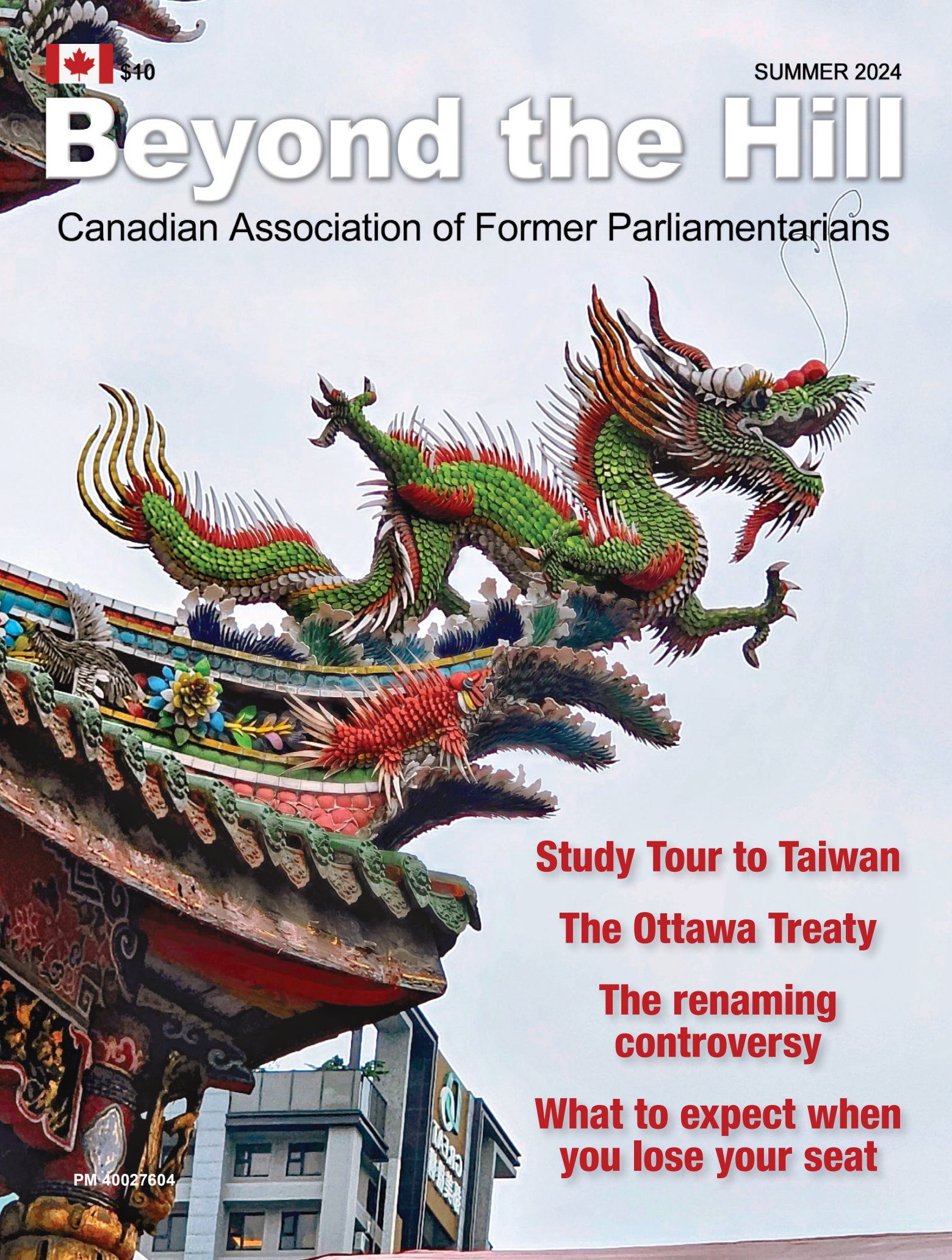




SUMMER 2024

Beyond the Hill

Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians



Study Tour to Taiwan

The Ottawa Treaty

**The renaming
controversy**

**What to expect when
you lose your seat**

PM 40027604

CAFP Holiday Party 2023



Léo Duguay.

Echoes of laughter, warm camaraderie and festive spirit were all evident at the 2023 CAFP Holiday Reception. Conversations flowed, creating an environment that celebrated the bonds within the CAFP community. The event, more than a mere celebration, stood as a testament to the shared values that define the CAFP.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all who attended and to President Emeritus, Mr. Léo Duguay for providing a gracious toast and welcome. Thank you for making the CAFP Holiday Reception a resounding success. Your presence, including that of former staff members, contributed to the vibrancy and sense of community that defines our association.



Francis LeBlanc, Susan Simms and Carina Legault-Meek.



Mary Ann Boudria, Hon. Don Boudria, Hon. Peter Millican, Hon. Marie Poulin, Bernard Poulin and Peter Braid.



Jim Hart, Francis Leblanc, Marlene Shepherd, Léo Duguay and Herb Breau.



Carolina Moore, Ron Catterall, Marlene Catterall and Annie Bourbonnais.



Beyond the Hill

Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians

Volume 20, Issue No. 1

Summer 2024

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In Taiwan, the intricate construction of buildings and art from thousands of little pieces allows them to withstand earthquakes.

Cover photo by Dorothy Dobbie.

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Our Mission Statement

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

Meet the Beyond the Hill interns



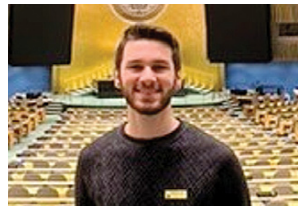
Kyla Goulet-Kilgour.



Callum Goulet-Kilgour.



Mia Parker.



Eli Zima Luste.



Averi Winn.

Kyla Goulet-Kilgour Assistant Editor

Kyla is a proud Winnipegger. Her passion for politics and global issues led her to Ottawa to work as a House of Commons Page. Following that position, she has remained at Parliament, working in various roles. Aside from her time on the Hill, Kyla is pursuing a Bachelor's in Biomedical Science at the University of Ottawa. A member of the University of Ottawa's English Debate Society, she dedicates much of her free time to Canada's university competitive debate circuit. Kyla continues to bring her passion for storytelling in her second year working on the Beyond the Hill team.

Callum Goulet-Kilgour Editorial Intern

Callum Goulet-Kilgour is a proud Winnipegger and completed undergraduate degrees in music at the University of Manitoba and in economics at the University of Winnipeg. He has written for The Uniter and Human Rights Hub, and has worked in public policy. Callum is currently studying economics at University of Oxford. In addition to being an avid follower of politics, he enjoys hiking, reading, and making music.

Mia Parker Editorial Intern

Mia Parker is a second-year student in Carleton's journalism program, minoring in political science and philoso-

phy. She comes from Pincher Creek, Alberta, a small town in the Rockies where she worked for four years as a community reporter at her town's newspaper. Since moving to Ottawa, she has worked as a parliamentary Page and currently as a Proceedings and Verification Officer with Parliamentary Publications. She loves writing, exploring outdoors, and drinking coffee with loved ones.

Eli Zima Luste Editorial Intern

Eli is a second-year student studying International Studies and Modern Languages at the University of Ottawa. Born and raised in Mississauga, ON, Eli has 3 siblings (or 4 if you count his family's new puppy!). He has a passion for the Canadian electoral process, and is actively engaged in improving youth voter turnout. Eli also serves as the CAFP Administrative Assistant and is excited to bring his experience as a former Page and current Proceedings and Verification Officer in Committees to this edition of Beyond the Hill.

Averi Winn Editorial Intern

Averi Winn is a first year law student at the University of Ottawa. Averi has been writing articles regularly through various positions for the past five years and is excited to bring this experience to the Beyond the Hill team. She also enjoys crochet, sewing, translation work and playing the flute.



Matt DeCoursey.

President's Report

2024: A BIG year for Democracy

By Matt DeCoursey

As keen politicians and stewards of democracy, we could be excused for paying close attention to the US presidential election to the exclusion of all others taking place this year.

Certainly, the presumed Trump vs. Biden rematch occupies much of the world's focus. And rightly so.

At a time of heightened geo-political instability, rising populist anger, and growing regional bloody conflicts that have consequential spillover effects on the rest of the world, the future of US leadership matters. And these two presidents have demonstrated vastly different approaches to leadership.

As many argue, and as many of us know firsthand, the outcome of the US election holds massive sway for the future of global security, the international rules-based order, and, quite frankly, democracy.

The result of the US election will form the basis for action around the world. Including in Canada. That's why we are all paying attention.

But it's not the only democratic exercise of consequence happening this year.

2024 is a big year for elections. In fact, Time Magazine has called it THE election year.

At least 64 countries, and the European Union, are set to go to the polls this year. That's 49% of the global population.

The other 51% are certain to feel the reverberations.

Already, we've seen an election of existential importance take place in Taiwan on January 13th. Amid growing tensions in the Taiwan Strait and increasing use of "gray zone" tactics by China, our CAFP delegation (that visited Taiwan in November) got an up-close view of

the situation that now occupies the office of president-elect William Lai. With the potential for actual hostilities a reality, Taiwan's socioeconomic integrity, democratic autonomy, and security are at stake.

In early February, Pakistan's elections delivered a surprise victory to politicians allied with jailed former Prime Minister Imran Khan. The upset denied Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz leader Nawaz Sharif a return to the prime ministerial post. With some uncertainty in how the next government will form, most experts argue that Pakistan's economic and security problems are likely to persist.

As primary season in the US marches on, the results in other countries are significant, even in as much as they shape the way the rest of the world responds to, and works with, the US.

You don't need to leave the continent for this to be true.

Mexico holds its presidential election in June. The next Mexican president will be party to the shaping of the future continental relationship; whether people-to-people, trade, or security related. Remember, the current North American trade pact comes up for review in 2026. That's not far away.

Just to be playfully inciteful, I'll even pose this question: Will Canadians cast a federal vote this year?

Elsewhere, the democratic exercise—some more democratic than others—holds equal importance for global stability and security.

With the illegal Russian invasion of Ukraine reaching the two-year mark, both countries are scheduled to hold presidential votes this year.

All eyes will be on Vladimir Putin as he embarks on a sure-win, sham

reelection. Most experts, though, are keen to see if the true vote breakdown is disclosed and what it says about the support he wields domestically.

As Volodymyr Zelensky – who maintains high levels of popular support among his country's folk – and the Ukrainian people continue to fight valiantly for their existence, their ability to hold an election remains an open question.

With war on its doorstep, the European Union holds elections in June. The results should serve as a barometer of the levels of continental unity and resolve in the face of Russian aggression. It may also prove critical depending on the US result.

The world's largest democracy holds elections in its Lok Sabha (the House of the People), amidst claims by western governments, including our own, of Indian-government-sponsored extrajudicial killings taking place on foreign soil.

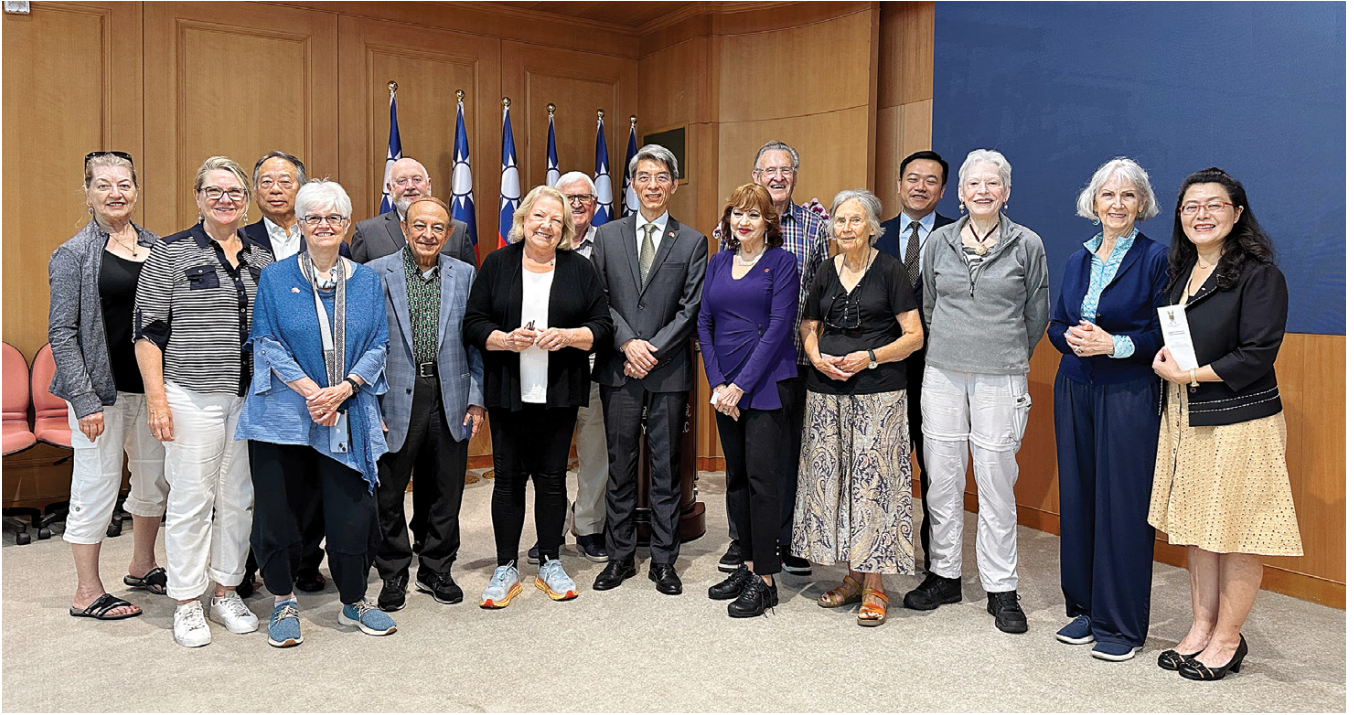
And it is likely that our commonwealth ally Great Britain, too, will go to the polls to elect a new parliament this year.

Like many of you, I will be most intently watching as the process unfolds for our neighbors to the south. But I'll also have an eye on the state of democracy elsewhere, as it is sure to have significant impacts on us all.

Our association is mandated to put forth the knowledge and experience of our members in service of democracy. As 2024 moves ahead, I honour those of you who are actively engaged in the preservation and strengthening of democracy around the world, and pledge that we will collectively keep an eye on the health of this sacred institution here at home.

A great CAFP trip to Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macau

By Herbert Grubel



A visit to the legislature in Taiwan.

My wife H  l  ne and I were part of a group of CAFP members and their spouses who participated in a fall 2023 study tour to Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macau.

The itinerary and logistics of the trip were handled by Chungsen Leung (CS). CS was Parliamentary Secretary in the Stephen Harper government, serving Jason Kenny, the Minister of Immigration, Citizenship and Multiculturalism. CS was born and raised by a family that came to Taiwan with Chiang Kai-shek who fled the mainland of China after his defeat by Mao in 1949. He became a Canadian citizen in 1976 and in 2011 he was elected to Parliament. CS drew on his personal and professional background to arrange this trip.

The Grand Hotel in Taipei was home for nine days. It is designed to mimic a Chinese palace with decorations in red, gold, and purple. Built in the 1950s, the hotel has 12 floors, a 10-lane swimming pool and four tennis courts. It can hold

600 guests in very large and modern rooms with gigantic porches. We visited a tunnel that was built to allow Chiang Kai-shek, who lived there for many years, to escape in case of a Chinese invasion.

Taiwan is an island the size of the Netherlands with a population of 23 million, 95 per cent of whom are ethnic Han Chinese, 2.5 per cent are native and 2.5 per cent are Pacific Islanders, who are descendants of the same group as the New Zealand Maoris and the Malays.

Portuguese sailors from Europe visited the island in the 1400s and named it Illa Formosa, the beautiful island. The country's economy during the last 50 years has thrived under democratically elected governments and free markets with protected property rights and wise public investment in infrastructure, education, science, and technology. It has 137 universities and colleges with 172 thousand students in Masters, and

29 thousand in PhD programs. According to the Ministry of Education, the country's total number of doctoral degree holders in 2015 was estimated to be over 130,000. The per capita income is equal to that of Poland and Sweden.

We began our tour in the mountains of the north where we stayed in a national park in a resort run by an indigenous tribe. The mountains in the northeast were near vertical, some hundreds of meters tall and close together, creating most spectacular canyons through which rivers rage with tremendous force during the rainy season. During the current dry season, we saw many large white boulders at the bottom of the rivers. They are marble, which is used widely in construction and artwork.

We visited the Lin Manson Mansion and Garden in Taipei. Built in the middle of the 19th century, many of its architectural features were shaped by the desire of its owners to obey rules of Feng Shui, which translates into wind



The view from our famous hotel, the Grand, in Taiwan.



Taipei 101, once the tallest building in the world.



The stabilizing ball in the Taipei 101. It helps to hold the building steady in an earthquake.



An exchange of gifts with the mayor of Taiwan.



Near the gateway to the amazing Taroko National Park. You get some idea of the straight up and down mountains of northern Taiwan.

and water, both important elements of life and designed to create balance between ying and yang, good and evil, and to appease malevolent spirits.

The tallest building by far in Taipei is the “101”, an office tower 101 stories tall and once the tallest building in Asia. We rode to the top in a fast elevator and had a good view of the city. Because of Taiwan’s frequent earthquakes, near the top of the building a huge ball made of iron was hanging there to keep the building steady when the earth shakes.

One day we visited Hsinchu, where the semiconductor industry is located.

The configuration of the buildings there is dictated by the need to produce semiconductors in rooms where the interior air is 20 times cleaner than ambient air. Our group visited a large, gleaming, modern office building housing the Hsinchu Science Park.

We visited two successful businesses that were started about 40 years ago by courageous local entrepreneurs. One produces Scotch whisky sold under the Kavalan label. The production facilities are modern and large. The second factory we visited produces carvings made of jade and marble stones which are

found readily in the nearby mountains. These stones are used in jewelry and in artistically stunning figures of animals, buddhas, other humans, vases, and furniture.

It was interesting to see the meeting chambers for city politicians. After we left a meeting with the mayor of Hsinchu, we learned that she was under investigation for corruption, allegedly for having her husband on the payroll for work he was not doing. Her demeanor did not reflect her troubles, which are alleged to reduce her chances of becoming a major player in national politics.

Mayors of Taipei have several times in the past become the presidents of Taiwan. The appearance and manners of the present mayor who addressed us suggested to me that he may well end up in this highest political office.

We had a meeting with several employees of the Taiwan Ministry of Foreign Affairs and former, now retired ambassadors to Canada. I was impressed by their accounts, but the most fascinating topic discussed involved the threat of invasion by the People's Republic of China.

It seems that highly educated and sophisticated people cannot agree on the seriousness of the threat.

Some believe that no invasion will ever take place because the costs to the PRC would be too high and the returns not worth it. The other view is that an invasion could take place if China suffers major domestic problems. All commentators suggested that the government of Taiwan would be wise not to provoke China unnecessarily with domestic and foreign policies that challenge the status quo.

Hong Kong is two hours from Taipei by plane. The city was much the same as it was during my last visit, when Jimmy Lai took me for a ride on his yacht for a lunch, swim, and discussions with a group of prominent local politicians. I was saddened knowing that Jimmy was now languishing in a Chinese jail and that his publishing empire had been destroyed.

We visited some local tourist spots and had an emotional ceremony at the Canadian War Cemetery a few days before Canada's Memorial Day.

We had an informative breakfast with Richard Wong, Professor of Economics at the University Hong Kong, who earned a PhD in economics from the University of Chicago, a few years after I had left there. I had previously met him at international gatherings of economists. In his talk about conditions in Hong Kong, he explained the existence of a labour shortage in the country, which is responsible for the shortage and high cost of local hotels.

All land in HK is owned by the crown. Private builders are invited to develop building projects that involve the construction of two 30-story (or more) towers for public housing (originally 150 square feet per apartment but now



On the Victoria Mountain ("The Peak") overlooking Hong Kong.

averaging 300 square feet), and the construction of one such tower for private apartments, which the developer can sell in sizes and at prices determined by free market competition. The government does not charge the developers for the land but expects them to use the profits from the sale of the private housing units to pay for the cost of constructing the public housing. Richard stressed that while this model works in HK, it cannot work in other jurisdictions where suitable building land is owned privately.

A major cause of the labour shortage in HK is rooted in its history. Many unmarried HK male residents travelled to China and married young women, most of whom lived in rural areas. The newly married couples lived in public

housing but the husbands have been dying, leaving the wife the owner of the apartment, which they are unable to sell for a profit under existing regulations. These women pay very low rents, enjoy a public pension and income from assets left by their deceased husbands. They do not have to work. Richard considers them to be rentiers. The labour shortage is also increased by the fact that many young people are working as real estate agents, where they are earning high incomes, living also like rentiers.

A visit with Rachael Bedlington, Consul General of Canada in Hong Kong, and a senior member of the consulate's staff provided us with interesting information about conditions in the territory under the new laws imposed by China.

We travelled to Macau, a former Por-



The Canadian war cemetery above Hong Kong where so many of our young men ended up during WW1.



So much to see. The city is clean and beautiful. Everything seems to work.



The food never stopped.



The casino in Macau, source of all their fortunes.



Hélène and Herb dancing on the final night in Hong Kong at the historic China Club.



Chungsen Leung, our fearless leader. He put together a wonderful tour full of history, sight-seeing, business and a little local politics

tuguese colony, now a part of China but with limited autonomy. We travelled by bus using the world's longest bridge, which is 52 km long with a few tunnels constructed to allow the passage of vessels going to and from Chinese harbours.

COVID-19 had stopped all visits. Our guide told us that we were the first group of more than ten visitors which his company has serviced since the end of the pandemic. The tourist part of town is near the ruins of an ancient church and Portuguese fortification. An ancient temple, where a movie was being shot, was also very interesting.

From the top floor of Macau's tallest tower, the guide pointed to concrete pill boxes lining at regular intervals the Chinese shore of the Pearl River dividing the two countries. These facilities were

staffed by soldiers with rifles, who shot anyone trying to cross the river into Macau. Border guards on the Macau side of the river are authorized only to send back anyone making it to their side.

Macau's landmark tower boasts the world's highest bungee-jumping facility, which we watched with interest as the jumpers flew past our window at free-falling speed, with the mouth open, probably emitting a long scream we could not hear. No one in our group took the opportunity to acquire bragging rights for having done the world record bungee jump. We all lived.

The best evening meal was served in the China Club in Hong Kong, where we had our farewell banquet. It is an old, British style colonial club that did not allow Chinese patrons until after

WWII and is now owned by the Bank of China. The food and drink were excellent, the club's décor transported us to the 1930s with interesting historic pictures on the wall, (many showing Mao), the waiters wearing colonial style uniforms and a small band playing Western music.

My wife and I enjoyed this trip to Asia and learned as much as we did when we participated in previous CAFR trips to Malta and Vietnam. These experiences make us look forward to joining future CAFR trips and recommend them to other members of the organizations.

A longer version of the report can be found on his personal blog <https://hgrubel.blogspot.com/>

Herb Grubel was the Reform MP Capilano—Howe Sound, 1993–1997.

Remembrance Day Ceremony 2023

By Eli Zima Luste



Léo Duguay and Bill Knight lay wreaths at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

Saturday Nov. 11, 2023 was a cold and grey day - fitting to observe the somber occasion of Remembrance Day. This year's ceremony marked the 105th year since the signing of the First World War armistice, and 78 years since World War Two ended, highlighting the ongoing importance of honouring those who served.

In a world frequently described as increasingly peaceful and cooperative compared to the last century, the reality often feels starkly different. Be it the war in Ukraine, the ongoing and ever-evolving conflict in the Middle East, the current Haitian instability, the troubles in Ethiopia, Sudanese challenges, and concerns in Myanmar, just to name a few, world leaders are consistently tested and pushed in-

novate, collaborate, and exert diplomacy to overcome the challenges that humanity faces.

This year's Remembrance Day ceremony began with a group of current and past members of the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF), as well as citizens and notable family members, marching along Elgin street to enter position around the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The Right Honourable Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Governor General Her Excellency the Right Honourable Mary Simon, the National Silver Cross Mother Gloria Hooper (whose son, Chris Holopina, died in Bosnia on deployment in 1996 at the age of 22), the Minister of Veterans Affairs and Associate Minister of Defence the Honourable Ginette Petitpas Taylor, the Speaker

of the Senate The Honourable Raymonde Gagné, and the Chief of Defense Staff General Wayne Eyre arrived at the ceremony and took time to greet one another, as well as the top servicepeople in the CAF. This was followed by the singing of O Canada with members of the Central Band of the CAF as well as the Ottawa Children's Choir, after which the Last Post was performed and a moment of silence was observed. Bagpipes were then played while ceremonial gun shots were fired, with additional trombone and a passage from "For the Fallen" by Laurence Binyon being read in English, French, and Ojibwe. Speeches centered on peace, remembrance and diplomacy were then made by multiple top CAF members. Afterward, wreaths were

laid surrounding the cenotaph while the Ottawa Children's Choir sang "In Flanders Fields" and its French translation "Au Champ d'Honneur" written by Lieutenant-Colonel John McCrae. An additional speech was made by the Military Ordinariate

of Canada, Scott McCaig, followed by a bilingual performance of "God Save the King". The ceremony concluded with bagpipes playing as those who marched in, marched out. Individuals then had the chance to pay personal respects at the memo-

rial, following which the roadblocks and monument were opened to the public.

Thank you to president emeritus Léo Duguay, and Bill Knight for representing the CAFP at this year's Ottawa Remembrance Day Ceremony.

A word with Bill Knight

First elected at the age of 24 in a 1971 byelection in the riding of Assiniboia, SK, William George Knight grew up in a family with a strong tradition of military service. His father, uncle, and grandfather all served in the Canadian Armed Forces. His grandfather Billy Knight, after whom Bill is named, was killed in action during the Dieppe Raid in 1942.

Bill grew up hearing stories about his grandfather's service both in the CAF and as a Union Leader in Estevan, Saskatchewan.

In an almost fate-aligned moment, the first time that Bill went up Centre Block's Peace Tower to look down at Parliament Hill, he saw the Book of Remembrance - something of which he was unaware be-

forehand. The book, which had the name of his grandfather inscribed as well as those of tens of thousands of other service people killed in the line of action, touched him greatly. While serving as a Member of Parliament and throughout his entire life, Bill never forgot the sacrifice which his grandfather and many other Canadians made in order for him to live in a country which, while needing constant improvement, "was pretty darn great".

Throughout our interview, Bill emphasized that there is "nothing romantic about war." He stressed that war is brutal and "leaves scars on families and communities", such as his own.

Despite acknowledging that there are ongoing problems in our own

country and we must seek to constantly improve life for all, Bill believes that we have it pretty good thanks to the sacrifice made by those who came before us.

In closing, Bill highlighted that nations must absolutely prioritize global peace, saying that in order for future generations to flourish, "diplomacy, negotiations, and consensus building" are where we need to start.

Thank you to Mr. Knight for taking the time to attend the Remembrance Day ceremony and for sharing insights into his background and thoughts on the world today.

Should you wish to attend the ceremony in future years on behalf of the Association, please reach out to us and we will be in touch.

Become an active member of CAFP... and realize the benefits of life after Parliament

We bring former parliamentarians together online, and in-person, when possible, to celebrate their accomplishments and service to Canada.

❖ CAFP brings former parliamentarians together with:

- An Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Ottawa
- A Regional Meeting each year (usually a provincial capital)
- Study Tour
- Receptions and other gatherings
- ZOOM Panel discussions

❖ CAFP celebrates Former parliamentarians with two peer-selected honours:

- The Distinguished Service Award, usually conferred at each AGM
- The Lifetime Achievement Award,

conferred at a gala dinner

Each year we organize a solemn Memorial Service to commemorate the services of our recently deceased.

❖ We help former parliamentarians stay in touch, via:

- Our website, www.exparl.ca
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- Parliamentary access for spouses (for paid associate members only)
- A group auto and home insurance

plan available through Cooperators; 1-800-387-1963. Mention that you are a CAFP member for preferred rates.

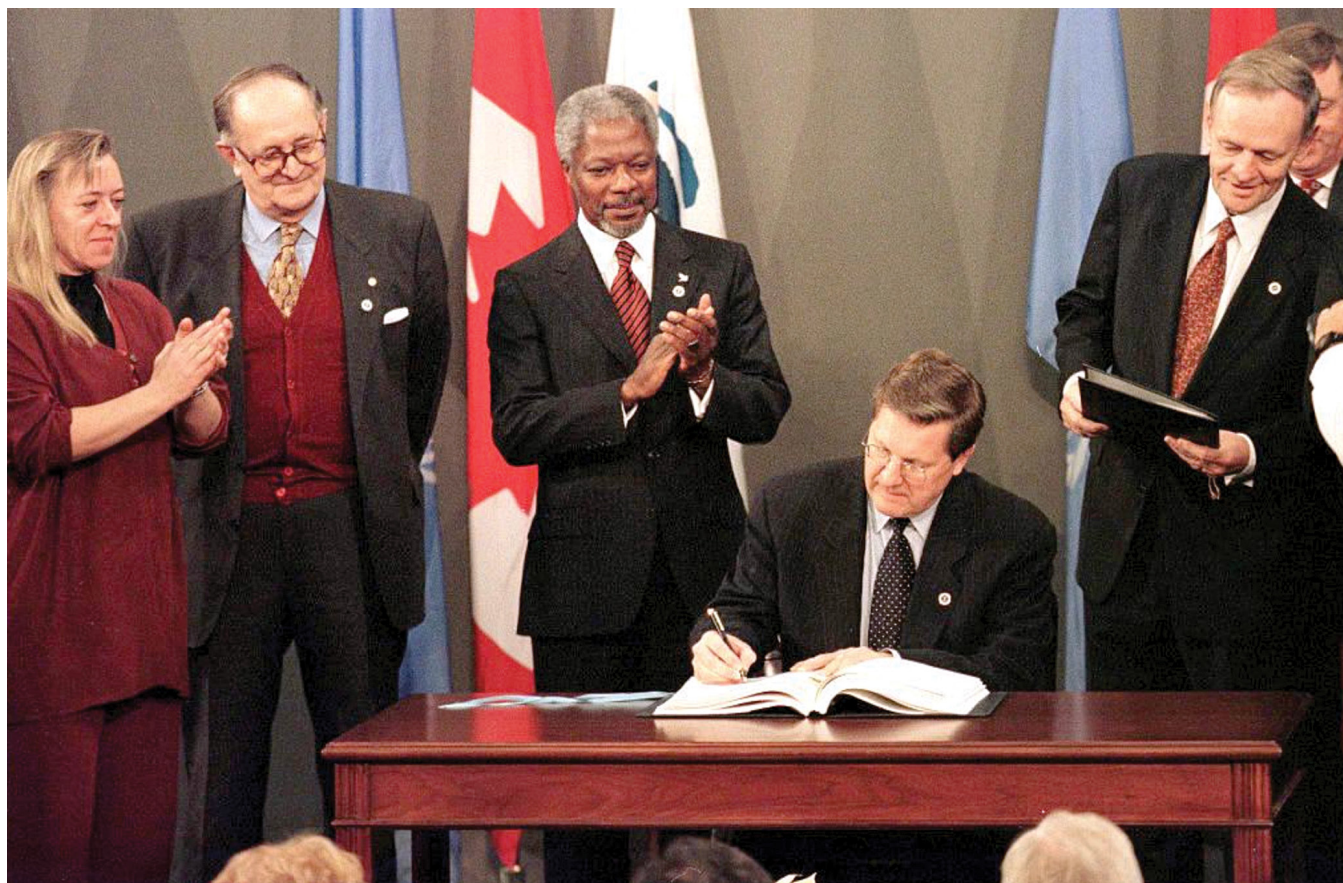
- An extensive travel insurance plan available through Johnson Insurance 1-866-606-3362. Mention that you are a CAFP member for preferred rates.
- Transition support and mentorship to Senators and MPs when they leave Parliament.

❖ We arrange opportunities for our members to continue to serve the cause of democracy, by speaking in universities, participating in election observer missions, and other activities.

There's life after Parliament. Please visit our website <https://exparl.ca> for more information or to renew your membership.

The coming into force of the Ottawa Treaty – 25 years later

By Kyla Goulet-Kilgour



In 1997, Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy signs the Ottawa Treaty. From left, anti-landmine advocate Jody Williams, recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize that year, Cornelio Sommaruga, president of the Red Cross, UN Secretary General Kofi Annan and Prime Minister Jean Chrétien. Photo provided by Lloyd Axworthy.

Twenty-five years ago, on March 1, 1999, the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction, commonly known as the Ottawa Treaty, became binding under law. Canada's effort and negotiations on the international stage resulted in an agreement which aims to eliminate the threat posed by antipersonnel mines (colloquially referred to as landmines). A quarter century after its coming into force, it is clear that the treaty has positively impacted millions around the world.

Landmines kill indiscriminately. Numerous military forces use landmines as a cheap way of arming a piece of land to destroy those who pass near it. They usually remain indefinitely after their installation and are extremely expensive to clear. These deadly weapons are risk for many civilians living in post-conflict regions since they lay hidden and dormant until triggered, say by an unsuspecting mother on her way to collect water, or a young child playing in a nearby field.

In the early 1990s, efforts to ban landmines stemmed from a variety of

different sectors in civil society and non-governmental organizations, such as the International Campaign to Ban Landmines and the International Committee of the Red Cross. Governments across the globe started calling for action on this matter, but no consensus came about as to what concrete steps should be taken.

Lloyd Axworthy, Member of Parliament, from 1979 to 2000, is described by many as the key individual who was critical in efforts to mobilize the international community to come to an agreement on a treaty that banned landmines. I had

the pleasure of interviewing him recently about his recollections of this process.

Lloyd recalls there was an early interest in the matter at Canada's Foreign Affairs office, noting there was ambition in the afterglow following the fall of the Berlin Wall. "That feeling was still fairly vibrant. That we could rewrite some of the rules", he notes. Lloyd became particularly focused on the idea while serving as Minister of Human Resources Development.

"Developing a human security approach is one of the ways you protect innocent people and civilians. So that kind of idea was always already rolling in my head," he recalls. It was mainly civilians who were being destroyed by these weapons, not the military.

As we spoke, Lloyd emphasized the importance of having a human security framework. "To have an effective foreign policy, you have to have a framework. You have to have a kind of paradigm that you work from that actually sets out some goals. Otherwise you're going to be doing transactions all the time in meetings. You're reacting and responding as opposed to initiating."

When he took office as Foreign Minister in 1996, Lloyd was immediately struck by the work of Jill Sinclair, Foreign Service Officer at the Department of Foreign Affairs, and her colleagues. A proposal came to him that Canada should sponsor an informal meeting in the fall of 1996, bringing together stakeholders, civil society, governments and international organizations like the Red Cross and UNICEF. At the time, many countries were opposed - ranging from big powers like the US, the UK, Russia and France, to some smaller nations like Cuba - so there were talks of bringing the process outside of the UN frameworks, where lack of consensus had blocked action on the matter for years. A conference was held, with greater numbers than planned, but as it came to a close, no concrete agreement was materializing.

Lloyd recalls a key memory that's

stuck with him, from when he visited an exhibit on landmines at Lansdowne in Ottawa with his eleven-year-old son.

"We were looking at these really grotesque looking weapons. He asked me 'What's this all about? They said that they're killing all these people. Why don't you do something about them? You're the Minister of Foreign Affairs. Can't you do something?'"

On the final day of the Ottawa conference, that is exactly what Lloyd did. At the closing session, he came out and extended a proposition to all attendees, inviting them to come back to Ottawa a year later to sign a treaty.

"There was long silence while my proposal was being absorbed, and then the civil society groups stood and cheered. Some of the other countries did too. The big guys just scowled at me as if I just committed some sort of a social disgrace. I did a press conference after and the media thought I was basically crazy, you know, isn't that kind of cheeky to step out of the normal protocols?"

From there, they had to actually start drafting the treaty with partner nations, something Lloyd describes as "a public diplomacy effort".

"Up to that time, there were consultations where you would go to the NGO's and ask their opinion. [This time], we had said to them 'you have to be at the table'. We're working on this thing together."

On December 3, 1997, 122 nations gathered in Ottawa and signed the Ottawa Treaty. However, treaties don't gain much traction if they're not ratified.

Paddy Torsney, MP for Burlington from 1993 to 2006, participated in the Oslo meetings (a gathering in 1996 to explore the possibility of an international treaty to ban the use of landmines) and the Ottawa process. Over the following years, she collaborated with government and civil society representatives around the world to ensure the ratification and implementation of the Ottawa Treaty.

She stressed the importance of in-

terparliamentary associations, such as the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), as effective channels to exert parliamentary diplomacy with our fellow nations. She describes the process as a pan-governmental effort, working across departments and party lines with bureaucrats and parliamentarians.

"It was exciting to be able to deliver something for people and to put Canada on the map in a big way. We really were galvanized across party lines... in solidarity with something that was bigger than all of us."

Paddy was asked to join the Canadian Landmines Foundation as a board member, and now holds the position of Vice-President. The foundation raises money and awareness, aiming to put an end to the suffering caused by landmines.

"You can't have development or create opportunities for people if they're continually at risk of being harmed.... it's not just a peace time initiative. It's an economic initiative, it's a gender issue," said Paddy.

Are there any key lessons we can take away from this feat of international collaboration, especially given the volatile political climate and conflicts we see globally in 2024?

Lloyd sees these efforts as an important reminder today how we, as Canada, can do something pretty significant on the world stage: "We had an objective, we had a set of goals, we knew what we wanted to do. We weren't being reactive. We weren't still waiting for the next crisis that happened... I think that gave us a sort of positioning that was fairly unique inside the international system, as a middle power."

Today, 164 countries have become parties to the convention, which by all accounts has had a significant impact. Approximately 30 years ago, tens of thousands of individuals, primarily civilians, were estimated to be affected by landmines annually. Today, the number of landmine casualties is estimated to be only a few thousand per year. A quick mental calculation underscores the significant success of the treaty in saving countless lives.

University chair to pay tribute to the rich legacy of Jean Augustine

By Mia Parker

The Honourable Jean Augustine, the first Black woman to be a Member of Parliament and a Minister in Canada, recently celebrated the full funding and endowment of a York University chair in her name.

The Jean Augustine Chair in Education, Community & Diaspora is a chair in York's Faculty of Education which focuses on research about and for racialized communities to inform policy, community and student engagement, and partnerships across the country.

Jean spent years fundraising with her community, using events like her birthday parties to raise funds.

"I began with the notion that it was going to be by us, with us, and for us," she says.

The community fundraising, along with the \$1.5 million contribution of the federal government announced Nov. 2, 2023, the total funds for the chair totalled \$3 million, making it fully endowed. This means the chair can exist in perpetuity.

Before her political career, Jean was an educator. According to Fred Sherman, a communications professional who has long worked with Jean, she has been challenging the status quo and fighting for a better Canada for her students for a long time.

"I think she's an icon of stability. She's been consistent in notions of integrity, hard work and ethic," says Sherman.

He notes her hard work developing a more balanced curriculum for her students, and the impact it made.

"Knowing your history in that country, your purpose then becomes a little bit more crystallized in terms of protecting what you have, and investing in going forward," says Sherman, emphasizing how she fought to include history on figures like Mathieu Da Costa, William Hall, and Mary Ann Shadd into her classroom. "It just brings a bit of clarity and focus to young folks."



The Hon. Jean Augustine and Carl James. Photo by Gary Beechey with BDS Studios.

Since education held such an important place for Jean, she began fundraising and planning for the chair years ago, receiving community, private, and government support.

"She recognized how the chair itself could make a substantive, measurable difference if it exists in perpetuity," says Sherman.

Jean underscores the significance education always had in her life, starting with her upbringing in Grenada.

"Education is a means of reaching one's full potential," she says.

The current occupant of the chair, Carl James, a professor in sociology, is using this platform as a space to research the transition of racialized students into university spaces, and in doing so, work in conjunction with community to support them.

"I think what we want to capture is what Jean Augustine stands for, you know, the legacy in relation to making connections with community," James says.

In this capacity, he represents York University in making connections with local schools and universities across the country to collaboratively work towards a brighter future.

James noted that her work in Parliament speaks to how important all of Canada is to her, thus it is paramount to the chair to work across the country.

"I think it's very, very gratifying to know that this is not going to be a short-term kind of program, but a program that's going to last for a while," he says.

Currently James is developing local student networks and developing more community-oriented events such as York's upcoming Black History Month event Feb. 7 paying special recognition to Jean Augustine and her role in having the month officially recognized in Canada.

"Lots of communities and all sectors will learn from the work of the chair and I think it will make a difference in the lives of community and community people," says Jean.

Despite being out of Parliament for almost 20 years, the work establishing, funding, and endowing this chair at York University reflects the things she stood for as an MP.

"I was always interested in making sure that I connected with community," she says.

Making accommodations for those representing Canadians

By Mia Parker

With the implementation of the House of Commons' new inclusion plan and the current renovations of Centre Block, some former parliamentarians are reflecting on their experiences having disabilities on the Hill.

Marlene Jennings was first elected into the House of Commons in 1997 for Notre-Dame-de-Grâce—Lachine and was declared legally blind during her time as an MP.

"In the Chamber, there weren't any accommodations," she says, noting that she was thankful to work with the Montreal Association for the Blind to meet some of her accessibility needs.

At the time, Marlene was one of few MPs to serve in the House with a disability and supporting infrastructure and programs just didn't exist yet.

"I have to say a majority of my colleagues expressed sympathy for my handicap, but apart from that, the culture at the time was not a very accommodating one in practice."

Presently, the House is involved with a number of initiatives to hopefully improve the inclusion of MPs and staff with disabilities, including the House of Commons Accessibility Plan 2023-2025.

"I think that things have changed because here we speak of 2010, 2011," she says, "and since, I see there are accommodations that are made for MPs and parliamentarians in wheelchairs for example, or maybe that suffer from a partial deafness, but not really an explicit program."

Marlene highlights that something she believes would be helpful is a designated liaison who can help parliamentarians in the House and Senate to advocate for their needs and find accommodations. She emphasizes the importance of collaborating with associations whose mission it is to help those with disabilities find and access available support programs.

The House Accessibility plan includes the goal of establishing a contact centre that can be of service to



Photos provided by Stephen Fletcher.

members and their staff.

With the Centre Block reconstruction project underway, the plan also outlines possible accessibility initiatives. This includes improving the accessibility of washrooms, doors and elevators, all significant improvements for wheelchair user and former MP Steven Fletcher.

When he was elected to Parliament for Charleswood—St. James—Assiniboia in 2004, Steven joked that his electorate was guaranteed to have a front-bench MP, as the back benches weren't wheelchair accessible.

"There was a lot of attitude towards my physical situation and then some people would say you couldn't do the job because of physical constraints," he says. "But the way to deal with that was just to work hard and demonstrate the fact that I could go door-knocking and could do all the things required."

Once in the chamber, Steven collaborated with others to workshop how he could do his job in that space. The House had to make accommodations like altering an entrance to the Chamber, allowing his caregiver to be on the floor with him, and having an eye-contact voting system since the other members have to stand.

"Overall, the people from all parties were very inclusive and thoughtful," he says, but notes that there were still a lot of barriers like the lack of ramps, accessible bathrooms, temperature control, and the inadequacies of some of the lifts.

Steven also notes that a lot of people in Ottawa had never met a quadriplegic like himself, and he would find himself invited to inaccessible events or in awkward interactions.

"Just doing my job I think I created a lot of awareness and changed a lot of stereotypes," he says.

Steven believes that Parliament is getting better and he looks forward to the physical infrastructure solutions included in the Centre Block plan.

"You just have to build wisely," he says, as Parliament to him is a national symbol of what is possible.

"If the accommodations can be made at the highest levels in Canada, they can be made at all levels in Canada. Parliament is an example and it became even more so after I was elected," says Steven.

Celebrating PEI's Famous 5, the Indigenous Famous 6 and the 94th Anniversary of the Persons Case

By Frances Wright

On October 18, 1929, the Privy Council of Great Britain defined the word 'persons' as all ways including women and men! This was the first significant international declaration of equality!

In Canada, this meant that women could be appointed to the Senate of Canada.

Five Alberta women secured this achievement after being discouraged by a number of Prime Ministers and even the Supreme Court of Canada which, on April 24, 1928, decided that women were not persons based on an 1876 ruling when a British judge denied women the right to vote by stating 'women were eligible for pains and penalties but not rights and privileges'. Furthermore, the SCOC noted that all the nouns, pronouns and adjectives indicated who was to govern and who was to be governed. Lastly, they opined that the British House of Lords did not have any female members so how could we, a mere colony, break with this sacred tradition?

With the support of the Mackenzie King government, Judge Emily Murphy, Louise McKinney, Henrietta Muir Edwards, Hon. Irene Parlby and Nellie McClung appealed this dreadful decision to what was the real Supreme Court of Canada at that time and history was made! None of the Famous 5 were appointed to the Senate but between their success in securing the right of women to vote and seek elected office and the 'Persons' Case, they are now known as Canada's democratic champions!

On March 29, 1993, MP Catherine Callbeck became a PEI MLA again and the first woman in Canada to be elected as Premier! Her Liberal Party won all the ridings in PEI except for one, 3rd Queens where Progressive Conservative Leader, Pat Mella, was re-elected. Callbeck persuaded Liberal MLAs Nancy Guptill and Libbe Hub-

ley to be Speaker and Deputy Speaker.

During the photo session at the start of the 1993 legislative session, Lt. Governor Marion Reid was included to represent the top five political posts in PEI. Twenty-five years later, on Oct. 11, 2018, these five trailblazers were acknowledged as PEI's Famous Five! To date, a similar triumph has not occurred elsewhere in Canada.

On July 19, 2023, three of the surviving members of PEI's Famous 5 participated in Lt. Governor Antoinette Perry's Pink Tea in Summerside, PEI – former Senator Catherine Callbeck, former Senator Libbe Hubley and former PC leader and the first female Minister of Finance in Canada, Pat Mella.

Thanks to the support of Culture Summerside, the Lefurgey Cultural Centre's guests welcomed the F5 maquette of the Women Are Persons! monument and honoured these superb leaders who continue to serve their community!

On April 17, 2018, the Senate of Canada celebrated the Indigenous Famous 6! Jeannette Corbiere-Lavell, Yvonne Bedard, Dr. Sharon McIvor, Dr. Lynn Gehl, and Senators Lillian Dyck and Sandra Lovelace Nicholas who have been working for decades to challenge gender discrimination under the Indian Act.

With the impending 95th Anniversary of the Persons Case on Oct. 18, 2024, Canadian women and many others are very grateful to the F5, PEI's F5 and the Indigenous Famous 6, too! (505 words)

Frances Wright is the CEO and founder of the Famous Five Foundation.

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Editor's note:

Nellie McClung

Born in Chatsworth, Ont. on Oct. 20, 1873. From 1880, Nellie McClung was raised as Nellie Mooney on a homestead in the Souris Valley,

Manitoba, and did not attend school until she was 10. She received a teaching certificate at 16 and then taught school until she married Robert Wesley McClung in 1896.

Nellie Mooney McClung became an author, teacher, and political activist, but most famously, a leader in the suffragette movement.

On January 28, 1914, at the Walker Theatre in Winnipeg, Nellie, a member of Political Equality League, played Premier Rod Roblin in satire featuring a women's Parliament denying men the right to vote.

In 1916, Manitoba became the first province to give most women the right to vote. In Winnipeg, Nellie is remembered by the Famous 5 monument on the grounds of the Manitoba Legislature and Nellie McClung Park on Wolseley Avenue.

Emily Murphy

Born 14 March 1868 into a prestigious Ontario family in Cookstown, Ont. (her relatives included two Supreme Court justices and a politician and newspaper owner), Emily Murphy (née Ferguson, pen name Janey Canuck), was a writer, magistrate, and political and legal reformer.

Emily Murphy was the first woman magistrate in the British Empire. She married an Anglican minister and moved in 1903 to Swan River, Manitoba, and later to Edmonton.

It was Emily who called together the four other members of the Famous 5 in August 1927 to discuss how to deal with the exclusion of women as "persons". She drafted the petition to the Supreme court who decided the case against the women, finding that they were not included under the term "persons". In 1929, the Privy Council reversed the decision, and the word "persons" does include women.

Louise McKinney

Born Louise Crummy in Frankville, Ont. in 1868 to a staunch Method-

ist family, Louise became a teacher, taught for a while in North Dakota and married James McKinney. They moved to Alberta around 1903, where they pursued a temperance agenda, ultimately helping Alberta to become the third dry province in the Dominion.

Alberta became the second province to advance the vote to most women. In 1917, Louise McKinney became the first woman to be elected to a legislature in the British Empire. She was sworn in with a second woman as a soldier's representative in 1918.

Henrietta Muir Edwards

Henrietta Muir was born as Henrietta Muir in Montreal in 1849, to a merchant-class family who belonged to the evangelical faith. She married

Dr. Oliver C. Edwards in 1876 and had three children. They moved for a while to what is now Saskatchewan in 1883, then returned to Ottawa for several years when Henrietta's husband became ill. Here she began working with Lady Aberdeen (wife of the Governor General) to create the National Council of Women of Canada.

Henrietta was an accomplished artist and women's legal expert who wrote two books on the topic. She published Canada's first women's magazine and helped found the Victoria Order of Nurses in 1897.

In 1903, Dr. Edwards was called back west to Fort McLeod (now in Alberta). She became involved in the temperance movement and continued her work for women. She did most

of the legal research required before Alberta's Famous Five could present their case to the Supreme Court as well as the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council.

Irene Parlby

Irene Parlby was born Irene Maryat in England in 1868, coming to Canada at 30 to visit a friend in Alix, Alberta. Here she met her future husband, Walter Parlby.

Irene became involved with her husband in the United Farmers of Alberta, helping to organize a women's group. As president of the women's organization, she ran on the United Farmer's ticket and was elected in 1921.

She became the second woman to become a minister (albeit without portfolio) in the British Empire.

Six years and one day of service

The Members of Parliament Pension Plan

By Averi Winn

How do we attract people to public service? How do we ensure that being a member of Parliament is an appealing job to someone eager to serve the Canadian population? When faced with this question in 1952, Prime Minister Louis St. Laurent established the Members of Parliament Pension Plan. Amid growing concerns from members of Parliament surrounding their ability to save for retirement after many years of parliamentary service, Prime Minister St. Laurent established this pension plan to ease those concerns and make the position of member of Parliament more appealing from a job security standpoint.

But, does the plan continue to attract people to public service in 2024? Léo Duguay, former member of Parliament for St. Boniface, doubts the ability of the program to attract to the public service. "The plan is a disgrace", said Léo, who served in the House of Commons for four and a half years. The problem that he identifies with the plan is the stark contrast in benefits between members who serve for under six years, and those whose service exceeds six years.

Members who serve in the House for six years plus a day receive what Léo describes as "a fairly good pension plan". Throughout their time on the Hill, members contribute to their plan, which includes Members of Parliament Retiring Allowances (MPRA) and the Members of Parliament Retirement Compensation Arrangements (MPRCA) at a 50:50 ratio with the Government of Canada.

The problem Léo highlights, is that "most members of Parliament don't get elected for six years". Members who leave the Hill before the six year mark are entitled to a withdrawal allowance, consisting of their contribution to the plan during their service plus interest. However, that interest does not have to match the current standard interest rate. At the time of Léo's retirement, the standard interest rate was 19%. Léo only received a withdrawal interest rate of 4.5%.

"Why would anyone have to wait six years [to be compensated] for their enormous contribution to Canada?" Léo asks. If the original intent of the Plan was to attract more people into public service, how does this model of the Plan continue to entice the peo-

ple to run for office? Léo believes it is because of the stigma attached to conversations surrounding pensions. Members are hesitant to admit that they might not remain in office long enough to meet the six year threshold, and this can have some devastating effects on their transition back into the private sector following their service.

There is support for members transitioning to the private sector. Members can receive up to \$15,000 to support their career transitions, counselling, education and training. Additionally, they can receive access for up to 12 months to the Employee and Family Assistance Program. This provides them with support for work, health and personal well-being issues.

Fostering individuals who aspire to become members of Parliament is crucial for the vitality of Canadian democracy. Canada deserves members who are dedicated to their service and passionate about the work that they do. The Members of Parliament Pension Plan was designed to entice people with those qualities to run for election. The debate continues as to whether or not it still fulfills that function.

The Rouge National Urban Park – it only took a quarter of a century!

By Hon. Pauline Browse

When a Municipal Council Chamber is jammed with community members with a crucial issue of green space preservation, when the Royal Commission for the Future of the Toronto Waterfront issues a recommendation on the same issue, and when there is a unanimous vote in the House of Commons concerning the matter, action happens! But it took time!

All this was the background for establishing the Rouge National Urban Park (RNUP), Canada's first national urban park of 20,000 acres in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA).

Under Prime Minister Brian Mulroney's government, the extraordinary initial commitment for the Park was established with the allocation of \$10 million. But implementation and realization was stalled and even threatened by the change of governments both federally and provincially, and complicated land ownership transfers between different levels of government and some private landowners.

It would take community volunteers working diligently to accomplish our goal. In 2012, the Stephen Harper Government legislated the designation of the RNUP, entrusting its administration and management to Parks Canada, a renowned environmental organization. We can be very proud that the two Conservative prime ministers, who demonstrated tremendous leadership in recognizing and appreciating the beauty of Canada's nature, preserved this land in perpetuity.

The three pillars of RNUP:

nature, agriculture, and culture

The three pillars of the RNUP announced were protecting nature, agriculture and culture.

There is great historical and cultural significance in the RNUP, spanning 10,000 years with well-documented indigenous settlements along the river and beyond. Archeological digs have uncovered artifacts including arrowheads and even a French coin dated in the 1700s. The land adjacent to the



Hon. Pauline Browse P.C. at the Rouge National Park.

Rouge River and Little Rouge River was always productive agricultural land, and in the 1800s, the River powered several mills, including a grist mill near where farmers brought their grain.

The RNUP is the only National Park today with an agricultural component. In the northern part of the park, delicious tomatoes, strawberries, corn, and much more are grown, which can be purchased at local farms. Of course, the experience of nature within the park is incredible when you consider that this Park is surrounded by 7 million people living in one of the Nation's largest urban areas.

Biodiversity at its best

The RNUP is home to 1,700 species, including 1,000 plant species, 247 bird species, 73 fish species, four mammal species and 27 reptile and amphibian species. This list includes 42 species at risk. Parks Canada runs a fantastic program collecting and incubating turtle eggs, releasing baby turtles annually into the wetlands. Ongoing conservation efforts by Parks Canada and dedicated volunteers are vital in protecting the habitats and species within the park.

Your invitation to natural splendour

The RNUP's natural oasis stretches from Lake Ontario to the Oakridge

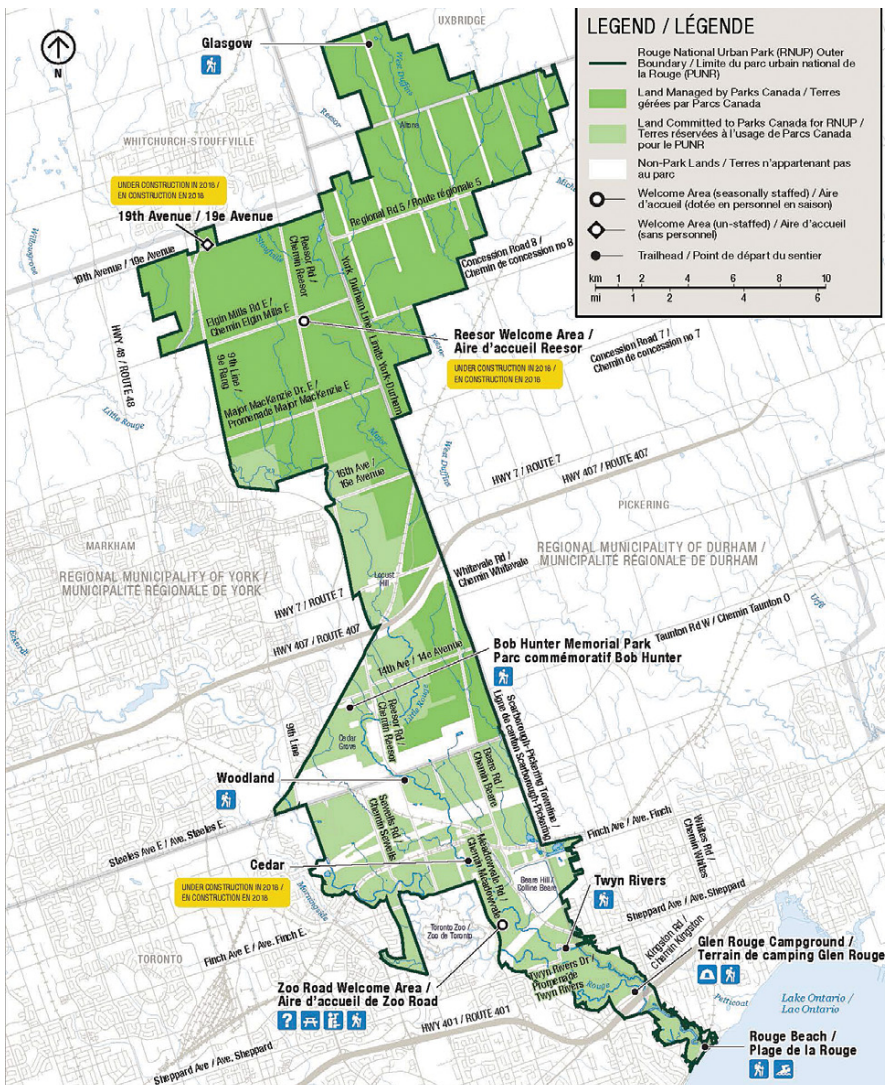
Moraine, all located in Scarborough, Markham, Pickering, and Uxbridge. The Park has several entrances; however the main entrance is on Meadowvale Road, Scarborough, across from the Toronto Zoo where the Park Visitor Centre will be constructed soon.

The Rouge National Urban Park has so much to discover. The park's trails thread throughout its Carolinian forests (few remain in southern Ontario), thickets, meadows, wetlands, rivers, and agricultural landscapes. You can join a guided walk, paddle the river and marsh, photograph migrating birds, plan a family picnic or take in the magnificent scenery and serenity. These active and passive recreation opportunities support physical, mental, and social well-being. More information at <https://parks.canada.ca/pn-np/on/rouge>.

Connections

The RNUP is connected to major trail systems. The Great Lakes Waterfront Trail, established by the Hon. David Crombie, offers a splendid cycling route along Lake Ontario's shoreline, leading you to the Rouge Beach. The Great Lakes Waterfront Trail is a 3,600-km signed route connecting 155 communities and First Nations along the Canadian shores of the Great Lakes region. It is a signature project of the Waterfront Regeneration Trust (WRT), a charity in operation since 1988, committed to protecting, connecting, and celebrating the world's largest body of freshwater. Regarded as the first step towards a regenerated waterfront, the trail re-connects people to the water and is a catalyst for improvements in many of the communities it joins.

The WRT is an important partner with the RNUP. In 2019 the WRT established the Future Conservation Leaders Fellowship (<https://waterfronttrail.org/the-charity/pauline-browse-fellowship/>) to cultivate the next generation of stewards for the RNUP. For further information link to the website: www.waterfronttrail.org.



Map of the Rouge National Park.

org. Take the Waterfront Trail from anywhere on Lake Ontario and you can reach RNUP.

Another great way to access the Rouge is the Meadoway Trail, which will reach from downtown Toronto via the Don River Trail to the Rouge. A project by the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, the Meadoway, is a 16-kilometer stretch of urban greenspace and meadowlands through a hydro corridor now transformed into one of Canada's largest linear urban parks. The Meadoway will connect 7 river and ravine systems, 15 parks, 13 neighbourhoods, over 200 hectares of meadow, and more than 1,000 diverse species of flora and fauna. Cyclists and pedestrians will soon be able to travel from the heart of downtown Toronto to the Rouge National Urban Park without ever leaving nature. For more

information see: <https://themeadoway.ca>

The Trans Canada Trail follows the Duffin Creek Trail in Pickering to Oak Ridges Moraine just to the north of the Rouge. With an extension of that Trail, there could be easy access to the RNUP. Can you imagine, cycling from downtown Toronto, along the Lake Ontario Waterfront Trail, north on the RUNP trails to reach the Trans Canada Trail? It would be amazing, and all can be possible. Information here at: <http://tctrail.ca>

So you can see that "all Trails lead and link to the Rouge"!

A force for nature and community

Beyond outstanding recreation opportunities, the RNUP provides many benefits as we combat climate change. Its rich terrestrial and aquatic habitats conserve biodiversity, create healthy

ecosystems, establish important natural corridors, provide clean water, reduce the impacts of flooding and improve air quality. The fertile fields within the park—some of the best in the Nation, contribute to our local farming capacity.

A bright future and challenges ahead

The RNUP, the first National Urban Park in Canada is a great example for future urban parks and has been the subject of international discussion for other countries to envision such a green space. Several national urban parks are presently being contemplated in Canada in the near future.

The continued conservation, preservation, and yes, expansion of this Park demands constant community vigilance. It was most disturbing but now thankfully satisfying that the Greenbelt was reinstated the 5000 acres of Greenbelt, known as the Duffins Rouge Agricultural Preserve (DRAP) which is adjacent to the Park. The DRAP was first preserved by the Mike Harris Ontario Government and is an important component of the integrity of the Park. This parcel of land should be included within the boundaries of the Park, but as long as it is preserved, it is adequate at present.

The proposed Pickering Airport lands to the northeast of the Park have been sitting idle since 1972 when they were expropriated. These federal lands need to be included within the Park. Many meetings and exchanges have occurred recently with individuals and organizations urging the federal government to enlarge the Park by including these lands and finally abandon the false notion that an airport is needed for Pickering.

The Rouge National Park became a reality ... it took a quarter of a century! The steadfast and determined community activists and inspired government leaders made it happen!

Sir John A Macdonald established the first National Park in Banff, Alberta and now the residents of the GTA and beyond have the honour of Canada's first National Urban Park, The Rouge, the first urban park in Canada for all to enjoy.

See you at the Rouge!

Hon. Pauline Browes P.C. was the M.P. Scarborough Centre 1984-1993. She was instrumental in saving the Rouge. She is Chair, Friends of the Rouge National Urban Park.



Lynn McDonald.

Re-naming, denouncing and the rocky road to human rights

Opinion piece by Lynn McDonald



The statue of Sir John A. Macdonald at Gore Park in Hamilton, which has since been toppled by protestors. Photo by Safforrest.

Former MPs, among much of the population, are only too aware of the rabid campaigns/witch hunts against former politicians, with the taking down of their statues. For Sir John A. Macdonald, nine of the 10 across the country have been removed. For Henry Dundas, the planned re-naming of Dundas Street has been reduced to a partial re-naming – most of the street will keep the name, large-

ly on account of the high cost. The re-naming of Egerton Ryerson and Bishop Grandin will also be covered here. For all four men, the context is white folks of today trying to redress injustices done by earlier white folks to Indigenous people (for Macdonald, Ryerson, and Grandin) and enslaved people (for Henry Dundas).

Dundas falsely accused of supporting slavery

Dundas, a British Cabinet minister, is accused of having delayed the abolition of the slave trade and thus caused half a million Africans to be sent into slavery across the Atlantic. Yet he was a committed abolitionist whose work as a lawyer resulted in the abolition of slavery in Scotland. His supposed “delay” of the abolition of the slave trade in 1792 was for needed exploration of how to achieve the abolition of both

slavery and the slave trade. The “delay” itself was only to a motion, not a bill, and no bill then had a chance of adoption in the House of Lords, which had even more slave owners than the House of Commons.

In the case of Dundas on abolition and Egerton Ryerson on residential schools, they simply did not do what they are accused of. For Macdonald, there are both pluses and minuses. He indeed said many things unacceptable that are now seen as racist or anti-Indigenous, but thoroughly acceptable in his own time.

We must look at the historical context; the long, rocky road to human rights, equal rights, and the rights of Indigenous people.

Equality rights are part of Canada’s Charter of Rights of 1982. They are in Diefenbaker’s Bill of Rights of 1960 and in T.C. Douglas’s provincial Bill of Rights for Saskatchewan, 1947, which even preceded the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948. Only in 1965 did the UN adopt the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, a tacit acknowledgment that incidents of racial discrimination continued in many forms. The UN Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples dates only to 2007, when Canada voted against it; we only signed on in 2016!

These developments, of course, reflect changes in consciousness about race, reversing discrimination unquestioned for centuries, if not eons. Two world wars made people reflect. The First and Second World Wars, 1914-18 and 1939-45, with the Franco-Prussian War of 1870-71, resulted in rewriting European boundaries and displacing millions of people. Woodrow Wilson’s Fourteen Points of 1918 called for “self-determination”, instead of the winner deciding what your country was. This itself represents a development of the 18th century Enlightenment principle of “sovereignty of the people,” as opposed to the king, but the “people” were not necessarily equal to each other. Note the slow pace of change – some 150 years – even in principle, not to speak

of reality.

The League of Nations was established after the First World War to further such goals as self-determination, and the United Nations, with its many agencies, after the Second World War. It would seem odd now to point out that the Germans of those times did not respect the human rights of their fellow Europeans – the French. Post-war European leaders, however, promoted co-operation across national boundaries that eventually led to the founding of the European Union, now with 27 member countries.

The case for Sir John A. Macdonald

The two harshest accusations against Sir John A. Macdonald concern residential schools, and his racism, particularly against the Chinese. Both are supported by evidence, his own words in Parliament, duly recorded. But for both, the context gives a different picture. No MPs voted against his measures on Indigenous or Chinese people, and indeed some called for tougher measures. In the case of residential schools, Macdonald advocated them, but never legislated them. Most of the schools started while he was in office were day schools, with no compulsory attendance, and indeed very poor attendance. He is blamed, in effect, for the measures to enforce attendance legislated in 1930 when R.B. Bennett was prime minister, and in 1933 when W.L.M. King was.

Macdonald initially opposed measures to restrict Chinese immigration and appointed a royal commission to consider the need for such regulation. The two commissioners appointed were men known to be opposed. Their report concluded that the Chinese were unfairly judged and not a threat, but they nevertheless recommended some restriction, with a \$10 head tax, less than that in place in Australia and New Zealand. When legislated, however, the tax was set at \$50. It rose to \$100 in 1900, \$500 in 1903, while the exclusion of Chinese immigration itself was legislated in 1923. The American Chinese Exclusion Act dates to 1882.

Macdonald gave as reasons for ex-

cluding Chinese immigrants from the vote that they were in the country temporarily, to return with their profits to China, “a country where representative institutions are unknown, and I think we cannot safely give them the electoral franchise.” By contrast, “Indians are sons of the soil; they are Canadians and British subjects; and, therefore, if they have the property qualifications, I think they ought to be treated as other British subjects” (1). The Chinese head tax was repealed only in 1947. Clearly, there were many people and many factors involved, so that putting the blame on one person is simplistic. This is “one-personism,” a close cousin of “presentism,” or the assumption that present values and conditions apply to earlier periods.

While Macdonald’s views of Indigenous people and residential schools are much cited, his favourable views and actions, no less a part of the historical record, are ignored. He notably “mounted determined campaigns to vaccinate aboriginals against smallpox before and after Confederation” (2). Smallpox was then the “red death,” particularly for Indigenous people, who had no immunity to it. Yet the success of his vaccination campaign can be seen by 1885 data comparing the few deaths at the Kahnawake reserve, near Montreal, and the 3,000 in Montreal (3). Piasecki made the claim in another publication: “Sir John A. Macdonald saved more native lives than any other prime minister,” in a book aptly titled *The 1867 Project: Why Canada should be cherished – not cancelled* (4).

Macdonald saw to treaty negotiations with First Nations, in contrast with the lieutenant-governor of British Columbia, J.W. Trutch, who simply took over land, reversing the practice of his predecessor, James Douglas, who had negotiated treaties.

In 1883, in the House, Macdonald supported a proposal to honour Joseph Brant, the Indigenous leader who fought for the British in the American Revolutionary War and brought his people north to Canada when Britain lost (5). Indigenous support was crucial when the United States invaded

Canada in the War of 1812. Macdonald understood how much Canada depended on the Indigenous people. The memorial to Brant was duly funded. In the same 1883 speech cited, Macdonald went on to suggest that there should be a memorial also for Tecumseh, the Indigenous leader who lost his life in the War of 1812. There is a memorial for him where he died, at the Battle of the Thames. A complication: Joseph Brant was a slave owner – Indigenous people then were both slave owners and slaves themselves.

Egerton Ryerson:

False accusations at their worst

The accusations against Ryerson have been the most egregious to date, for accuracy and nastiness. One supporter of re-naming Ryerson University (now Toronto Metropolitan University) facetiously asked in an email to the Task Force considering the name change: “Why are there no institutions named after Hitler? (Who, by the way, used the residential school system in Canada as a blueprint for concentration camps – quite the honor).”

The Task Force that recommended the re-naming, and the permanent removal of his toppled statue, never called him the “architect” of the residential school system – as he is now typically called – but because he was associated with it, it was his “legacy.” Yet Ryerson, a friend of Indigenous people from his time as a Methodist minister to the Mississauga of the Credit, supported their land and fisheries claims. He was named a “brother” by an Ojibwe chief and given an Ojibwe name, scarcely known at the university. Indeed, the university president unveiled a plaque on campus, still standing, with the statement that Ryerson’s recommendations were “instrumental in the design and implementation of the Indian Residential School System,” when he made no such recommendations and was dead before the system was put in place.

For most of his working life, 1844 to 1876, Ryerson was a civil servant, and in effect the deputy minister of Education, the title given to his successor. In his time, however,



The statue of Egerton Ryerson that was once on the grounds of the Toronto Metropolitan University (previously known as Ryerson University) which has since been removed. Photo by PFHLai.

there was no minister of Education, for education was a private concern: all schools were fee-paying, and few children attended. Macdonald, then Mr. John A. Macdonald, an MPP, supported Ryerson on the formation of a public school system, funded by taxes. The reforms for Ontario influenced education across the country.

The renaming of Bishop Grandin

Schools named for Roman Catholic missionary Bishop Vital-Justin Grandin in Calgary and Edmonton have been renamed, his support for residential schools given as the reason. His crime was to advocate for government support for the orphanages his order ran. He noted that parents brought them their children to give them a better chance of survival. He thought that separation of the child from the family was needed, but only if the family agreed.

A further fault, he used the term “savage” and “savages” in his advocacy, where he employed them as Enlightenment leaders had before him, to indicate people living in nature,

making their living by hunting, who had not settled down to agriculture (6). Indigenous leaders themselves often called for help in becoming “civilized,” meaning to learn farming when hunting was no longer viable.

The Winnipeg City Council unanimously passed a motion to rename Bishop Grandin Boulevard, with an Indigenous name, but this has not yet been done, and the costs are being debated.

Concluding questions

Should earlier political or other leaders be condemned for holding views that were legal at the time, unquestioned for centuries? Is it too much to ask those so speedy to condemn to consider what the conditions and expectations of the time were? Should Joseph Brant now be condemned as a slave owner? Should Sir John A. Macdonald be condemned for promoting the assimilation of Indigenous people, when the alternatives of annihilation, slavery, or apartheid – if unimaginable now – were common practice in his day?

It is too late for many re-namings now, but perhaps former MPs could assist in the development of criteria for re-evaluating past leaders in the light of relevant evidence and the evolution of guiding principles.

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Canadian culture can be leveraged to increase our global influence

By Kim Campbell and Viggo Mortensen

An American diplomat once quipped that Elvis Presley, Marilyn Monroe and blue jeans did more to win the Cold War than U.S. military might.

There's a lot of truth to that statement – and a lot Canada can learn from it.

It can be summed up in one phrase: culture is critical. Culture makes an impact. Culture is vital – in relations between peoples, in trade and diplomacy.

In a recent article, *The Globe and Mail's* correspondent James Griffiths showed how Canada lags behind peer countries' number of embassies and consulates abroad. He noted: "Canada is at risk of being left behind in the new global race for influence."

A declining place in the world is costly to Canada on many levels, from social to economic. But it's simplistic to focus only on the number of missions the country fields without talking about what goes on in them.

For instance, after eliminating embassy cultural event budgets and cultural attachés, Canada had a change of heart in 2017. It was Canada 150 – a unique opportunity to recapture the magic of the centennial year, and to promote Canadian-ness around the world. So Canada created a dedicated cultural events budget – an unbelievably paltry \$1.75-million to be shared among 174 foreign missions.

It was a missed opportunity to project Brand Canada around the world. Whither the spirit of '67?

The standing Senate committee on foreign affairs and international trade's 2019 report, *Cultural Diplomacy at the Front Stage of Canada's Foreign Policy*, calls for a robust revitalization of Canada's use of its cultural capital as an instrument for restoring its flagging soft power. Along the same lines, a 2005 U.S. State Department report described cultural diplomacy as a "lynchpin of

public diplomacy" that "helps create a 'foundation of trust' with other peoples, which policy-makers can build on to reach political, economic and military agreements."

Despite this, Canada eliminated the minuscule budget for Global Affairs' little cultural diplomacy program in the 2023 budget, ending the program.

We are writing as board members of the Glenn Gould Foundation, an organization focused on cultural diplomacy and promoting Canadian leadership. Both of us love Canada – one of us as a former head of Canadian government and diplomat, and the other as a working artist who grew up on the Canada-U.S. border, has worked in Canada with some of its finest filmmakers, and who still cheers for Les Canadiens de Montréal.

In September, Boston Consulting Group issued a landmark report, *Opportunity for Global Arts Prizes in Canada*, a 75-page study that outlined numerous benefits for Canada in hosting an internationally pre-eminent arts award, ranging from global influence, social and economic benefits, and national pride and unity gains at home.

The Glenn Gould Prize, our organization's signature initiative, is Canada's only global award for creative achievement, prompting laureate Philip Glass to dub it the "Nobel Prize of the Arts." It is rooted in concepts of excellence, innovation and humanitarianism. That's the kind of asset Canada can use to define and elevate its place in the world.

Like hosting the Olympics, being the home of globally important cultural institutions sends a message about this country, presenting Canada as a leader, a welcomer, a meeting place for the best and brightest that the world has to offer. The National Arts Centre and Toronto International Film Festival provide

other notable examples, but these institutions receive sustaining funding from Canada while the Glenn Gould Prize does not.

Wrapping the national image in the legacy of great artists changes global perceptions and imparts gravitas. When it comes to diplomacy, dispute resolutions, a seat on the UN Security Council, or the sale of our technology abroad, there's much to be said for swapping the lumberjack image to become known as a nation of geniuses, visionaries and innovators like Glenn Gould, an enduring worldwide artistic icon.

Being a world leader in the cultural domain benefits Canada's own artists, elevating their profiles and boosting this \$60-billion-a-year sector that employs more workers by far than the energy, agriculture or auto industries. It promotes our exports, enhances the value of our intellectual property, and encourages our creatives to stay and work at home, rather than leave to contribute to the GDP of other countries.

We can take a page from the Great Britain and Northern Ireland campaign, which promotes the U.K.'s brand internationally. The ambitious campaign tapped into the natural talent of the country and highlighted why it is a great place to visit, invest and trade with.

As Global Affairs Canada undertakes strategic reforms, it is time to turn Canadian culture into a competitive advantage that enhances global investment and prosperity for Canadians. Canada deserves no less.

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Kim Campbell was the 19th prime minister of Canada and established the Department of Canadian Heritage. Viggo Mortensen is an actor, director, writer, poet, photographer and publisher. Both are directors of the Glenn Gould Foundation.



Dorothy Dobbie.

Falling off the cliff

What happens to your office, staff and living conditions when you lose an election?

By Dorothy Dobbie

Part 1

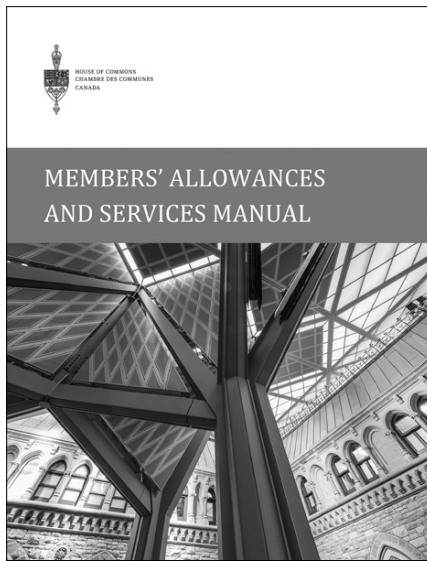
There will be an election in the next year or so and about 30 per cent of our current MPs will not be returning according to historical patterns. When the government has been in a long time, that number often inflates.

What happens then? Here is what members can expect if they do not get reelected.

The details about what happens next to members can be found in your Members Allowances and Services Manual available at <https://www.ourcommons.ca/Content/MAS/mas-e.pdf>.

Their 365 page documents covers all the rules and regulations governing your time in office as well as your removal from office. Be sure you or your staff read this, so you are prepared. Remember, if you don't get reelected, everything changes.

You get a little time – a couple of weeks to clean out your Hill office, your cell phones are cut off in 30 days (you can now purchase these at “market value”) but the laptop must be returned. You must vacate the constituency office in 30 days.



Staff are terminated on the day of the election, but they receive a small separation allowance and some time to help you vacate your office.

For those who are not entitled to a pension, your investment in the plan will be returned to you with four per cent interest. For those who are entitled to a pension, fill out the forms as quickly as possible. Benefits are not accessible until you reach 55.

There is a travel allowance to permit you to settle your Ottawa affairs, including removal from the physical premises and dealing with any private domicile issues.

There is limited professional support to help you reestablish. A total of \$15,000 is available to pay for such things as retraining, counseling about how to reenter the marketplace and do job searches. There is no psychological support for those who will suffer from a kind of PTSD and find it difficult to adjust to their new circumstances.

Contact details will be given to you by Parliamentary staff so that you can be in touch with the Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians. Former members from your region may be available to you to walk you through the personal transition process. Many have found it helpful just to talk to someone who has been through it.

Your membership in CAFP is automatic and free until the next annual meeting in June of the coming year, so please take advantage of it. Call us at 613-947-1690 or email ex-parl@parl.gc.ca for help.

Part 2

If you have read the above, it all seems cut and dried and not to be totally unexpected – although you might find the abruptness of your departure conditions a little disconcerting.

Following a loss, you will be in a state of shock, not feeling much at first, no matter how mentally prepared you thought you were. But your whole life is about to change,

and it starts the very next morning after the election.

It is not the big things that take may take you down. It is the unexpected ones, and often it doesn't all sink in at once. It creeps up on you over time. The first thing you notice is the silence. Nobody is calling and offering you a job or asking you to be on a board or a committee – or even to come for dinner.

Worse, often when you do go out to the grocery store, you get the feeling you are being avoided – either that or someone comes up with a hearty smile telling you how they voted for you! I have had members tell me that people crossed the street to avoid them.

Why? Well, it is complicated. Often, people don't know what to say or they are embarrassed by our loss.

There are many human reasons, but just as they immediately thought about you and treated you differently the moment you agreed to run for office, and especially after you had won, they are now doing just the reverse.

Knowing and expecting this can ease the pain. I was lucky. A former Liberal minister with whom I did not serve called and asked me to lunch. I was delighted. I had always admired her when she was in office. “Dorothy,” she said, “you need to realize that it can take at as much as a decade to get rehabilitated in the community.”

I believed her but at the same time I didn’t believe her, but I soon had reason to understand what she meant. I had been a very prominent member of the community before my five-year stint in office. That all ended, boom! and I had to reinvent myself from scratch. It took about a decade.

But having been forewarned helped a lot because I was able to understand what was happening and not take it too personally. It is a phenomenon that happens to most. I am telling you this now so that you will be able to cope. The world will not come flocking to your door wanting to help. Prospective employers will be leery – do you have inside information that would be useful or can you get them the contacts they may want? If not, you are more of a liability than an asset. Did you serve in the party now in office or are you part of those who got dumped? If



The Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians offers a forum where former politicians can connect.

you are just a backbencher looking for a job, you certainly come with the liabilities of having been an MP and the possibility of offending customers who might have voted on the opposite side.

Now what do you do? Can’t get a job. No income. You can’t collect unemployment insurance. Unless you have a pension and are at eligibility age, things can be financially tough. Some members also go through family breakups. Often members never recover financially.

It is like falling off a cliff. One moment you are on top of the world, respected, employed, doing important things, contributing because

that is what drives you. The next moment you are nowhere. How can you contribute now? You are in this silent abyss wondering where the sun went.

On a personal, mental health front, many suffer from a kind of PTSD. Some have fallen into despair and even tried to do away with themselves.

Often, it does not happen overnight. It can take as much as a year – maybe more – for Formers to realize the full impact of their situation. But when it happens, please be aware that we have a broad network of people who will be happy to walk you through it.

CAFP members have all been there and just talking to someone who knows what is going on can be helpful. We can put you in touch with someone with whom you can share what you are going through. We can also get you involved. There is still a place for your talents and your energy. And it is here with your former colleagues.

And by the way – the bitterness between party alignment is all gone away. Members discover a sense of conviviality, and often best friends are made across the old party divide. We have so much to share – ideas, memories, plans for the future. There are events, study tours, contact information, and so much more.

While it may seem that the sunshine has all gone away, it is still here just shining in a new way. There is hope. Come to us.

Become an active member of CAFP... and realize the benefits of life after Parliament

There is life after Parliament. Please visit our website at <https://exparl.ca> for more information or to renew your membership.

Asthmatic, 69, earns Worldloppet Gold, 99th Canadian “Flying like the wind”



Former MP Ken Hughes took part in the Kangaroo Hoppet in Falls Creek, Australia.

Reprinted with permission.

Dateline: Falls Creek, VIC, Australia – August 25, 2023

Ken Hughes, a former MP for McLeod who lived in Canmore, and on Salt Spring Island, by completing the Kangaroo Hoppet requirements in Australia, has become the 99th Canadian to earn the Worldloppet Gold Medal. The Worldloppet Master award requires completion of 10 of the Worldloppet sanctioned cross-country skiing races, on at least two continents.

A loppet, technically defined in a Nordic manner as, “A whole lot of people going skiing together”, is usually organized in a somewhat race-like way, with participants of all ranges of age and skill.

The Worldloppet Association recognizes 19 races, with only one per country. They range from a planned 42-km length to some 90 km and attract anything from a few hundred people to as many as 12,000 participants or more.

Ken learned to cross-country in high school and remained a weekend warrior until his first real Loppet, the 24-km Kananaskis Cookie

race, at age 50. “I am no athlete,” he is clear to point out, “I am just a guy getting through my sixties.” In fact, as a child, he found himself in an oxygen tent in the High River hospital more than once with childhood asthma. His first Cookie race triggered asthma again, much to his dismay.

Undeterred, he decided to compete in his first Worldloppet Race, the Norwegian Birkebeiner, in 2016, at age 62, because he knew others who had done it. Fifty-four km, two mountain ranges and 8.5 hours later, he was told, “If you can do that, you can do any of the rac-



Proudly showing off his Worldloppet Gold Medal.

es". And so, the mission began, as he sought to complete another nine Worldloppet races in his sixties. The pandemic put everything on hold, as was the case for everyone and nearly everything. However, 2023 saw a flurry of races, three in 13 days in February which brought the goal into clear range.

Since the Norwegian race (Birkebeinerrennet), he has competed in Austria (Dolomitenlauf), Italy (Marcialonga), Iceland (Fossavatnsgangan), The American Birkebeiner in Cable, Wisconsin; Switzerland (Engadin), Germany (Konig Ludwig Lauf), France (La Transjurassienne), Canada (The Gatineau Loppet) and finally the Kangaroo Hoppet in Australia.

"I hope I can be a bit of an inspiration to people as they approach 50 and older," Ken noted. "The comfortable hand and warm embrace of inaction can be very tempting, but soon enough we learn that inactivity is a fraud that corrodes our physical and emotional health. You need to shake off those shackles, get off the couch and get active, however you do it. It feeds one's soul, and it has the communal benefit of keeping you out of the healthcare system." Ken was also the founding Chair

of Alberta Health Services. "Fitness and social engagement are critical pillars for healthy aging," he says.

Favourite moment?

An adventure like this has much colour and flavour, but Ken's favourite race, difficult as it was,

was the Jura, in France on his 69th birthday. A beautiful warm day, the sun burned through the snow and opened a patch of grass. It caught his ski like a hard brake, leading to an inelegant face plant. Not only was it nearly concussion inducing, it broke his glasses and a ski pole, and the next seven km were completed with 1.5 poles. After 47 km, with 1,100 meters of elevation gain, he crossed the finish line exhausted, with a memorable facial abrasion, a borrowed pole, and a very good story.

Next Steps?

Once in Austria, Hughes was competing neck and neck with an 86-year-old Frenchman, famous for having completed over 300 Worldloppet races. Ken would like to still be racing at 86, but in the short races, 17 to 28 km in length.

He often trains with his wife, Denise Savage-Hughes, also a late blooming skier, and he says when they are out on the trails, they fly like the wind together.

Ken Hughes was the Progressive Conservative MP for McLeod from 1988 to 1993. He later ran for provincial office and was MLA for Calgary West.



Toasting his accomplishment - and to future races.

Inside the role: Procedural Clerk at the House of Commons

By Averi Winn



Procedural Clerk Dancella Boyi.



In 2021, Dancella Boyi embarked on her journey as a procedural Clerk at the House of Commons, a role she embraced after occupying various roles at both the House of Commons and the Senate. “I fell in love with it, I was just really intrigued by procedure” said Boyi, reflecting on her time as a committee assistant in 2011. Her journey led her to become a Legislative Clerk following her tenure as a Committee Clerk of the International Trade Committee.

The House of Commons features various different types of clerical roles, including: Clerks-at-the-Table, the Clerk of the House, the Law Clerk, and Committee Clerks. Each clerk has the fundamental role of supporting all Members of Parliament in their parliamentary duties, regardless of political affiliation.

Procedural Clerks play a significant role in the House of Commons. From Committees to interparliamentary relations, from employment to Information and Technology, Procedural Clerks are instrumental in the functioning of Canadian democracy.

“At the House of Commons, the position of a Procedural Clerk is structured in a way that allows for rotational opportunities” explained Boyi. Procedural Clerks have the chance to explore many different

roles, through a variety of branches and directorates within the House of Commons, such as the Journals Branch, the International and Interparliamentary Affairs Directorate; the Parliamentary Information Directorate, and the Committees and Legislative Services Directorate.

Procedural Clerks who work in the Journals Branch are responsible for producing important documents for Chamber proceedings. Additionally, they may be assigned to work as the Clerk for the Page Program, who is responsible for hiring and guiding Pages during their time at the House of Commons.

Procedural Clerks within the Parliamentary Information Directorate occupy a unique role in coordinating technical services in the House. “They are responsible for supporting all matters relating to information and technology,” says Boyi, highlighting their role in the maintenance and connection to the Prism database, and the Parliamentary voting app.

Lastly, there is the Committees and Legislative Services Directorate, where Boyi serves as a Legislative

Clerk. Procedural Clerks who are assigned to committees “are there to provide procedural advice on precedents” says Boyi. These Clerks support Members with logistical needs, financial questions and procedural questions.

Boyi is part of the Legislative Unit of this Directorate. In her role she deals with “all things bills”, meaning she has a focus on supporting Members through the clause by clause readings and the rapport stage of passing a bill. “Being able to provide advice the best way that I can requires the time to research,” Boyi noted, emphasizing the importance of understanding the process of clause-by-clause readings. She is also responsible for assisting the Chair of the Committee and Committee Members in determining the admissibility of amendments through the process. “You learn by doing, you learn by reading, you learn through experience and through time.”

The role of a Procedural Clerks covers a wide range of responsibilities at the House of Commons. Whether it be in Committee or in the Chamber, these Clerks shoulder exceptional responsibility and serve a large audience. Their work touches every aspect of procedure at the House of Commons, and supports Members through their day-to-day functions.



The life and times of Howard McCurdy

Autobiography of late Windsor area MP spellbinds

Reviewed by Callum Goulet-Kilgour

Black Activist, Black Scientist, Black Icon: The Autobiography of Dr. Howard D. McCurdy by Howard Douglas McCurdy and George Elliott Clarke. Published in 2023 by Nimbus Publishing Limited. 324 pages. \$24.95

Most Canadians may not know the name Howard McCurdy, but most Canadians should know the name Howard McCurdy. The recently-published *Black Activist, Black Scientist, Black Icon: The Autobiography of Dr. Howard D. McCurdy* traces the singular life of one of Canada's most groundbreaking academics, activists, and parliamentarians, who passed away in 2018.

Howard's resume is long and impressive. He was a scientist, the first Black person to hold a tenure-track position in Canada, founder and president of the Canadian College of Microbiologists, and president of the Canadian Association of University Teachers. He was also an accomplished activist, involved with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People during his time at Michigan State University as founder and president of the National Black Coalition of Canada, and credited for naming the New Democratic Party (NDP).

McCurdy then was Canada's second Black Member of Parliament, representing Windsor from 1984 to 1993 as a member of the NDP in the riding of Windsor-Walkerville from 1984 to 1988 and Windsor-



Howard McCurdy receiving the Order of Canada from Governor General David Johnston in 2013. Image provided by Nimbus Publishing Limited.

Lake St. Clair from 1988 to 1993. In the House of Commons, he was a skilled orator, a passionate defender of human rights in Canada and around the world (which led him to meet Nelson Mandela and the Dalai Lama), and was voted as the best-dressed parliamentarian.

Howard's knowledge and interests extended far beyond science and politics. In addition to being an accomplished athlete, he was well-versed in music, philosophy, art, literature, and theology, which is very clear throughout the autobiography. He was a masterful writer, skillfully chronicling the highs and lows of his life, and imparting profound insights upon the reader from seemingly simple stories.

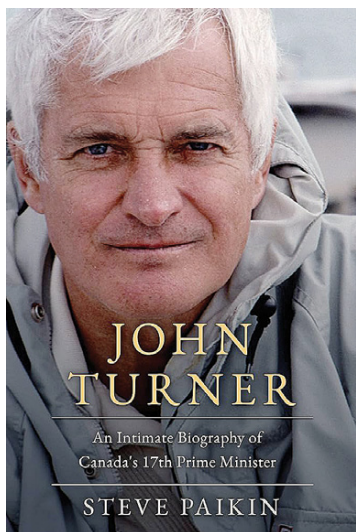
The most compelling parts of the book are the early chapters, detailing McCurdy's childhood in South-

western Ontario. He was born in 1932 in London and moved to Amherstburg when he was 9. We get a glimpse of the racism he faced, as well as a sense of what growing up was like during the Second World War.

In July 2017, Howard had written a manuscript for his autobiography, but knew he was not long for this world so asked George Elliott Clarke, one of Canada's preeminent poets and Howard's parliamentary aide from 1987 to 1991, to complete the project. Clarke's main role was that of editor, making some stylistic changes which are fully disclosed in the book's introduction (such as: "He adored polysyllables, but I have replaced them, frequently, with monosyllables, for the sake of extra bluntness, punch, bite, or lacerating comment").

Howard passed away on Feb. 20, 2018 at the age of 85 and *Black Activist, Black Scientist, Black Icon: The Autobiography of Dr. Howard D. McCurdy* was finally published on Oct. 31, 2023. In addition to being an important historical record, this book is a must-read for anyone interested in the life of one of Canada's most distinguished parliamentarians.

McCurdy concludes his autobiography with a powerful reflection on the progress that Canada has seen during his lifetime, as well as the challenges he sees for the future: "My grandchildren may be freed from racism. Their future faces far graver challenges."



Steve Paikin's exploration of John Turner goes far deeper than his time as PM

Reviewed by Mia Parker

John Turner: An Intimate Biography of Canada's 17th Prime Minister by Steve Paikin. Published in 2023 by Sutherland House. 300 pages. \$36.95

Steve Paikin's *John Turner: An Intimate Biography of Canada's 17th Prime Minister* introduces John Napier Turner as a man who knew a great number of Canadians, and through Paikin's comprehensive research and captivating tales, allows Canadians to know Turner himself.

While it's true that Turner was a Prime Minister, Paikin details how this alone was not the highlight of Turner's career, or of his life.

After his death, *The Globe and Mail* released an article headlined "Former Prime Minister John Turner, who was in office for just 11 weeks, dies aged 91." In his work, Paikin sought to tell the bigger picture – a man whose life couldn't be summarized by his role as head of government.

"You know, for most people, becoming Prime Minister would be the greatest achievement in their life," said Paikin in an interview with *Beyond the Hill*. "Well, it wasn't for him."

"There were other things that he did that were far more important to the country and to himself."

Paikin underscores Turner's work on the Criminal Code for issues like abortion and homosexuality while Minister of Justice, and his work managing high interest and inflation rates as the minister of Finance. Turner was also especial-

ly proud of his work as the head of the Canadian Election Observation Mission for Ukraine.

But the book isn't just about Turner's work as a parliamentarian. As Paikin writes, there are three acts in a politician's life; before, during, and after politics. In his writing, Paikin explores the significance of each one of these distinct periods in Turner's life.

"After his political career was over, he became quite a champion of democracy and democratic movements around the world," said Paikin, who notes that Turner spent his time giving speeches, urging people to run for office and championing democracy.

"That might have been his greatest contribution to Canada... he tried to get people jazzed about their own system of government."

Something that separates Paikin's account of Turner's life from other biographies is his own personal encounters with the former Prime Minister. As a journalist during Turner's time in office, Paikin got to know him better than most and described their relationship as friendly, though he didn't let that influence his portrayal of him.

"The record is what the record is," Paikin said. "So I think the warts and all are in there, but another side of him is in there as well, which I think previous books have not captured. And that is both the family stories, other relationships and a lot of the stuff that would have emerged from the Library and Archives Canada confidential papers."

These archives, which Paikin was

granted access to by Turner's family, provided the basis for much of Paikin's exploration of Turner's life. But the story was also informed by Turner's friends, family and colleagues.

"I certainly had a bit of an understanding of the guy while I was covering him, but I just think I have a vastly deeper understanding of him [now]," said Paikin. "Him as a politician, him as a Canadian, him as a husband, him as a father. I understand all of that so much better now."

From the beginning, Turner was a man who understood tragedy with the early loss of his father and brother; he knew that losing an election was not a tragedy but just a defeat.

"I think that all of that gave him perspective that's very valuable, very useful for all of us to keep in mind," said Paikin.

Marked on the headstone that Paikin himself visits at least once a year, Turner's name represented significant contributions to Canada, beyond his time as Prime Minister.

And throughout, Turner was "essentially a happy man," surrounded by his involved wife, Geills Turner, four children, and many respecting friends and colleagues.

"This is not going to be a book solely about the legislative achievements of John Turner, the cabinet minister and that kind of thing," said Paikin. "This is going to be you know, if you read the book, you're gonna come away with a much deeper understanding of what motivated him as a person."

Where To From Here

A PATH TO CANADIAN PROSPERITY

Bill Morneau

Where to from here A Path To Canadian Prosperity by The Hon. Bill Morneau

Reviewed by Eli Zima Luste

Where To From Here: A Path To Canadian Prosperity by Bill Morneau. Published in 2023 by ECW Press. 328 pages. \$38.95

The Honourable Bill Morneau's recent publication provides a first-hand narrative of his tenure as Canada's Finance Minister, providing readers with a candid look into the inner workings of Canadian politics and his personal journey within it.

While primarily an account of his time in office and what led him there, this book also explores what Bill Morneau sees as important steps to take for "Canada's future growth and prosperity."

Morneau's account can be divided into three sections. The first delves into Morneau's critique of the Prime Minister and the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), shedding light on the challenges he faced and the decisions that ultimately led to his resignation. Following this, he explores what he sees to be as political and policy successes and failures during his time as finance minister. Finally, he offers a roadmap for the future, sharing the ways he believes economic policy should be implemented in order to improve Canada's standing in terms of productivity, economic growth, healthcare and infrastructure, among other issues.

After a brief introduction on the book's why and how, the reader is almost immediately transported to Rideau Cottage on the day where Morneau tendered his resignation letter as Minister of Finance to the Prime Minister. The reader is told of their re-



The Hon. Bill Morneau.

lationship - or rather the lack thereof - and how it was the actions of staff in the PMO which ultimately led him to resign as Finance Minister and Member of Parliament.

Following this leap forward, Morneau goes back in time and describes his background and lead up to political life; from his father's founding of W.F. Morneau & Associates, to his position on multiple volunteer boards, working with the province of Ontario on pensions, winning the Liberal Party nomination for the riding of Toronto Centre, to ultimately being appointed as Finance Minister. The reader gains insight into the man behind the political identity, understanding what motivated him to seek the party's nomination and how his transition from the private sector to the public sector unfolded. Through this account, a relatable and personable side of Bill Morneau

is revealed; a side of politicians often overlooked by the media and discarded by the public, yet one that plays a crucial role in the political sphere.

This is then followed by a minimally-filtered and oftentimes frank recount of the problems which he faced as Finance Minister. While maintaining that much good was accomplished throughout his years in government, Morneau is not shy about how he feels that his positions and opinions were often overlooked, and he recounts many policy disagreements which he had with the PM as well, namely concerning the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) and climate policy.

Morneau goes on to recount his experience creating Canada's national budgets for four years, as well as his thoughts on pensions and health care, debt, taxes, productivity, and climate policy (and how all of these in turn relate to politics).

While littered throughout the book, the end truly provides a summary of Morneau's counsel for politicians who seek a Canada which is resilient, economically sound, and which is there for all Canadians. In his own words, Morneau says that "[our] next Prime Minister, reflecting on key elements in the party's platform, must consider economic growth as the most important goal of the federal government."

His candid narrative and analyses offer an engaging take on Canada's past, present, and future in the economic and political spheres. Readers who are policy junkies yet who enjoy a bit of political drama won't regret grabbing this book off the shelf.

Our tribute to those who have passed on

By Eli Zima Luste and Averi Winn



The Hon. Anthony Abbott.



Hélène Alarie.



Chris Axworthy.



Monique Bégin.

The Hon. Anthony Chisholm Abbott

Nov. 26, 1930 – Mar. 23, 2023

Anthony (Tony) Abbott passed away peacefully in Victoria, BC on March 23, 2023. He attended Bishop's College School and Bishop's University in Lennoxville, Quebec then law school at Osgoode Hall in Toronto. In 1974, he was elected to the House of Commons as the MP for Mississauga, Ontario. He was appointed to the Cabinet of Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau as Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs (1976), Minister of State for Small Businesses (1977) and Minister of National Revenue (1978). After leaving politics, Tony and his wife Naomi moved to the UK where Tony practiced law and owned a small business, Debrett Ancestry Research. Upon their return to Canada, Tony practiced law in Duncan and Victoria, BC while acting as proprietor of Rosebank Cottages in Mill Bay, BC in the Cowichan Region on Vancouver Island. The loving husband of Naomi Abbott for 68 years; he is also survived by his three sons, Douglas, Hilary, Timothy; six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren, as well as his brother, Lewis Abbott.

Hélène Alarie

June 6, 1941 – Oct. 24, 2023

On October 24, 2023, at the age

of 82, Hélène Alarie passed away. Born in La Pocatière, Quebec, she was elected as a member of the Bloc Québécois in the 1997 general election for the riding of Louis-Hébert, serving in the 36th Canadian Parliament. During her term in office, she was a member of many parliamentary committees, specifically those related to agriculture; sponsoring a bill to require mandatory labeling of genetically modified organisms (GMOs). Quebec's first female agronomist, Alarie was recognized as a pioneer in her field and served as vice-president of the Bloc Québécois from 2001 to 2009. She also was a civil servant in the Quebec Ministry of Education as well as Assistant Deputy Minister at the Ministry of Agriculture. Along with her husband Robert McKenzie, she is survived by her children: Gabriel, Elise and Fabienne, her six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren, as well as many other relatives, friends, and loved ones.

Chris Axworthy

Mar. 10, 1947 – Aug. 11, 2023

Chris Axworthy was the Member for Saskatoon-Rosetown-Biggar for over a decade. Between 1988 and 1999, Chris served in a variety of different leadership roles, including National Defence critic, Justice critic,

NDP Whip, House Leader and critic on Employment and Immigration issues. Deeply dedicated to the field of law, Mr. Axworthy went on to found Thompson Rivers University's law school in 2010. He had previously taught law at the University of New Brunswick, the University of Saskatchewan, Dalhousie University and the University of Manitoba, where he was dean of the Faculty of Law at Robson Hall. Chris is mourned by Michelle Van De Bogart, his loving wife and partner of 28 years, as well as his other family members and close friends.

Monique Bégin

March 1, 1936 – Sept. 8, 2023

Born in Rome, Italy, Monique Bégin was known to be a strong female voice on Parliament Hill. Not only was she the first Italian-Canadian woman elected to Parliament, but she was also the first Quebecois woman elected to the House of Commons in 1972. She served as the Executive Secretary of the Royal Commission on the Status of Woman (year). Additionally, Monique was the Minister of National Revenue (1976-1977), Minister of Health and Welfare (1977-1979, 1980-1984). Following her time on Parliament Hill, Monique returned to her career in academia. She was the first Joint



The Hon. Michel Biron.



Raynald Blais.



The Hon. Ed Broadbent.



Yves Caron.

Chair in Women's Studies at both the University of Ottawa and Carleton University and then became the Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Ottawa. Monique is survived by her two siblings, Marie and Sébastien Bégin. She will be greatly missed by her large family and many friends.

The Hon. Michel Biron

Mar. 16, 1934 – Apr. 26, 2023

At his home in Nicolet on April 26, 2023, Michel Biron, husband of the late Lilianne Beaudoin, passed away at the age of 89. In 1967, after the death of his father, Michel took over two companies: HM Biron et fils, a textile company, and the Nicolet telephone company, which later became Sogetel. At the helm of Sogetel, he oversaw its expansion from a local company to a Quebec-wide telecommunications leader. In 2001, he was appointed a Member of the Order of Canada. That same year, he was also appointed to the Senate by Prime Minister Jean Chrétien. Throughout his life, he contributed to the economic, community and cultural development of his beloved region. He is survived by his daughters: Hélène, Julie, and Isabelle; his grandchildren, his brother Georges, his good friend France Houde, as well as many nephews, nieces, parents, friends and Sogetel employees.

Raynald Blais

Jan. 5, 1954 – Sept. 26, 2023

Raynald Blais passed away at the Centre Hospitalier Hôtel-Dieu de Québec on September 26, 2023, at the age of 69. Blais was elected under the Bloc Québécois banner for the first time in 2004, then was re-elected in the general elections of 2006 and 2008 before opting not to run for re-election in 2011. With his region always at heart, Raynald spent much of his time in Ottawa as a member of the Standing Committee on Fisheries and Oceans advocating for his constituents. He was also a journalist at CHNC and was president of the Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine central council of the CSN in the 1990s. The current mayor of Gaspé, Daniel Côté, was his political assistant for five years before entering municipal politics and cites Michel as a mentor and role model. He is survived by his wife Doris Smith, his son-in-law Kevin, his brothers Richard, Conrad, Georges, Camile and Albert; his sisters Jacqueline and Claudette; several sisters-in-law, brothers-in-law, nephews and nieces, as well as many relatives and friends.

The Hon. John Edward Broadbent

Mar. 21, 1936 – Jan. 11, 2024

The Honourable John Edward (Ed) Broadbent passed away in Ottawa, Ontario, on January 11, 2024, at the

age of 87. Ed Broadbent was born in Oshawa, Ontario, on March 21, 1936 and is said to have demonstrated an early interest in politics and academia, earning a degree in philosophy from the University of Toronto in 1959. He pursued postgraduate studies at the London School of Economics and Political Science, before returning to the University of Toronto where he obtained a doctorate in political sciences in 1966. Ed was elected to the House of Commons in 1968 as a member of the Federal NDP for the riding of Oshawa-Whitby, and later the riding of Oshawa. He became leader of the NDP in 1975, a position he held until 1989 when he stepped back to serve as director of the International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development. He later returned to the House of Commons in 2004, elected as Member of Parliament for Ottawa Centre. In 2011, Ed founded the Broadbent Institute and remained active as a member of the Board of Directors while also teaching political science at several universities in Canada and abroad. Throughout his career, Ed fought for justice and equality - being a firm believer in the politics of joy: a joyful, meaningful life was one filled with music, movies, barbecues, time outdoors but above all, time with family and friends. Those close to him will miss his thoughtful conversations discussing a good book or his recent travels over a glass of red wine. A state funeral in memory of the Honourable John Edward Broadbent was held on January 28, 2024, at the Carleton Dominion-Chalmers Centre in Ottawa. He leaves behind his partner, Frances Abele, his two children, Paul and Christine, his four grandchildren, his two great-grandchildren, and many other loved ones.

Yves Caron

Sept. 27, 1937 – Aug. 28, 2023

Yves Caron represented the riding of Beaucerons in the House of Commons between 1972 and 1979. Mr. Caron was an alcohol distributor, salesperson and accounting clerk prior to entering federal politics. During

his time on the Hill, he served as the parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Agriculture (1977-1979), the deputy whip for the Liberal Party and the Government Whip (1977-1978). Following his time in politics, Yves was a War Veterans Allowances Board member, and dedicated two decades to his service to the Canadian Pension Commission. Yves is mourned by his spouse, Louise Drouin, his three children, Marie-Claude, Louis and Éric, his four grandchildren and his great-graughter Charlotte.

The Hon. Pat Carney

May 26, 1935 – July 25, 2023

Born in Shanghai, Pat Carney served as both a Member of Parliament (1980-1988) and a Senator (1990-2008). A remarkable feminist voice in journalism, education and politics, Pat began her journalism career in the 1960s. She worked for newspapers such as the Vancouver Province and the Vancouver Sun, serving as their first woman business columnist. She was a leader in the creation of distance learning systems in the late 1970s. Pat was both the first female Conservative Member of Parliament elected in British Columbia and the first female Conservative appointed from British Columbia to the Senate. During her time at the House of Commons, she served as the first woman appointed as the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (1984-1986), Minister of International Trade (1986-1988), and President of the Treasury Board (1988). Predeceased by her twin brother John, her brother Thomas and her grandson Wilfred Reid, she is survived and mourned by her sister, Norah, children, Jane and John, as well as many other loved ones.

The Hon. Gerald J. Comeau

Feb. 1, 1946 – Dec. 4, 2023

The Honourable Gerald J. Comeau passed away on December 4, 2023, in Yarmouth. Born in Meteghan Station, N.S. in 1946, Gerald pursued his higher education at Université Saint-Anne in Commerce and obtained an MBA at Université de Moncton in



The Hon. Pat Carney.



The Hon. Gerald Comeau.



Nicole Demers.



Michel Dupuy.

business and accounting. He then began his career as an accountant and educator at Université Sainte-Anne. Gerald later decided to enter politics and in 1984 he was elected Member of Parliament for South-West Nova. Following his defeat in the 1988 election, he was appointed to the Senate in 1990, a post he held until his early retirement in 2013, a total of 28 years in public service. In the Senate he served on many committees, including Fisheries and Oceans and Official Languages which he considered very important. In September 2013, while still serving as a senator, Gerald was appointed a member of the Queen's Privy Council of Canada. In 2002 he was named to the order of Knights of the Ordre de la Pléiade of France. Upon retirement, Gerald resided in Meteghan River and became very active in his local community, notably with the preservation of the Bangor Mill Museum. For 30 years, working with committees, he oversaw grant applications, mill dam repairs and the acquisition of historical artifacts. In the last seven years, he was a member of the Société Édifice Sainte Marie de la Pointe working for the preservation of the iconic Church Point church. Gerald was also involved in organizations such as the Knights of Columbus, Club Richelieu, Annapolis Valley Board of Trade as president, and Clare Social Club. Throughout his retirement he also remained active in local

politics. He is survived by his loving wife Aurore as well as his sister Laura and his brothers Paul and Donnie. He is also survived by many nieces, nephews, other relatives, and friends.

Nicole Demers

Jan. 15, 1950 – July 3, 2023

Born in Montreal, Nicole Demers served as the Member for Laval between 2004 and 2011. Prior to her time at the House of Commons, Nicole was an administrator of health services as well as the owner of a restaurant. Nicole was an active participant in many Committees and Associations on the Hill. During her time in the House, she sat on the Health and Status of Women committees. She also served as the Director of the Canadian Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, and was a member of the Canada-Europe Parliamentary Association and the Canadian Branch of the Assemblée parlementaire de la Francophonie. She is mourned by her two children, Stéphane and Pierre, as well as her five grandchildren, her siblings Sylvie, Claude, Pierre, Luc and Michel, as well as several other relatives and friends.

Michel Dupuy

Jan. 11, 1930 – July 9, 2023

Born in Paris in 1930, Michel Dupuy served the constituency of Laval West from 1993 to 1997. He



The Hon. James Fleming.



Sidney Arthur Fraleigh.



William Frank.



Réjean Genest.

obtained a doctorate in international law from the Sorbonne and a doctorate in economics at the University of Oxford. From 1993 to 1996, Michel served as Minister of Communications and Minister of Multiculturalism and Citizenship. He was also Canada's ambassador to the United Nations (1980-1981), as well as Canada's ambassador to France (1981-1985). Michel also dedicated much of his time to the arts. During his time in the Privy Council Office, he was a collaborator in the creation of the Canada Council for the Arts, and following his time on the Hill, he published six novels. Dupuy is survived by his partner and wife, Micheline Dallaire, his two sons, Pierre-Alain and Michel, as well as his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

The Hon. James S. Fleming
Oct. 30, 1939 – Feb. 15, 2023

Born in Kitchener, James Fleming served the community of York West as their MP, from 1972 to 1984. A renowned journalist prior to his time in politics, Mr. Fleming wore many hats throughout his career. Beginning as a news intern at the Toronto Star, he was also an editor for the Toronto Radio Station CKEY, the anchor of CTV's "Bright and Early" and a news reporter. First elected in 1972, James served as the Parliamentary secretary to the Communications Minister, Parliamentary secretary to the Envi-

ronment and Fisheries Minister and Minister of State responsible for Multiculturalism. Following his time on the Hill, James worked in government affairs. He then returned to journalism through radio and a newspaper column for the Sun Newspapers. He was awarded The Queen's 25th Anniversary Medal, Golden Anniversary Medal, Diamond Jubilee Medal and the Governor General's Commemorative Medal. He is mourned by his loving wife, Ilona, his three children, Alexander, Skye and John, and his four grandchildren.

Sidney Arthur Fraleigh
Feb. 5, 1931 – May 8, 2023

Sid Fraleigh passed away peacefully with his family by his side at North Lambton Lodge on Monday, May 8, 2023, at the age of 92 years. Born in Forest, Ontario, Fraleigh was educated at the University of Guelph. Throughout his life, farming was significant to Sid, and his presence in the community was well known and felt by many. Sid held many roles, including Member of Parliament for Lambton-Middlesex from 1979-1980 and again from 1984-1988, Chair of the Ontario Pork Producers Marketing Board. He was inducted into the Lambton County Agricultural Hall of Fame. Sid also served as a member of the council for Bosanquet Township. During his time in parliament, he served as a member of many com-

mittees, with the Agricultural committee being a particular favourite. The beloved husband to Velma for 70 years and loving father of Lynda, Michael, David, Wendy, and Mark will be missed dearly. Sid will also be missed by grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and his sister Janet Smart.

William Frank

Sept. 24, 1923 – Jan. 18, 2023

William Frank served as the Member for the constituency of Middlesex between 1972 and 1974. Born in London Township, William began his own agricultural business in the mid-1950, prior to his time on the Hill. William was a prominent figure in his community throughout his life. He was the Chair of the East Middlesex District High School Board (1968), the Chair of the London Housing Authority (1992) and the Director of the London Chamber of Commerce (1982). He was recognized for his excellent contribution to the agricultural sector by being inducted into the Middlesex County Agricultural Hall of Fame in 2008. William was predeceased in 2014 by Margaret, his loving wife of 69 years. He is mourned by his four children, Joan, Ruth, Dave, Charlie and Marianne, as well as his many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Réjean Genest

Mar. 9, 1946 – Dec. 26, 2023

Réjean Genest, former Member of Parliament for the riding of Shefford in the Eastern Townships, passed away on December 26 at the age of 77. Réjean was elected as the Member of Parliament for Shefford for the New Democratic Party in the 2011 general election. During his tenure of just over four years in opposition, he served on a number of parliamentary committees and associations in the House of Commons. He did not seek re-election in the 2015 general election. Outside of politics, Réjean was known for many years for his work in horticulture and landscaping. Réjean worked in ornamental horticul-

ture in the mid 1970s and became a landscape architect in 1984. He has produced gardening programs on community television and has written horticultural columns. Genest also hosted a radio program on gardening for 10 years. Réjean Genest is survived by his wife Louise Lecours, his three children, and his five granddaughters.

**The Hon. John Ferguson Godfrey
Dec. 19, 1942 – Dec. 18, 2023**

John died peacefully at home in Toronto on December 18, 2024. John was an educator, writer, historian and mentor to many. He grew up in Rosedale, Toronto with two loving parents who gave him every opportunity possible. John taught Modern French and European History at Dalhousie University from 1970 to 1987, and at age 34 became President and Vice Chancellor of the University of King's College, Halifax, the youngest university president in Canada. He founded the Journalism School at King's and became the Editor and a regular columnist of *The Financial Post* in 1987. John wrote more than 400 articles for the *Post* and co-authored with Rob McLean, "The Canada We Want – Competing Visions for the New Millennium," in 1999. In 1993, John was elected as the Member of Parliament for the riding of Don Valley West, being re-elected in 1997, 2000, 2004, and 2006. He held numerous positions including Parliamentary Secretary under Prime Ministers Chrétien and Martin. In 2004, Prime Minister Paul Martin appointed him Minister of State (Infrastructure and Communities) with responsibility for The New Deal for Cities. John loved skating the Rideau Canal to Parliament Hill to attend Cabinet meetings with skates over his shoulder. He left politics in 2008 and became Head of the Toronto French School for six years, after which Premier Kathleen Wynne recruited John to be Special Advisor on Climate Change. John served on the board of directors of numerous arts, social justice research and education and na-



The Hon. John Godfrey.



Terence Grier.



Edward Horning.

tional unity organizations in Halifax and Toronto. John was a Queen's Jubilee Medalist and Silver Jubilee Medalist; Doctor of Sacred Letters from Trinity College; and Doctor of Civil Laws, from the University of King's College. He was made a Member of the Order of Canada in 2019. John is survived by Trish Bongard Godfrey, his wife and best friend for more than 32 years; his son Ian; and sisters Anne Godfrey, and Sally Forrest.

**Terence (Terry) Wyly Grier
Aug. 12, 1936 – Mar. 13, 2023**

Terry Grier, passed away peacefully and surrounded by loved ones on March 13, 2023. He was 86. Born August 12, 1936 in Lennoxville, QC, Terry began his schooling at Bishop's College School, and later at Upper Canada College before graduating from University of Toronto. While in university, he met his lifelong partner Ruth. As a young couple, they devoted their efforts to the formation of the New Democratic Party in 1961, settling in Ottawa where Terry worked as Federal Secretary. In 1972, Terry was elected to Parliament for the riding of Etobicoke Lakeshore where he shared the benches with his political heroes Tommy Douglas, David Lewis and Andrew Brewin. Terry was defeated in 1974, and while he never again ran for office, he continued to work with the NDP in various ways for the remainder of his life. Terry's

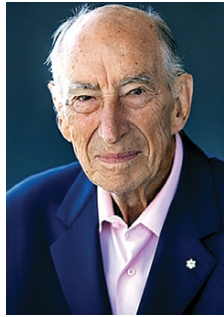
other great professional devotion was to Ryerson (now Toronto Metropolitan University). After a decade of teaching political science, he was named Dean of Arts in 1979, later Vice-President Academic, and then President in 1988. It was in that role that Terry shepherded the school into full university status in 1993, and he took great pride in watching the school grow under the leadership of successive presidents after his retirement in 1995. Terry loved to spend as much time as he could with his family: walking, paddling, sailing, golfing, and always with a delicious BBQ and a drink at the ready. He leaves behind his beloved wife, Ruth Grier, his sons, David, Timothy and Patrick, his many grandchildren and great-grandchildren, his sister, Sheila Gallagher, and nieces, Susan and Cathy.

**Edward Allan Horning
June 11, 1939 – Mar. 20, 2023**

On March 20, 2023, Al Horning passed away in Kelowna, BC. Born in Regina, Saskatchewan, Al lived nearly his entire life in the Rutland area of Kelowna. He worked at the local sawmill at age 16, then as an orchardist from 1964 to 1967, real estate agent from 1968 to 1988, and founder and head of an import company from 1980 to 1988. Al spent a large portion of this life either in politics or helping the community



The Hon. Noël Kinsella.



Marc Lalonde.



René Laurin.

through sports and other activities. Both Al and Donna were founding members of the Kelowna-Kasugai Sister City Association, and Al was co-founder of the Kelowna Snowmobile Club and the BC Snowmobile Federation. He was also a provincial champion snowmobile racer. Al served as Member of Parliament for Okanagan Centre from 1988-1993, as a Member of the Legislative Assembly of BC from 2005-2009, as a City of Kelowna Councillor from 1980-1988 and again from 2002-2005, and as Regional Board Director appointed by the City of Kelowna from 1981-1988. A local champion, shortly before his passing Al was honoured by the City of Kelowna with an announcement that a future road connecting the Kelowna International Airport (YLW) and Rutland would be called "Al Horning Way." He is survived by his children Rob, Brad and Sandi, grandson Austin, and brothers Dave and Wayne. It is said that Al's love of sports and politics was only outmatched by his love for his wife, Donna.

**The Hon. Noël
Augustus Kinsella**

Nov. 28, 1939 – Dec. 6, 2023

Noël Kinsella was born in Saint John, New Brunswick. He attended University College in Dublin, Ireland, for his undergraduate degree, where he earned a BA in psychol-

ogy. The Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas Angelicum in Rome was also his academic home; he earned a doctorate and a doctor of law in 1965. He continued his education at Rome's Pontifical Lateran University, where he earned both an S.T.L. and an S.T.D., furthering his commitment to learning. Among his many distinguished contributions was his time spent chairing the Atlantic Human Rights Centre. On September 12, 1990, Prime Minister Brian Mulroney appointed Kinsella to the Senate of Canada as a New Brunswick senator. In 2004, he joined the Conservative Senator group. Kinsella was the Opposition Whip from 1994 to 1999 and Senate Deputy Leader of the Opposition from 1999 until October 1, 2004. He then became the Senate Opposition Leader. At Prime Minister Stephen Harper's suggestion, the Governor General appointed him as Senate Speaker on February 8, 2006. Aside from serving in the Senate, Kinsella was renowned for his dedication to advancing causes that he deeply believed in. His commitment to bilingualism, minority rights, and creating links between the government and Indigenous communities demonstrated his fundamental beliefs in equality and inclusivity. He is survived by his wife, Ann Conley Kinsella, as well as many relatives and friends. An active member of

the CAFR, he will be deeply missed by all.

Marc Lalonde

July 26, 1929 – May 7, 2023

Marc Lalonde, born in 1929 in L'Île Perrot, served the constituency of Outremont from 1972 to 1984. A champion in health policy as an attorney and a politician, Marc has been recognized by organizations such as the Pan American Health Organization and the World Health Organization for his many reports, lectures and other contributions to the international community. In the 1990s, he was an ad hoc judge at the International Court of Justice. Additionally, Marc served as the Minister of National Health and Wellness (1972-1977) Federal Minister of State for Sport (1972-1976), Minister of Finance (1982-1984), the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada (1978-1979) and Federal Minister of State for the Status of Women (1974-1979). He was also admitted as an Officer of the Order of Canada in 1989. He is mourned by his beloved wife of 67 years, Claire, his four children, Marie Pascale, Luc, Paul and Catherine, as well as his many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

René Laurin

Feb. 4, 1940 – Jan. 21, 2023

Born and raised in Joliette, René Laurin represented his constituency in the House of Commons between 1993 and 2000. He was a member of the National Defence and Veterans Affairs Committee and the Public Accounts Committee. Prior to serving as a Member, René was a teacher in Joliette. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree at Joliette Seminary, a Bachelor of Science in Communication at École des hautes études commerciales de Montréal (now HEC Montréal). Following his time in Parliament, René became mayor of Joliette and continued to serve the community for twelve years before his retirement. He is mourned by his spouse, Suzanne Desmarais, his

children Denis, Hélène, Serge, and Gaétan, his grandchildren, as well as many other close family members and friends.

Ghislain Lebel

Feb. 17, 1946 – Jan. 1, 2023

Ghislain Lebel was the Member of Parliament for Chambly from 1993 to 2004 as a member of the Bloc Québécois. Serving as a notary prior to his election in 1993, Ghislain was said to have always pushed for the idea of Quebec sovereignty above all else. Being involved in independence causes throughout much of his life, Ghislain will be remembered as a man of strong convictions. He was an active member of the Rassemblement pour l'indépendance nationale, the Mouvement souveraineté-association, as well as the Parti Québécois since its early days. Much of his committee work during his time in office involved analyzing government operations and spending. He passed away in St-Jean-sur-Richelieu on January 1, 2023, at the age of 76. He is survived by his mother Yolande Bouchard, his children Harold, Guylaine, Marie-Ève, Marie-Pier, and Alexis, his grandchildren Stella-Rose, Mélodie, Jules, Raphaël, and Tiffany, his brothers, his sister, his nephews and nieces as well as many relatives and friends.



Ghislain Lebel.



The Hon. Marcel Lessard.



John Masters.

national Flag debate, Marcel was a member of the parliamentary committee that recommended the adoption of the Maple Leaf flag. Marvel returned to the House in the 1968 election as a Liberal. In 1970, he became parliamentary secretary to the Minister of Agriculture. In 1975, he was appointed to the Cabinet as Minister of Regional Economic Expansion. He did not run for re-election in the 1980 federal election. He is survived by his wife Yvette; his children: the late Louise Sylvie, Martine, Camille, Roch, and Rachel; his 12 grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren; as well as many nephews, nieces, cousins, other relatives and friends.

John Gerald (Jack) Masters

Sept. 27, 1931 – Jan. 5, 2024

Jack Masters peacefully passed away on January 5, 2024. Born on September 27, 1931, in Fort William, Jack spent his early years there, and living in the gold mining communities of Northwestern Ontario. He got involved in Scouts, earning the level of King Scout. In 1953, Jack married Kathleen (Kay) Whatley, and they began their seventy-year married life together. Jack worked at Eaton's and the lab at the Abitibi mill for a brief time before he began a career in broadcasting at CJLX radio in 1952. Entering the federal ring in 1979 with the Liberal nomination

for the Thunder Bay-Nipigon, Jack served his constituents from 1980 to 1984 with dedication. After his term as Member of Parliament, Jack served for two terms as mayor of Thunder Bay (from 1986 to 1991). Following this, he returned to a career in sales and later in life was a land-claims negotiator for the White Dog Reserve and a Workman's Compensation board tribunal member. After family and public service, the reigning passion of Jack's life was hockey, hanging up his skates at 88 years of age. His other volunteer contributions were many and varied, including fundraising for the Canadian Cancer Society, the Heart and Stroke Foundation, the Alzheimer's Society of Thunder Bay and Scouts Canada. His service to the community also included work with Magnus Theatre, the Thunder Bay Chamber of Commerce, the Confederation College Board of Governors, the Thunder Bay Harbour Commission, and the Thunder Bay District Health Unit Board. Jack was a loving and devoted husband to Kay, and a proud father to Susan, Diane, Gerald, and Scott. He is also mourned by his many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He is survived by brother and sister-in-law Jim and Betty Whatley along with numerous cousins, nieces, and nephews.

The Hon. Marcel Lessard

Aug. 14, 1926 – Nov. 19, 2023

On November 19, 2023, at the age of 97 years the Honourable Marcel Lessard, husband to Yvette Jean, passed away. He lived in Quebec City. Throughout his life, he contributed to the economic and social development of his region as Member of Parliament for Lac St-Jean, as well as serving as Minister of Economic Expansion to help develop his region. He was also the president of the Alma Centennial celebrations. Marcel was first elected to the House of Commons as the Social Credit Member of Parliament for Lac-Saint-Jean, Quebec in the 1962 election. He was re-elected in the 1963 election. During the 1964



Robert McKinley.



The Hon. Lorna Milne.



John Oostrom.



The Hon. Stephen Owens.

Robert (Bob) Elgin McKinley **Aug. 14, 1928 – Oct. 16, 2022**

Robert McKinley dedicated fifteen years of his life to the service of the constituency of Huron-Bruce. While on the Hill, Robert served as Chairman of the Agricultural Caucus Committee and as the Whip for the Conservative Party. Prior to his time in politics, he was an avid hockey player and coach, having played in Zurich and coaching a team to the 1963-1964 Ontario championship. He also worked for the McKinley Farms and Hatchery business on his family's homestead farm. Following his political career, Robert ran a financial business until his retirement. Robert was predeceased by his wife of 67 years, Audrey Elaine. Bob and Audrey were passionate harness horse racing enthusiasts, owning and racing several horses. Bob also dedicated himself to community service, being a member of the Exeter Royal Canadian Legion, Bluewater Shriners, and the Masons of the Hensall Lodge for over 50 years, embodying a life of purpose and support. He is survived by his five children, Diane, John, Deborah, Janet and Brenda, as well as his many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

The Hon. Lorna Ann Milne **Dec. 13, 1934 – March 1, 2023**

Lorna Ann Milne dedicated four-

teen years of service in the Senate. Mrs. Milne served as a school trustee (1964-1968) and Vice-Chair of the Peel County Board of Education (1968-1974) prior to her time on the Hill. She was also deeply dedicated to community service, serving as President of the North Peel unit of the Canadian Cancer Society and residential coordinator for the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario. She also founded the Brampton and District University Women's Club. In 1995, Lorna was appointed to the Senate. Between 1998 and 2005, she campaigned to allow all census data until 2001 to be released to the public. She also pushed for the legalisation of hemp as an agricultural crop. Following her time at the Senate, Lorna spent time researching her family genealogy. Lorna will be remembered as loving wife of former MP William Ross Milne, devoted mother of Robert, Jeanne, and Alec, and proud grandmother of Lachlan, Madelyne, Selin, and Deniz.

John Oostrom **Sept. 2, 1930 – March 4, 2023**

Born in the Netherlands, John Oostrom, his parents and twelve siblings immigrated to Canada and settled in Kemptville in 1952. Prior to his time in public service, John received a BA at the University of Toronto and proceeded to earn a

master's of Business Administration. He began his career as a financial analyst and became an executive of an electronics firm. Elected in 1984 to the riding of Willowdale, John served as the Chair of the Subcommittee on the Detention of Immigrants in the Toronto Area, which was a subcommittee of the Standing Committee on Labour, Employment and Immigration. Following his time in politics, John operated an immigration consultancy office. John will be greatly missed by his wife Sigrid (Sigi), his many children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, as well as his siblings and numerous nieces and nephews.

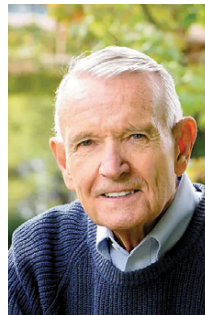
The Hon. Stephen Owen **Sept. 8, 1948 – June 29, 2023**

Stephen Owen, born in Vancouver, dedicated seven years of his life to public service as a Member of Parliament representing the riding of Vancouver Quadra. Prior to his time on Parliament Hill, Stephen studied law at the University of British Columbia, received a master's in international law from the University of London, as well as an MBA from the University of Geneva. During his time as a Member of Parliament, Stephen served as Minister of Public Works and Government Services (2003-2004), Minister of Western Economic Diversification (2004-2006) and Minister of State for Sport (2004-2006).

Federal Green Party Leader Elizabeth May characterized Mr. Owen as remarkably committed to the public good and an early advocate for combating climate change. During his tenure as public-works minister, he proposed altering the government's procurement strategies to prioritize environmentalism. Following his time as a Member of Parliament, he returned to the University of British Columbia as the Vice-president of External, Legal and Community Relations. Stephen is survived by his wife, Diane, and his two sons, Taylor and Jason.

Roger Pomerleau**June 7, 1947 – Dec. 21, 2023**

A career carpenter and independence activist, Roger Pomerleau became involved as a political attaché before being elected as the Bloc Québécois Member of Parliament for the riding of Anjou-Rivières-des-Prairies in 1993, serving until 1997. After his time in politics, Roger remained in the Drummondville area, notably in Lefebvre, where he continued to be involved in various causes that were close to his heart. In addition to volunteering as an organizer during the election campaigns of the Bloc Québécois and the Parti Québécois, Roger was a member of the Drummond Hydrocarbon Vigilance Committee. In 2022, he participated in the creation of the Action Collective for a River and an Environment Without a Landfill Site, a group of citizens campaigning for respect for the environment and the preservation of drinking water in the Drummondville region. Returning to political life, Roger reclaimed a seat in the House of Commons after winning the Drummond electoral district in the 2008 federal election as a member of the Bloc Québécois, serving this second term until 2011. He passed away on December 21, 2023. Roger is survived by his spouse Ginette Laporte and his siblings Pierre, Manon and France, as well as his other relatives and many friends.

*Roger Pomerleau.**The Hon. Alan Redway.**Fabien Roy.**The Hon. Hugh Segal.*

Affairs. After his time in electoral politics, Alan was a member of the Board of Directors for the Daily Bread Food Bank (1996-2004). Redway was inducted into the East York Hall of Fame at a ceremony in June of 2023, where his devotion to service and helping his community was noted. He will be sorely missed by his dear wife, Louise, their two daughters, Andrea and Kim, their grandchildren, and other family and friends.

Fabien Roy**Apr. 17, 1928 – Oct. 31, 2023**

Surrounded by his family, on Tuesday, October 31, 2023, Fabien Roy passed away at the age of 95. He will be remembered as a warm and caring man who cared about the well-being of others. Fabien carried Beauce everywhere he went, serving as Member of Parliament for Beauce and leader of the Crédit social du Canada (1970-1980). Always socially involved in charitable works, he is the founding president of the Croisée des chemins de Saint-Georges. In retirement, he founded the Village des défricheurs de Saint-Prospère. A member of the Quebec National Assembly at the time of his election to the House of Commons, Fabien's transition to federal politics marked a significant moment in his career. His commitment to the principles of the Social Credit

Party propelled him into the leadership of the federal party, a position he assumed on March 30, 1979. In doing so, he resigned from his seat in the Quebec National Assembly on April 5, 1979, embarking on a new chapter in his political journey. He served in this regard until 1980. He is survived by his wife Pauline Lessard, his children, Brigitte, Jean-François, Madeleine, and Véronique, his five grandchildren, as well as his siblings, nephews, nieces, relatives, and friends.

The Hon. Hugh Segal**Oct. 13, 1950 – Aug. 9, 2023**

Born in Montreal, Hugh Segal was a prominent figure in provincial and federal politics. In provincial politics, Mr. Segal served as the Chief of Staff to Premier Bill Davis. Deciding to make the switch to federal politics, Mr. Segal was elected to the House of Commons in 1992. This time, Mr. Segal served as Chief of Staff (1992-1993) to Prime Minister Brian Mulroney. After his time on the Hill, Mr. Segal was appointed to the Senate in 2005. Throughout his life he was a renowned political strategist and academic. In 2003, Mr. Segal became a Member of the Order of Canada, and was appointed as an Officer in 2016. He stepped down from his role at the Senate in 2014 and became the Principal of Massey College at the Uni-



The Hon. Ian Sugart.



Diane Stratas.



Ian Watson.

versity of Toronto. Hugh's biography is highlighted by a series of achievements acknowledged by his province, country, and academia. However, as described by those who had the privilege of knowing him, the essence of who he was transcends these accolades. Hugh is remembered as a loyal, thoughtful leader, with strong convictions and the passion to advocate for causes that needed a strong voice. Hugh is survived by his dear wife Donna, his daughter Jacqueline, his two brothers, Seymour and Brian, and will be missed by many other loved ones.

The Hon. Ian Shugart

May 31, 1957 – Oct. 25, 2023

Ian Shugart passed away peacefully in Ottawa on Wednesday, October 25, 2023, surrounded by his loving family. Born in Toronto on May 31, 1957 and raised in an inter-generational home, Ian developed a deep love of nature, classical music, and theatre, along with an interest and skills in debating current affairs and leadership. After graduating with a Bachelor of Political Economy from Trinity College at the University of Toronto, Ian moved to Ottawa where he started his career as a political staffer on Parliament Hill before joining the public service in 1991. He went on to hold senior positions in the federal government, notably

in health policy, and also served as a deputy minister in the Ministries of Environment Canada, Employment and Social Development Canada, and Global Affairs Canada. In 2019, he was appointed Clerk of the Privy Council. Ian married the light of his life, Linda, in 1985, and together they raised three children. Following his retirement from the public service in 2022, Ian became a professor at the University of Toronto's Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy. He was appointed to the Senate of Canada that same year. Ian valued contributing to his community, spending many years volunteering as a minor hockey and soccer coach. He was also deeply involved in Christian ministry as an elder and teacher at St. Paul's Church, and he preached at a number of churches throughout Ottawa. Ian leaves behind his wife Linda, three children, Robin, James and Heather, and his siblings Linda, Anne and Craig, along with their families.

Diane Stratas

Dec. 28, 1932 – May 4, 2023

Diane Stratas served as a Member of Parliament in the House of Commons between 1979 and 1980. Throughout her life, Diane displayed a remarkable dedication to public service. She was recognized for this service through the 125th Anniver-

sary of the Confederation of Canada Medal in 1992, and in 1994 by the Lifetime Women's Achievement award from the Greek Community of Metropolitan Toronto. Originally from Saskatoon, Diane was the first person to ever be elected to represent the constituency of Scarborough Center following its creation in 1976. She also served as the Parliamentary Secretary to the Secretary of the State of Canada during her time at the House of Commons. Diane's passing is mourned by her close family and friends.

Ian Watson

Apr. 10, 1934 – Apr. 2, 2023

On April 2, 2023, at the age of 88, Ian Watson died peacefully with his family by his side. Born in Howick Quebec, Ian was a lawyer before entering politics. He was the Member of Parliament from 1963-1984, winning seven successive terms to the House of Commons in the Quebec ridings of Chateauguay, Huntingdon, and LaPrairie. Ian's political longevity, spanning Lester B. Pearson, Pierre Trudeau, Joe Clark, and John Turner governments, was matched with a lifelong commitment to serving his constituents and a practical approach to solving problems across party lines through parliamentary committees he chaired, and internationally through inter-parliamentary working groups. Ian was a graduate of Bishop's University (B.A.-History) and McGill University Law School. Outside of his political life, Ian was a lover of nature, with a passion for foraging mushrooms, fiddleheads, and other wild edibles. An avid birder, gardener, and planter of Butternut trees, he also collected Canadiana Antique Furniture. He held a keen interest in preserving history, helping set up the Chateauguay Valley Historical Society in 1960. He was predeceased by his wife, Monique Carle, his brothers, Donald and David, and is survived by his brother, Mac, and wife, Rena. He will be remembered as the proud father to Mark, Chantal, Yannie, and Anik; and loving grandfather to many grandchildren.

Former Prime Minister Brian Mulroney leaves us at 84

A remarkable man, a remarkable leader, and a wonderful friend.

By Dorothy Dobbie

He passed away quite unexpectedly for most of us – only 84, a younger age in politics. While we heard he had been ill, his unending interest in Canada and the fortunes of those who followed him kept him fresh and very alive in our minds.

I knew him as one of his MPs and he honoured me with several critical tasks that I look back on with gratitude. But what I remember most is his warmth and empathy, his concern for his fellows and his way of making everyone feel included.

That, indeed, seems to be the consensus among political allies and opponents as one. You will note I don't use the word foes, because he did not view the "other side" as foes, but as worthy opponents, people he respected and could empathize with.

Brian Mulroney was a warm and genuine, generous human being who had vision and courage. He often said near the end of his tenure that it was more important to do what was right than what was expedient. He had sincere empathy for his fellows, and he was the first one to reach out to members, friends and even the Opposition if something went wrong in their lives. He would call with that deep, warm voice of his and say, "I understand. It will pass. It happens to all of us. You will be alright." And it made you feel better. I remember because he called me with that special message of encouragement when my personal life turned upside down for a while.

He did not reserve that special care for those he knew. I remember with warmth when he pushed his way through security and a crowd outside a hotel in Winnipeg to speak to Joyce Milgaard, mother of the imprisoned and wrongfully convicted David Milgaard. She was desperately trying to get justice for her son. The Prime Minister agreed. He gave his attorney



Brian Mulroney at NATO's 50th Anniversary Gala in 2016. Photo courtesy of NATO.

general a poke, and he did it for the right reasons. As a result, the conviction was eventually overturned, and David was set free. Brian Mulroney was never afraid to do what he saw as right.

Despite this, he was vulnerable and felt things deeply. I recall the first time I saw him give a speech while I was on the platform right behind him. He was a inspired orator, seldom looking at notes (to the chagrin of his staff from time to time). He spoke so intensely that his shirt was soaking wet with perspiration. I was told later that this was a common occurrence. Mila was always close at hand with a clean dry shirt and the support and comfort he needed to get through some of the harder times leaders face.

Brian Mulroney had a wonderful sense of humour and could laugh at himself as well as the world, although he could also be devastatingly tough when needed – as a leader should be. His sense of humour extended to events that might be considered serious under other leaders. I recall in 1990 when Russian General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev came to Ottawa for meetings with Mulroney shortly after the fall of the Berlin wall.

Given the royal treatment, Gorbachev was unimpressed, but as the Prime Minister was escorting him to the airport for his departure, Gorbachev said he had one more question. "This is a wonderful country," he said, "but tell me one thing. Why do you allow those prostitutes to hang around the doors of Parliament?" The "prostitutes" were staffers smoking outside the halls (as Lynn McDonald will recall), where they had recently been banished if they wanted to feed their habit. Brian thought this was hilarious as, of course, it was. And it was the kind of inside story he would regale his cause with keeping everyone feeling intimately in the know.

Brian Mulroney was never afraid to take advice. He listened to what people said, really considered it, then made his decision. Caucus meetings were the opportunity for him to hear from his backbench and he did listen, making notes, sometimes agreeing or at least acknowledging what he was told, and sometimes offering instruction to a minister to look into things.

When the Bloc was formed, one of the defectors told me that this was going to happen, "But," he said, "we won't take enough members to hurt the boss." They loved him, and he carried them along with us as part of the team. He had that ability – to carry us along as part of a team. How could we forget the Christmas parties in the Hall of Honour where, in his beautiful baritone voice, he would sing "Paper Dolly"? He treated us all as family.

Internationally, he was respected and consulted. Canada's stature grew immensely under this leadership. I recall when he came back from a visit to Russia and told us how things really were there. "It is falling apart," he told us. "It won't be long now." And it wasn't. The Iron Curtain came down a short time later.

He also had the humility of know-

ing when it was time to step down and let the next generation step up. When he did this, he held a last caucus meeting followed by luncheon in the Railway Committee room where he had his favourite dish served to his colleagues: wieners and beans! That was so Brian.

Books will be written about this man who was loved and reviled at the same time. Some will be unkind and unjust, some will be overflowing with praise and accolades, but all will have to agree that he was a transfor-

mational leader who loved his country and his family and his friends. He was forgiving and non-judgmental. He was also humble in his way. He often paraphrased American Admiral William Halsey Jr.*, by saying, "There are no great men, only ordinary men who rise to meet great challenges."

A giant on the world stage, a leader on issues such as the end of apartheid, acid rain, liberalized trade, modernization of taxation, accord between English and French Canada, settlements of outstanding Indigenous

claims, including the formation of Nunavut . . . the list of his accomplishments was much longer than this.

Brian Mulroney was a good man. A very good man. And a very good leader.

**Actual quote William Halsey Jr.: "There are no great men, just great challenges which ordinary men, out of necessity, are forced by circumstances to meet."*

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

Ed Broadbent, a leader to be dearly missed

By Mia Parker

Jan. 11, 2024, Canada lost the former NDP leader Ed Broadbent, but he lives on in the memories of his Parliamentary colleagues as an inspirational and optimistic man.

To the NDP, he is remembered as a favourite leader.

Irene Mathyssen, former MP representing London—Fanshawe, noted that what made him beloved was his recognition of leadership being about those that need you, and not yourself.

"He was there in the audience when I was sworn in," she said in an interview, describing how he was beaming with pride with each new NDP member sworn into the House of Commons.

For Marjolaine Boutin-Sweet, who represented Hochelaga, Broadbent was even indirectly the reason she became an MP for the New Democrats.

"He really is the one who put a spotlight on the NDP when I was younger."

His style of leadership was important to his party.

"People wanted to do things for him because they liked him because he was likable, because he was a kind person," said Marjolaine. "He wasn't a negative person."

She noted that his realness and likability were what made him so successful as a leader, an MP, and a person.

Former MP for Rimouski-Neigette—



Ed Broadbent in 2019. Photo by Cynthia Münster.

Témiscouata—Les Basques, Guy Caron described the former NDP leader as a professional, driven, and accessible person, who he had the opportunity to connect with often.

"I was able to benefit greatly from his advice, of which he was very generous," Guy said.

His favourite memory of Broadbent was when he got to introduce the former leader to his children, and explain his contributions and significance.

In Parliament, Broadbent is described as a man who formed strong relationships and built bridges.

Guy notes that "he was respected, this agenda was respected".

He led the people around him by example showing that doing good work

for the benefit of Canadians was more important than winning at all costs.

"He looked after the most vulnerable, and the most needy, and he respected the need for equality, the need for justice," said Irene, describing him as a great presence within the House of Commons.

Marjolaine concurs. "He fought for so many different aspects of ordinary people's life, the betterment of every aspect of people's lives."

In an emailed statement, Tom Mulcair reflected on Broadbent's contribution to the party and to Canada.

"Ed Broadbent was an unparalleled warrior in his quest for social and economic justice. He possessed exceptional fortitude and ethical certainty in his unwavering quest."

The state funeral was exemplary of the man, with a warm and welcoming atmosphere that brought people together.

"It was beautiful," said Guy. "I was energized by the way it went and by the message it gives us to fight for the future and fight for a better Canada and better society."

Marjolaine reflects on her attendance at Ed's funeral. "The atmosphere there was so warm during the service. Everybody who spoke was not only well spoken, but they said different things and they said really, really wonderful things about him. And it made me appreciate him even more."



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