

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF FORMER PARLIAMENTARIANS

MEMORIAL SERVICE

A CELEBRATION OF PUBLIC LIVES AND PUBLIC SERVICE

Monday, June 16, 2025

THE SENATE

Monday, June 16, 2025

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF FORMER PARLIAMENTARIANS

MEMORIAL SERVICE—A CELEBRATION OF PUBLIC LIVES AND PUBLIC SERVICE

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

My name is Cynara Corbin. I'm the Acting Chief of Protocol for the Parliament of Canada, and I am pleased to welcome you here today in the Senate Chamber, and I also welcome those who are watching remotely.

I would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is the traditional, unceded territory of the Algonquin Anishinaabeg people.

[Translation]

We are gathered in the place where the three component elements of Parliament — the Crown, the Senate and the House of Commons — come together occasionally. We do so today to honour the service, contribution and lives of the parliamentarians who have left our ranks over the past year.

In a moment, we will welcome the members of the official party, composed of the Speaker of the Senate, the Honourable Senator Raymonde Gagné, and the Speaker of the House of Commons, the Honourable Francis Scarpaleggia —

[English]

— the President of the Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians, Mr. Matt DeCourcey; the immediate past present of the Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians, Ms. Dorothy Dobbie; Mr. Matthew Dubé, representing the members of the Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians; the Clerk of the Senate and the Clerk of the Parliaments, Ms. Shaila Anwar; the Clerk of the House of Commons, Mr. Eric Janse; the Usher of the Black Rod, Mr. Greg Peters; and the Sergeant-at-Arms, Mr. Patrick McDonell.

Please rise for the arrival of the official party and remain standing for our national anthem.

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

[Translation]

Ms. Corbin: Please be seated.

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

[English]

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

[Translation]

To begin, I would like to invite the Speaker of the Senate, the Honourable Raymonde Gagné, to welcome you.

Hon. Raymonde Gagné, Speaker of the Senate: Mr. Speaker of the House of Commons, honourable parliamentarians and distinguished guests.

On behalf of the Senate of Canada and all senators, I would like to start my remarks by offering my heartfelt condolences to the family members and friends present today who lost loved ones this year.

While today's memorial service marks a difficult time — saying goodbye is never easy — I also see it as a solemn celebration in memory of these exceptional individuals, these loved ones who served in our communities, in the service of our entire country.

I hope this ceremony will bring you some comfort as you grieve.

[English]

Every year, as the Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians prepares to host this event, I reflect on the significance of holding public office and on the motivations that might inspire people to become legislators.

Being a parliamentarian is definitely not easy. It really is a challenging career. Political participation and leadership demand significant sacrifices. This is true for nearly everyone who enters public life, but it may be especially so for women and parents who encounter distinct challenges in political engagement and representation. Being away from family is one of those sacrifices. It is especially hard when children are young, but it remains difficult even as they grow older. Families and loved ones, too, make sacrifices, often sharing the burden of time, presence and emotional availability that political life demands. Yet, despite these and many other challenges, individuals continue to choose this path out of deep commitment to public service.

Serving our country as parliamentarians is a rare and meaningful opportunity to apply our skills and experience, to contribute to the well-being of communities across Canada and to drive change that makes a real difference in people's lives. Canadian democracy is stronger and healthier because of these individuals' willingness to enter the political sphere and give everything they can to help others. Their dedication, leadership and vision have transformed challenges into progress.

[Translation]

Canada is privileged to have been able to count on these extraordinary people who gave their very best for Canadians.

I want the families and friends of the parliamentarians we honour today to know that your loved ones' achievements will not be forgotten.

Lastly, I'd like to thank the Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians and all those who helped to organize this memorial today. Thank you. *Meegwetch*.

Ms. Corbin: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

I will now ask the Speaker of the House of Commons, the Honourable Francis Scarpaleggia, to take the floor.

Hon. Francis Scarpaleggia, Speaker of the House of Commons: Honorable Raymonde Gagné, Speaker of the Senate, fellow parliamentarians and distinguished guests.

It is my turn to express my deepest condolences to the loved ones of former parliamentarians who have passed away in the last year.

On behalf of all members of Parliament and the entire administration of the House of Commons, I would like to extend my heartfelt condolences.

It is never easy to lose a loved one.

The grief we experience following a death is a deeply personal process that manifests itself in waves of sorrow, love and memories, but also smiles that reflect the place that person held in our hearts.

[English]

We come together as a grateful parliamentary family to recognize the depth of your loss and the loss to Canada of extraordinary individuals who heeded the call to service to country. It is only fitting that we honour their memory and celebrate their contributions to the Canada we know today.

As you all know only too well, the work of a parliamentarian is something of a lifetime endeavour — one that entails great sacrifices on themselves and on their families and friends.

During my many years on Parliament Hill, I have had the good fortune of knowing many of those we mourn and celebrate today. No matter the background and motivation that brought them to Ottawa, through shared experiences and commitment to Canada, they inspired colleagues and left an indelible legacy.

We are very much a family on Parliament Hill. Like every family, things can get complicated sometimes, but the bonds between us are strong and prevail over any differences on policy because we are united in our passion for a better country.

[Translation]

Whether their service was short or long, whether it was many years ago or more recent, it was not without sacrifice — a sacrifice that I am sure you know too well.

On behalf of the House of Commons, allow me to express our deep appreciation for sharing with us those who were dear to you. Their years of service have left a valuable legacy.

We are honoured to follow in their footsteps and pay tribute to them.

[English]

As we share in your sorrow, we celebrate lives that made a lasting difference. May their memories be eternal and always a blessing. Thank you.

Ms. Corbin: I would now like to invite to the podium the Immediate Past President of the Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians, Dorothy Dobbie, accompanied by the Director of the Association, Matthew Dubé.

Dorothy Dobbie, Immediate Past President, Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians: All who serve understand what Margaret Mead meant when she said:

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, concerned citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.

Because we believe so fervently, those who serve in parliament do so with their whole heart and soul. They throw themselves into their work, often to the exclusion of all else. Too frequently, this dedication is misinterpreted by the media who don't appreciate the stress, the long hours and the weeks away from home. But you do, my friends, and you need to know that we who have served appreciate you for your dedication and unswerving loyalty. What you and our former colleagues have given to Canada is a gift without measure.

While we grieve their loss, we remember them with the love and gratitude and respect they deserve. Let us pledge to do better and to let the world know and understand that it is only through this kind of sacrifice — selfish though it may seem — that democracy survives. We honour them.

Marlene Catterall was a trailblazer for women in politics. She was born in Ottawa in 1939, was a high school teacher and became a city councillor in 1976. In 1988, she was elected to Ottawa West-Nepean for the Liberals, retiring in 2006. She was the first woman government whip. She was instrumental in getting Ottawa's Famous Five monument, which you see outside. She received the Governor General's Award in commemoration of the Persons Case and the ACFO-Ottawa Laurier Francophile award. The Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians gave her a distinguished service award for her compassion and commitment to fairness and equity.

[Translation]

Matthew Dubé, Director, Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians: Michel Benoit Cogger was a Canadian lawyer and businessman who advised Brian Mulroney and served in the Senate for 14 years, from 1986 to 2000. He was Deputy Chair of the Standing Senate Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs. A corporate lawyer with many years in the industry, he also served as vice-president of the Progressive Conservative Party of Canada.

His family will remember him as a wonderful storyteller.

[English]

Robert Corbett served the people of Fundy Royal as a Progressive Conservative member of Parliament from 1978 to 1993, after he had already spent a four-year term as an MLA in the New Brunswick Legislature. He founded the Gagetown nursing home and a marine surveying company. He was an avid sailor, twice crossing the Atlantic in Caribbean races, one of which he won. He was loved for his community work.

Born in Ontario where he went to school and then taking his masters in B.C., John Cummins had a varied career, teaching school, working in the pulp and paper industry and as a commercial fisherman. Elected to the Reform Party, he held office from 1993 until 2011 for Delta—Richmond East. He was the critic for Fisheries. As the later leader of the B.C. Conservatives, he was a controversial figure who earned the nickname the "Maverick MP." Upon retirement from politics, he said: "My hope when first elected was that . . . the folks at home would say, 'He kept his word. He represented us well."

Ms. Dobbie: Joe Daniel, the MP for Don Valley East for the Conservatives, was born in Tanzania, East Africa. Joe completed an engineering degree in England, immigrating to Canada in 1987. He worked for the Canadian Armed Forces and later owned a printing business. While he served from 2011 to 2015, Joe participated in many committees, including Citizenship and Immigration and Industry, Science and Technology. He was also Honorary Consul for Uzbekistan in Canada.

Growing up in a hardworking family, Joseph Day had a distinguished legal career. After running for office for the Liberals several times, he was appointed to the Senate by the Honourable Jean Chrétien. In office from 2001 to 2020, he served on dozens of committees, but his heart was always with his family and community. Joe found his greatest joy at Belleisle Bay, where his family cottage became a gathering place filled with laughter, conversation and connection.

Peter Elzinga was a rancher, representing Pembina from 1974 to 1986 for the Progressive Conservatives. He served as Minister of Federal and Intergovernmental Affairs, and Minister of Economic Development and of Agriculture. He later won a provincial seat for Sherwood Park and served as deputy premier. His service to Alberta and Canada was recognized with several honours including an eagle feather from the Whitefish Lake First Nation.

[Translation]

Mr. Dubé: The Honourable Francis Fox was an MP for 12 years and a senator for six. He represented Deux-Montagnes for the Liberals. He was Solicitor General of Canada, Minister of Communications and Minister for International Trade.

[English]

Francis became principal secretary to the prime minister in 2003 and was a senator from 2005 to 2011. He held multiple degrees from various universities, including l'Université de Montréal, Harvard University and Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar. He introduced legislation to make *O Canada* the national anthem and the Access to Information Act.

[Translation]

Maurice Godin was a manager for Hydro-Québec. Elected in 1993, he represented the riding of Châteauguay for the Bloc Québécois until 2000. Maurice was his party's critic for Veterans Affairs and the deputy critic of the Environment. He was a member of the Standing Committee on Human Rights and the Status of Persons with Disabilities, the Special Joint Committee on Canada's Defence Policy, the Standing Committee on Industry and the Standing Committee on National Defence and Veterans Affairs.

[English]

Bob Lane represented Winnipeg—St. James for the Progressive Conservatives from 1979 to 1980. He joined the Royal Canadian Navy at 18 and was well known for his community involvement. He initiated the Veteran's Memorial Endowment at Deer Lodge hospital. He owned a real estate firm and became president of the Winnipeg and Manitoba real estate boards. Bobby received a Canada 125 Governor General's Medal and the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal. He loved golfing, writing poetry, researching family history and, of course, community service.

Ms. Dobbie: Ed was a Windsor-born businessman who was mayor of Cornwall, where he gained a reputation as a guy who got things done. In his spare time, he coached both hockey and football. He was a Liberal member of Parliament for Stormont—Dundas from 1974 to 1984, and he held many ministerial portfolios. Post politics, he became vice chairman of BMO Nesbitt. As Chancellor of the University of Windsor, he raised millions of dollars for the university. Ed also helped raise money for the Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians. Appointed to the Order of Canada in 2014, he also received the Queen Elizabeth Golden Jubilee and the Diamond Jubilee medals.

The Honourable Charlie Mayer was born and raised in Saskatchewan, moving to Manitoba in 1965 after getting a degree in agronomics from the University of Saskatchewan. In 1979, he was elected in Portage—Lisgar—Marquette for the Progressive Conservatives, serving as Minister of State for the Canadian Wheat Board, then for Grains and Oilseeds, Minister of Western Economic Diversification and finally Minister of Agriculture. He is credited with the removal of oats from the Canadian Wheat Board's single desk system. Charlie was inducted into the Canadian Agricultural Hall of Fame in 2005.

[Translation]

Mr. Dubé: Appointed to the Senate by Prime Minister Jean Chrétien in 2001, the Honourable Yves Morin revolutionized the field of cardiology, with over 150 publications. He was dean of the Faculty of Medicine at Laval University, where he shaped the future of countless physicians. He was named an Officer of the Order of Canada, an Officer of the National Order of Quebec and a Knight of the National Order of Merit of France. Yves' lifelong devotion to knowledge and medicine culminated in his book Les cœurs tigrés, which was honoured with Quebec's Prix Armand-Frappier and the Prix de la création littéraire au Salon international du livre de Québec.

[English]

John Murphy was a man of deep roots — in family, community and service. Born in Halifax, his lifelong advocacy for the less

fortunate could be seen in his work with Friends of Schizophrenia, the National Council of Welfare and Citizens for Public Justice, among many others. Elected as Liberal member of Parliament for Annapolis Valley-Hants from 1993 to 1997, he contributed to numerous committees. John's warm smile, boundless generosity and outgoing personality made every life of which he was a part a little brighter.

[Translation]

The Honourable Gilbert Normand was a physician, mayor of Montmagny, Quebec, and a Liberal MP for seven years. He was born in Montmagny on March 31, 1943, and practised medicine for over 25 years. Gilbert Normand was elected to represent Bellechasse—Etchemins—Montmagny-L'Islet in 1997 and was secretary of state for Agriculture and Agri-Food, Fisheries and Oceans, and Science, Research and Development. He sat on the committees for health and industry, science and technology.

[English]

Ms. Dobbie: Frank Oberle was born in Germany and immigrated to Canada after surviving the Nazi regime in Germany and Poland. He became a baker, logger, miner, insurance salesman and the mayor of Chetwynd. He was elected for the Progressive Conservatives in 1972 for Prince George—Peace River and served until 1993. He was the Minister of Forestry, Environment and State for Science and Technology. He oversaw the Canadarm's development on the International Space Station and founded the Tree Canada Foundation and the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research. Frank authored two autobiographies, detailing his journey from war to Parliament — wonderful books.

Jim Peterson grew up in London, Ontario. As an international lawyer, he played a pivotal role in the defection of Soviet ballet star Mikhail Baryshnikov and forged a lifelong friendship with him. Jim was elected as a Liberal member of Parliament for Willowdale from 1980 to 1984 and again from 1988 to 2007. He was secretary of state for International Financial Institutions and minister for International Trade. His brother David Peterson was the premier of Ontario. Jim found happiness tending to his farm, teaching woodworking to children and spending time with his beloved dog Duffy.

Murray Sinclair was a leader long before he was appointed to the Senate in 2016, where he served until 2021. As a young man, born in the progressive Peguis Reserve just north of Selkirk, Manitoba, he quickly learned the value of a good education. He graduated from the University of Manitoba Faculty of Law and was called to the bar a year later. As a lawyer, he fought to ensure that Indigenous peoples' legal rights were recognized. He always had a certain way about him. Gentle and soft-spoken, when he did speak, you listened. When Prime Minister Stephen Harper set up the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, Murray was named chairman. His work leading the commission has had a profound impact on Canada's relations with our Indigenous people. Murray also served as Chancellor of Queen's University, was made a companion of the Order of Canda and received the Order of Manitoba just before his unfortunate passing. He was also awarded a National Aboriginal Achievement Award.

Mr. Dubé: Bob Sopuck was a Conservative MP from 2010 to 2019 for Dauphin—Swan River—Neepawa, serving as the party's critic for Environment and National Parks. He was born in

Winnipeg and obtained a Master of Science degree in fisheries science at Cornell University. Robert was passionate about conservation. He was director of environmental affairs at the Pine Falls Paper Plant and a policy analyst at the Delta Waterfowl foundation. Robert's contributions to conservation have been recognized by national and international awards. In office, he sat — perhaps unsurprisingly — on the committee on Environment and Sustainable Development and was Vice-Chair for the Standing Committee on Fisheries and Oceans.

Chuck Strahl was a logging businessman and MP for 18 years, from 1993 to 2011. Born to a logging family in New Westminster, Chuck ran for public office in 1993 after many years in the family logging business. He was the whip and house leader of the Reform Party and for the Canadian Alliance, and later Deputy Speaker of the House of Commons. Chuck served as Minister of Agriculture and Agri-food, Indian Affairs and Northern Development, for the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency and Transport, Infrastructure and Communities. Chuck's son, Mark Strahl, currently sits in the House of Commons.

Paul Szabo was the Liberal member for Mississauga South from 1993 to 2011. He chaired the Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics and Government Operations and Estimates. He was also the parliamentary secretary to the Minister of Public Works. A published author, he spoke more words than any other MP in the 38th and 39th Parliaments — quite an accomplishment. He was awarded "the hardest-working member of Parliament" three times. Paul was director of finance for TransCanada Pipelines, the director of a shelter for abused women and the Peel Region housing authority.

Ms. Dobbie: Donald Taylor was the Progressive Conservative MP for Cowichan—Malahat—The Islands, British Columbia, from 1979 to 1980. Don served on several committees in Parliament. He was born in Edmonton, was a teacher and travelled the world with his family. He spent a year teaching in England. After retirement, he and his wife, Mavis, travelled the world from Europe to Asia. In addition to gardening and lawn bowling, Don loved to spend his time watching sports on mute and listening to jazz.

John Thomson represented Calgary South for the Progressive Conservatives from 1979 to 1984. He was a respected businessman and philanthropist who started as a chartered accountant and founded Thomson Drilling, which became an international success. In office, John participated on several committees, serving as Vice-Chair of the Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs Sub-Committee to Promote Profit-sharing by Employees in Business. John and his wife founded the Julia McFarlane Diabetes Research Centre at the University of Calgary.

[Translation]

Mr. Dubé: Elected to Rimouski—Témiscouata for the Progressive Conservatives from 1984 to 1993, the Honourable Monique Vézina served as Minister of External Relations and La Francophonie, Minister of Supply and Services, Minister of State for Transport, Employment and Immigration, and chair of the seniors' commission.

She chaired the National Commission on the Future of Quebec, became an officer of the National Order of Quebec, and received the National Assembly Medal. Monique was president of the Mouvement national des Québécois and winner of the Grande Patriote prize. Her legacy also includes drafting the first Women and Development policy.

[English]

John Williams was born in Aberdeenshire, Scotland, and is described as a humble country boy with a dry but wicked sense of humour. John represented St. Albert in the House of Commons from 1993, serving as the Reform Party's critic for public accounts. He sat on many committees, including chairing the Public Accounts Committee. He founded the Global Organization of Parliamentarians Against Corruption, where he worked after politics for many years. He loved his hobby farm, where he raised Jersey cows and chickens.

Ms. Dobbie: Lois Wilson was an independent senator appointed in 1998 and an active member on the Human Rights and Aboriginal Peoples Committees. She was born in Winnipeg and was the first female Moderator of The United Church of Canada, President of the World Council of Churches, Vice-President of the World Federalist Movement, and Chair of the International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development. Lois was awarded 14 honorary degrees, among them the Queen Elizabeth II Silver Jubilee Medal, the Pearson Peace Medal, Officer of the Order of Canada, Order of Ontario, and was named a Companion of the Order of Canada. She was Chancellor of Lakeland University and authored 10 books.

Born in Ayers, Quebec, Bob Wood was the Liberal member for Nipissing from 1988 to 2004. He started his career as a member of the RCAF and then moved into broadcasting. A caring man, Bob did many small acts of kindness, like bringing Santas Anonymous blessings to families at Christmas and donating prepaid gas cards for others who needed to travel for medical appointments. "He believed in public service, in living life to the fullest and in approaching each day with gratitude. He lived that way — fully and gratefully — until the very end," said his daughter, Sue-lane Wood.

Winston Churchill said, "We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give." We will remember each of these men and women for their generosity of spirit, for their wisdom and for their joy in giving. They gave their best, and we honour each and every one of them.

Ms. Corbin: Thank you, Ms. Dobbie and Mr. Dubé.

[Translation]

I now invite you to listen to the piece *Highland Cathedral*, performed by the Central Band of the Canadian Armed Forces.

[English]

Pipe Major Graeme Ogilvie and the Trio Cormorant will perform *Highland Cathedral*.

[Musical Interlude: Highland Cathedral]

I invite Ms. Georgie M. Day, partner of former late senator the Honourable Joseph A. Day, to come to the podium.

[Translation]

I also invite Ms. Louise Godin, daughter of the late former member of Parliament Maurice Godin, to come to the podium for readings.

[English]

Ms. Georgie M. Day and Madam Louise Godin will now come to the podium to share two readings.

Georgie M. Day, partner of former late senator the Honourable Joseph A. Day: The Right Honourable Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Canada's Prime Minister from 1896 to 1911, speaking before the Canadian Club of Ottawa on January 18, 1904, said:

... whenever my eyes shall close to the light it is my wish — nay it is my hope — that they close upon a Canada united in all its elements, united in every particular, every element cherishing the tradition of its past, and all uniting in cherishing still more hope for the future.

[Translation]

Louise Godin, daughter of the late Maurice Godin, former member of Parliament: The Honourable Thérèse Forget Casgrain, a senator from 1970 to 1971, addressing the League for the Rights of Women on April 25, 1941, said:

Plotting boundaries on geographic maps, praising a country of rhetoric and convention in your discourse — these will never shape a homeland: it is achieved by engraving those boundaries in the mind and soul of your children. Patriotism is not, has never been, a matter for rhetoric or convention. It is an undefined emotion that pulls at your heartstrings when a stranger utters the name of your country; it is an immeasurable exhilaration that sings within you when you tread native soil or when you breathe in its scent, and when its contours and relief seem like extensions of yourself.

[English]

Ms. Corbin: Thank you.

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

I would like to invite an elder from the Algonquin community of Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg, Ms. Verna McGregor, to offer a blessing and an honour song.

Elder Verna McGregor: [Indigenous language spoken]

I send condolences to all of the families today on the passing of your loved ones.

I would like to welcome you to our traditional, unceded lands here

I was thinking about all of the biographies. I brought my eagle feather today too, because in our understanding, when you are gifted an eagle feather, it is of the highest honour because, in leadership, to take on the challenge of leadership takes a lot of bravery, courage and also humbleness and understanding, so

many traits. When you are gifted an eagle feather, it is an acknowledgement that you have taken the good of the collective ahead of sometimes your own needs. That is a different understanding too of leadership.

Today, I have my tobacco. Again, there are teachings to that. What I do with it is I offer it to the sacred fire or to the falls. It is our understanding that it is our connection from the physical world to the unseen world. Our understanding, too, is there is no such thing as death, that it is only a change of worlds, that we come from the stars and we return back to the stars. We are also here guided by our ancestors.

What I am going to do as well as to say meegwetch [Indigenous language spoken]. Meegwetch, meegwetch, meegwetch, meegwetch. "Meegwetch" is "thank you" in Algonquin, and I say it four times to honour the four directions, the four seasons and the four stages of your life.

Our understanding is that, prior to coming here, we take on challenges and learnings as well. To honour all of you today as well in taking on the challenge of leadership, the ones who stand in front [Indigenous language spoken], what I will do is I will sing you a little honour song. I say it four times to honour the four stages that we have, also passed on to our ancestors now and your loved ones who have become your ancestors as well. Please feel free to join in the second part, if you can. It is honouring your loved ones as well. It goes like this.

We start with the east because with our birth, you start with the taking of your first breath to start your earth journey here, like the medicine wheel. What I am doing is I start with the east, which is the infant, then as a young adult, and as you become an adult in preparation to return as an older adult and return back to spirit. One of our teachings as well is Algonquin or [Indigenous language spoken], who were known for the canoe, is that you honour everybody's journey here. That is what we're doing today, honouring the journey of former parliamentarians.

I will start again.

[Indigenous honour song performed.]

Now we honour the south.

Now we go to the west.

Now we go to the north.

That was an honour song to honour the people who have left us to spirit. *Meegwetch*, everybody.

Ms. Corbin: Thank you, Ms. McGregor.

[Translation]

We will now hear a piece by the Ottawa Children's Choir entitled *Blessing*.

[The Ottawa Children's Choir sings Blessing.]

Ms. Corbin: Thank you for that performance.

Mr. Matt DeCourcey, President of the Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians, will now proceed with the honour roll call, reading the names of those whose memory we honour today.

[English]

Matt DeCourcey, President of the Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians: Would the family and representatives of the deceased members being remembered today please rise as the name of the deceased is read and remain standing in tribute until *The Lament* is played and the wreath is presented by our Speakers.

Ms. Marlene Catterall

[Translation]

The Honourable Michel Benoit Cogger

[English]

Mr. Robert Alfred Corbett

Mr. John Martin Cummins

Mr. Joe Daniel

The Honourable Joseph A. Day

Mr. Peter Elzinga

The Honourable Francis Fox

[Translation]

Mr. Maurice Godin

[English]

Mr. Robert Edward Lane

The Honourable Edward C. Lumley

The Honourable Charles James Mayer

[Translation]

The Honourable Yves Morin

[English]

Mr. John William Murphy

[Translation]

The Honourable Gilbert Normand

[English]

The Honourable Frank Oberle

The Honourable James Scott Peterson

The Honourable Calvin Murray Sinclair

Mr. Robert Sopuck

The Honourable Charles Richard Strahl

Mr. Paul John Mark Szabo

Mr. Donald Taylor

Mr. John William Thomson

[Translation]

The Honourable Monique Vézina

[English]

Mr. John Glass Williams

The Very Reverend the Honourable Dr. Lois Miriam Wilson

Mr. Bob Wood

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

[Minute of Silence.]

[Pipe Major Graeme Ogilvie performs The Lament.]

Ms. Corbin: Please be seated.

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

[Translation]

I would like to reintroduce the Ottawa Children's Choir, who will perform *Musique sur l'eau*.

[The Ottawa Children's Choir performs Musique sur l'eau.]

Ms. Corbin: As the ceremony draws to its close, I would like to thank you for your participation. A reception will follow in the Senators' Lounge.

I would ask that the family members remain in the Senate Chamber for a photo session before joining the reception.

Please rise for the Royal Anthem, and please remain standing for the departure of the official party.

Thank you.

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

CONTENTS

Monday, June 16, 2025

PAGE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION	Dorothy Dobbie, Immediate Past President, Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians	
OF FORMER PARLIAMENTARIANS	Matthew Dubé, Director, Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians	
Memorial Service—A Celebration of Public Lives and Public Service Cynara Corbin, Acting Chief of Protocol for the Parliament of Canada	Louise Godin, daughter of the late Maurice Godin, former member of Parliament. Elder Verna McGregor.	
Hon. Raymonde Gagné, Speaker of the Senate	Matt DeCourcey, President of the Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians	