “If I could do something different today, it would be carving out some rest time at home and some more family time, which I wouldn’t have until the summer. But I realize rural MPs were even busier with the events they were at, while mine tended to be from the September to June season.”

Hélène LeBlanc, representing the Quebec riding of LaSalle-Émard as a New Democrat, spoke earnestly about the reasons for the increasing pressures of her constituency.

“A veteran MP told us at one point that ‘you don’t do [constituency work] to be elected, but if you don’t do it, you won’t be re-elected.’ I think constituents expect nowadays their MPs to be at their service and I always said that I am at your service, there are the things we can help you with, my team is there for you if you have questions.”

Optimism and a stiff upper lip

Yet, despite acknowledging the growing burden of constituency work, not one of our interviewed MPs sought to explicitly complain. Indeed, they accepted it as just another part of the job.

“Yes, it was more stressful than I originally thought it would be, but it was not the constituents that made it stressful. It was sometimes dealing with the problems my staff would be having. I found I was not as prepared as I was with human resources. But

The Nation Builder Award

By Dorothy Dobbie

that's part of the experience, you get thrust into an elected position and you try to prepare as best you can, but there are some issues that I wish I would have dealt with in a better way," Hélène reflected.

Others took pride in their burdens. Corneliu Chisu represented the riding of Pickering-Scarborough East as a member of the Conservative Party from 2011 to 2015. In his account, he insists that this was a burden worth bearing.

"It was overwhelming, but it was our duty as members of Parliament. It was overwhelming, but you chose to be a member of Parliament and you chose to listen to your constituents and resolve their problems," Corneliu declared. "So I did feel pleasure by solving problems for the constituents. I had work, not only in the regular hours but also after hours in the office. The office was open late in the evening, open Saturday and sometimes even Sunday. Our role as a member of Parliament is to serve our constituents. This is my approach."

Anita said in the face of stress and burning out, she found meaning in the work she did for her constituents.

"My motivation was to really serve the community. A large amount of constituency work has to do with immigration and members of Parliament's offices are often an extension of the department of immigration, which was under resourced. People would come for advice and for help, and some of their stories are solvable, some are not, and they really affected the human well-being of the individual coming in," she concluded.

Regardless of the conclusions reached by the Samara report, it seems that members of Parliament, like any other profession, take pride in their heavy workloads.

The Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians is pleased to announce a new award recognizing former leaders for their service and dedication in adding to the foundations of the Canada we enjoy today.

The underpinning of democracy is the confidence that citizens have in the overriding integrity of their institutions. It is right to carefully scrutinize the conduct of our leaders for any infraction, no matter how small or large, but it is just as important to recognize their contributions and that the underlying strength of our system is exemplified by our leaders.

Each leader, regardless of political affiliation, brings a set of values and commitments to the improvement of Canada as a place to live, to work, to do business, and to enjoy life.

The award will recognize their achievements in the following fields:

- *Leadership in the advancement of Human Dignity*
- *Leadership in promoting National Unity*
- *Leadership in Economic Policy advancing the quality of life for all Canadians*
- *Leadership in the field of Environmental Stewardship*
- *Leadership on the World Stage, promoting peace and good government*

The Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians

As individuals, former members of Parliament and senators mirror the values and expectations of the citizenry and bring a lifetime of practical experience to the halls of power. At the end of their tenure in office, they represent a vast store of knowledge and wisdom.

The goal of the Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians is

to put this collective experience at the disposal of Canadians and their replacement representatives. CAFP is here to:

1. To preserve and promote Canadian democracy at home and abroad.
2. To preserve the corporate memory of Parliament and serve as a resource for serving and incoming members.
3. To advise and inform young people about the processes of power and to encourage their participation.
4. To provide the public with non-partisan information and analyses of how government works.

Canada has the highest turnover of MPs in the world, averaging 30 per cent and sometimes being as high as 60 per cent. The Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians acts as a stabilizing resource for the good order of government.

Our programs include:

1. **Beyond the Hill.** The magazine carries informative and inspiring stories about political life and situations from the past.
2. **MPs to Campus** program, speaking to schools and universities.
3. **Speaker's Bureau.** Participating with the media and speaking to groups about the Canadian Parliamentary system.
4. **Overseas Election Observation.** Fielding members to do work in other countries.
5. **School of Public Service.** Members provide advice to new federal recruits.
6. **Equal Voice.** Members provide the mentorship to encourage women to become involved in politics.
7. **Parliamentary Interns.** CAFP has supported this and many other initiatives supporting democracy.



Hon. John Reid.

*At the First Unitarian Congregation of
Ottawa 2 Sept. 2018*

In our random universe, no one knows the future. We live in a universe based on random events, called quantum mechanics. When you look at your life, you find all kinds of random events – how you met your spouse, how you went from job to job, how unexpected events impacted you and your family, etc. What I learned is how easy it is to slip from good health to bad, how one can lose a job through no fault of their own, and what that can do to an individual or family and how thin is the margin between success and failure. To be human is to suffer.

My story starts with operations to replace my hips. I had a hip replacement in May of 2015. However, there was a complication with the second hip operation in October 2017. A few days later, I was preparing to take a nap, when my body went out of control with deep shivering and feeling very cold. Marie called an ambulance and I was taken to the Queensway Carleton Hospital Emergency. They were able to bring me under control, and sent me home. The next day, we received an emergency call from the hospital – I was to return to the hospital immediately. When we arrived at Emergency, there was no waiting; I was put in a cot, an IV attached, and taken up to a ward. I had been diagnosed with a blood infection, sepsis, which can be life-threatening. For the first week, I was tethered to my IV tree; and after that I was on a six hour cycle, IV at midnight, at 6:00 am, at noon and finally at 6:00 pm. Finally, after the second week I was discharged but I had another week of IVs at a community clinic, but now only once per day.

While I was in hospital, the ward doctor ordered a routine CT scan. They reported a “shadow” on my liver. After a further CT scan and an MRI, I was

sent to the General Hospital for a biopsy. When the biopsy came down, the verdict was cancer of the liver, a cholangiocarcinoma tumor. It was large, it had destroyed a significant amount of my liver and there was concern that it may have penetrated the vena cava, the artery which drains the blood from the lower body, back to the heart, and which can be fatal. There are three things doctors can do to treat cancer: cut (operate), burn (radiation) and poison (chemo).

Can an 81-year-old survive the operation

Shortly after, we had a consultation with one of the Liver Cancer Section residents. He was concerned with how an 81-year-old gentlemen might survive a serious operation. He looked at my scars, took my medical history of operations, asked about lifestyle – tobacco, booze, recreational drugs, nature of diet, hobbies, sports and exercise. Then he asked questions about what jobs and positions I had had, what kind of stress I had been under and how I coped with it. He then left us for about a half an hour.

He met with the cancer surgeons to give them his report, and they examined the images from the CT and MRI scans. Dr. Bertens, one of the cancer surgeons, appeared and said that they thought an operation would be appropriate. But, I was not a candidate for a liver transplant, that I could die on the operating table, they could open me up and find they could do nothing, they could open me up and take some palliative actions and that they could open me up and do a great deal. There was a minimal amount of liver to work with. The surgeon said that an operation was needed quickly and it took place about three weeks later on 15 January, 2018. There were two matters the operation was to resolve, the cancer tumor itself and damage to the vena cava, the artery that drains the lower body, if I was to have a good outcome.

Life in a random universe

By Hon. John Reid

My youngest son, George, had come down from Toronto to attend the consultation. After the meeting, he texted his three siblings, telling them that the cancer was life threatening. We were approaching Christmas, and all four of our children came to visit me with all of their children, 10 grandchildren in all. While I had known that I had a very serious problem, I knew it more intellectually. It was only when my children and their children showed up that emotionally I understood what had happened to me and what my chances were.

They removed 80% of my liver

When I received notice of the date and time of the operation, I asked Dr. Bertens about the operation and she said that it would take between four and a half to five hours. I walked into the operation room at 8:00 a.m. They gave me the shots and put me under. I have no recollection of anything in the operating room. I came out of the drugs as they wheeled me into the recovery room. There was a large clock on the wall, and I read it as 9:00. I asked the nurse if I had been in the operating theatre for only an hour, as I feared they had gone in and determined they could do nothing, hence only one hour passed. She replied that I had been in the operating theatre for 13 hrs. My wife and eldest son, John, had returned to the hospital after five hours, and they had to wait for seven more hours before I came out. They had no contact with the doctors or anyone to find out what was going on. So they were very much relieved that I had survived in good form and I was glad that they had survived in good form.

They removed about 80% of my original liver. However, the liver can regenerate itself, and with the original 20% of my liver and what liver had been regenerated, I ended up with about 68% of my liver, the old and the new. The tumor was deep and nasty and had penetrated the vena, but it was reparable. Marie had

a very difficult time, waiting with no information as to what was going on for 13 hours, but our eldest son, John, was with her; this was so helpful. Perhaps another month later, and they would have not been able to make the repairs to the vena cava or the tumor would have destroyed much more of the liver. The surgery got the entire tumor, but there were microscopic cancer cells left so I have been on chemo since the end of March. This is to ensure that what remains of the cancer cells are eliminated; and it is also to ensure that there is little possibility of the cancer spreading to other organs. I also had a consult with a radiation oncologist and he reported that there was insufficient liver for the procedure. We had a second opinion, and the result was identical. I cannot have radiation at this time so the whole burden falls on the chemo treatment. Only the bare minimum for the liver to function, about 30%, has survived the tumor and operation.

A rare type of cancer

My cancer is relatively rare, only about 12 to 15 per cent of liver cancer patients have this cancer. Five years ago, there was no treatment directed specifically at this cancer. One could have the IV treatment but it was not specific to this liver cancer. At the same time as I was diagnosed with cholangiocarcinoma cancer, my sister-in-law was also diagnosed with liver cancer, as it turns out, she has the same cancer as I have. She could not have my operation as she has other medical problems; at the same time, she has been unable to continue her IV because of her reactions to it. She has been undergoing a new type of radiation therapy in the US as it is not available in Canada.

They tell me I have made a good recovery, the scars have healed nicely, and my energy is slowly returning but I am still not strong. Each three week cycle of chemo has an effect, and over time it builds up and so the side effects are intensified. However, the testing for the cancer cells is encouraging, as I am approaching "normal".

In my case, there were a series of random events. What would have happened if I had had my second hip operation in 2016 instead of 2017? What if there had been a complication but no sepsis infections? What would have happened in October 2017 if I had not had com-

plications? What would have happened if I had had only minor complications? What would have happened had I not contacted sepsis? What would have happened if the ward doctor had not ordered a CT scan? What would have happened if the scan reader had not noticed the "shadow" on my liver, as he was not looking for that? What would have happened if I had not passed muster with the liver cancer doctors? What might have happened if the operation had been delayed a month or so? How is it that my sister-in-law and I were diagnosed with the same cancer at the same time?

Of course, there are other matters. I spoke to my family doctor about the fact I had no pain on my right side, while the tumor was attacking. He said that on the right side there is not much pain until the tumor has done real damage. If it happens to women, they will come to the doctor when they feel pain; if a male, we will try to work our way through it until the pain increases, and then it is usually too late for a cure. I complained that I had been making all kinds of mental errors and did not feel intellectually engaged. He said that when the body is attacked, the brain devotes as much of its resources as possible to deal with the invader. Cognitive behavior is one of the resources re-directed to deal with the problem since it is relatively new in the human brain.

What did I learn?

1) That CT scans and MRI's can help to diagnose but they are incomplete as of themselves. For example, the doctors could not predict the nature of my tumor, nor the possible damage to the vena cava:

2) That you need an advocate to assist you in dealing with the medical system. Your brain is working to deal with the invader and diverts resources from the brain to the problem; you do not have all your faculties in these situations;

3) Once diagnosed with a serious illness, there can be serious psychological problems that can possibly make the situation worse; family can make a big difference in your attitude.

Emotionally, I learned several things about myself. Once I was diagnosed with the cancer, my whole attention was directed to the possibility of a cure. I recall being very clear headed. I was very concerned as to whether or not I

would qualify for the operation, if the operation was possible or if they would proceed with an 81-year-old gentleman. I am generally an optimist and that was a great help and I never thought that, once accepted for the operation, that the outcome would be less than successful. But I had to face the fact that death was a possibility. As one of my Jesuit philosophy lecturers put it, "to be born is to live under a sentence of death." When I heard that at University, I was young and felt invincible. It took me a long time but I now fully understand what the Professor was getting at. I have faith, and I had had the last rites. While I did not think my end had come, I was as prepared as I could be, I hope.

Why me?

The question we survivors ask is, "Why Me?" What did I do to deserve these additional years of life? Whenever anyone is spared from what appears to be certain death, yet some survive by what appears to be chance, survivors ask this question. We live in a random universe where results are difficult to forecast. My story is not unique as many of you, I am certain, have stories to tell as well. But when you look at what had to happen for me to come to this state, it appears that I threw the dice many times to win. Even if one of the events I have talked about had gone the opposite way, I would not be here today. Mother Nature does not think about individuals but rather about the species. When you contemplate a life-threatening operation, you begin to look at your past life, if you have time. All of your errors, mistakes, misadventures and guilt seem to overcome in memory what you actually accomplished. The brain thinks negatively. I think about might have been, what more could have been accomplished.

When I spoke to others about how to give back for the gift of extra life, the advice I was given was: to be kind to yourself, love yourself, forgive yourself, remember what you positively accomplished and especially love others, family, friends and even strangers. We cannot avoid our ultimate ending but we can be generous and forgiving in the meantime.

The Hon. John Reid served as a Liberal MP in the riding of Kenora-Rainy River, Ontario, from 1965-1984. He is also a former president of the Canadian Nuclear Association.

Former senator Vim Kochhar

Champion for the disabled

By Dorothy Dobbie



Vim Kochhar's Valentine's Day dinner in support of the disabled. He has raised over \$35 million for the cause.

Some heroes are very public and like to let everyone know their good deeds. Then there are others, people such as former senator, the Hon. Vim Kochhar, who quietly go about doing what they do with no hope for anything other than the satisfaction of getting it done.

Over the past 35 years, Vim has raised \$35 million for a group of Canadians who are seldom heralded and whose usual approach is to meet challenges head on, without apology or asking for quarter. These are the folks who have been dealt with what is known in horseracing and golf as a "handicap", meaning to put something extra in the way of achievement. Today it is more fashionable to call these folks disabled, but perhaps the

old fashioned term is better because it connotes a desire to overcome and to succeed against the odds.

That desire also describes Vim.

Born in India in 1935, Vim was 12 years old, when he witnessed a horrific historic event. Standing just ten feet away, Mahatma Gandhi was assassinated before the boy's eyes. It made a profound impression on him. "His philosophy had the greatest impact on my life," said Vim.

"He (Mahatma Gandhi) taught us non-violence is more powerful than any weapon and the only devils you ever have to fight are within you. Gandhi said, 'Be the change you wish to see in the world.'" Vim has tried to live by that code. He has succeeded.

When he was 18, his father sent him

off to the United States "with a boat ticket from Bombay to Boston and \$300 in my pocket." He would enroll in the University of Texas. "I think his faith and my dream carried me through. That first summer, I hitchhiked to California to pick peaches."

He didn't waste his earnings. In five years, he graduated with \$10,000 in the bank and an engineering degree.

This led him to a job building hotels all over the world for the Intercontinental Hotel chain. By age 28, he was a regional vice president. He then moved to Toronto in 1967, building two medical facilities in Canada. Twelve years after graduation, he had made enough money to retire. But he didn't stop. He went into the custom furniture building business, which he

“The objective of the event [The Rolling Rampage on The Hill] is to change the way parliamentarians and young people think about disability.”
– Vim Kochhar.



Vim Kochhar (far right) helped to establish the regularly held Rolling Rampage on the Hill event over a decade ago. Photo courtesy of Canadian Foundation for Physically Disabled Persons.

pursued for the next 39 years. Along the way, he took up the cause of the disabled.

“I remember when Bloorview in Toronto was called the Crippled Children Centre and the Centre of Addiction and Mental Health was called the Hospital for the Insane. And I remember when the media called paralympians “crippled athletes”. And I remember when the only place for severely disabled was to live in an institution or at home. And I remember when any service to people who were deaf-blind was considered a waste of time and money,” Vim said,

He continued, “And I remember when, just 35 years ago, our paralympians brought home 222 medals and we were second in the world and I remember it was the best kept secret in Canada because paralympic medals had no value in the eyes of media and public perception.”

Thanks to his work and to the support of people such as Prime Minister

Brian Mulroney (who was honoured for his work to change Canada’s support system for the disabled at a fundraising luncheon in the spring of 2018 by the Canadian foundation for Physically Disabled Persons, the organization started and supported by Vim), those descriptions no longer apply and we take rightful pride in our community of physically challenged individuals. “When I picked up the torch I believed that barrier-free living for people with disabilities was possible,” he said.

Vim’s work was, in part, also responsible for developing the Rotary Cheshire Home in Toronto where 16 deaf-blind people live barrier-free and independently in their own apartments. This is still the only facility of its kind anywhere in the world.

Vim was one of a select group who worked on the advisory committee to determine the feasibility of building the Human Rights Museum in Winnipeg. He then went on to join the foun-

dation board where he helped Gail Asper raise \$167 million to build the museum. This was the first time, and so far the only time, that the Canadian government has used private sector money to build a national museum.

Vim was called to the Senate by former Prime Minister Steven Harper in 2010.

Last October, 2018, Vim’s work was recognized by the India Canada Culture and Heritage Association with a lifetime achievement award. He was inducted into the Canadian Disability Hall of Fame in 2014.

In spite of this, he remains humble and dedicated.

“I am a very proud Indian,” he told the people who had gathered to see him receive his lifetime achievement award in Winnipeg. “My heritage has always stood me in good stead. My father taught me that having a job and making a living was not an accomplishment. It is what you can do for others that matters in life.”

Dinner with former senator Frank Mahovlich

By Dorothy Dobbie



Paul Henderson and Yvan Cournoyer celebrate the Summit Series winning goal in 1972.

I had the privilege recently of enjoying a dinner with the Hon. Frank Mahovlich, the former hockey player and senator, who regaled them with stories of his past. One of them was about his recent trip (2017) to Moscow to have dinner with Putin – the occasion was a celebration of the 45th anniversary of the Canada-Russia hockey series of 1972. Frank, who was one of the team co-captains, was there with guys like the Russian goaltender, Vladislav Tretiak, and others of that era.

I remember the 1972 series very well. I was an avid hockey fan and a fierce Canadian even in those days and I looked forward to our NHL gang whooping those Soviets in our national game. The series was filled with ups and downs, bitterness and moments of torment, followed by wild joy whenever we won.

I ended up in hospital for an operation during the series, so I missed most of the games (including the Game 3, played in Winnipeg which tied 4-4), although I have a foggy memory of coming out of anesthesia and catching a few minutes of play, ignoring my anxious family who were gathered around.

The day I came out of the hospital (they used to keep us in for ages) was



Frank and Marie Mahovlich.

the day of game 8 in Moscow. After dropping me at home, Glenn left to go back to work. My small daughter, Shauna, who was five at the time, was my only companion as I tuned into the final game.

It was a nail biter that looked to end up in a tie, but in the final minute of play, a miracle happened. Here's how it was remembered by Henderson as presented by Wikipedia:

In the final minute of play, with Phil Esposito, Yvan Cournoyer and Peter Mahovlich [Frank's bother also played in the series] out on the ice, Paul Henderson stood up at the bench and called Mahovlich off the ice as he was skating by.

"I jumped on the ice and rushed straight for their net. I had this strange feeling that I could score the winning goal," recalls Henderson.

Cournoyer picked up a puck that had been passed around the boards by the Soviets in a clearing attempt. He missed Henderson with a pass, but two Soviets mishandled the puck in the corner and

Esposito shot the puck on Tretiak.

Henderson, who had fallen behind the net, got up and went to the front of the net where he was uncovered. Henderson recovered the rebound of Esposito's shot, shot the puck and was stopped, but recovered the rebound. With Tretiak down, he put the puck past Tretiak with only 34 seconds to play. Foster Hewitt's voice rose in excitement as he called the winning goal:

"Cournoyer has it on that wing. Here's a shot. Henderson made a wild stab for it and fell. Here's another shot. Right in front. They score! Henderson has scored for Canada!"

• • •

There I was, beside myself with joy and no way to express it. I got Shauna to jump up and down to celebrate for me. She must have thought I had come home deranged!

There is no expressing to a young audience today what that win meant to Canadians or even how we felt about our hockey heroes, whose names were

on everyone's lips, no matter how little we might know about the game in general.

Frank also told us of being a young hockey player, up against Rocket Richard for the first time. His job was to shadow the Rocket. "You stay on him," said the coach. "When you get hold of him, don't let him go."

Frank took this advice to heart and sure enough, he soon had the Rocket in his grasp, his arms around him, holding him very tightly. "He tried to elbow me out of the way," said Frank. "But I held on tight. So he screwed his body around until his nose was just about touching mine and he said in a very firm voice, 'Let go, Kid.' I gazed into his eyes and said, 'Yes Mr. Richard'."

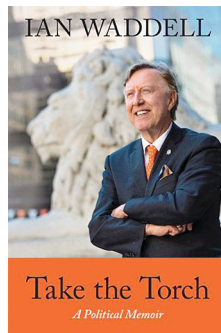
I love that image of the future superstar yielding to his hero, in spite of strict instructions from the top!

For those of you too young to remember, Frank Mahovlich was one of the greatest hockey players of all times and, in 2017, was named one of the top 100 Greatest NHL Players. He turned 81 on January 10 and is still tall and full of life.

During his visit to Moscow last year, Putin became very expansive – lots of vodka was imbibed – and the guests were given an underground tour of the Kremlin. Here they were shown vast stores of precious metals and jewels. There were big boulders of gold, said Frank, and heaps of emeralds and rubies and diamonds. It was mind-boggling.

That got me thinking: what good is that stuff anymore? Does it have any real intrinsic value? Do you collect diamonds and gold now? Our real wealth is in knowledge and the ability to use it. Stuff, material things, is just stuff that we desire for a while, then tire of and replace with new stuff. If Russia is really relying on its stores of obsolete minerals as the basis for wealth, then I think they are in for a sad surprise some day in the not-too-distant future.

But then, maybe I'm just showing my age. After all, as they say, you can't take it with you, so what the heck is the point? What is wonderful, though, is meeting a guy like Frank Mahovlich and hearing his stories.



Take the Torch - A Political Memoir by Ian Waddell. 6' x 9' paperback. 220 pages. Nightwood Editions \$22.

Ian Waddell's recently published book would be a thought-provoking read for anyone interested in Canadian politics, but it will be particularly interesting to those who had the opportunity to serve in the House of Commons with him from 1979 to 1993. *Take the Torch - A Political Memoir*, tells the story of his life from the time he arrived in Canada as a wee lad from Scotland in 1947 right up until his recent efforts at getting more young people interested and active in politics.

His account of his time at university in Toronto, and his subsequent move to British Columbia, where he lived out his legal and political career, is rich with stories of his interactions between himself and others who were already prominent, or who, like Waddell, would go on in time to become prominent in national and provincial politics.

In his early days when he worked as a storefront community lawyer, he and a colleague initiated the first consumer class action lawsuit in Canada. After that he went on to an even more formative event for himself, and for the country, serving as assistant to Mr. Justice Thomas Berger of the Supreme Court of British Columbia when Berger led the Mackenzie Valley Pipeline Inquiry.

The Berger Report was a turning point in Canadian understanding of

Take the torch

Reviewed by Hon. Bill Blaikie

indigenous rights and land claims. Waddell tells the story of how the insights and convictions that his experience with the Berger Inquiry informed his early years in Parliament as the MP for Vancouver-Kingsway when he found himself in the thick of the attempt by Pierre Trudeau to patriate the Canadian constitution.

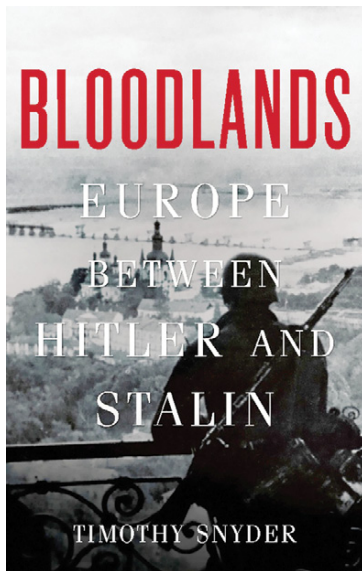
Trudeau's original proposal did not include any recognition of aboriginal rights, and Waddell tells the story of how he and other NDP MP's pushed Broadbent to push Trudeau for the inclusion of such recognition, in what became Section 35 of the constitution. Waddell was involved in actual drafting of Section 35, and that story alone is worth the read.

This all happened while Waddell was also the NDP energy critic, during the controversial National Energy Program, and his account of those years provides a useful perspective on the current national energy debate.

Many other issues and times are touched on: Meech Lake, the International Criminal Court, Waddell's run for the NDP leadership in 1989, his time as a provincial cabinet minister after his defeat in 1993, and the role he played in the development of the BC film industry, to name a few.

Ian Waddell has combined insight with a sense of humour and a talent for storytelling that makes a critical period in Canada's political history accessible and understandable. It deserves a wide readership.

Hon. Bill Blaikie was the NDP member of Parliament for Elmwood—Transcona from 1979 to 2008.



Bloodlands: Europe between Hitler and Stalin

Reviewed by Derrek Konrad

Bloodlands: Europe Between Hitler and Stalin by Timothy Snyder. Basic Books, A member of Perseus Books Group. 2010 (Hardcover), 2012 (Soft cover). 524 pages including bibliography, ISBN 978-0-465-00239-9.

Mass murder in Eastern Europe on an epic and incomprehensible scale is the topic of this book by Yale professor, Timothy Snyder; reading it will dwarf everything you ever thought you knew about evil. Snyder systematically and clinically describes the specific policies and laws of both the Soviet Union and Nazi Germany to demonstrate how they caused the murder of fourteen million non-combatants caught in the area of Eastern Europe that was alternately under the heels of first, Stalin, then Hitler and then Stalin again. The area is comprised of Poland East of the Molotov-Ribbentrop Line, Ukraine, Belarus, Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia, all countries that fell behind the Iron Curtain after the war ended. He also weaves in the history of the purges, ethnic cleansing, show-trials and mass deportations that were hallmarks of Stalin's policies. As Snyder describes what occurred in this area between 1933 and 1945 he writes, "Though their homeland became battlefields midway through this period, these people were all victims of murder-

ous policy rather than casualties of war."

To enlighten the bare facts, this history describes the final days and moments of just a few of the fourteen million victims of the planned famine of Ukrainian peasants instituted by Stalin, his Great Terror carried out against ethnic minorities living in the Soviet Union and the sustained slaughter of Jews under Hitler in order to illuminate the magnitude of the suffering and death, not by masses of faceless victims, but by each person individually deported, tortured, shot, starved or gassed to death.

Snyder steers away from the use of the word Holodomor to describe the planned famine in Ukraine as most Westerners will be unfamiliar with it and because the terms genocide and Holocaust have entered everyday political usage to decry policies, writing, speech and thought that is anathema to some activists, they have lost their power to describe what happened in the bloodlands. He prefers to use the term, "mass murder" because that in its irreducible simplicity is what it was.

The book also casts light on one fact that is little known due to the secrecy of Soviet government and that is the revisionist history of what happened to the Jewish population in the bloodlands. Rather than admit that it was Jews who were targeted by Hitler and were the main

victims of Nazi policy and actions, Soviet history denies the ethnic component of the murders and that non-Jewish soviet citizens were active participants in the murder of the Jewish population.

Toward the end of the book Snyder becomes philosophical about what if any meaning can be found amid the unspeakable crimes perpetrated and the horrors suffered by the victims of the two regimes. He concludes that sacrificing the individual in the name of the community, led to policies in which the individual became no more than a statistic, sublimated to economic policies to be dealt with, without regard to its humanity and that a policy of present evil for future good is simply wrong.

In summing up, this is a scholarly work on a topic of immense importance to understanding the twentieth century and I highly recommend it - with one caveat. Because the subject matter is so intense I was unable to read for sustained periods of time. Although Snyder is clinical in his recitation of the facts of horror, the reader is appalled and must take a breather from time to time in order to regain his strength. I am convinced that Snyder retains a detached style because if one begins to rage one could only rage. That is the power of this book.

Derrek Conrad served as a Reform Party MP in the Prince Albert electoral district in Saskatchewan from 1997-2000.

Our tribute to those who have passed on

By Ellie Sabourin and Lauren Malyk



Mr. Clifford Downey.



Mr. Marcel-Claude Roy.



Mr. Eugène Bellemare.

Mr. Clifford Downey

Mr. Clifford Downey, former Conservative MP, passed away on May 3, 2018. He was 90 years old.

Cliff, of Edmonton, Alberta, passed away peacefully, at the University of Alberta Hospital with his wife by his side. He was born in Castor, Alberta, to William and Annie Downey. Cliff will be greatly missed by his wife and best friend of 46 years, Frances, and his children: William (Darina), Dwight (Kathy), Michele Labonte, Darrin, Reena, Cheryl Labonte, Bruce (Heide), Elisabeth Hughes (Steve), 16 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

He was passionate about agriculture and service to his community. He was a farmer, Member of Parliament, Farmers' Advocate of Alberta, and a member of the Alberta Surface Rights Board. Cliff moved to Edmonton in 1982 but remained deeply rooted to his farm in Castor, making routine trips back home to see the land, check on the crops, hear the farm sounds, and stay connected to his friends and neighbours.

His friends say that his smile was his trademark as much as the fact that he was a man of his word. He will be remembered fondly by all those who had the pleasure of knowing him, and his absence will be felt profoundly by his family and friends.

Mr. Marcel-Claude Roy

Mr. Marcel-Claude Roy, former Liberal MP, passed away on May 31, 2018 at the age of 82.

Marcel C. Roy, the fourth of six boys from Florida Simard and Siméon Roy, formerly of Laval des Rapides, flew to the sun on Thursday, the last day of May at dawn, at the Palliative Care Home of Laval.

He is survived by his partner Yolande Cloutier, his brother Jacques R. Roy, his children and the children of his brothers Réal, Robert and Jean, as well as many other relatives and friends.

Marcel C. was an agronomist by profession, he served in Ottawa from 1968 to 1984 as a Member of Parliament for Laval and then held the position of director of a golf club in Ste-Adèle.

Mr. Eugène Bellemare

Mr. Eugène Bellemare, former Liberal MP, passed away peacefully in Ottawa on July 6, 2018 at the age of 86.

Born on April 6, 1932 in Ottawa, the son of the late Chief Warrant Officer Lucien Bellemare and the late Claire (née Brousseau). Husband of the late Roberte Gauthier. Cherished father of Liette (Louis Savoie), Michel (Nathalie Tremblay), Martine and Josée (Gary Fast). Brother of the late Georges (the late Hélène Nantel) and

the late Jules. Grandfather of Philippe Savoie, Dr. Valérie Savoie (Mathieu Soucie), Dr. Gabrielle Savoie; Étienne, Pascale and Véronique Bellemare; Rachel and Matthew Fast. Great-grandfather of Jade Soucie.

Eugène was a graduate of the University of Ottawa, B.A., M Ed (Admin) and the University of Toronto, B. Ed. (Ontario College of Education). He also attended the Ontario College of Art. He was a teacher at North Park Collegiate in Brantford, Ontario then at Nepean High School before becoming the Coordinator of continuing education for the French speaking community of Ottawa-Rockcliffe-Vanier at the former Ottawa Board of Education. Founded L'École des adultes Le Carefour, the first francophone adult day school outside Québec.

He had a passion for art, caricatures and oil painting in his spare time. In Parliament, he served on various committees, including as Vice-Chair of the Industry Committee, as a Member of the Official Languages Committee, and was appointed Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of International Cooperation (CIDA).

Dedicated 35 years of his life to his community as an elected official. He first served as school trustee (1964), as Township and City Councillor in Gloucester (1970-1988), as Regional Councillor in Ottawa-Carleton (1979-

1985), and as a Member of Parliament in Carleton-Gloucester, renamed Ottawa-Orléans (1988-2004).

Mr. Garnet Bloomfield

Mr. Garnet Bloomfield passed away peacefully on August 1, 2018, in his 90th year. He is reunited in Heaven with his beloved wife of 64 years, Mildred (née Ronson) Bloomfield (2015). Loving Dad of Marlene (Steve) Todd, of Brantford, and the late Ken (Joy) Bloomfield (2014), of Australia. Cherished Grandpa and Great-Grandpa of Daniel (Paige) and their sons August and Shepherd, David (Kyla) and their daughter Olivia, Nathan, and Melissa. Dear brother of Ferne Browne and Wanda Harris. Garnet served the riding of London Middlesex as Member of Parliament 1980-1984.

Honourable Alastair Gillespie, P.C., O.C.

Honourable Alastair Gillespie, passed away on August 19, 2018 at the age of 96.

Alastair was the devoted husband of Diana Christie Clark for 63 years, and loving father of Cynthia Webb (Ian) and Ian (Lynn). Extremely proud and adored grandfather of Vanessa (Chip), Katie (Nick) and David Webb, Meredith (Pat) and Ian Gillespie. Beloved great-grandfather (GG) of Maddie and Finn Greene, Sarah, Michael, Emma and William Gambarotta, and Georgia and William Gliniski. Fondly remembered by Shirley and Gavin Clark, Ian and Nancy Clark, Sheila Clark and many nieces and nephews. Predeceased by his cherished brothers, Ian (WWII) and Andrew and dear sister, Catriona.

Born in Victoria, B.C., son of Erroll and Catharine (Oliver) Gillespie, Dad attended St. Michael's School and graduated from Brentwood College in 1941. He briefly attended UBC before entering Royal Roads Naval College for Officer Training in 1941 (RC-NVR). Attaining the rank of Term Lieutenant in 1942, he served on naval convoys across the North Atlantic.



Mr. Garnet Bloomfield.



Hon. Alastair Gillespie.



Mr. Jacques M. Tétreault.

Following the death, in action, of his brother Ian, an RCAF Beaufighter pilot on December 22, 1943, he joined the Fleet Air Arm as a fighter pilot flying Corsairs.

After the war, he attended McGill University (BCOM) and during his final year met the love of his life, the beautiful Diana Clark on a blind date. "She is one in a million", he wrote to his parents and they were married in 1947. Having been selected as a Rhodes Scholar from B.C., they left for Oxford where he read Philosophy, Politics and Economics at Queen's College.

His involvement in community service was extensive. He served on many boards including: the National Ballet School, the Canadian Paraplegic Association, Lyndhurst Hospital, The Champlain Society, the Scottish Studies Foundation, The Gage Research Institute, and was President of the Canadian Opera Company.

In 1998, he was appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada for his "maverick entrepreneurial spirit", amongst other accolades.

He will always be remembered for his warmth, charm, generosity, sense of humour and distinguished good looks.

Mr. Jacques M. Tétreault

On August 20, 2018, at the age of 89, following a long illness, former Conservative MP Jacques M. Tétreault, died in his sleep. He is survived by his wife Lise Desrosiers, his children Suzanne (Stephen), Anne-Marie

(Yves), Richard, Jean-Marc (Line) and his grandchildren Laurent, Françoise, Gabrielle, Louis and his mother Catherine Gascon. He was the last survivor of a large family. Preceded in death by his sister Yolande, his brothers Ernest (Thérèse), Fernand (Lucille), Jean-Guy (Henriette), George, André (Jeannette), Yvon and Charles (Denise), he also leaves to mourn his beautiful Robert Desrosiers (Francine), his sister-in-law Huguette Larue, as well as many nephews and nieces, relatives and friends. From 1965 to 1973, he was the first elected mayor of Laval and, from 1988 to 1993, Conservative MP for Laval Center.

Mr. Robert Porter

Mr. Robert Porter, former Conservative MP, passed away in Medicine Hat, Alberta on Monday, September 10th, 2018 at the age of 85 years.

He leaves to cherish his memory his sons, Lee (Cindy) Porter and their children Jordan (Ryan) Pancoast (Asher and Dylen) and Hayden; Rick (Janet) Porter and their children Kalan, Kelsey and MacKenzie; and daughter Marni (Mark) Semrau and their children Hunter and Lucas. He was predeceased by his parents Emerson and Thelma Porter. Bob was born in Medicine Hat on August 14th, 1933 and raised south of Irvine on the RP Ranch (est. 1883). In 1957, Bob married Donna-Lee Harstead of Brooks, Alberta. Together, they resided on the ranch for over 60 years, raising cattle and buffalo as committed and dedicated stewards of the land. Bob had

*Mr. Robert Porter.**Hon. Eric Berntson.**Hon. Peter Adams.*

a strong devotion to his community. He was a long time member and elder of St. John's Presbyterian Church. He served as President of Kinsmen Club of Medicine Hat, Medicine Hat Shrine Club, Medicine Hat Exhibition and Stampede, Cypress Club, Chinook Club and Cypress Progressive Conservative Association. He was on the Board of Directors of the Western Stock Growers Association, Alberta Cattle Commission, Alberta Grazing Lease Association, Alberta Press Council and the Medicine Hat Community Foundation. Bob served 2 terms in the House of Commons in Ottawa as Member of Parliament for Medicine Hat (1984 and re-elected in 1988). He was the recipient of the Queen's Jubilee Medal - County of Cypress in 1988; served as the Stampede liaison for the 1996 Great Centennial Cattle Drive; was awarded Rangeman of the Year in 2008 by the Calgary Stampede; received an Honorary Applied Degree (Medicine Hat College) in 2010 and was the Honorary Parade Marshall for the Medicine Hat Stampede in 2016. Of his many accomplishments, nothing meant more to Bob than the treasured time spent with his family. He delighted in the many musical and sporting activities of his children and grandchildren and rarely missed an event or recital. His most cherished times were family sing-alongs at the ranch with Donna-Lee at the piano. Bob will be deeply missed as a pragmatic and compassionate confidant to his many friends from various walks of life. He will be warmly

remembered for his quick wit and dry sense of humour. He lived his life honourably with unwavering integrity and steadfast devotion to his family, his community and his country.

Hon. Eric Berntson

The Honourable Eric Arthur Berntson, former Conservative Senator, passed away on Sunday, September 23 at the age of 77 in Ottawa, ON.

Eric had an outstanding career serving Canada in a multitude of ways. He first enlisted in the Royal Canadian Air Force and then flew Banshees with the Royal Canadian Navy and ended his military career flying T-33s with the Royal Canadian Air Force. Eventually Eric was led to a political life. In the province of Saskatchewan he led negotiating teams and developed strong business relationships and friendships across the world. Some of his portfolios were Deputy Premier, Provincial Secretary, Minister of Economic Development and Trade, Agriculture, Crown Management, Sask Power, Crown Investment Corp, Sask Expo '86 Corp and many, many more portfolios. In the Senate of Canada he served as Deputy Leader of the Opposition. He chaired the Agricultural and Forestry Committee and was a member of the Legal and Constitutional Affairs and Aboriginal Affairs Committees in addition to many other responsibilities. Eric was a fundraiser extraordinaire. Some of his pet projects that he and Joan worked on were Operation Come Home, Saskatchewan Literacy Foundation. Committee

to Promote Literacy in Saskatchewan. Saskatchewan Science Centre. Diefenbaker Society and the Whitespruce Youth Treatment Centre among many others. Eric was awarded "Her Majesty's Golden Jubilee Medal", "Her Majesty's 125th Anniversary Medal", "Her Majesty's 25th Anniversary Medal". The American Legion's "Canadian Friendship Award" and along with his wife was awarded a Lifetime Membership in the Learning Disabilities Association, among many other honours. Eric was ahead of his time with his entrepreneurial spirit, from a translation technology in the 70s and 80s to modern translation technologies that exist today. Saskatchewan and Canada was always open for business when served by Eric Berntson. He served his country as a Navy Airman, as Deputy Premier of his province and Senator for Canada. Throughout his journey he never forgot his roots and was faithful to his colleagues." He learned who his friends really were and had many over this country and many from London to Bulgaria to Romania and China and Japan. Terry Leier said of Eric. The greatest characteristic of his personal and political life was his loyalty, intelligence and authenticity.

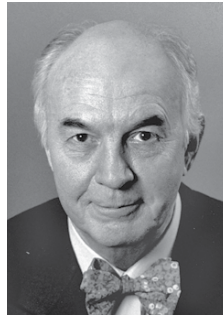
Hon. Peter Adams, P.C.

Peter Adams, former Liberal MP, passed away on September 28th at the age of 82. Peter was born on April 17, 1936 in Ellesmere Port, England, a small village on the River Mersey, where he grew up during WWII. He completed his undergraduate degree at the University of Sheffield, where he met Jill and started competing in track and field running events. With a Carnegie Arctic Scholarship, Peter moved to Montreal in 1959 to attend McGill and complete his Ph.D. in Geography and Glaciology. Working in the Arctic with Fritz Muller on the Axel Heiberg Expedition inspired a lifelong passion for Northern research on snow and ice. Jill moved from England to join him in Montreal and they were married on September 24, 1960. After a three year

research period at the McGill Subarctic Research Station in Labrador, and brief periods in Britain and France, Peter and Jill settled in Peterborough at 779 Aylmer Street, where Peter and Jill have lived for over 50 years. Peter became the Founding Chair of the Trent University Geography Department where he involved many students in his Arctic research projects. He also continued running, completing many marathons, including Boston and the Midnight Sun (Nunavut). Peter's passion for field-based research, combined with his determination to communicate the results of his work, led to many publications, ranging from over sixty peer-reviewed articles in scientific journals, through several books – both monograph and edited – to dozens of reviews, newspaper and magazine articles. According to his university colleagues, Peter's greatest achievement lies in his voluminous published research on ice and snow and, in particular, his glaciological work on Axel Heiberg Island (Nunavut), which continues today and represents the world's longest continuous study of its kind in the high Arctic. They believe that this work is of incomparable value in understanding climate and climatic change in that Polar region. Politics became increasingly important to Peter, first as a Trustee on the Board of Education, then as MPP (1987-1990), and eventually as Member of Parliament (1993-2006), where he served as member of the Privy Council of Canada. Peter proudly served in the government of Premier David Peterson in Ontario, as well as federally, under Prime Ministers Jean Chrétien and Paul Martin. He had a leading role in the area of post-secondary education, in particular the creation of the Millennium Scholarships Foundation and the Canada Research Chairs. After he retired from politics, Peter joined Jill in her international volunteer work.

**Hon. Donald S. Macdonald,
P.C., C.C.**

Donald S. Macdonald, former Liberal MP, passed away on October 14, 2018 at the age of 86. Ever unassuming, he died with the least of fuss, and



Hon. Donald MacDonal.

with characteristic dignity. He found his greatest joy in serving his country. First elected to the House of Commons in 1962 as the Member of Parliament for Rosedale, he served for 16 years through the Liberal governments of both Prime Ministers Lester B. Pearson and Pierre Trudeau. He held many portfolios: Government House Leader, Minister of Defence, Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources and Minister of Finance. Upon leaving politics in 1978, he returned to McCarthy and McCarthy but quickly became subsumed in public life again. As he noted, "when your Prime Minister asks, you serve your country." In 1982, he accepted Prime Minister Trudeau's request to chair the Royal Commission on Economic Union and the Development Prospects, known as the Macdonald Commission. The Commission was responsible for innovative policy recommendations including the early framework that led to the NAFTA agreement. A true statesman, he was subsequently appointed by the Right Honourable Brian Mulroney to serve as Canada's High Commissioner to Great Britain and Northern Ireland where he played a critical role in serving Canada's interests during the creation of the key aspects of the European Union. Donald was a gentle man, who inherited from his father Donald Angus Macdonald, a love of jazz and a commitment to public service. He would speak proudly of his father's legacy as a World War One veteran and as Canada's last Dominion Forester. His mother, Majorie Isabel Stovel, introduced him to books during summers spent at her father's home who,



Myron Thompson.

as owner of the Stovel Publishing House in Winnipeg, had an extraordinary library. His love of reading led to academic success, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts from Trinity College, University of Toronto, Bachelor of Laws from Osgoode Law School, Master of Laws from Harvard University and a Diploma in International Relations from Cambridge University. He received many honours over his years of public service including his appointment as a Companion of the Order of Canada, and honorary degrees from the Colorado School of Mines and Engineering, Carleton University, University of New Brunswick, the University of Toronto and Trinity College, Doctor of Sacred Letters. He gave joy to his family and friends, like the thousands of trees he planted in his lifetime: an investment of hope and optimism that we will remember as the essence of Donald. And when we do, though our hearts ache, we smile.

Thomas Suluk

Thomas Suluk of Arviat, Nunavut, former Conservative MP, passed away in October 13, 2018 at 68 years old. Thomas was a well-respected man in his community and around Nunavut. The knowledge Suluk had about Nunavut and traditional Inuit culture is immeasurable.

Suluk started negotiating for the Land claims in 1977 before Tunngavik Federation of Nunavut (TFN) was formed in 1982. He was a Member of Parliament for Nunatsiak from 1984-1988, a respected interpreter translator, NTI employee and later, operated

*Hon. Pierre De Bané.**Paul Wilson Dewar.**Melbourne Alexander Gass.*

a private business in Arviat.

His legacy and contributions to Nunavut will not be forgotten and he will be deeply missed.

Myron D. Thompson

Former Conservative MP, passed away at the General Hospital, on Saturday, January 5, 2019, at the age of 92. Son of the late Albert Dubé and the late Flore Poirier. He will sadly be missed by his wife Noëlla, his children Rachelle (Duncan Hayes) and Jean-François, his grandchildren Amélia, Chloé and Justin. He also leaves his sister Alberte Dubé Daviault, as well as many nephews, nieces and friends. He is predeceased by his siblings Fabienne, Roger, André, Jacqueline and Jean-Paul.

Hon. Pierre De Bané

Pierre De Bané, former Liberal MP, passed at the Ottawa Heart Institute on January 9th, 2019 at the age of 80 years old.

Born in Haïfa, Palestine, in 1938, he immigrated to Canada at the age of 11. He studied law at Laval University and was admitted to the Bar of Québec in 1964. He became a Professor at Laval University Law School in the same year. After joining a law firm in Québec City, he pleaded cases before courts in many jurisdictions, including the Supreme Court of Canada. In 1967, he began working for the then Minister of Justice, the Honourable Pierre Elliott Trudeau. In 1968, he was elected Member of Parliament for the riding of Matane and then Matapédia-Matane, making him the first Canadian Parliamentarian of Arab de-

scent. He won five successive mandates and proudly represented the citizens of his riding for over 16 years. During that time he served as Minister of the Crown in several portfolios. In 1984, he was appointed to the Senate, a position he held for 29 years. At the time of his retirement in 2013 after more than 45 years of parliamentary service, his combined career in the two Houses made him the Dean of Parliament. He was especially proud of his contribution to l'Assemblée parlementaire de la Francophonie (APF), having served as the chair of the Parliamentary Affairs Committee for 19 years.

The Hon. Pierre De Bané will be remembered for his devotion to his family and friends, his love for his country, his attachment to his middle-eastern roots, his passion for language rights, and his lifetime commitment to public service.

Paul Wilson Dewar

In the early morning hours of February 6, 2019 at the age of 56 Paul W. Dewar, former NDP MP, passed away.

Paul's early challenges with dyslexia gave him both a unique perspective and developed his fearless determination. As a young adult he was an active athlete who was involved in social justice movements. He attended Trent, Carleton and Queen's universities where he graduated with degrees in history and education. His most life forming trip was to Nicaragua volunteering for Tools for Peace where he developed confidence and solidified his passion to work for others.

After assisting with many NDP campaigns, he became a constituent

assistant to MPP Evelyn Gigantes. As a teacher, 'Mr. Dewar' was known as a kind, fair yet demanding teacher who challenged his students to take the lead in their learning. After positions at D. Roy Kennedy and Hopewell schools, Paul became a Vice President in the Ottawa Carleton Elementary Teachers Federation where he represented teachers and advocated for healthy school environments where both students and teachers could reach their maximum potential.

Since 2015, he has been a board member of Human Rights Watch Canada, Partners in Health Canada, and Fair Vote Canada and was involved in the Ottawa Centre Refugee Action (OCRA). He was eager to help get people engaged in their community here and abroad, most recently in Algiers working with NDI (New Democracy Institute).

On the last leg of his road trip, Paul was surrounded by his family and an excellent palliative care team who helped support his family with wish to die at home. With stubborn determination, he was walking until his last week. Paul W. Dewar died peacefully during his sleep. Throughout his life Paul led with his heart, knowing that love must lead the way. He died as he lived- with integrity, honesty and grace. He will be remembered by many and never absent from the hearts of Julia, Nathaniel and Jordan.

Melbourne Alexander Gass

Melbourne Alexander Gass, former Conservative MP, said his last good-byes to family, and surrounded by them, passed very peacefully at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. He considered himself a lucky man who had lived a good life – and for that he was sincerely grateful. His ever positive and optimistic outlook, inquisitive nature, love of learning, pride in being an Islander and Canadian, and love of celebrating with family and friends were evident to all who met him. Mel is survived by his children, Randy, Kim (Bob) Andrews, Robb, their mother Lois, and his three much loved grandchildren Matthew, Jordan and Katie Andrews. Also survived by his brother

Andy, and many nieces and nephews. Predeceased by his parents Duncan and Lydia (MacDonald) Gass, brothers Wilbur, John and sister Bernice.

Hon. William Charles Winegard

Hon. William Charles Winegard, former Conservative MP, passed away on January 31, 2019. Born to William and Hilda (Yaxley) on September 17, 1924, Bill grew up on the Grand River in Caledonia, Ontario. At age 17, Bill joined the RCNVR, serving as a coder on the Stratford and the St. Boniface, then as navigation officer and Canada's youngest sub-lieutenant on the Saskatoon. Three years on the corvette Triangle Run in the North Atlantic gave him a lifelong love of Halifax and St. John's. Following the war, Bill achieved a BSc and a PhD in Metallurgy at the University of Toronto. As a U of T professor, Dr. Winegard was a gifted and enthusiastic teacher and researcher; his 1962 book on the crystallization of metals was translated into many languages. Bill and Elizabeth were married in January 1947 and raised their children in Applewood Acres, Mississauga. The family watched Hockey Night in Canada every Saturday night, and Bill became a Scout leader when his boys joined Scouts. Bill became the second President of the University of Guelph from 1967 to 1975. His was the last family to live on campus, and his daily route to the office is now commemorated as Winegard Walk. Thousands of faculty and students still remember being invited to the President's House. After the U of G, he served on several commissions and international institutions, including IDRC and the Hong Kong Baptist University. He and Elizabeth saw the world together. As a passionate Canadian and lifelong Progressive Conservative (always stressing the 'Progressive'), he agreed to run in the 1984 election and was elected just before his 60th birthday. In the Commons, he chaired the Standing Committee on Defence and Foreign Affairs, and was heartbroken at the defeat of the Meech Lake Accord.



Hon. William Charles Winegard.

After re-election in 1988, he became Canada's first Minister for Science. Following Elizabeth's MS diagnosis, Bill retired in Guelph, combining caregiving with his devotion to the City. He raised millions for the Guelph General Hospital with Bob Ireland, and fundraised for Guelph Hospice, Sunrise Equestrian Centre, and the statue of John McCrae. He consistently supported the local school breakfast program and proudly participated in the Legion and Rotary. Nothing made him prouder than when, through the efforts of the Jociuses and other Guelph friends, he was awarded the Order of Canada in 1998. As an octogenarian, he read Billy Goats Gruff and Jack and the Beanstalk to hundreds of kids in daycare, kindergarten and grade one. The crowning recognition of Bill's dedication to Guelph and to education was the Upper Grand School Board's decision to name the new William C. Winegard Public School. Not only did he regularly read to four classes a week, but he was involved in school events throughout the year. Bill Winegard was a leader with vision and energy, a loyal friend and father, and a passionate Canadian. His life exemplified his motto: 'if a job is worth doing, it's worth doing well.'

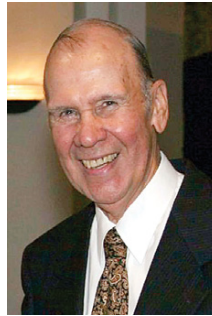
Hon. Michael Wilson

Michael Wilson, former Conservative MP, passed away peacefully at home after a battle with cancer at the age of 82. Michael is survived by Margie, his devoted wife of 54 years,



Hon. Michael Wilson.

sisters Wendy Lawson and Tricia Younger, son Geoff (Joanne Poulin), daughter Lara O'Brien (Sean) and grandchildren, Patrick and Thomas Wilson, Ciara, Kalin and Eamon O'Brien. He was predeceased by his son Cameron. Michael inspired so many of us across a great spectrum of initiatives. In business, he was determined to help his clients grow to achieve potential beyond their vision, and lend a perspective of experience and support to evolving technologies. In public life, he was devoted to tackling issues that were plaguing our country, and he was committed to finding solutions that set us on a path to success, particularly in trade. Whether as Finance Minister or Ambassador to the US, he had a full agenda. Educating the future generations of great Canadians was another important effort. As Chancellor of Trinity first, and then University of Toronto he inspired a great many graduating students as he gave them their diplomas and reminded them of their potential to achieve and suggested they might "give back" to their communities. Perhaps his greatest impact has come in the advocacy for mental health. Underfunded and misunderstood, it was difficult to talk openly about a disease that affects so many people. For Michael Wilson, it was a challenge that was not insurmountable, as many felt. Much has been done to shed light on this issue and to create positive energy to find better treatments. Remarkably, he ensured that he had a great deal of time to spend

*Bernard Collins.**Ronald William Fewchuk.**Douglas Donald Everett.*

with family and friends. If he was able to work in a golf game, fishing or skiing trip, it was a fine way to relax. He had a gift to be able to mentor so many that he has touched in his years. Michael was deeply honoured to be appointed a Companion of the Order of Canada, which recognizes those that “have all enriched the lives of others and made a difference to this country.”

Bernard Collins

Former Liberal MP Bernie Collins passed away at Saskatoon’s Royal University Hospital on March 26. He was 82 years old.

Born on June 18, 1935 in Regina, Saskatchewan, Bernie received his bachelors of education at the University of Saskatchewan and later, his Masters of Science in Educational Administration from Northern State College in North Dakota.

He started his career as a teacher in 1960 working in Kamsack, Saskatchewan. Later, moving to Regina to teach and then back to Kamsack before becoming a teacher and principal at Estevan, where he spent the remainder of his career.

Bernie showed his dedication to the Estevan community by serving as the city’s mayor from 1985 till 1988. In addition, he served several terms as a councillor in the 1970s, 1980s, 1990s and 2000s. His final term as councillor ended in 2003.

Bernie was first elected to Parliament for the riding of Souris-Moose Mountain in 1993. He was defeated in 1997. He was the last Liberal MP

to represent the riding.

While working on the Hill, he served as a member on the Standing Committee on Agriculture and Agri-Food, the Standing Committee on Citizenship and Immigration, the Standing Committee on National Defence and Veterans Affairs and the Subcommittee on Grain Transportation of the Standing Committee on Agriculture and Agri-Food.

After his last term as a councillor for the city, Collins retired from the world of politics and became involved with different boards in the community.

The City of Estevan renamed Woodlawn Avenue South as Collins Road in his honour in 2017 to recognize his decades of service to the region.

“Political life in [Saskatchewan] has lost two great people - former Souris-Moose Mountain MP Bernie Collins [and University of Saskatchewan] Professor Emeritus Red Williams. They will be deeply missed,” said Ralph Goodale, Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness and MP for Regina-Wascanan.

Bernie leaves behind his wife of 44 years, Del; his parents – Matthew and Annie May; David and his great-granddaughter Zara and his eight children.

Ronald William Fewchuk

Former Liberal MP Ronald William Fewchuk left us on September 13, 2017. He was 75.

Ron was born on October 28,

1941 in Selkirk, Manitoba and raised in Lockport, Manitoba. During his time in Lockport, he spent many years working at Lockport Appliance. Ron was also involved with his community through co-owning and operating businesses, in addition to serving on hospital and civic action boards.

He was first elected as a councillor for the Rural Community of St. Clements in 1974 until 1980 and then as Reeve from 1986 to 1989. In 1993, Ron threw his hat into the federal ring and was elected as the Liberal MP for Selkirk-Red River winning by 3,488 votes.

As an MP, Ron served as a member on the Standing Committee on Finance, the Standing Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development and the Special Joint Committee on a Code of Conduct.

After his time in service, Ron became the CEO of the Freshwater Fish Marketing Board. He eventually retired due to his health and was elected as the chairperson for the Selkirk Red River Metis Local.

He is survived by June, his wife of 57 years; his children Rodney and Kathy; his grandchildren Lee and Matthew; and his five great grandchildren.

Douglas Donald Everett

Former Liberal MP Douglas Everett passed away at the age of 90 on March 27, 2018.

Douglas was born in Vancouver on August 12, 1927. In 1943, he joined the Royal Canadian Navy as a 16-year-old cadet at Royal Rhodes Military College where he served for four years and retired as a sub-lieutenant. He graduated from Toronto’s Osgoode Hall Law School in 1950 and from the University of Manitoba’s Faculty of Law in 1951. He was also a member of the bar in both provinces.

He founded Domo Gas (the abbreviated name of Dominion) in 1958 with three pumps on the lot of the Everett family’s Winnipeg-based Dominion Motors car dealership. In 1970, the company expanded to a

handful of stations on the corner of Safeway parking lots in the city to create a chain of gas kiosks at grocery stores.

At the age of 39 years old, Douglas was appointed to the Senate by then Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson in 1966. At the time, he was the youngest person ever to be called to the office.

Douglas was guided by the belief that government exists to assist those in society, believing that the Senate was influential for helping impact social policy. During his time with the Senate, he served as Chair of the Senate Committee on National Finance, a position he held for 14 of his nearly 30 years in the Upper Chamber.

In 1990, he made the decision to sit as an independent following a dispute over introducing GST, which Douglas sided with the Progressive Conservatives on. He spent the rest of his time in the Senate sitting independently.

In 1988, he made headlines when he began to donate his Senate salary back to the Crown, which he did until his retirement in 1994.

In 2017, Douglas was recognized for his work by being inducted into the Manitoba Business Hall of Fame in 2017 and receiving an honorary Doctorate of Laws from the University of Manitoba.

Douglas was also a collector of fine art, a lover of swing music, cooking and enjoyed spending time with his family. Prior to his passing he was still involved in Domo and went into the office regularly until last year.

He is survived by Lila; his six children: Sarah, Bethan, Ashleigh, Jane, Douglas, Kate; and his grandchildren: Kaitlin, Christopher, Kyle, Kirsten, Dominic, Sarah, Hayley, Daniel, Laura, Annie, Andrew and Zoe. He is also survived by his two great-grandchildren, Quinn and Huxley and his step-children David, Nathan, Kohan, Alison, Hunter, Noah, and Bennett.



Beverly Faye Desjarlais.

Beverly Faye Desjarlais

After a battle with multiple system atrophy, former NDP MP Beverley Faye Desjarlais passed away peacefully surrounded by her loved ones on March 15th, 2018. She was 62 years old.

Beverley was born in Regina, Saskatchewan on August 19, 1955 and spent her childhood in the Green Lake, and later Lebreton, areas of Fort Qu'Appelle, Saskatchewan. In her youth she worked a number of jobs, including as a gas station attendant, ward clerk, airport security, a nurses' aide and as a college instructor.

Her career as an MP spanned nine years for the riding of Churchill. She was first elected in 1997, defeating Liberal Elijah Harper, and later was re-elected in 2000 and 2004.

On the Hill, she often took new staff members under her wing. She served as the NDP critic for Housing and the Treasury Board and as the NDP's representative on the House of Commons Transport committee.

Beverley split from the NDP in 2005 when she voted against same-sex marriage, putting her at odds with her party. She sat as an independent and later lost the NDP nomination in Churchill to sitting MP Niki Ashton in 2005, eventually working in the Department of Veterans Affairs under Progressive Conservative MP and Veterans Affairs Minister Greg Thompson.

She moved to Brandon in early 2012 and was diagnosed with a rapid moving form Parkinson's disease called multiple system atrophy,



Hon. Normand Grimard.

subsequently. After leaving politics, Beverley went on to teach a ward clerk management course at Robertson College.

Beverley was dedicated to her community, working as the chair of the Mystery Lake School Board, volunteering with the Thompson Minor Hockey Association, leading Beavers and Cubs, representing the United Food and Commercial Workers union and trying to assist where and when she could. She loved spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren.

"Very sad to hear the news of my friend and former colleague's passing. Bev Desjarlais was a fierce defender of her community and was always warm and welcoming to newbie MPs like me when we got to Parliament. My most sincere condolences to her family," said Skeena-Bulkley Valley MP Nathan Cullen.

"Remembering former colleague Bev Desjarlais. She was especially helpful to the Dieppe Memorial Project as Director of Parliamentary Affairs for Minister Greg Thompson. Our condolences to family, friends on her passing," said Jeff Watson, former Essex MP.

Beverley is survived by her parents John and Esther, her children: Kris, Steven and Patrick and her 11 grandchildren Emily, Benjamin, Gillian, Tyler, Tristen, Ethan, Gabrielle, Samantha, Hayden, Thomas and Charlie.

Hon. Normand Grimard

Former Progressive Conservative



Keith Ashfield.

Senator Hon. Normand Grimard passed away on December 28, 2017 at the age of 92 years old.

Normand was born in Rigaud, Quebec in 1925, he later became a lawyer, specializing in mining law and settling in the Abitibi-Témiscamingue region. In addition, he was appointed Queen's Counsel in 1959 and he built an enviable reputation for himself through his work in the mining law industry at the *Chambre de commerce du Québec*.

He ran for office twice in Témiscamingue – the first time during the 1977 by-election and the second being in the 1979 general election.

However, his efforts were finally recognized in September 1990, when he was elected by then-Prime Minister Brian Mulroney to join the Senate of Canada. Normand was elected under a seldom used provision in the Constitution Act of 1867, which the Prime Minister used to recommend an extra eight seats. He went on to serve as a Senator for 10 years.

He chronicled his experiences and the events experienced by the eight senators during the GST debate in his book *L'indispensable Sénat: défense d'une institution mal aimée* (loosely translated to *The indispensable Senate: Defense of a badly loved institution*).

During his time in service, Normand was Vice-Chair of the Standing Committee on Privileges, Standing Rules and Orders and as Co-Chair on the Standing Joint Committee for the Scrutiny of Reg-

ulations. During the latter, he helped make constructive amendments to at least 50 Senate rules.

While in office, Normand served as a member on various committees ranging from transportation, communication, the environment and natural resources, national finance and foreign affairs. He also spent his time serving on the Standing Joint Committee on the Library of Parliament, the Special Joint Committee on a Renewed Canada, the Special Joint Committee on Bill C-116, Conflict of Interests and Special Joint Committee to review the subject matter of Bill C-43 and the Members of the Senate and House of Commons Conflict of Interests Act.

Normand retired from the Senate in 2000 at the age of 75.

He is survived by his wife, Marc; his children, Louise and Monique; his grandsons, Guy and Christian; and his nephews and nieces.

Keith Ashfield

Former Progressive Conservative MP Keith Ashfield died on April 22, 2018 at the age of 66 years old.

Born in North Tay, New Brunswick, Keith grew up in several parts of the province as his father worked on various construction projects. After his father's accidental death, Keith settled in Lincoln and attended Oromocto High School, graduating in 1970. After a brief stint attending the University of New Brunswick, Keith stockroom clerk at Auto Machinery Ltd., eventually becoming Vice-President and General

Manager of the business.

Prior to his time in federal politics, Keith was a provincial MLA from 1999 to 2008. He then made the jump to the federal level by winning the 2008 general election and taking on the position of MP for the riding of Fredericton.

From 2008 to 2018 he served in a variety of roles throughout then-Prime Minister Stephen Harper's cabinet acting as Minister of State, Minister of Natural Resources, Minister of the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency and Minister of Fisheries and Oceans.

He was defeated when he ran for re-election in 2015.

While serving as a federal MP, Keith was diagnosed with cancer in 2013. He underwent open-heart surgery and cancer treatment.

In March 2018, Keith announced he would make a political comeback by running for the Progressive Conservative nomination for Oromocto-Lincoln-Fredericton.

"A champion of New Brunswick, Keith Ashfield's advice was always sought and valued at the Cabinet table. Laureen and I mourn the loss of a great Canadian and friend, our thoughts and prayers are with Keith's loved ones today," said former Prime Minister Stephen Harper.

"On behalf of our entire caucus, my wife Jill and I send our sincere condolences to Keith's wife Judy and their loved ones. May his memory be a blessing for all of them," said Leader of the Conservative Party and the Official Opposition, Andrew Scheer in the House of Commons.

"So sorry to learn of Keith's passing. A smart, gentle man with a wry sense of humour. An honour to have served as his colleague," said Thornhill MP Peter Kent.

"On behalf of the Progressive Conservative Party of New Brunswick I want to express our sorrow upon the passing of Keith Ashfield. Our deepest sympathy to Keith's wife, Judy, his family and to everyone who loved our friend and colleague," said Rick Lafrance, president of the

Progressive Conservative Party of New Brunswick.

“Saddened to hear of the passing of former provincial and federal Cabinet Minister Keith Ashfield. Keith was a dedicated public servant and he will be sorely missed. Our thoughts are with his family and friends during this difficult time,” said New Brunswick Premier Brian Gallant.

Keith is survived by his wife Judy and his two children, Seth and Tara.

Clément Vincent

Former Progressive Conservative MP Clément Vincent died on April 4, 2018. Clément was 86.

Born in Sainte-Perpétue, Quebec on May 18, 1931, Clément studied at St. Perpetua, Nicolet Seminary, and St. Anselm's College, Rawdon, Quebec. He was a commander with the Canadian Army Cadets Corps in Radwon and received the award for best cadet in 1948. Clément later graduated in social formation from the University of Sherbrooke in 1966, and later worked as a farmer and a sale representative.

From 1959 to 1961, Clément made his political debut by serving as his hometown's first mayor. A year later he made the jump to the federal arena and became the MP for the riding of Nicolet-Yamaska. He was later re-elected as an MP in 1963 and 1965.

During his time as an MP, he was the Deputy Whip of the Progressive Conservative Party for a year from 1965 to 1966. In addition, from 1964 to 1968, Clément was the assistant and associate critic for Agriculture.

He was also a member on the Standing Committee on Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development; the Standing Committee on Housing, Urban Development and Public Works; the Standing Committee on Agriculture and Colonization; the Standing Committee on Banking and Commerce; the Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections; the Standing Committee on External Affairs; and the Standing Committee on Estimates.



Clement Vincent.

Clement also served as a member on the Special Joint Committee on Consumer Credit and Cost of Living and the Standing Joint Committee on the Restaurant of Parliament.

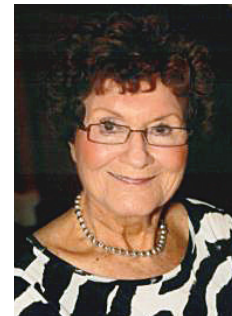
He resigned in 1966 to enter provincial politics under the Union Nationale banner, becoming the MP for Nicolet, Quebec. During Daniel Johnson and Bertrand time as Premier's of Quebec, Clement served in both cabinets from 1966 to 1970, where he occupied the position of Minister of Agriculture and Colonization.

In 1967, he got wind that due to financial issues, the Seminary Corporation plans to stop teaching and brings the news to the attention of decision makers, resulting in the creation of l'École nationale de police du Québec de Nicolet in 1968.

He was re-elected in 1970 in the same riding and defeated in 1973 when the province changed the ridings name to Nicolet-Yamaska. He subsequently held the position of Director General of the National Union in 1975 and 1976.

The City of Bécancour thanked him for all his achievements in 1979 by naming a street after him and in November 2012, Clément was honoured with a building in the Bécancour Industrial and Port Park named after him.

Clément was also an author, penning his first book *Portrait d'un homme politique* in 1995, *Carnet de famille* in 1998 and *Bribes de mémoire* in 2004. He was also involved in the Amicale of Former Parliamen-



Hon. Erminie Cohen.

tarians of Quebec from 1994 to May 1995 as a member of the organization's board of directors.

“Clément Vincent was a politician loyal to his ideas and political training. But above all, he was a loyal defender of the interests of the citizens of his riding,” said Donald Martel, MP for Nicolet-Bécancour and Whip of the Second Opposition Group.

He leaves behind his wife Yvette Thibodeau; his children Jean-Yves, Daniel, François, Diane, Louis, Clément Jr, Luc; and his grandchildren, Christine, Alexandre, Marie-Pierre, Christelle, Catherine, Samuel, Pierre-Olivier, Edith, Camille, Jean-Clement, Eloi, Théo; and five great-grandchildren: Christophe, Maryse, Hubert, Arnaud and Julianne.

Hon. Erminie Cohen

It is with profound sadness that the family of Erminie Joy Cohen, former Conservative MP, announces her passing on Friday, February 15, 2019 at the Saint John Regional Hospital. Following a short illness, Erminie died as she lived with a feisty and committed all-or-nothing approach that marked her 92 years of life. Her children say that their mom didn't waste time getting on with the project at hand. We loved and laughed with her even as she struggled with her diminishing strength. Erminie was the daughter of the late Mitchell and Clara (Goldfeather) Bernstein and lived her entire life in the city she loved and in which she contributed so much of her spirit, passion and indomitable energy.

Erminie worked all her life promot-



Hon. J. Trevor Eyton.

ing her Jewish heritage, her city, her province and her country. She was a graduate of Saint John High School, attended Mount Allison University and was a life-long learner in the greatest sense of the word. She worked with her husband, Ed, at Hoffman's on Main Street where they carried on business for more than 50 years. She was a dedicated life-long member of the Shaarei Zedek Synagogue, and always a hard-working contributor in organizations too numerous to list. The business of the Senate of Canada absorbed her entirely during her years as a Senator from New Brunswick. How proud she was to represent her province. Creating and growing the adoption program in New Brunswick was an accomplishment that provided mom with immense joy and untold pride. She was a life-long member of the PC Party of Canada and was proud to call herself a Red Tory. She had so many joyous moments with her family and we will cherish these forever.

Erminie was predeceased by her parents, her brother Mort and her husband of 58 years, Edgar Cohen

She is survived by her children, Cathy (Bill), Lee, and Shelley (Barry), grandson Micah (Trish), several loved nieces and nephews and a legion of friends and admirers.

Hon. J. Trevor Eyton

J. Trevor Eyton, former Conservative MP, passed away at Toronto General Hospital on Sunday, February 24, 2019 after a brief illness, with all five of his children by his side. Predeceased in November, 2014 by his dear wife,

Jane (Montgomery) Eyton, whom he missed immensely. Beloved father of Debbie (Paul Edmonds), Susie (Greg Belton), Adam, Christopher and Sarah (Jason Gould). Interested, inspiring, proud and loving grandfather of Kate (Robert Scobie), Trevor (Steph Findlay), John and Hayley Findlay; Scott, James and Victoria Belton; Lindsay and Nigel Eyton; and Bronwyn and Rory Gould. Devoted and thrilled 'Great Papa' of Ella and Beatrice Scobie. Son of the late John (Jack) and Dorothy (Drysdale) Eyton, Trevor is the dear brother of Marion Hall (late Bill), and Anthony (Tony) Eyton and his wife, June. His friendship with cousin, Rhys Eyton and his wife Lynn was also important to him. He had many wonderful memories of time spent over many years with Jane and her family, including her devoted older brother, Don Montgomery and his wife Molly, and sister Mary de Haas, all of whom predeceased him. He will be remembered with great affection by his nieces and nephews who, like his children and his friends, have many stories to tell about 'Treasure', and his love of pranks, inspired by his dry humour, and ability to laugh at himself. His distinguished career in law and business, and as the champion for many charitable endeavours, earned him the respect and affection of many. He was passionate about so many things, and although we learned that taking an opposing view on politics was not worth the subsequent re-education he felt was required, he was a generous and thoughtful mentor and advocate for the projects and people to

which, and whom, he was committed.

After graduating from the University of Toronto Law School in 1960 he joined the law firm of Tory Tory DesLauriers & Binnington (now Torrys) as an associate and later, partner. He left the practice of law in 1979 to become President and Chief Executive Officer of Brascan Limited (now Brookfield Asset Management) a post he held for 12 years. He remained with Brascan as Chairman and Senior Chairman until 1997 and continued to serve as a Board Member until 2014, and as an Advisor to Brookfield Real Estate Services Inc. till his death. He was appointed to the Senate in 1991 by former Prime Minister of Canada Brian Mulroney. Over the course of his career he served as a board member of a number of corporations, including Coca-Cola Enterprises (Atlanta), General Motors of Canada, Noranda and Nestle Canada, John Labatt Inc., Barrick Gold Corporation, and Magna International. He was involved in amateur sport and philanthropic organizations including Junior Achievement, the Canadian Olympic Foundation and as Chairman of Canada's Sports Hall of Fame. It should be mentioned that Dad's love of sport was lifelong. While at U of T he played for and was, ultimately, Captain of the U of T Varsity Blues Football team. He was drafted by the Saskatchewan Roughriders, traded to the Toronto Argonauts, and after attending training camp for one day decided law was indeed where his future lay. He was appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada in 1986 and was awarded Honorary Doctors of Laws by both the University of Waterloo and the University of King's College at Dalhousie where he was Chancellor from 1996 to 2001. In 2000 he was awarded Mexico's Order of the Aztec Eagle - the highest award given to foreigners by the government of Mexico. He retired from the Canadian Senate on July 12, 2009. Trevor was kind, loving, full of life, big-hearted, thoughtful and family oriented. He told great stories, hosted great parties, and always supported 'the more, the merrier'. He lived life fully and had a profound and lasting impact on each of us and so many others.

*Geoff Scott.*

Memories of two colourful Prime Ministers

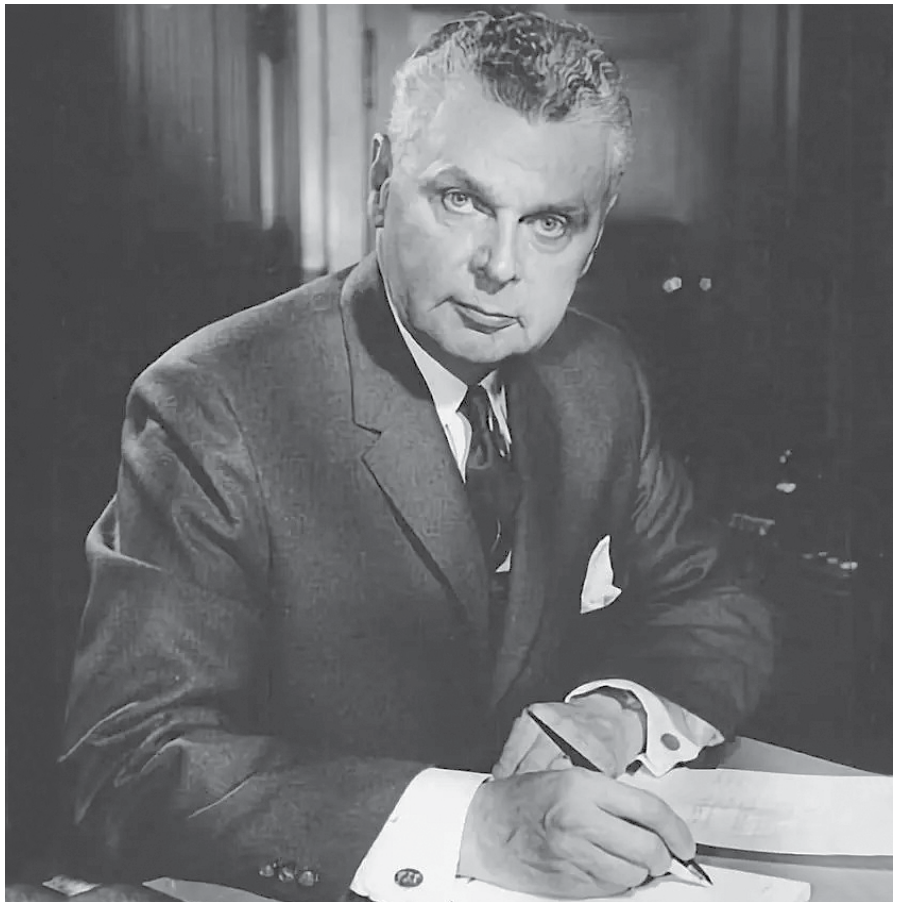
By Geoff Scott

Most Canadians who live off Parliament Hill or outside Ottawa have never seen their Prime Minister up close. I dare say even fewer Canadians have witnessed totally bizarre, off-guard moments in the presence of a Prime Minister of Canada, but I did, not once, but twice, with two of this country's most colourful political titans, John G. Diefenbaker and Lester B. Pearson.

As a unique part of his self-effacing personality, "Mike" Pearson endeared himself to diplomats around the world – and to countless Liberal admirers across Canada – with his celebrated lisp. Nobody in the media that I know of ever spoke to him about it directly, but Mr. Pearson's ringing rhetoric at Liberal rallies, especially out West, was a thing to behold: "Thsurely thith isth the mothst magnifithent gathering ever held here in Thsathkatoon Thsathsatchwan!" That great city rewarded Mr. Pearson's murdering of its name with several Liberal MPs in the next election.

Enter your correspondent into the inner sanctum of the prime minister's office in the Centre Block, as his press secretary Dick O'Hagan, coordinated the setting up of our camera equipment for an interview for CKSO Sudbury TV, covering Mr. Pearson's Algoma riding. The Prime Minister was sitting at his desk, but hunched over and intently munching on something.

"Oh, hi Geoff – make yourselves comfortable and never mind me," said Pearson, still chewing on what we took to be candy, but his diction was even more mush-mouthed than usual: "I have to do thith exerthize.... mmmm..." His press side and I exchanged quizzical looks and I asked Mr. Pearson, "Prime Minister, are you OK to do the interview? We can come back. . ." Whereupon the Prime Minister of Canada spit out two soggy brown hard things into a Kleenex and, with his trade-

*John G. Diefenbaker. Photo courtesy of Library and Archives Canada.*

mark grin, said "Oh, excuth me, fellows, but I was in the middle of one of my daily routines to help me get rid of thith goddam lithsp." Doctors had advised Pearson to spend several minutes each day "thsucking on a prune pit". The word "pit" came out in three syllables.

Mr. Pearson closed the prune pit subject with: "my wife thinks it's funny, too!"

A Lifelong Embarrassment

I love flying, across Canada or anywhere around the world I can afford. But I'd make a lousy pilot. I have always had an aversion to landing. As a defence mecha-

nism, I doze off to sleep the moment the announcement comes "We are now on final approach. Please fasten your seat belts, etc." I rarely hear or feel the wheels touch the runway.

Which brings us to a memorable encounter with the redoubtable Prime Minister John G. Diefenbaker. As a young reporter for Hamilton's independent CHCH-TV, I had been one of The Chief's "favorites" in the Press Gallery, because I could send interviews with the Prime Minister to his Saskatoon and Prince Albert home stations.

Often, during federal election campaigns in 1962 and 1963, reporters covering Mr. Diefenbaker were flying halfway across Canada in an 18-hour stretch. On one gruelling day, we travelled eastbound from Winnipeg to Quebec City, ending the trip with an evening event in Halifax. On occasion, the Press Secretary would invite select journalists to the first class cabin, to chat privately with Mr. and Mrs. Diefenbaker. My turn came during the final Quebec-Halifax run.

Now, you may think that an exclusive visit with the Prime Minister of Canada and his wife in luxurious chairs up front would be a young reporter's dream. The Chief was in a jovial mood after his previous two stops that day, and he was getting revved up for Halifax by launching into his wonderful historic (and hysterical) anecdotes.

I missed most of it. The drone of the engines had changed pitch. The pilot hadn't finished his "Mr. Prime Minister, Mrs. Diefenbaker, ladies and gentlemen . . . prepare-for-landing" announcement when I became aware of three unforgettable things happening at once. The first was the familiar cackle of the Prime Minister of Canada, pointing across the table, "Hah!! He fell asleep! I was telling this story and hah! He's out like a light! He fell asleep, that's all! Hah!" The second thing I remember were the glares from the plainclothes RCMP escorts, readying the cabin for the Prime Minister's departure.

The worst of my narcoleptic episode, though, came from Olive Diefenbaker, sitting in the neighbouring chair. She donned her sternest schoolmarm visage and hissed: "That wasn't nice, Geoff. You were very rude to fall asleep on John like that. Nobody has ever done that to him before." The Prime Minister, for his part, was still chuckling and cackling to himself.

Postscript: My Halifax zone-out didn't end on the plane. It took gleeful Opposition Liberals about 24 hours to work a line into candidates' prepared pitches: "The Diefenbaker speeches are becoming so tiresome, even journalists are falling asleep."

Geoff Scott served as a Progressive Conservative MP in the riding of Hamilton-Wentworth, Ontario from 1978-1993.



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