



Summer 2012

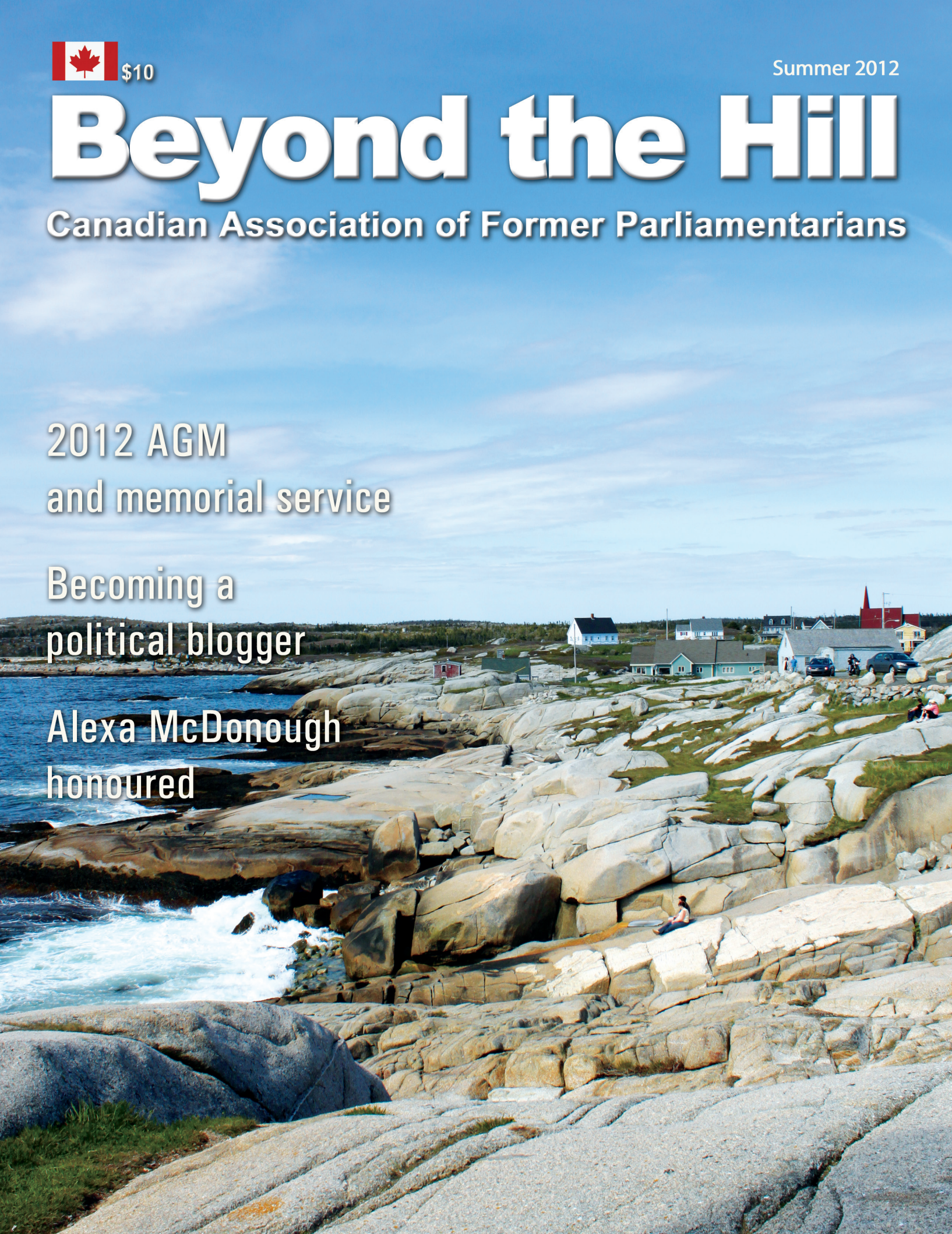
Beyond the Hill

Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians

2012 AGM
and memorial service

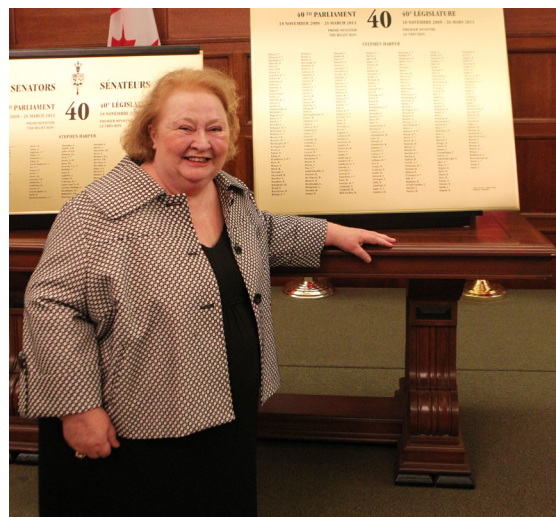
Becoming a
political blogger

Alexa McDonough
honoured





Distinguished Service Award recipient Walter McLean was accompanied by his wife Barbara and their four sons, Scott, Chima, Duncan and Ian.



Nicole Demers, who served in the 40th Parliament.



Doug Rowland and the Hon. Sarmite Bulte.



Ian Deans and Ian Waddell.



Gilles Morin, from the Ontario Association of Former Parliamentarians, with the Hon. Monique Bégin, Maurice Harguail, the Hon. Jean-Jacques Blais, and Thérèse Killens.



The Hon. Jack Murta and Dr. Frank Philbrook.

Beyond the Hill

Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians

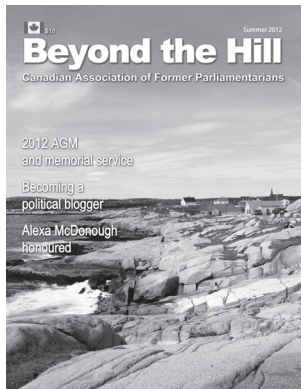
Volume 8, Issue No. 3

SUMMER 2012

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Peggy's Cove, Nova Scotia, as seen from its iconic lighthouse.

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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: exparl@parl.gc.ca. Website: www.exparl.ca.

LETTERS, etc.

Memorial Service Thanks

Thank you so much for the service and dinner in honour of Scott, and his colleagues. The service was very touching, with the music and singing adding so much to its beauty. The dinner on Monday night was wonderful; having it in the Hall of Honour adds so much to any parliamentary occasion.

It was a lovely tribute, well earned by those it honored. It was all wonderfully organized, thanks to you and your team.

With gratitude,
Cecil Fennell

On behalf of myself and my brother Tony, I want to say a late but heartfelt thank you to you and your colleagues at the Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians for the beautiful memorial ceremony last June 2011. We are Frank Howard's step-children, although we considered him our second father. We were accompanied by extended family and everyone was deeply moved by the service.

Although Frank had mixed feelings about the Senate, I think he would have been very touched by being remembered in that historic chamber in those wonderful buildings that gave such profound meaning to his life.

Being in the centre of his past milieu, speaking to former colleagues, attending the dinner; it was all very special for us. And we very much appreciated the words you wrote in your card about his inspirational life.

Thanks also for the souvenir documentation which will be passed onto his grand-children.

With all good wishes,
Danielle Peacock

Heartfelt thanks to you and your staff for that memorable occasion you created yesterday for people like my sister, Jean Pigott. I was touched by it and deeply grateful by it all. I especially liked it because it was above party lines.

Many thanks,
Grete Hale

Dear Jack,

I have just read your piece on "Democracy – The Cultured Pearl". It is a particularly well done "survol" and makes a good and cogent reading. Congratulations.

On a somewhat different note, the piece on the same page that deals with "More seats, less room to sit" in the House of Commons, reminds me of the story about Winston Churchill. When, after the war, the House of Commons in Westminster was being rebuilt, it was built to house only a slightly smaller number of members of parliament that were then in office. This was done on Sir Winston's orders because he wanted the House to be full with standing room when an important issue was being debated.

Cordially,
Hon. Yoine Goldstein, Ad. E

What's in a name? F.P? F. MP?

By Harrison Lowman

In 2000, CAFP adopted the post nominals "F.P" (in French "E.P"), to stand behind former parliamentarians' names. Former Progressive Conservative MP Robert McCleave was responsible for the motion.

According to former CAFP Chairman Barry Turner, following discussions with Rideau Hall and the Prime Minister's Office, the association

learned they did not require any sort of approval for the title. CAFP is not a nationally registered association, meaning it does not need sanctions for nominals.

"After doing our homework, we realized that we could essentially do whatever we wanted within our association," said Turner. "It's an individual and personal thing."



How the President sees it

It's always a great time to be President of the Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians, especially when there is good news to report, and right now there is good news in abundance. As you'll read elsewhere in this issue, our Annual General Meeting was a fantastic success. More than 150 people attended during the three-day meeting in Ottawa that included a number of receptions, awards ceremonies and guest speakers.

The meeting capped off a record-breaking year for the association. We achieved 423 paid memberships plus 114 spousal memberships in 2011-2012. The new membership drive has already begun and we hope to surpass this number during the next year, so please renew your membership or join us if you haven't in the past.

Our large membership base and fundraising initiatives have meant our financial situation remains very healthy. Our ongoing programs, such as our Parliament to Campus Program with over 40 university visits last Fall alone, help maintain our growing presence in communities across Canada. We also continue to publicly celebrate and honour our members' work at events such as the Lifetime Achievement Award dinner. This year's award was given to Alexa McDonough in Halifax in May.

Next year, your board intends to focus on three distinct areas: how to improve member services, how to grow the foundation's endowment, and what a five-year strategic plan should look like. Members in attendance at the AGM business meeting broke into working groups to brainstorm and discuss what they hoped our association could accomplish. You can read short summaries of these sessions in *Beyond the Hill's* AGM coverage in this issue and more detailed minutes will be available for review at a later date.

Looking ahead to other future initiatives we are pleased to be working with Elections Canada on Canada's second annual Democracy Week, which takes place from September 15-22, 2012. Inspired by the United Nations' International Day of Democracy on September 15, this exciting initiative gives all of us an opportunity to celebrate democracy and its positive impact on life in Canada.

This September, a number of hands-on civic education activities will be launched to engage young people in learning about democracy and the importance of voting. Last year, I had the opportunity to speak to hundreds of students at the University of Ottawa on the importance of teaching civic education. We will continue this type of outreach during Canada's Democracy Week and throughout the year.

Visit Canada's Democracy Week website (www.democracy-democratie.ca) for a calendar of events and details on The National Youth Challenge, which CAFPP will be sponsoring. Using art and social media, youth can discover our democracy and win great prizes for their creative entries. There are also lesson plans and learning resources for teachers, and information on Canada's political system and democracy in other countries.

As former parliamentarians, you have a unique perspective and connection with youth, and I encourage you to share this information within your communities.

I'd like to take the time to thank all of our members for their service over the past year and I look ahead with optimism as our association continues to go from strength to strength. We couldn't do all that we do without your support, and we are very grateful for our growing and active membership.

Léo Duguay
President





Executive Director's Report

By Jack Silverstone

Membership and revenues up!

I am delighted to be able to report that we have experienced a 21 per cent increase in the number of members and a 24 per cent increase in associate members over this past year. This provides additional revenue to continue to do the good work of the organization, but it is also reflective of heightened involvement and awareness of our activities. We're going to try to do even better this year and the membership renewals are already flowing in.

I'm also pleased to report that our year-end fundraising initiative generated new money for our Educational Foundation. We are most grateful for the generosity of our member donors.

New partnerships ahead

We continue to pursue our policy of partnerships and are in the final stages of concluding a memorandum of understanding with the Canada School of Public Service. In addition, we are pursuing partnership opportunities with our colleagues at the Public Policy Forum, the Pearson Centre, the Institute on Governance and, of course, the Library of Parliament. This is by no means a complete list.

Staying with the multinational motif and with a view to expanding our international contacts, we were present as part of the program for a high-level governmental delegation from Kazakhstan. This was done in association with the Parliamentary Centre and the Department of Foreign Affairs. We were also represented at the gala reception for Israeli President Shimon Peres at the National Gallery in Ottawa.

Visit to Turkey sold out

Planning is also well underway for our second study tour in late October. Our visit to Turkey follows on the highly successful trip to New Zealand and Australia last year. The Turkish Embas-

sy, which is acting as liaison to assist us in this endeavor, has been very welcoming. The study tour is completely sold out!

Canada heads new international organization

Our International Election Monitoring Institute partnership with our European and American colleagues has undergone an exciting metamorphosis and is now known as the Global Democracy Initiative (GDI). With its legal head office in Washington, DC, we are working closely with our colleagues in Washington and Brussels to attempt to expand our international initiatives to include more follow up to election observation initiatives. Our president, Léo Duguay, has just been appointed the inaugural president of GDI.

Lifetime achievement

We were all pleased to have been in Halifax for the very moving presentation of the 2012 Lifetime Achievement Award to Alexa McDonough, O.C. We took the opportunity to hold a joint in-person meeting with the boards of both the Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians and the Educational Foundation at the same time.

Coming up this fall

Our regional meeting, which was held in and around Regina last year, will this year be held in the historic and always popular Quebec City from September 9 to 11, 2012. Finally, we are pressing ahead with plans for what we are certain will be a spectacular Douglas Frith annual dinner on October 24 in Ottawa, which will be celebrating 100 Grey Cups with CFL Commissioner Mark Cohon as our guest speaker.

These events represent a short list of our activities. Please consult our new and enhanced website for more details. We continue to build momentum, month by month and year by year and I'm delighted to be a part of it as I know you are.

Meet the



The incoming interns Peter Mazereeuw, Harrison Lowman, Will Stos and Mike Power enjoyed covering the CAFP's AGM in Ottawa from June 3-5.

By Will Stos

It's become an annual rite of Spring for the Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians and *Beyond the Hill* to welcome four new, bright-eyed interns to the heady world of political journalism. Only this time, one of them is not so new.

As senior editorial intern for 2012-2013, I'm **Will Stos** and I'm delighted to be returning to the magazine after completing a previous internship from 2004-2006.

Currently completing a PhD in political history at York University, I previously earned a Masters of Arts in History and a Bachelor of Journalism at Carleton University. My current research explores regionalism within Canadian provincial party politics from the 1960s to the 1980s. My past association with the CAFP has been a great resource for my thesis and I jumped at the opportunity to intern once again.

Joining me are three interns selected from an especially strong pool of applicants.

A native of Toronto, fourth-year Carleton journalism student **Harrison Lowman** acquired a taste for politics at a young age. Upon moving to the nation's capital, he was able to combine his passions for politics and writing. He has reported from inside the halls of Parliament, covered committee meetings and policy debates, and provided political commentary for a university newspaper, *The Charlatan*.

Harrison's interest in the federal scene

new interns



became clear after covering the 2011 budget release. This beehive of excitement struck a nerve in the 20-year-old and he has not looked back since.

When he is not putting pen to paper, he can be found on the rugby pitch, representing the Ottawa Beavers, or acting as a leader for the 153rd Scout troop back in Toronto.

Peter Mazereeuw, also a senior journalism student at Carleton University, grew up in Newmarket, Ontario. A long-time political junkie, he previously interned at *Embassy* newspaper as a foreign affairs reporter.

A leukemia survivor, Peter has also been involved in raising awareness of young adult and childhood cancers for a number of years. Now residing in Ottawa, Peter balances his healthy interest in politics with an unhealthy sports obsession.

Mike Power is an Ottawa native who studied political science at King's University College at the University of Western Ontario and at Carleton University. He is now chasing down leads and a career in journalism at Algonquin College. At least one member of every generation of Mike's family has served in Parliament since 1902.

One of Mike's earliest memories is of watching the results of the 1993 Progressive Conservative leadership convention as a six-year-old. He has been enamored with politics ever since.

Mike likes to spend his free time reading, traveling, and trying to play golf.

On behalf of the new crew, we'd like to thank the CAFP for this opportunity and we look forward to continuing this magazine's strong tradition.

Former Members of European Parliament

By Francis LeBlanc



CAFP Educational Foundation President Francis LeBlanc, European Parliament Former Members Association President Pat Cox and CAFP President Léo Duguay in Brussels.

In the midst of a climate of political and economic uncertainty, from May 9 to 11, CAFP President Léo Duguay and I (as President of the Educational Foundation), were guests at the Annual General Meeting of the European Parliament Former Members Association in Brussels.

France had elected socialist leader François Hollande as President the previous week with a mandate to challenge the austerity programme designed by his predecessor, Nicolas Sarkozy, and Germany's Chancellor Angela Merkel, to lead the European economies out of their economic and fiscal crisis.

In Greece, general elections held the same day had resulted in a rejection of the harsh terms required by the European Community in return for its bailout of the Greek deficits. There were fears Greece might be poised to exit the Euro zone. Moreover, the policies of the German government were facing an important challenge in state elections scheduled for the following Sunday. As it turned out, Merkel's party suffered a strong defeat.

Questions reflect concern

So, it wasn't surprising that during the question and answer period following the speech at the opening dinner by guest speaker Jo Leinen, President of European Movement International, many of the questions by former members focussed on the deep divisions within the European Union member countries, the rise in "Euroskepticism" in Europe and whether the European Union would hold together. These questions are of fundamental importance for parliamentarians, whose institution, the European Parliament, is committed to the success of the European Union as the governing framework for Europe.

However, there was, of course, much

more to the meetings than speculation over the future of the European Parliament. The Former Members Association began its deliberations with a solemn ceremony on May 9 to recognize those members who had passed away in the past year. The opening reception and dinner followed thereafter.

At the formal meetings on May 10, President Pat Cox ably guided the 80 to 100 members and guests present through a review of the past year's activities, including a study tour to Russia in September, the European Parliament to Campus programme and the various election observer missions carried out by the Association alone and as part of the International Election Monitors Institute (IEMI), of which our Association was a founding partner.

Global Democracy Initiative

Léo Duguay and I were recognized and Léo spoke to the new Global Democracy Initiative, which we hoped to launch in collaboration with other associations of former parliamentarians. The idea was warmly received by the meeting.

Finally, we were invited to attend a morning briefing on the work of OLAF, the European Anti-Fraud Office created by the European Commission in 1999 to investigate and fight fraud and other illegal activities involving European Union funds and assets. The office is an independent body which investigates cases of misuse of funds, such as agricultural subsidies, as well as internal malfeasance by officials including members of the European Parliament themselves.

These interactions among associations of former parliamentarians are building valuable personal networks and they strengthen the linkages among former parliamentarians internationally.

AGM Recap

By Will Stos



Left: Members listen to a presentation by Lisette Comeau about changes on the Hill. A feature story covering the Hill renovations, will appear in the next issue of Beyond the Hill. Right: UK High Commissioner, Dr. Andrew Pocock concluded the AGM with a stirring preview of the Olympic Games.

More than 60 former parliamentarians returned to the Hill from June 3 to 5 to take part in the CAFP's annual general meeting. The occasion, which marked the association's 25th anniversary, also drew dozens of other guests including honorary members of the association, spouses of former parliamentarians, and the families and friends of former parliamentarians who were honoured during the annual memorial service in the Senate.

A strong, moving start

Strong attendance at CAFP President Léo Duguay's welcome reception in the Senate Banking Room on June 3 was indicative of the association's growing and active membership.

The next morning, following a special concert performed by Dominion Carillonner Dr. Andrea McCrady, attendees gathered in the Senate to remember former parliamentarians who left us during the past year. Attended by former Prime Minister Joe Clark, the Memorial Service filled the chamber and drew representatives from Prime Minister Stephen Harper's cabinet as well as opposition party leaders Thomas Mulcair, Bob Rae

and Elizabeth May. Léo's personalized comments about each of the departed members were noted as being especially touching and appreciated by those in attendance.

What's happening to the Hill

After Monday's lunch, Lisette Comeau, the senior architecture, heritage and program planner for parliamentary accommodation services, gave an informative presentation about the massive 30-year restoration project currently underway in and around the Hill precinct. *Beyond the Hill* will provide extensive coverage of the project in its next issue.

Walter McLean honoured

Later in the afternoon, a ceremony for the unveiling of the 40th Parliament commemorative plaques was hosted by both Speakers in conjunction with the Canadian Life and Health Insurance Association. The CAFP also announced the Hon. Walter McLean as this year's recipient of the Distinguished Service Award. Walter gave a passionate speech about parliamentarians' sense of duty and the responsibility they have to future generations. He spoke of his continuing concern for an international program of nuclear disarmament.

Business meeting highlights

Members of the association gathered in the Government Conference Centre on June 5 for the business meeting which included a budget presentation, the election of new board members, and new business brought from the floor. Treasurer Marlene Catterall noted the association's books are in good order and the association is well off financially, thanks in part to growing membership. At a subsequent meeting for the Educational Foundation chaired by Francis LeBlanc, the Hon. Andy Mitchell, Foundation Treasurer, noted that the continued success of the Annual Doug Frith Dinner has allowed that organization to also maintain healthy finances.

The meeting then broke out into three breakout groups where discussions on services to members, fundraising and endowments, and strategic planning occurred. (See the next pages for brief descriptions of the ideas generated from these groups.)

His Excellency Dr. Andrew Pocock, the High Commissioner of the United Kingdom, concluded the proceedings by providing a presentation on the transformation of East London in preparation for the 2012 Summer Olympic Games.



Senate Speaker Noël A. Kinsella and House Speaker Andrew Scheer unveil the 40th Parliament commemorative plaques.



Above: The Rt. Hon. Joe Clark and Dorothy Dobbie. Below: Osvaldo Nuñez and the Hon. Jean Augustine.



The Hon. Laurier LaPierre, new Parliamentary Librarian Sonia L'Heureux, Dianne Brydon, Director General of Learning and Access Services at the Library, and Harvey Slack.



The Annual Dinner in the Hall of Honour.

Building CAFP. . .

. . . through member services

By Harrison Lowman



The Hon. Lucie Pépin (left) and Sarkis Assadourian (right) were among the many participants in this group led by the Hon. Don Boudria.

Current CAFP director Don Boudria led this working group in a lively discussion that included debate on transition allowances for parliamentarians leaving the Hill, the creation of a women's caucus, association discounts on business services, international alliances, post nominals, and social media.

Former Liberal MP John Maloney brought up concerns involving transition allowances after electoral defeat. The former politician, who is interested in pursuing a university degree, felt that the time permitted to spend these allow-

ances should be extended from its current yearlong time span.

Former Progressive Conservative MP Norman Warner highlighted the possibility of establishing association benefits with companies such as VIA Rail and hotel chains. He felt members were the perfect target audience. Former Liberal MP and current Educational Foundation President Francis LeBlanc extended this

proposition to include preferential subscription rates for publications such as *iPolitics*, for which CAFP members already receive preferential rates. He said this could involve having members contribute to specific publications in their specialty areas.

Former Liberal MP Sarmite Bulte proposed forming closer relationships with former parliamentarian groups in the United States and Europe by holding joint activities beyond the work already done through the International Election Moni-

tors Institute. She also stressed that the association should make it easier for former members to access democracy building programs abroad by taking inspiration from the International Republican Institute and the Carter Center.

Former Bloc Québécois MP Nicole Demers suggested the creation of a women's caucus within CAFP. The group would discuss gender policy issues.

Finally, members agreed CAFP should create an online outlet where they could input their political expertise into a database. The information could then be used to organize speakers bureaus for community groups. LeBlanc explained that former members could hold speeches for service clubs or other organizations. Former Progressive Conservative MP Geoff Scott also highlighted the need for a stronger online presence. He said that the association should consider establishing a monitored chat room on its website. The chat room would allow former parliamentarians to converse with each other in a private environment. LeBlanc felt that the chat room could feature online Q&As with prominent Canadian experts.

. . . through fundraising

By Peter Mazereeuw

Finding a few private donors with deep pockets should be a priority, members of the fundraising group agreed during the 2012 AGM.

Private donors are likely the best target for fundraising efforts, the group decided, after a consensus was reached that there is little prospect of more government funding.

CAFP projects do not have the emotional drawing power of fundraising campaigns for heart and stroke or similar causes, members observed, and determined that the best way to raise money is locating those who have a special interest in furthering democracy and wish to invest in it.

Former Liberal Senator Raymond Setlakwe and several others noted that a text outlining what the CAFP is, the types of projects it wants to fund and how it will spend donor dollars should be the next step for the fundraising committee.

Raising money to send CAFP members to Haiti to help develop the country's political infrastructure was briefly discussed as well. Concerns were raised,



The Hon. Raymond Setlakwe, the Hon. Andy Mitchell, Jack Silverstone and Léo Duguay discussed fundraising ideas during the AGM.

however, about CAFP's ability to find donors for the project, given negative press on the bungled delivery of foreign aid to Haiti.

...through respect for parliamentarians



Dorothy Dobbie (right) led a discussion group which included Colleen Beaumier (left) and new CAFP Honorary Member and former Parliamentary Librarian William Young.

By Mike Power

The strategic planning session chaired by Dorothy Dobbie at this year's AGM produced two strong proposals from members. One was to reintroduce an old tradition, and the other to inaugurate a new one. The idea is to improve the perception of Canadians about the work of parliamentarians and to foster a new respect that will strengthen the fabric of the Canadian democratic tradition.

The first half of the session centered around ways to get former parliamentarians to become involved in the organization and how the CAFP can better support its members. The difficulties that some former parliamentarians experience when re-integrating into their communities after electoral defeat were central to the discussion. Anecdotal evidence suggests that former parliamentarians often encounter significant adversity in their efforts to find gainful employment after politics.

In this vein, one participant proposed re-establishing the "Take a defeated member to lunch" program that was once a regular function of CAFP membership. This proposal was met with virtually unanimous support.

The group also discussed a proposal about hosting a discussion panel at future AGMs where important issues of the day could be considered and where the CAFP could offer a statement or policy recommendation. The proposal immediately gathered steam amongst the members of the session and quickly evolved into hosting a full-fledged Oxford-style debate.

The idea here is to engage public attention by showing the wealth of thoughtful experience that exists among the CAFP membership.

Reverend Walter McLean Distinguished Service Award

By Will Stos

In front of more than 100 guests during a June 4 ceremony, the Hon. Walter McLean received the CAFP's 2012 Distinguished Service Award and spoke passionately about how former parliamentarians can continue to serve the public.

"It would seem to me that our role as former parliamentarians is not to lead from the front or even from behind," he said. "I would like to suggest rather that, as former parliamentarians, we can lead from beside those who are seeking answers and those who are giving leadership."

Walter spoke of his conviction that developing our intellects and our sense of world citizenship will be critical when facing the challenges of the modern world. He suggested that education, and particularly studies in the humanities that develop critical thinking skills, is essential for making sense of an increasingly complex world.

"Modern communications and transportation have created all the physical requirements for a global village," he noted. "But it is an awesome and all consuming challenge to complete the job of providing for all the human requirements and institutions that are so urgently needed if our global village is to survive."

Walter, who represented the riding of Waterloo as a Progressive Conservative MP from 1979 to 1993, said he was greatly honoured to join the company of 13 previous recipients of the Distinguished Service Award.

Given in recognition of his years of parliamentary service, his contribution to and respect for the institution of Parliament and for his continued interest and activity in the promotion of education, human rights and parliamentary democracy in Canada and abroad, the award was presented by the Speaker of the Senate of Canada and the Speaker of the House of Commons during the CAFP's annual general meeting.

In and beyond his parliamentary career, Walter has contributed greatly



The Hon. Walter McLean (left) with previous Distinguished Service Award recipient the Hon. Doug Roche.

to social development causes in a fast-changing world.

A former Secretary of State for Canada, Minister Responsible for the Status of Women and Minister of Immigration, he was also a parliamentary delegate to the United Nations. Co-founder of Canadian University Service Overseas (CUSO), Walter served in West Africa as CUSO's Nigerian field director.

Since leaving Parliament he has continued to nurture these ties with Africa by serving as Honourary Consul in Canada for Namibia. Walter has developed international programs for several companies, including an Asian joint venture partnership in the southwestern Ontario market. He has also organized two national citizenship programs and maintained his interest in education through advisory board membership at Royal Roads University among many other activities.

In thanking the CAFP and its members for the award, Walter reaffirmed his commitment to the values he sought all former parliamentarians to foster.

"I'm talking about qualities of spirit and purpose of hopes and dreams, of courage, daring and breadth of perspective," he concluded. "With all of our advances in science and technology, with all of our great educational institutions, we have not learned nearly enough about the nurturing and development of these qualities. It is these human qualities, the spirit, that have always and will always make the difference. They determine the outcome. I see former parliamentarians coming in beside those who are merging these values, who are helping to have an entire picture, bringing together resources of body mind and spirit."

Additional excerpts from Walter's speech can be found on the CAFP website.

Memorial Service

2012

Nearly 200 people gathered in the Senate Chamber for the 13th Annual Memorial Service on Monday, June 4, 2012 to honour the lives and contributions of the 22 parliamentarians who had passed away during the previous year.

While the service moved many to tears, Senate Speaker Noël Kinsella noted that this was not only a day of sadness. "Let us remember that their enduring commitment to their community and family made a difference in our lives, that their selfless devotion helped improve not just our own society, but that of the world," he said.

The friends and families of many of the former parliamentarians who passed away during the year came to Ottawa to honour their memory and their contributions to Canada during this year's Memorial Service.



The Memorial Service drew representatives from Prime Minister Stephen Harper's cabinet as well as opposition party leaders Thomas Mulcair (pictured below), Bob Rae (pictured on the left with Senate Opposition Leader James Cowan) and Elizabeth May (not pictured).





The Rt. Hon. Joe Clark was among the many attendees.



The Ottawa Catholic School Board Chamber Choir and the Canadian Forces String Ensemble (not pictured) provided moving musical interludes.



The Hon. Noël A. Kinsella, Speaker of the Senate (right) and the Hon. Andrew Scheer, Speaker of the House of Commons, present the commemorative wreath and honour a moment of silence.



Jack Layton was among the honourees. His widow MP Olivia Chow, his mother Doris Layton and his son Mike Layton attended the Memorial Service.



The Hon. Doug Roche, the Hon. Lucie Pépin and CAF President Léo Duguay all spoke eloquently during the Memorial Service.



Political blogs

The advantage of blogs is that, since they are more reactionary, they offer readers a quick, timely perspective on whatever is happening.” - Angelina Chapin, The Huffington Post Canada

By Mike Power

Rants and raves about politics are as old as politics itself. Letters to an editor aside, most of these opinions tended to be expressed verbally in conversation with friends. And unless a person was running for office, their rant was most often quickly forgotten.

In the digital age, however, virtually anyone can become their own publisher, express their opinion to a wide audience, and have it recorded and remembered indefinitely.

Starting a blog to rant about politics (or anything else for that matter) is extremely easy. Although an Internet posting has the potential to be read by millions of people, most blogs count their readers by tens or hundreds.

It's a little bit like guitar players: everyone knows someone who plays guitar. But few of us know someone who we would be willing to pay to play. The potential for mass readership exists, but to reach that audience a blogger must discover how to draw them in.

Different from news sites

Angelina Chapin, the Blog Editor at The Huffington Post Canada, says a good blog isn't that different from a good newspaper column.

“The difference is blogs are hit or miss,” Chapin explains. “That is part of the excitement and the beauty. Some blogs will have really good opinion and also be expertly written. Some will just have good opinion. Professional newspaper columnists should always be both, though we know that isn't always the case.”

Chapin stresses that there are other important points of distinction between a blog and a newspaper column or editorial.

“A blog is allowed to be more rough and tumble, and can make just one point,” she says. “A lot of what you see in newspapers is more elaborate argument. The advantage of blogs is that, since they are more reactionary, they offer readers a quick, timely perspective on whatever is happening.”

Canadian political blog sites

While there are thousands of Canadian blogs that contain no more than musings or mindless drivel, there are some truly excellent Canadian political blogs.

One of the best online resources is iPolitics.ca, a non-partisan website where you can read blogs, reporting and col-

umns from the likes of Lawrence Martin, Colin Horgan, Elizabeth Thompson and Michael Harris. The site runs on a subscription service of \$15 per month, but their content' including twice-daily briefs on the political happenings, make it worth the price. (CAFP has negotiated a discount for its members wishing to subscribe to iPolitics. Contact CAFP for details.)

Just over a year ago, The Huffington Post Canada launched with its own roster of political bloggers including current parliamentarians Irwin Cotler and Charlie Angus, former Liberal MP Glen Pearson, and journalist Peter Worthington.

Both iPolitics and The Huffington Post curate sites that are a mix of news and opinion, and collect multiple postings from a variety of blogs.

These so-called “aggregators” are in the minority, however. Most blogs are maintained by a single person on a personal website while some are maintained by journalists working for older media groups.

Personal blogs

Glen Pearson, former MP for London-North Centre, started his blog,

“The Parallel Parliament”, at the urging of his staff about a year into his first term as MP.

“I wanted to be able to show the good things that were happening in parliament that aren’t covered by the media,” said Pearson. That is one of the biggest advantages to having a blog; it allows you to have a forum where you control your own message and publicize causes that otherwise may not have received attention.

“Blogs can be useful tools,” Pearson adds, “but it’s not good if they are party driven. They need to be more independent.” The response to his blog was “overly partisan” and like “taking Question Period to the blog.” This hyper-partisanship took away from the positive aspirations of the blog.

Among the better non-partisan blogs, Aaron Wherry, Scott Feschuk and Paul Wells all contribute to Macleans’ website; Kady O’Malley maintains an excellent blog about happenings on the Hill for the CBC; and the independently-run, threehundredeight.com provides excellent analysis of public opinion polls and trends.

On the partisan end of the blogging spectrum, one of the most prominent bloggers is Stephen Taylor, who started his blog as a candidate for the Conservative Party’s nomination for the riding of Kingston and the Islands in 2004. He writes almost exclusively about Canadian politics and current events, and usually makes two or three new entries per week. Taylor also co-founded a site called Blogging Tories where hundreds of conservative-leaning bloggers aggregate their work.

Occasional Liberal war room operative Warren Kinsella also operates his own blog independently at www.warrenkinsella.com where he concentrates on political happenings (with a markedly different point of view than Mr. Taylor), as well as the occasional off-topic post about arts or music. Kinsella’s blog is also one that is aggregated by Liblogs, a liberal aggregator similar in scope to Blogging Tories.

There are many great political blogs in Canada, but finding them can be a little bit like finding a needle in a haystack. In addition to ones mentioned in this story, we suggest looking to some blog aggregators to find ones you enjoy reading. Hopefully you can pick up some pointers if you plan to start your own.

How to start a Blog

So easy a child can do it

By Mike Power



Starting a blog is more daunting in your mind than it is in reality. Part of the reason that there are so many blogs is that it is so easy to start your own.

There are hundreds of different platforms and hosting services for blogs, but the most user-friendly and popular is www.wordpress.com.

Using this service, I created a sample blog in less than ten minutes.

The steps are simple:

- Choose a blog address. This is how people will be able to navigate to your blog so make it needs to be something catchy, memorable, or simple.

- Enter a valid email address so that wordpress can connect your blog with the person who is writing it. This allows you to recover your password should you forget it.

- Create a password so that only you can make edits to the blog.

Wordpress will automatically send you an email to that address to verify that you are setting up the blog, and that the email address that you provided is valid and belongs to you.

- Click the link in the email to activate your blog.

- A new window will open in your web browser taking you to your blog. Click on “start a new post” and you are ready to go.

There are many ways to personalize a blog with templates and themes. From your wordpress blog, click on “Dashboard” on the top left of the screen. On

the toolbar that appears on the left hand side of the screen you will find “Appearance.” From here you can change the background, the template, the fonts, and virtually anything you can think of.

Starting a blog is the easy part. Maintaining content on a regular basis is much more difficult because Internet readers are insatiable. A new post every week or two is probably the minimum threshold for maintaining readership unless you join a popular blog aggregator.

Here is a list of popular political aggregators, both non-partisan and partisan-affiliated:

- The Huffington Post Canada (<http://www.huffingtonpost.ca/politics/>)

- The Wellington Street Post (<http://wellingtonstreetpost.com/>)

- Quebec Blogue (<http://quebecblogue.com/archives/category/politique/>)

- Blogging Tories (<http://www.bloggingtories.ca/>)

- Liblogs (<http://liblogs.ca/>)

- Progressive Bloggers (<http://www.progressivebloggers.ca/>)

- Rabble Blogs (<http://rabble.ca/blogs>)

Once your blog is up and running, a quick email to these sites administrators will let you know if your blog will be picked up for distribution. Just remember, much like political party membership, there are rules and guidelines you’ll need to observe if you want to stay in the fold.

Alexa McDonough honoured

By Will Stos

"You kind of have to make it up as you go along,"



Pioneering Canadian politician honoured by peers: Alexa McDonough received the CAFP's Lifetime Achievement Award. She is pictured here with the 2011 recipient of the award, the Hon. Ed Lumley.

Before hundreds of her peers, friends, family and supporters, Alexa McDonough humbly accepted the CAFP's third annual Lifetime Achievement Award at a ceremony in Halifax on May 23. The award recognizes a former parliamentarian's distinguished record of achievement and commitment to public life.

"As I reflect on my three decades in public life, I do so with a great deal of gratitude," she told the crowd, noting that the award truly belongs to all of those who supported her during her long career in public service.

Alexa burst onto the political scene when she became the first woman leader of a major recognized political party in Canada. A professional social worker and dedicated activist, she was elected

as the leader of the Nova Scotia New Democratic Party in 1980. During her 14 years as leader, Alexa helped the party, which had previously found its base of support on Cape Breton Island, secure a toehold in mainland Nova Scotia.

Following her election as leader of the federal NDP in 1995, she led the party to a similar breakthrough in Atlantic Canada in the 1997 general election. Alexa continued to lead the party through the 2000 election, before stepping down in 2003. She remained in Parliament until retiring in 2008.

Both times she ran for leader, Alexa did not at that time hold a seat in the legislature. She says she knew it would be a great complication for the party if she didn't win the seat and she is "eternally grateful to the people of Halifax, who I

was very proud to serve all those years.

"It means a great deal to me to be among the colleagues who make up the Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians," she said of the recognition. "It's a great, great honour to serve your community and serve your country through being a parliamentarian. Anything that reinforces the wonder and magic of that experience is a very special thing."

Reflecting back on her career, Alexa says it was a challenging but profoundly rewarding experience.

"You kind of have to make it up as you go along," she says of life in politics, because nothing can really prepare you for challenges you face in public life.

In her speech, the former MP told the audience: "My advice to anyone who begins to experience public life as a burden – and I think since so many former parliamentarians are here tonight this doesn't apply to you – then I say it's time to move on. Because in my experience the best legislators and parliamentarians are the ones who enjoy serving the public and who understand what a privilege it is to do so."

Of her many memories of life on the Hill, Alexa says working with Monia Mazigh, who fought a tireless campaign to free her husband, Maher Arar, from a Syrian prison, was a particular highlight. "Monia Mazigh's courage, her extraordinary intelligence and her tenacity were an inspiration to behold in every single contact I had with her."

During the gala event Alexa received an introduction by former Nova Scotia Premier John Buchanan, who joked that he was still disappointed that Alexa didn't accept his invitation to join his political team instead of sitting opposite in the legislative assembly. Former NDP leader Audrey McLaughlin joined Buchanan in welcoming the guest of honour, and noted that she shared a lot in common with Alexa as another pioneering women leader. She also joked that both women have also often shared misnomers like Alexa McLaughlin or Audrey McDonough.

Former Nova Scotia MP Wendy Lill, who attended the event, said that Mc-



Caption: CAFPP President Léo Duguay, award recipient Alexa McDonough, the Hon. Audrey McLaughlin, and the Hon. John Buchanan.



Sheila MacDonald, Innis MacDonald, Fatima Cajee, Elaine and Maurice Harquail, Dr. Robert Read, and Madeleine Dalphond-Guiral.



The Hon. Peter McCreath, Bill Casey, and Senator Terry Mercer.



The Hon. Don Boudria, Scott Wood, and MP Peter Stoffer.



Gordon Earle, Jane Earle, and Anthony Salloum.



Fred George, Al MacPhee, the Hon. Stewart McInnes, and Mike Savage.

Donough's political breakthrough for the NDP as leader in 1997 changed her life. She was one of a half dozen new NDP MPs elected in Nova Scotia, a record for the party.

Current Nova Scotia NDP MP Peter

Stoffer told the crowd that J.S. Woods-worth must have somehow been thinking about Alexa's future public service career when he wrote the famous line that "what we desire for ourselves we wish for all," because it so clearly applies to her.

Receiving a lifetime achievement award prompted Alexa to take a walk down memory lane as she remembered the highlights of her public life: "It was an infinitely fascinating journey and a privilege like none other."

The Queen's Diamond Jubilee

Celebrations and Recollections

Part 1 of a 2-part story

By Harrison Lowman

This summer, scorching temperatures will be met with the heating up of Diamond Jubilee celebrations, as Canadians across this vast country commemorate 60 years of rule under Queen Elizabeth II. The festivities also mark a time for former parliamentarians to look back at the interactions they have had with Her Majesty during her six decades on the throne.

The current Conservative government has placed particular emphasis on the monarchy as of late, reinstating royal military titles and ensuring portraits of the Queen are visible in Canadian embassies. In addition to galas, royal visits, art exhibits, award ceremonies and the like, Ottawa is helping to fund celebrations organized by community groups. The federal government has pledged \$7.5 million to fund the festivities as a whole.

"We want to acknowledge the Queen's work, which has been quite steadfast and extraordinary over that time," says Monarchist League of Canada spokesperson Eugene Berezovsky. "What is so remarkable is how well she's adapted to the best features of our changing world, while retaining some of the best features of the world we have left behind."

The Monarchist League is one such group that has received grants from Heritage Canada to organize summer events. Among other things, they plan to host over twenty community barbecues and serve jubilee cakes. Events are to be unique to the regions they are held in.

"They are supposed to be dispersed across the country, meaningful to different people in the community," explains



The Hon. Paul Cosgrove with Her Majesty, Prince Philip and Prime Minister Trudeau (behind Mr. Cosgrove) in 1982. Photo: Wayne Cudington, The Ottawa Citizen.

Berezovsky.

Diamond Jubilee Medals

Celebrations will be coupled by the distribution of 60,000 Diamond Jubilee Medals to Canadians this year. Medals are being awarded to those who make substantial contributions to their communities, at the discretion of government officials. Sitting Senators and MPs will also be granted medals.

"It celebrates excellence in everyday things," explains Berezovsky. "So people who are not saving the world but are making meaningful contributions to neighborhoods, communities, the organizations they are a part of."

While many Canadians will have Jubilee Medals pinned to their lapels this year, others carry their connection to the Queen in the form of memories.

Majestic Memories

Throughout her time on the throne, an overwhelming number of parliamentarians have had the opportunity to interact with Her Majesty.

The Hon. Paul Cosgrove, a former Liberal cabinet minister, recalls sitting on the shoulders of his father at age five, struggling to catch a glimpse of the Queen Mother and Prince George during their railway tour of Canada in 1939. Years later, Paul

would accompany Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip on a tour of the newly refurbished East Block only ten minutes after her signing of the Constitution Act in 1982.

The Hon. Vim Kochhar, a recently retired Conservative Senator, was 16 years old and enrolled in India's National Defence Academy when Queen Elizabeth II ascended to the throne. The young soldier was invited to England to celebrate the occasion, but his family was unable to pay for travel



The Hon. Vim Kochhar (left) and his wife Dorothy Price (in pink) met the Queen during one of her visits to Ottawa.

expenses. Vim would fulfill his dream almost 60 years later, when he met the Queen during a visit to Ottawa.

At the age of ten, former Progressive Conservative MP Paul McCrossan welcomed then Princess Elizabeth during her visit to Toronto schools, as “one of the flag waving little kids.” After becoming a Member of Parliament, he accompanied the Queen at countless state dinners.

Paul says a parliamentarian’s ability to attend such events becomes a unique gift they are meant to share with others. The former politician has taken his daughter to meet Princess Anne, and his mother to see the Queen. The exhilarated 70-year-old managed to spill her entire glass of wine as she rose from her seat to greet Her Majesty.

“What’s important to me is not meeting the important person,” Paul says. “To me it’s the occasion and the opportunity to share the occasion with people for whom it really is special.”

It is during these occasions that many former parliamentarians highlight the surprisingly informal nature of the reigning monarch.

The Hon. Don Boudria, a former Liberal cabinet minister, has met Her Majesty on three separate occasions. “It’s complicated in the sense that everything has to be rehearsed ahead of time, but she is not complicated,” says Don. “She is very informal in her own demeanor.”

The Hon. David Collenette, also a former Liberal cabinet minister, agrees. He sat behind Her Majesty in the stands during the Queen’s Plate on a scorching summer day in Toronto. He recalls the monarch’s visible enthusiasm for the races below.

“And I mean she is really animated about horse racing,” David says. “She just absolutely loves it.”

David says the monarch later playfully berated him for choosing the winning horse without placing a wager.

The recollections of the Hon. Lorna Marsden, former Liberal Senator, also help strip away the formalities that define the Queen’s public persona. During a performance at Ottawa’s National Arts Centre, Lorna found herself seated be-



The Hon. David Collenette greets Her Majesty in Toronto during her Golden Jubilee tour of Canada in 2002.

low the royal box. After a joke was made on stage, she recalls Queen Elizabeth II being particularly amused.

“And a huge guffaw goes out from right above me,” she chuckles. “I think that was the Queen!”

Following a 1984 state dinner in Toronto, the Hon. Michael Wilson, a former Progressive-Conservative cabinet minister, and his niece experienced the lighter side of the monarchy on their royal yacht.

After a cumbersome trip into the main salon with his niece confined to a wheelchair, they were greeted by the Queen and Prince Philip. Following introductions, Prince Philip asked what tricks his niece could do.

“So she whistled down the main salon, screeched to a stop, up on two wheels, flipped around, whistled back, screeched to a stop, in front of the royal couple,” Michael recounts. “I’m sure it was one and only wheelie that was ever done in the main salon of the Royal Yacht Britannia in front of the Queen and Prince Philip.”

Nevertheless, Michael says that his interaction with the monarch was not all fun and games. His description paints a picture of a well-informed individual interested in the parliamentarians that serve her.

David agrees with the assessment. “She had a particular respect for people who were elected to parliament and the legislature,” he insists. “Always wanted to find out what their views were on certain things.”

This summer’s Diamond Jubilee celebrations prove that the relationship is mutual.

Baby steps toward Internet voting

With Internet voting, the number of potential trouble-makers grows from those handling the ballot boxes to anyone in the world with an Internet connection and a certain set of skills. – Carlisle Adams.

By Peter Mazereeuw

With a few clicks of a mouse, Canadians can shop online, send money across the world or help their favourite reality TV star linger on screen a little longer.

Federal elections, however, remain stuck in the Stone Age – or rather, the paper age. Online voting appears to be an obvious next step, but the recent attack on the NDP's online leadership vote has raised questions about the wisdom of bringing I-voting to the federal stage.

NDP and municipalities

Chantal Vallerand, the NDP's national director, said the attack – known as a denial-of-service attack – simply slowed down the voting process and didn't compromise the integrity of any votes. The NDP, she said, still firmly believes in the benefits of I-voting for a leadership convention but the Party is more cautious about backing its use for a federal election.

"We had 130,000 members that were eligible to vote. It's a whole new ballgame when you look at a Canada-wide election," she said.

While Internet voting is still in its infancy in Canada, it is slowly making headway at the municipal level. Markham has been using I-voting for its advanced polls since 2003. Peterborough made I-voting an option in 2006, and Halifax introduced it for advanced voting in 2008. A number of smaller municipalities throughout Canada are also using I-voting.

The primary benefits of I-voting are convenience and accessibility, said Paul Stenbjorn, director of North American operations for Scytl, which produces



Internet voting technology.

Stenbjorn said that an ideal I-voting system would include "end to end encryption." Voters would receive an application to process their vote. The applications would run separately from the rest of their computer, ensuring that infected machines don't corrupt the vote or the system.

Scytl managed the NDP leadership voting system, but Stenbjorn points out that the NDP exposed themselves by having a publically available website for voters to cast ballots. In a perfect system, voters would be confidentially sent information on where to register their vote, adding a layer of security. Stenbjorn said he is confident that a properly managed I-voting system can stay one step ahead of any potential digital attackers.

Open to attack

Carlisle Adams, a network security expert at the University of Ottawa, disagrees. He said that while researchers around the world are working towards more secure Internet voting technology, none yet exists that is completely secure.

"You can put lots of technology in place and increase the probability that

things are good, but you can't guarantee it 100 per cent," he said.

Canada's paper ballot system is secure because so few have access to the votes, Adams said.

With Internet voting, the number of potential trouble-makers grows from those handling the ballot boxes to anyone in the world with an Internet connection and a certain set of skills, he said.

Still, other countries have forged ahead with Internet voting, including the United Arab Emirates, Switzerland, Norway and Estonia.

Estonia, the first I-election

Estonia became the first country to introduce national scale Internet voting in 2005. It has been used in five elections since then, including municipal, parliamentary and European Parliament elections. Between the 2007 and 2011 parliamentary elections, the percentage of voters who cast ballots online grew from 5.5 per cent to 24.3 per cent. This suggests that web-savvy nations can quickly grow comfortable with Internet voting.

This hasn't gone unnoticed by Elections Canada, which has been studying Internet voting abroad for some time, said John Enright, an Elections Canada spokesperson.

"We are watching those jurisdictions with interest, and trying to glean best practices from them," he said.

Elections Canada is taking "baby steps" toward introducing Internet voting in a federal election, with the possibility of a controlled pilot project around 2015, said Enright.

The pilot would be "very contained,"

he said, and likely limited to supervised volunteers voting on computer terminals inside a returning office.

Enright said ensuring that the integrity of votes can be protected is essential before I-voting can be rolled out. Constant changes in technology make this especially challenging.

"Every day there is something new that could impact how these things are applied," he said.

Enright stressed that Elections Canada needs to work with Parliament and get its approval before any concrete action can be taken on Internet voting at the federal level. He also said that the convenience of Internet voting won't necessarily translate into more voters.

No panacea for declining vote

"A lot of people are thinking that perhaps Internet voting is some kind of a panacea to voting decline. I caution against that. There may be a blip here and there of people picking up on Internet voting, but it's probably voters that are already voting. It's going to be a compliment to existing voting methods. And let's not forget, there are [already] a lot of them."

Stenbjorn admits that while the novelty of Internet voting often produces a temporary boost in turnout, a wider range of factors determine how many voters go to the polls in the long term.

For the same reasons, Enright challenged the notion that I-voting will help raise turnout among young voters. Data from Estonia seems to confirm that: in five elections at various levels between 2005 and 2011, the 18 to 24 group never exceeded 11 per cent of the total number of I-voters. Every other age group, including 55-plus, easily outpaced them.

Janno Prummel, a 23-year-old marketing specialist from Tallinn, Estonia, bucks that trend. He said he loves the convenience of Internet voting. "A few clicks and you're done," he says. However, he also admits that he follows politics and would vote even if I-voting wasn't an option.

Prummel confirmed that Internet voting hasn't swept up the youngest bracket of Estonian voters. It may be they are dissuaded by the same factors Enright cited as barriers to young voters in Canada: disinterest and disengagement.

It is up to the political class, Enright said, to solve those problems.

Bryon Wilfert's singular honour

By Peter Mazereeuw

If you ask the Hon. Bryon Wilfert why Canada needs Japan, you'd better be prepared to take notes.

Wilfert, who served the constituents of Richmond Hill for 14 years before being defeated in the 2011 election, has gained a distinguished reputation among his parliamentary peers for his work building ties with that Asian country. He served as co-chair of the Canada-Japan Inter-Parliamentary Group and helped pave the way for on-going free trade negotiations between the two countries.

Wilfert's efforts were rewarded last year when the Japanese emperor and prime minister presented him with one of the nation's highest honours, the Order of the Rising Sun.

Q: Is there any feeling of vindication after being given this award less than two months after losing your seat in Parliament?

A: I wouldn't say I lost it. I was temporarily put in the penalty box.

When you get that kind of recognition, to me it demonstrates that you had to focus on something really, really hard in order to get any benefits out of it. The benefit I saw was that it was an area of the world we had not been paying attention to in terms of trade.

It was a pinnacle moment for me, being in that Imperial Palace in my morning coat.

Q: Describe the moment for us.

A: It was about 33 [degrees] in the shade that day, and I was wearing this three-piece morning coat, which was wool. It didn't bother me at all – especially when those medals were pinned on.

Q: Why do you think you were given this award?

A: I was chairman of the Canada-Japan Inter-Parliamentary Group for 11 years. During that time, I did a lot



Bryon Wilfert got the Order of the Rising Sun.

promoting Canada-Japan relations on everything from the issue of importation of beef to strengthening parliamentary relations with yearly parliamentary dialogues in which we sat down with our Japanese counterparts to discuss very specific issues. Certainly my work on Japan on the Hill, which once a year brought academics, politicians, and business people to the Hill to talk

about Japan, contributed. I have made many visits to that country, getting to know very closely Japanese politicians. In Japan, it's friendship first, business second, so you really have to know the people.

Q: How would you describe the Japanese culture?

A: It's a very respectful culture. It's a culture that very much believes in order. It is a culture that is built on both very strong family ties and recognizing good friends. But again, the friendship aspect is not something that you do overnight. It really takes many, many years to build.

Q: Do you have any interesting memories you want to share from your trips to Japan?

A: When [my hosts and I] were on Hokkaido Island, on the very northern tip, we looked out and saw the Northern Territories. These are four [disputed] islands that are currently occupied by the Russians. My BlackBerry came on and said, 'Welcome to Russia.' My Japanese friends weren't too happy with that.

Q: Any final thoughts you'd like to share with our readers?

A: When you go to Parliament Hill, it doesn't matter what CV you have. Nobody reads them. You have to carve out your own niche; you have to excel in one or two areas. You just don't go there and hope somebody's going to recognize your credentials.



The Hon. John Reid.

No matter where you look, one of the great problems with any democratic system is how to finance candidates, parties and elections.

While Canada has limits and incentives for individual contributions under the Election Expenses Act, the USA has embarked on a most interesting experiment as a result of a controversial decision by the US Supreme Court in January 2010.

In effect, the Court ruled that anyone, corporations and unions included, can spend as much as they wish during elections on advocacy of a candidate or party of their choice, as long as they do not coordinate with candidates or campaigns. The Court ruled that election laws, which limit financial contributions from individuals and special interest groups, infringe upon the right to free speech enshrined in the American Constitution. A few weeks later, the Court of Appeals for the DC Circuit ruled "that PACs (Public Action Committees) that did not make contributions to candidates, parties, or other PACs could accept unlimited contributions from individuals, unions, and corporations (both for profit and not-for-profit) for the purpose of making independent expenditures." This decision put meat on the bones of the Supreme Court Decision and these decisions gave rise to the "Super PAC".

These Super PACs may not donate to candidates or to parties, but may spend as much as they like independent of the formal campaigns. Unlike regular PACs, they can raise money from anyone or any organization without restriction on from whom or how much. While these super PACs are forbidden to formally coordinate with candidates and parties, there is evidence that considerable coordination goes on between Super PACs and candidates and parties. Super PACs spend money on speech (TV, radio and print ads, for example) for which candi-

Financing American elections

By the Hon. John Reid

dates cannot be held accountable. This allows the candidates and parties to take the "high" road secure in the knowledge that the Super PACs can take the "low" road. That has certainly been the result in the Republican Primaries.

American elections are very complex, which means they are expensive, but the costs of American elections has elevated sharply. It is expected that the Presidential campaign (which is supposed to begin after Labour Day) will cost twice as much as the one in 2008. That does not take into account the costs of the Republican Primary elections nor the expenditures from now to Labour Day. Nor does this take into account the expenditures of the one-third of the senate up for election, all 425 members of the House of Representatives, let alone all of the various state officials, from dog catchers to judges to governors to state, city, county and town officials who are also up for election. And, of course, each state has its own unique electoral laws. Money is needed.

Consequently, American legislators are always fundraising. They spend between 30 per cent and 70 per cent of their time fundraising from various interest groups because they recognize that those with the biggest budgets win congressional elections 95% of the time. However, while they may seek smaller donations, it is easier to raise the money in large donations from the special interest groups, corporations, unions and very rich individuals both for their campaigns, their PACs, for their state party and for their national party.

PACs were created in 1971 under the Federal Election Campaign Act and amendments to the Act in 1974 defined how a PAC could operate. Donations to PACs were limited to individuals contributing \$5,000 per year. Corporate-affiliated PACs could solicit only from executives, shareholders and their families. Union affiliated PACs could only solicit from their members. Independent PACs could solicit from the general public but had to pay their own costs from those funds. PACs could contribute \$5,000 to candidates per election, \$15,000 to a political party per year, \$5,000 to another

PAC per year, and unlimited expenditures independently of a candidate or political party. It was these restrictions that were wiped away by the Supreme Court Decision in 2010.

There are provisions for new regulations to be passed by the Federal Election Commission, which is, however, made up of three Republicans and three Democrats who have been unable to agree. Consequently, the relations between candidates and parties and "their" PACs and Super PACs have become very close. In the Republican Primaries, Super PACs have become a way for candidates to bypass the limits by steering rich donors to these "independent" organizations which function almost as a part of their campaigns.

Even though Super PACs have been embraced by the Republican Party and opposed by the Democrats, President Obama has been forced to open his own Super PAC. The logic of US election spending has forced him to do this because he cannot be without that kind of support. One of his organizers assured a meeting with representatives of the financial industry that the President would not "demonize Wall Street as he stresses populist appeals in his re-election campaign."

When both parties are drawing from the same money well, what does this say about the possibility of political debate? Clearly, the old saw is new again: "he who pays the piper calls the tune."

Barron's Magazine devoted a special article to the impact of the Super PACs on the Republican Party. Its conclusion is that in the long run, the Republicans are going to be in power because they will be the beneficiaries of the large corporate donors. While elections will be won and lost, the long term result will be Republican control.

With the Democrats having to go to the corporate elite for money as well, it also means that the policies followed by the grateful recipients are going to be acceptable to the donors. So both parties will have to toe to policy line.

Money does talk.

The Hon. John Reid was the Liberal MP for Kenora-Rainy River, ON from 1965-1984.



Dorothy Dobbie.

The Canadian Museum for Human Rights is taking shape near the junction of the Red and Assiniboine rivers in Winnipeg. It is an iconic building, beautiful but quirky, much like Winnipeg has always been. Designed by architect Antoine Predock, the building spirals upward from the earth to the clouds.

From the outside, the building resembles a prairie campfire, its smoke curling and disappearing into the heavens. The curves of the walls facing south are of reflective glass; the north-facing side is angular, a mountain of 450-million-year-old local Tyndall stone.

Inside, the idea is to emulate the journey we take through life. Visitors will make a gradual progression from darkened, earth-like halls inside a structure built to resemble roots that provide shelter from the strong north winds, while glimpses of the sun shine through chinks in the walls marking the equinox and the solstice. Here permanent exhibits will be housed.

Water and medicinal plants are the purifying part of the journey, which continues upwards toward the heavens via a winding ramp, lined with glowing alabaster.

The stout-hearted can climb up the transparent Tower of Hope to view the world from a vantage point 12 storeys above the earth. Along the earlier way, the displays will be interactive, alive with movement created digitally and, in some cases, with actors, reenacting moments that should never be forgotten.

In those moments, there are many stories to be told, stories that we can't afford to forget if we are to progress as human beings. That these stories are begging to be expressed is reflected in the clamour for attention from all sorts of groups starting the day the museum's future became assured. The world is watching, waiting for this symbolic building to give vent to the wretched realities that we have visited on one an-

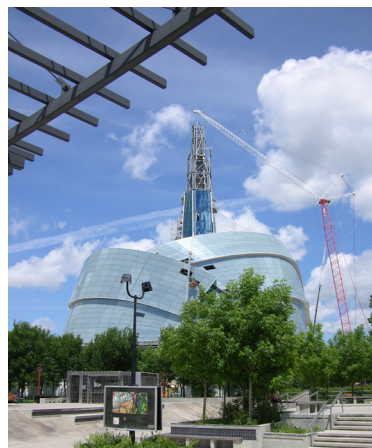
other from the beginning of time.

Even as we build this monument to memory, no doubt more atrocities will be perpetrated, but perhaps the exposure of these horrific events, at this place, in the center of the continent, will act as a brake on the willingness of watchers to just "let things go", to let it happen by turning a blind eye, by pretending innocence when in fact all of us are complicit when we do nothing.

Winnipeg, population 700,000, is the fitting location for the first national museum ever to be located outside of the National Capital Region. Winnipeg has long been recognized as a sacred place, beginning with the native people who gave the province its name; Manitoba means "narrows of the great spirit" to reflect the belief that god lived in the great lake north of Winnipeg and spoke through the sound of the waves resounding on the pebbly beaches of the Narrows which separates the north part of the lake from the south. Winnipeg is also at the longitudinal centre of North America or, to put it the descriptive way one of my Filipino staff did, it is the bellybutton of the continent.

Manitoba's grand legislative building also attests to the idea that this is a special place. Built between 1914 and 1919, the building is filled with Masonic symbolism, much of it pointing to the sense of magic the builders of the day felt resided in the location. It does not seem surprising that the building of the legislature was initiated by Sir Rodman Roblin, grandfather of the late senator, Duff Roblin, who built the Red River floodway, one of the few man-made edifices that can be seen from outer space.

The Forks, where the Museum is



making its way skyward, has always been a meeting place for travelers on the Red and the Assiniboine, Manitoba's mighty rivers, which drain two powerful watersheds, from the south and the west. The location then became the symbol of the new power delivered by the Canadian National railroad whose rails and cars sprawled across the site for most of the 20th

century. Today, this property has been returned to the residents of Winnipeg, including the first residents, for whose use has been dedicated the South Point, which remains a wilderness spot in the very heart of the city.

Winnipeg was the Gateway to the West, the place where new Canadians came to launch a better way of life. It is the place where Canadian women first got the vote, where equality of access for the disabled was given life, where labour stood up for its rights and created a new era of opportunity, where enterprise has always been encouraged, where the arts thrive and innovation is part of the air people breathe.

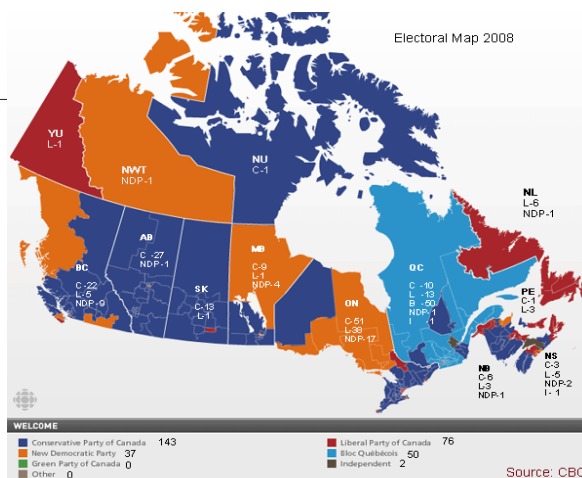
Now nearing its completion, the Museum owes its status as a national museum to Prime Minister Stephen Harper, who saw the importance of supporting what will become another symbol of Canada's dedication to fairness, civility and protection for the vulnerable. He deserves accolades for this and will no doubt receive them.

The new Canadian Museum for Human Rights will be a place where we acknowledge the side of human nature that is brutal, base and inhumane. In so doing, we hope it will help us find ways to rise above this, that it will be a place where people can see that there is light after darkness.

Dorothy Dobbie, MP Winnipeg South 1988-1993.

Representation by calculation

By Peter Mazereeuw



Federal election boundaries have been re-drawn across Canada as the House of Commons prepares to add 30 new members to reflect Canada's growing population.

The passage of Bill C-20, the *Fair Representation Act*, marked at least the sixth time parliament has changed the rules for redistributing federal ridings; ridings are changed and seats added every ten years. The rules that govern this process aren't so clear-cut, however, and never seem to stand the test of time.

C-20 was needed because the old formula was "out of date" and didn't respond to population trends, according to the Minister of State for Democratic Reform, the Hon. Tim Uppal.

Canada's largest provinces are increasingly underrepresented in the House, he said. Minister Uppal stressed that the government's position is to push the country closer to strict representation by population.

"We believe that our democracy is based on the principle of representation by population. So to the greatest extent possible, every Canadian vote should carry equal weight," he said.

C-20 will cost about \$15 million annually in MP salaries and office expenses. It has also raised questions about the need for more MPs, why the formula keeps changing and the idea of representation by population in Canada.

One Person, One Vote?

"If you want to try to explain the Canadian system of seats per province through rational analysis, you're not going to succeed," said Charles Franks, a professor emeritus from Queen's University. "The things that enter into it are history, a sense of community, and a sense of fairness, and then last of all is the desire to have equal representation by population."

"I don't know what a sensible formula

would be, because you have several different tensions [to consider]. You have the uniqueness of Quebec, which I believe has to be recognized, and then the western provinces are hugely different from each other," he said.

Representation by population is an ideal for which Canada should strive, but perhaps it will never be reached entirely, concedes Graham White, a political science expert at the University of Toronto.

"There's no question that representation by population is important, but representation is a lot more than just taking the population of the country and dividing by the number of MPs," he said.

Minister Uppal agrees. He said that in order to accommodate the various clauses and provincial guarantees in place and still achieve perfect rep-by-pop, the House of Commons would have to accommodate close to 900 members.

Bill C-20 accomplishes the government's goal of moving all provinces toward representation by population without ignoring Canada's political complexities. Quebec is awarded an additional three seats, despite its share of the population dropping slightly since the last census to just over 23 per cent. This comes from an application of a new clause, which guarantees that no province that is currently overrepresented will become underrepresented after the new seats are added.

Quebec, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and the Atlantic provinces will remain slightly overrepresented in the new parliament, while Alberta, BC and Ontario remain slightly underrepresented.

A Formula for the Ages?

C-20 allows for the formula to be adjusted every 10 years by keeping the *electoral quotient* (EQ) it uses pegged to the average population of a federal riding. A province's population is divided

by the EQ to determine its initial number of seats, and then a number of special clauses are considered.

Apart from the underrepresentation clause outlined above, two clauses were carried over from the old formula: a "grandfather" clause ensures that no province loses seats in the calculation, and a "senatorial" clause ensures that no province ends up with fewer seats in the House than it has in the Senate. Finally, a seat is added for each of the three territories.

"When you add in the various political considerations, the senate floor rule, and the important principle that provinces can't lose seats... you're going to end up with a whole bunch of compromises and frankly a bit of a dog's breakfast, but to me that's simply the price of living in a complex, regionally diverse federal system," said White.

White was one of several experts to dismiss concerns over the cost of the additional MPs. Professor Stephen Clarkson, also of the University of Toronto, agreed, saying the cost pales in comparison to many other government expenditures.

"I don't think these figures are significant. There's almost no value you can put on a high quality democratic system. I'm very unsympathetic to people who nickel and dime about relatively small sums of money when we, without batting an eye, spend \$35 billion on airplanes," he said.

Clarkson acknowledged that while political considerations will always be a factor in the distribution of seats, the outcome can still benefit Canada as a whole. The need for smaller rural ridings is an example raised by Clarkson and several others to illustrate the value of deviating from strict rep-by-pop.

"You can say that's political in a negative way but it can also be political in a positive way. Due consideration has to be given to the geography of Canada," he said.

Media and Women in Politics

Is it all about what women wear?



By Harrison Lowman

According to male political beat reporters, Canadian media have all but blurred the line between their treatment of male and female politicians.

In recent months, female politicians have taken on prominent leadership roles in both the Ontario and Alberta elections, and reporters say their coverage of these provincial campaigns contributes to the steady erosion of gender bias. Nevertheless, some former female politicians insist the press has a long way to go before the playing field is leveled for male and female politicians.

"You approach them the same way, you talk to them the same way," insists Toronto Sun Queen's Park Bureau reporter Jonathan Jenkins. "Everybody gets scrummed in the same fashion as they come out." The journalist recently concluded his coverage of the Ontario election, in which Andrea Horwath engaged in her first campaign as leader of the New Democrats. He says she was seen as an equal amongst her male counterparts.

Toronto Star Queen's Park Bureau reporter Robert Ferguson agrees. Following the same campaign, Ferguson says Horwath's gender had little effect on her treatment by the press. "I've had women candidates I've asked some tough questions to because that's my job," explains Ferguson. "I don't go easy on anybody."

The same sentiment is apparently held by reporters in Canada's western provinces. Alberta's provincial election pitted the Progressive Conservative's Alison Redford against Wildrose's Danielle Smith.

Edmonton Journal provincial affairs reporter Keith Gerein, who covered the Alberta election, says that while prejudice could be heard during the early rumblings of the campaigns, it soon faded. "Prior to election, some people were talking about a 'catfight', which is

really an unfortunate situation," Gerein says. "But, both were critical of each other, but in a reasonable way."

Toronto Star national affairs reporter Tim Harper spent his time on the same Albertan campaign buses. He says he gradually forgot about the candidates' gender. "I had been doing it for one day and the fact that they were women seemed totally irrelevant," he says.

Some former female politicians contest the idea that political gender bias is all but forgotten, however. They say that while there has been a progression of views, women are still put through a particular filter by the media.

Former leader of the Ontario Liberal Party Lyn McLeod highlights media's obsession with female appearance, a prejudice acknowledged by former female politicians across the board. She remembers television stations repeatedly focusing on her short stature and her use of a stool to see over podiums.

Former NDP MP and Manitoba cabinet minister Judy Wasylycia-Leis recalls a similar critique when she was first elected in 1986. "I became a cabinet minister right after the election and was described more in terms of the colour dress I wore, the kind of stockings I had, the jewellery, than about what I stood for and how I was going to make a difference as a minister," she says.

Today, she emphasizes what she says is the media's continued focus on the physical attributes of female politicians. She draws attention to the coverage of the Wildrose Alliance's campaign bus gaffe. She believes the press accentuated petty subject matter based on gender stereotypes. "I think that is a small example of what women are up against when they're presented," she explains.

She says people should also be concerned about the media's judgment of female performance. She says female politicians who are adamant about issues are often viewed

by the media as being too emotional.

"I know that I've been told many more times than a male that shows the same traits to calm down, show less emotion, talk slower, don't move my arms," she says. "I got elected because of the passion I bring to the job, and then I'm asked to conform to certain standards and politician models that will ensure that the media will cover me more effectively."

Nevertheless, it appears the modern political atmosphere has sometimes allowed for the opposite to be true as well. Both reporters and former female politicians agree women can often capitalize by accentuating their unique minority status. In effect, they can turn stereotypes on their head, using them to their advantage.

Prior to the Ontario election, New Democrat leader Andrea Horwath told reporters eager for her platform, "Look, I'm a woman. I know you don't give it all up at once." During their campaign, party advertisements cast the leader in bright orange heels next to the mundane loafers of her male opponents.

According to Ferguson, these instances allowed Horwath to highlight her gender and gain votes. "She is not shy about pointing out that she is a woman," he says. "She was trying to play the 'I'm a woman card' for sure."

Harper agrees. He adds that there is nothing wrong with female politicians playing the gender card. "That was actually a very shrewd way to set her apart from the two middle aged white guys she was running against," he admits.

Former female politicians consider the advertisements to be legitimate as well. "I think it's great," says former Liberal cabinet minister the Hon. Elinor Caplan. "I think if you have an advantage, it's perfectly appropriate to use your advantage, because certainly if you have a disadvantage, it's going to be used against you."

Staying in touch By Will Stos



Bill Casey.



The Hon. Peter McCreath.



The Hon. Audrey McLaughlin.

Bill Casey (PC, CPC, Ind.)

Q – What have you been up to since leaving the Hill?

A – When I left Parliament in 2009, I went to work for the Province of Nova Scotia as a senior representative in their office in Ottawa, representing the interests of the Nova Scotia government with the Government of Canada, but also with the diplomatic community in Ottawa. Nova Scotia has taken a real interest in international relationships and we were really pleased to make connections with a lot of embassies, trade commissioners and other officers. That was a three-year contract that's ended. I'm now back full-time in Nova Scotia. I'm taking some time to finish up various things I was behind on, and still making connections for businesses in the province looking for markets and money.

Q – You've only been away from the Hill for a short time, do you find you miss the activities there?

A – You always miss it. There is no job that is so stimulating, and where every fiber of your being is on guard 24/7. And you can't help but miss that stimulation. I'm not saying I want to do it again, but I do miss it. I hate routine and in politics, every day is completely different. You never have a clue of what's going to come at you.

Q – You still live in the riding you represented. Do your constituents still

come to see you for help with issues?

A – They still seek me out for assistance from time to time, and I'm glad they do. I do my best to help them when I can or otherwise I refer them to the current MP. I always enjoyed constituency work. It was the best part of the job as far as job satisfaction. If you could help somebody who was not able to find their way through government red tape and bureaucracy, I always got a great sense of satisfaction.

Q – You're on the board of the CAFPP. Is there a particular message you'd like to send out to members regarding your involvement with the association?

A – I encourage former parliamentarians who aren't active members to join the association. When you go back home, you go back to a relatively small circle of social activity. But when I participate with the association, it broadens and just opens up again.

The Hon. Peter McCreath (PC)

Q – What have you been doing since you left the Hill?

A – After I was unceremoniously defeated [in 1993], I ended up going to work for a Canadian bank, which was quite a change from a career as an educator. I became a public affairs director for CIBC for five years before setting up my own company, PMC Communications Inc. which I've run for 12 years. I do consulting work for public affairs, strategic planning and business develop-

ment. And I served as Dutch counsel in Nova Scotia before retiring last year.

Also along the way I was asked by the Nova Scotia provincial government to set up the Nova Scotia Liquor Corporation, transforming the former liquor commission into a commercial enterprise. That was a great experience. A wonderful experience. I did that for nine years but I continue to be involved in the spirits industry and do brand development especially in Mexico and the southwestern United States.

Q – Your work must mean you travel a lot. Do you enjoy it?

A – The two things I said I'd never do were play golf and have a place in Florida. And now I have both. But I do visit Florida often and travel throughout the States. My wife and I also travel internationally a great deal. This past year we've been to Italy, Kenya, and Zanzibar.

Q – What do you remember most fondly from your time in politics?

A – Last year I was honoured when I was appointed to the Canadian Human Rights Commission. Human rights have been a long-standing interest for me. In the 1980s, I was involved in human rights and multicultural education. I also served on Nova Scotia's Human Rights Commission and I was named to the House of Commons' human rights committee. So there's some continuity in life. That work was a highlight. But

"You always miss it. There is no job that is so stimulating, and where every fiber of your being is on guard 24/7. And you can't help but miss that stimulation." - Bill Casey



The Hon. Ed Lumley.



The Hon. Jim Edwards.

I do look back fondly on my time as an MP. I wrote a book on the subject called *The People's Choice*.

The Hon. Audrey McLaughlin (NDP)

Q – What have you been doing since your time on the Hill?

A – Well, I'm of course still living in Whitehorse, Yukon, where I've lived for 32 years. Basically I do quite a bit of volunteer work. I'm chair of the Grandmothers to Grandmothers Stephen Lewis Foundation in Yukon. I would certainly encourage CAFP members to get involved in the Foundation. There is a lot of work to be done, certainly the situation of HIV/AIDS in Africa is still a very major issue. And I'm still doing a bit of international work in terms of election observation and some training. My most recent assignment was in Egypt at Christmas. I was observing the election there. I'm still busy.

Q – What draws you to international election monitoring and democracy building initiatives?

A – I've actually been doing it for a number of years, probably about 15 or so. It started out that I was just asked to go. It's very interesting because you get to see the different systems and meet different people. I think it gives you a real perspective of different electoral methods and certainly a perspective that elections don't always mean freedom and democracy, unfortunately.

Q – Looking back on your career in federal politics, what do you remember most fondly?

A – I really enjoyed the committees as well as the debates in the House, but I felt it was in committees that you really got to have a much broader perspective on things.

The Hon. Ed Lumley (LPC)

Q – Can you tell us a little bit about where you are now and what you've been doing since leaving the Hill?

A – First, I had a two-year time-out as a part of Mr. Trudeau's conflict of interest guidelines. As the only businessman in the cabinet, I wasn't allowed to sit on a board or take a contract for two years. After that I became chairman of the Noranda Manufacturing Group and then Burns Fry in Toronto. Then Burns Fry was bought by the Bank of Montreal, and I've been with the Bank of Montreal ever since – 25 years this November. The bank has been great in allowing me to stay this long and in helping with a lot of the extracurricular functions I'm involved in.

Q – Are you still living in the riding you represented?

A – I work in Toronto but I still live in my hometown of Windsor, Ontario. I'm very active in the community there as a volunteer. I'm also chancellor of the University of Windsor, where I've recently been asked to accept a third term of appointment. It's quite an honour

and it's been great to work with young people again.

Q – You were awarded the CAFP's Lifetime Achievement Award last year. How did it feel?

A – It felt great to be adjudicated by your peers. It's always the highest compliment. What the media thinks, or what the public thinks, you can't control. The only thing you can control is your own ethics and what your teammates think of you, in my case the Liberal Party, but for this award it was from Members of the House of Commons and the Senate for all parties. So as I said to Don Mazinkowski the year before when he was the recipient of it, I don't think there's a greater honour than to be adjudicated by your own colleagues.

The Hon. Jim Edwards (PC)

Q – Can you tell us a little bit about what you've been doing since leaving the Hill?

A – Well, I guess I could never keep a job. I went to India to develop a life insurance company and some other financial services. I ran an economic development agency of my hometown of Edmonton. And then I went on to chair of the Board of Governors at the University of Alberta. Following that I was appointed to the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council in Ottawa, which I'm still chairing. I've recently given up sitting on two other boards as I'm doing my best to try to retire, but I'm busy and happy, and doing my best to stay healthy.

Q – Do you look back fondly on your time on the Hill?

A – I spent nine years in Parliament, and I must say it's an amazing preparation for life afterwards, if you get engagement in the proper opportunities afterwards. A lot of MPs don't do that and I had my own struggles for several years after we were defeated in 1993. I worked without compensation for five years, so I'm very grateful there was a modest pension to fall back on. But it's marvelous training for almost anything you do. I've often described it as a post-graduate course at the taxpayer's expense, and I mean that in a very positive sense, because there's a lot former parliamentarians can invest back into



Wendy Lill.



Mike Savage.



The Hon. Raymond Setlakwe.

their country with their experience.

Q – What is it like to be involved in events with other former parliamentarians?

A – Seeing old friends brings back old memories. And I think that something the public is less aware of than those of us who have been elected is that the friendships across the aisle are as strong, and sometimes stronger, than with the people in your own caucus. Those animosities, which are fairly intense in parliament, are dispelled thereafter and the friendships endure.

Wendy Lill (NDP)

Q – What have you been doing since leaving the Hill?

A – I left the Hill in 2004 and since then I've been back in my community of Dartmouth working on various things. I've been working on disability issues and arts issues and writing. I'm a writer by trade and I continue to work on various projects. I did a series called "Backbencher" for CBC Radio which finished up last May. And I continue to be very interested in what's going on in Ottawa.

Q – Can you tell us a little more about "Backbencher"? Is it a fictional series?

A – "Backbencher" was a fictional series about a rookie backbencher from Nova Scotia. It wasn't about me, but obviously I had seven years of research while I was in Ottawa to use for the material. It was wonderful to be able to re-enact some of the struggles that a new MP has. It was a very pro-MP series because I left Ottawa still with a very high regard for that place and the work done by MPs.

Q – What do you remember most about your time on the Hill?

A – Before I went to Ottawa as an

MP, I had no idea about that life. What stands out to me is the camaraderie that actually crossed party lines at that point. Working together on committees and trying to figure out the best way forward on issues. I didn't know that happened, and I certainly don't think it's evident in the media today or in Question Period that, in fact, people do work together.

Mike Savage (LPC)

Q – Can you tell us a little about what you've been doing since you left the Hill and about any future plans?

A – It's almost exactly a year since I left the Hill, and it's always disappointing to lose an election, even a close one. But I always felt that (federal) politics was something I'd do for a time in my life and then move on. After my defeat in the federal election I returned to business and joined a great company called M5 that does marketing and communications throughout Atlantic Canada and New England as the senior vice-president of corporate affairs. I'm also looking to get back into politics in a different way. I'm running to be the mayor for the Regional Municipality of Halifax. The election's in October and I'm enjoying that new political challenge.

Q – I know it's only been a brief time since you've left the Hill, but do you have any fond memories you'd like to share?

A – I enjoyed the collegiality of being on the Hill – good friends. Every now and then I may have strayed in Rodger Cuzner's office to enjoy a glass of rum after a hard day of work. I enjoyed being involved and I was always a very active MP and made a point of speak-

ing as often as I could. I'm proud of my time on the Hill and I feel blessed and privileged to have served the people for seven years.

Q – What's it like to be at a gathering of former parliamentarians like this?

A – I always knew there were good people on Parliament Hill from all parties. And I pride myself on being able to work with people of all parties. And I think in a time when politics seems to be becoming more partisan, it's a time for reasonable people to work together.

The Hon. Raymond Setlakwe (LPC)

Q – What have you been up to since leaving the Hill? I've heard there's an honour you're receiving tomorrow.

A – My wife talks too much! What I'm getting tomorrow is recognition by the CEGEP in Thetford Mines for my work on academics in the region. But what I've been doing is raising money for a school breakfast programme in the community. I've been very involved in that. I think we've been very successful with that, and I enjoy doing it. There isn't a child in my school district who will go to school without eating breakfast for the next 15 years. That's guaranteed.

Q – Thinking back on your time in the Senate, is there any memory that stands out?

A – The proudest moment for me, as a Canadian of Armenian descent, was to second the motion to recognize the Armenia genocide.

Q – Is there anything else you've been up to recently?

A – I'll be 84 in July and I'm still working. I plan to retire 12 years from now because I want to keep skiing with my grandchildren – if they can follow me.



Allan MacEachen.

Friends pay tribute to Allan J. MacEachen

One of Canada's shrewdest political and parliamentary strategists, Allan is an icon in the Liberal Party. A dinner in his honour was held on the eve of the party's National Biennial Convention.

By Francis LeBlanc

Some 570 of his closest friends gathered to pay tribute to former Member of Parliament and Senator, the Hon. Allan J. MacEachen, at a gala dinner in his honour at the Ottawa Congress Centre on Jan. 12, 2012.

During his long and distinguished career in Parliament, Allan held numerous cabinet portfolios under three Prime Ministers. Among his many achievements in government, he is credited with having brought medicare to Canada when he was Minister of National Health and Welfare under Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson.

In addition to his reputation as one of Canada's shrewdest political and parliamentary strategists, Allan is an icon in the Liberal Party, and the dinner was held on the eve of the party's National Biennial Convention.

Former cabinet colleague, the Hon. Monique Bégin, PMO strategist Jim Coutts and ministerial assistant Sean Riley joined host and interim Liberal Leader Bob Rae in paying tribute to Allan at the event. Here are excerpts from Monique's remarks on the occasion:

"I was first elected to the House of Commons on Oct. 30, 1972, discovering the world, the very foreign and exotic country of party politics and political power. The 29th Legislature was opened on January 4, 1973. Allan J. was then the already seasoned President of the Privy Council and Leader of the Government, shining in his mastery of both the parliamentary procedures and the dynamics of the games played on the floor of the House (and behind the scenes) between

the Conservatives of Robert Stanfield, the David Lewis NDP and R  al Caouette's Cr  ditistes – the extraordinary poker game of the famous minority government of 1972-74.

"Every Thursday afternoon, MacEachen and his vis-  -vis – the late Stanley Knowles, Walter Baker and Andr   Fortin – in a subtle ballet, laid the game plan for the coming days, if not for the next hours. I was mesmerized. On all sides, there were powerful senior players in their own right: Diefenbaker, Stanfield, Gordon Fairweather, T. C. Douglas, David Lewis, R  al Caouette, G  rard Pelletier, Jean Marchand, Don MacDonald, Mitchell Sharp, Don Jamieson. The issues at stake were the death penalty, abortion, Chilean refugees, the sale of a CANDU to South Korea, peacekeeping missions. All were discussed with passion and we, in the backbenches, were following all of that with the fervour of neophytes often until two or three in the morning. MacEachen was the master of the House.

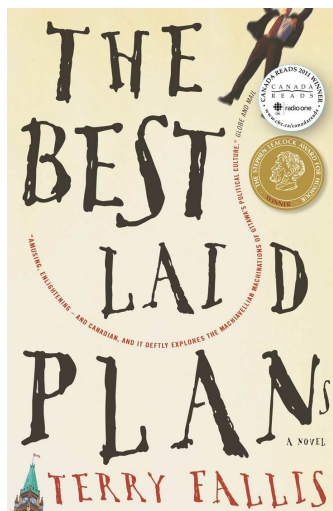
"Although I spent eight years in Cabinet with MacEachen, he remains a kind of a sphinx. When I joined the inner sanctum, he was already too powerful to have to speak in Cabinet. He could speak at the (in)famous P & P; he could speak with the backrooms boys (and with Joyce!); he could speak privately with top civil servants; he could speak with "the Boss" when he wanted.

I do, however, vividly recall the few words said by MacEachen after I had finished presenting to Cabinet a pro-

gramme I wanted very badly to have approved: the Child Tax Credit. He never said a word during the discussion. When it was time for the PM to call the decision, he turned towards him and simply said: "Do I see a demand?" My memo to Cabinet died right there. I cannot remember the exact modulation of the tone of his voice. When he spoke, always with calm passion, remarks could range from the mocking to the sardonic, via the ironic, the sarcastic or the caustic. I could have killed him that morning. But I never forgot that lesson of Politics 101! (And I got my Child Tax Credit later!)

"I might not have heard and seen MacEachen in the sixties and in the early seventies when he first stood his ground and fought for his ideas and beliefs in Cabinet. I wish I had. But others have attested to his clear, rigorous mind and to his social conscience. Speaking of that era, Walter Gordon wrote: "Allan MacEachen is a talented and progressive-minded man who could be very effective in debate, and sometimes, if he felt strongly, could make a case in cabinet with considerable force.

"These seven – Lamontagne, Benson, Pennell, Hayes, Judy LaMarsh, MacEachen, Favreau – and I," (and later Marchand and Trudeau) "usually agreed on most policy issues and consequently we had considerable influence in cabinet." When commenting on the 1978 Cabinet, the Cabinet of my years, Paul Martin Sr. wrote that MacEachen is one of the very few giants in Cabinet."



The Best Laid Plans: A Novel. By Terry Fallis, McClelland & Stewart. 336pp. \$19.99 (Soft Cover), \$9.99 (eBook). Reviewed by the Hon. Peter Adams.

Let's face it. We former parliamentarians can be a rather dour, introspective bunch. We take ourselves very seriously.

In years passed, we walked the tightrope over the Niagara Falls of general elections and enjoyed the thrill. We went to the wall for good and bad causes, most of them now long forgotten. Today, we spend a good deal of time gazing at our navels allocating much less time to humour and real, unconfined, pleasure than we probably enjoyed when in Parliament.

When did you last read a book about politics just for fun (except, of course, for the more scurrilous accounts of the personal/political lives of former colleagues)? If your answer is "It's been a long time," then here is the first of two slim volumes that you will enjoy. (This review will be continued in our next issue.)

The Best Laid Plans is a light, literate, and very Canadian novel about our lives on the campaign trail, in the House of Commons and in our ridings. Recognized by a Steven Leacock Medal for humour among other awards, I must admit that I am embarrassed that I have only just found time to read it.

Told from the point of view of an experienced Party and Hill staffer, this is the story of a very reluctant candidate, Angus McLintock who is unexpectedly elected MP of a fairly rural riding in eastern Ontario, near Ottawa. The

Humour in Politics: The Hill in Fiction

Told from the point of view of an experienced Party and Hill staffer, this is the story of a very reluctant candidate, Angus McLintock, who is unexpectedly elected MP of a fairly rural riding in eastern Ontario, near Ottawa.

staffer becomes the campaign manager and then the executive assistant for the reluctant politician – also somewhat reluctantly.

The riding in question had elected Conservatives for generations and the sitting Member is the Minister of Finance in a minority Conservative government who is beloved by (almost) everyone. A recently widowed, idiosyncratic, engineering professor from the University of Ottawa is persuaded to run for the Liberals on condition that he does not win.

The first part of the book – the best part – is the campaign. Liberal resources in the riding consist of a woman in her eighties who, having been the candidate five times herself, is the institutional memory of the Party, and around \$157 in the bank. Campaign headquarters is the back of a large, old, station wagon complete with cell phone and two punk engineering student canvassers.

We can all relate to some parts of this campaign: the incredibly experienced octogenarian, the claim that the absence of Liberal lawn signs is an ethical rather than a financial matter, those unbelievably keen young canvassers who appear during elections but whose appearance and manner might scare voters, the encounters with dogs and graffiti which appear mysteriously on lawn signs.

With regard to the elderly lady, in my old riding, we are currently setting up a bursary in the School of Nursing in memory of just such a person who was involved in more than 30 local, provincial and federal elections.

If you were a "rural" member, you can relate directly to the back of that station wagon stacked with election paraphernalia, including dog spray, rain (or snow) wear, sledge hammers, staplers, nails and the like, not to mention damp volunteers. However, in this novel, the wagon is their entire campaign headquarters rather than simply an outpost for a few days.

Also, we can all relate to the orchestrated campaign launch, the seniors' home that always votes solidly one way, the gulf between your local campaign and both the regional (in this case Eastern Ontario) and national campaigns, watching the national and local results roll in on election night (with one poll reporting, "the NDP candidate has taken a commanding lead of 12 votes").

The novel is, of course, a caricature of some aspects of a federal campaign and political life. Just as a good cartoon of a public figure grossly exaggerates the good and the bad, especially the latter, so too does this cartoon of an election.

The Conservative opponent is involved in something that is very adequately described as "leathergate." Consequently, as the reader expects, the reluctant candidate is elected, to a minority Conservative House.

The remainder of the novel deals with his first days in the House, his first impressions and awe, his notably rapid assimilation of the Standing Orders, his first experience in Caucus, his office and committee assignments, his first parliamentary speech, and establishing his riding office and meeting constituents. Every former parliamentarian can relate to these first experiences of a new member, reluctant or not.

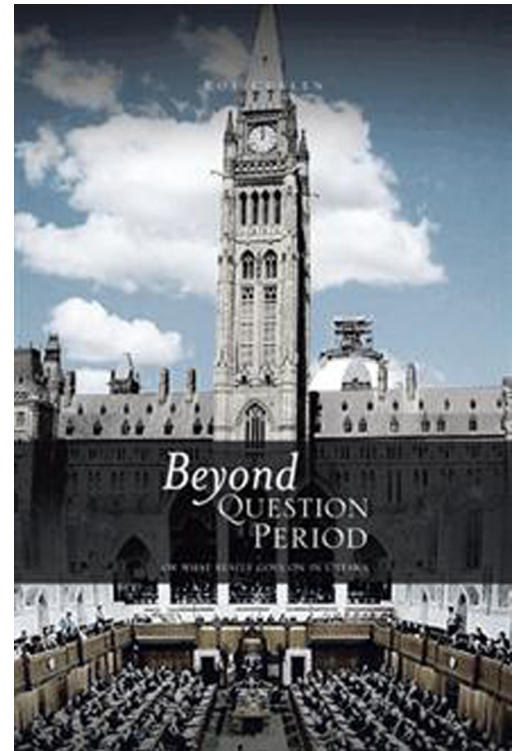
At the end of the book, the government falls on a snap vote, called in a blizzard, on a cynical mini budget that reverses the promises of the recent Throne Speech. Our reluctant MP casts the deciding vote after arriving at the very last minute on his self-built (he is, after all, an engineer!) hovercraft.

The description of the blizzard will remind many former parliamentarians of days stuck in Ottawa, including, in my case, the famous ice storm that closed down eastern Ontario. This is a must read for you all.

I am grateful to Will Adams and Alan Brunger for their comments on this piece.

An Owners' Manual for Federal Candidates

Roy is able to explain the job of an MP to both the neophyte as well as the seasoned parliamentary observer.



Beyond Question Period: Or What Really Goes on in Ottawa. By the Hon. Roy Cullen, P.C. Trafford Publishing, 196 pp. \$24.99 (Hardcover), \$14.99 (Softcover), \$9.99 (eBook). Reviewed by the Hon. Don Boudria, P.C.

Part autobiography, part insider how-to guide, the Hon. Roy Cullen's *Beyond Question Period: Or What Really Goes on in Ottawa* is a thoroughly engaging and enjoyable take on the ups and downs of parliamentary life.

An accountant by profession, Roy was born in Montreal and spent a good part of his working career in British Columbia (not to forget a stint in Bermuda and South Africa), before eventually moving to Toronto to assume a senior position with the Noranda group of companies. Prior to leaving B.C., he had worked as a volunteer for the Hon. David Anderson, the local Liberal candidate. He also became acquainted with some members of the Liberal caucus, including the Hon. Roy MacLaren.

Immediately after arriving in Toronto to assume his new position, Roy Cullen was recruited by MacLaren to join his Etobicoke–North Liberal riding association to act as treasurer. It was there that the author paid his dues, crunch-

ing numbers and organizing events, until MacLaren resigned his House of Commons seat to take a senior diplomatic post as High Commissioner to the United Kingdom. Roy Cullen then sought and won the Liberal nomination, and went on to win the Commons seat for the Liberals in a 1996 by-election. He held it until he retired in 2008.

The exhausting schedule of a Member of Parliament, details about particular debates, and insights into paying one's dues before seeking a party nomination are narrated in a most captivating way. The description of the electoral process and its merits is equally informative. Roy walks the reader through the sometimes complex steps necessary for a private members' bill or motion to make it to the floor of the House for debate and touches upon the very sensitive of subject cabinet appointments – the aspiration of virtually every government backbencher that ends in disappointment for many.

From committee assignments, caucus groups, parliamentary associations to the role of a parliamentary secretary which he held on two separate occasions, Roy is able to explain the job of an MP to both the neophyte as well as the seasoned parliamentary observer. In

its own way, this book describes what every MP should know before seeking a seat in the House of Commons, rather than 'discovering' the highest institution of our democracy on the floor of the House once elected, which happens all too often. Finally, his respect for our parliamentary system of governance is prominent throughout the entire book.

If potential candidates read *Beyond Question Period* prior to throwing their hat in the ring, they would have a much greater understanding of Parliament. Likewise, this book should be part of the must read list for spouses, family members, and anyone close to someone seeking a seat in the House of Commons. They too would gain an understanding of the demands and sacrifices that are made routinely. Finally, it should be required reading for potential political aides who often realize that life on the Hill has little to do with the theoretical aspects of Political Science 101 learned on the benches of our higher learning institutions.

This is a must read for anyone seeking federal office, or those wishing to assist candidates. It should be on the mantel-piece of the homes of new MPs and consulted like an owners' manual of public office.

Our tribute to those who have passed on

By Jenny Ford and Will Stos



Don Blenkarn.

Don Blenkarn

He was a man who loved helping others – whether it be assisting his neighbour or the rest of Canada.

Don Blenkarn, an outspoken Mississauga MP, passed away on Jan. 30, 2012 at his winter home in Florida. He was 81.

“He was a very involved man and he had his finger in the pie of everything,” said his wife, Marguerite Blenkarn.

Trained as a lawyer, Don was also involved in a real estate business before entering politics in 1972 as a Progressive Conservative, winning the riding of Peel South. After a loss in 1974, Don returned to the Hill as MP for Mississauga South in 1979 and remained in office until 1993. He was the first MP to open a constituency office.

In Parliament, Don’s passion lay in finance, where he was the long-serving chair of the finance committee.

His skills for balancing the books spread beyond the affairs of the nation, however. Don and Marguerite helped others such as one Portuguese family. They funded their move to Canada and helped them to set up house.

“We set them up, bought them a little house. Basically this was Don’s favorite thing – helping people,” said Marguerite. “He liked to help people financially, getting them established.”

After retiring from politics, Blenkarn returned to law where he helped people with mortgages, his wife said.

“He was jolly and happy and basically easy going,” Marguerite said.

Blenkarn leaves behind his wife and their two children, Brenda and Brian. He is predeceased by his son Bruce. He has eight grandchildren.



Jean Boucher.

Jean Boucher

On Dec. 18, 2011 former Liberal MP Jean Boucher passed away at age 85.

In 1951 Jean was sworn in and admitted by the Chambre des Notaires du Québec as a notary, having graduate from McGill University’s law programme the previous year.

Elected to the House of Commons in Chateauguay-Huntingdon-LaPrairie in 1953, Jean won re-election in 1957 before being defeated in 1958. He returned for an additional term in 1962. Following his political career, he continued to work as a notary in the western south shore of Montreal until his death. He represented the production of more than 38,000 registered deeds.

In the 1980s Jean became a member of the board of directors of SITQ (held by the Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec), and he remained very active in politics on Montreal’s south shore but always on a private basis.

Friend Caroline Derome says Jean became an “establishment” in his community because he dedicated his entire life to his profession as a notary and had a well known habit of omitting to send the bill for professional services rendered as a way of helping those “with less means but with real needs.” She says his office was the “old-fashioned type” in an historic building in the middle of a small village (La Prairie) right next to the church where people and long-time friends came to talk politics or ask for advice on real-estate matters or many other legal concerns.

“What amazed me the most was how this man was blessed with the ability of making friends anytime, anywhere, of



Thomas Scott Fennell.

Thomas Scott Fennell

any age, race or gender,” says Derome. “We are many now to miss him.”

Predeceased by his wife, Odette Losier, Jean is survived by his sister Louise and his nephews and nieces, and his partner.

Thomas Scott Fennell

A man of grace and vitality, former Progressive Conservative MP Thomas Scott Fennell died on Jan. 27, 2012, after a long illness with Alzheimer’s. He was 84.

After attending the University of Toronto, Trinity College and the University of Connecticut, Scott began a successful career in commercial insurance. He formed the firm R.B. Carmichael Insurance Brokers Limited in 1973 and in the mid 1970s, he developed the Port of Newcastle, a harbour and marina on the shores of Lake Ontario.

First elected in 1979, Scott won re-election in 1980 and 1984. He was named parliamentary secretary to the Minister of Communications in Prime Minister Joe Clark’s government, and later served as vice-chair of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts and Chief Government Whip during the first Mulroney government.

Upon retiring, Scott developed Claremont Springs Incorporated, a company that sourced water from the spring on his Claremont farm. He actively volunteered as Director and Vice President of the Canadian National Sportsmen’s Shows, President of the Southern Ontario Ski Division, President of the Canadian Ski Association, Director of Progressive Conservative Canada Fund and with Ducks Unlimited.

He also took great pleasure in train-



Hon. Fred Dickson.

ing young skiers at the Osler Bluff Ski Club.

Scott is survived by his wife Cecil, his children Scott, Geoffrey, and Lisa, his step-children Michelle McLeod and Angus Pady, his three grandchildren Alicia, Sarah and Sierra, and his sister Nancy.

Hon. Fred Dickson

Remembered as an “extraordinary gentleman,” dedicated to politics, the Hon. Fred Dickson passed away, while still a sitting Conservative Senator, on Feb. 9, 2012 at the age of 74, after a long illness.

Born in Glace Bay, Nova Scotia, Fred moved to Truro in the early 1970s and practiced law with the Patterson firm. In 1979 he became Nova Scotia Premier John Buchanan’s principal assistant, a position he held until the fall election of 1981.

During his legal career Fred advised both the federal and provincial governments on numerous resource and infrastructure projects, including during the signing of the 1982 and 1985 Canada/Nova Scotia offshore oil and gas agreements, known as the Atlantic accord.

A long-time Conservative organizer, Fred was appointed to the Senate in 2009. During his tenure his two main interests were education and health.

“Few people have been more closely involved in the public life of Nova Scotia than Fred,” said George Cooper, chairman of McInnes Cooper, a firm with which Fred was associated. “To Fred, as much as to anyone, we owe the success of our Nova Scotia offshore oil and gas regime.”

Cumberland-Colchester-Musquodoboit Valley MP Scott Armstrong said that Canada as a whole has benefit-

ted immeasurably from Fred’s commitment to public service.

He is survived by his wife, Kay, children Ian, Colin and Kathryn and several grandchildren.

George Minaker

Former Progressive Conservative MP George Clement Minaker, who devoted much of his life to holding public office, passed away at the age of 74 on April 30, 2012.

Born in Morris, Manitoba, George grew up in Winnipeg. After graduating from the University of Manitoba with a degree in Electrical Engineering he was elected as an alderman for the community of St. James, Manitoba in 1966, and later as a city councillor for the amalgamated city of Winnipeg in 1971.

From 1973 to 1981 George served as a Progressive Conservative MLA for St. James in the Manitoba provincial government. He was promoted to cabinet in 1979 and named Minister of Community Services and Corrections.

George was elected as an MP for Winnipeg-St. James for one term in 1984 and was later appointed as a member with The National Transportation Agency.

In retirement he enjoyed gardening, working around his home in Ottawa/Manotick, and preparing meals for his family. George made his home in Ottawa/Manotick with his wife Joan. George loved tending to his beautiful yard and home.

He is survived by his wife Joan; children Cathy, Donald and Scott; step children Lesley and Keith; grandchildren Sarah, Gregory, Lynsey, Jamie, Liam, Maeve, Coen, Aiden, Zachary and Julian and great granddaughter Ava.



George Minaker.



Jean Pigott.

Jean Pigott

A pioneer for women in business and politics, former Progressive Conservative MP Jean Pigott died on Jan. 10, 2012 in Ottawa.

She passed away at Grace Manor – the same building in which she was born. She was 87.

“Family was always first,” said her daughter MJ Pigott. “She was quite a bit before her time, but she still managed it all.”

Jean proved herself as a businesswoman, running the family-owned Morrison-Lamothe Bakery, before entering politics in 1976. She won the constituency of Ottawa-Carleton in a by-election.

While in Parliament, she was the critic for housing, urban affairs and the National Capital Commission. After she was defeated in 1979, she became an advisor for Prime Minister Joe Clark.

In 1984 Brian Mulroney appointed Jean to chair the National Capital Commission.

“Our ancestors came in the 1800s to this area. It’s always been home, but she always wanted Canadians to think of Ottawa as their second home,” her daughter said.

Jean, who also served as chair of the Ottawa Congress Centre and on several corporate boards was hailed as a “great community builder” and an “inspiration” by current Ottawa mayor Jim Watson. She became an officer of the Order of Canada.

Above all Jean was a family woman. “She loved cooking, anything to do with kids and dogs. There was usually a dog always some place very close by,” said MJ.

Jean is survived by her husband, Arthur, their three children, John, David and MJ, and her sisters, Grete Hale and Gay Cook. She has six grandchildren.



Keith Penner.

In Praise of Skeptics

"Contrary to the rules of science, which advises testing every hypothesis by trying to refute it, some scientists quite often seek data that is likely to be compatible with the beliefs they currently hold." – Daniel Kahneman

By Keith Penner

Thomas H. Huxley, a nineteenth century scientist, philosopher and friend of Charles Darwin, coined the word "agnostic." He once wrote: "I am too much of a skeptic to deny the possibility of anything."

My first encounter with a living skeptic occurred as I was growing up. I had a favourite uncle who regarded agriculture as a science. He doubted many of the established farming practices of his day.

In his view, to summer fallow was to waste arable land. He introduced alternative cash crops as a way to replenish the nitrogen in the soil. At first, he was called crazy. Later, he was celebrated as a farming genius.

Skeptics spring from a rich tradition. It was Aristotle who doubted that the earth was a flat disc as considered by most Pre-Socratics. On empirical grounds, he argued that it was spherical, as envisaged by Pythagoras hundreds of years earlier.

Geocentrism had been challenged as early as the third century B.C.E., but it was not until the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, with the work of Copernicus, Kepler and Galileo, that the sun-centred theory gained acceptance. Even then, Galileo was forced to recant Copernicanism and spent the last years of his life under house arrest.

For a skeptic, the phrase "settled science" is disturbing. Daniel Kahneman, in his fascinating book, *Thinking, Fast*

and Slow, notes that: "Contrary to the rules of science, which advises testing every hypothesis by trying to refute it, some scientists quite often seek data that is likely to be compatible with the beliefs they currently hold."

Recently, a course was taught at Ottawa's Carleton University by a climate change skeptic. He was criticized in a strange and telling manner. Advocates of the "catastrophic man-made global warming" theory said "deniers have gained access to the higher education system." This statement seems to fly into the face of both science and higher learning at the same time.

Some scientists have proclaimed that the evidence of damaging global warming caused by human activity is "incontrovertible". Such an uncompromising claim has alarmed Ivar Giaever, who won the Nobel Prize for physics in 1973. He has countered by saying that "nothing in science is incontrovertible."

The European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN) has offered evidence that climate change is sun related, with cosmic rays that spur cloud formation affecting the earth's temperature. The organization has foot-noted these findings as being "politically sensitive."

Ontario has been praised for its costly green-energy policy. Wind power and solar energy, along with the billions of

dollars spent on them, have earned plaudits from some quarters but there are some skeptics who are not quite so sure.

If you happen to live in Ontario's Prince Edward County, you may well be among those who are skeptical of these accolades. This lovely corner of the province has been invaded by wind farms. The inhabitants there are not pleased. They complain that these projects have blighted the landscape; that the noise disturbs their sleep; that TV reception and microwave communication is being seriously affected and that the turbines pose a hazard to birds and wildfowl.

Some of those who live, unhappily, in proximity to these wind farms have been labelled "poor citizens." It has ever been so. Skeptics have throughout history been called "heretics", "rebels" "deniers" or some other ready-at-hand pejorative description. It is often easier to pigeon-hole them than it is to counter with more persuasive truth.

It certainly cannot be said with any accuracy that skeptics invariably are holders of all the truth. It can be said that they are truth-seekers. They are the ones who insist that theories, practices and every hypothesis at least be thoroughly tested before being proclaimed as having absolute veracity.

And so, this is in praise of skeptics.

Keith Penner was an MP from Northern Ontario from 1968-1988.



Honorary Member Lenore Dinsdale, Grete Hale, who came to remember friend Jean Pigott, and the Hon. Noël Kinsella, Speaker of the Senate.



Laverne and Lois Lewycky.



Above left: Two new members: new Honorary Member Bill Young, former Parliamentary Librarian, and the Hon. Bill Rompkey, recently retired from the Senate. Above right: Francis LeBlanc, Maurice Harquail and the Hon. Fred Mifflin. Left: Former CAFP Chairman Barry Turner with Mary Ann Silverthorn-Finlay and Wally Ellis. Right: The Hon. Lucie Pépin and the Hon. Jean Bazin.





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