











EIGHTEENTH YEAR, NO. 861

CANADA'S POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT NEWSWEEKLY

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#### **IN BRIEF**

#### **Associations news**

The Conservative government has made a "concerted effort" to take over Parliamentary associations in order to control the message on Parliament's many international delegations, say Liberal MPs. p. 7

#### Conservative caucus

Conservatives say Jason Kenney is fast becoming one of Prime Minister Stephen Harper's most trusted Parliamentarians. p. 1

#### **Civil Circles**

David Zussman says Parliament could deal with the issue of revolving DMs by suggesting fixed terms for appointments, in which the PM of the day could not reassign DMs at will. Bea Vongdouangchanh p. 30

**House legislation** While Tory MPs blasted Liberal Senators for proposing amendments that would "significantly change the spirit of the Federal Accountability Act, Bill C-2, Democracy Watch is giving the Grit Senators a thumb's up. p. 4

#### **Open government... not** With increasing secrecy claims

being legalized and investigations of those seeking information growing, we're crossing the line to a much more unaccountable and retrograde type of governance that badly needs checking. Ken Rubin **p.** 13

#### Hill Climbers

Two senior Conservative Cabinet ministerial staffers left their jobs on Parliament Hill recently. Abbas Rana. p. 29

#### **Senior Cabinet staffers**

An updated list of Cabinet ministers, chiefs of staff, directors of communications, press secretaries and phone numbers. p. 29

#### **POLITICS**

More exclusive news p. 14

Political reporting MP Garth Turner's tortured relationship with media: Witness the spectacle of media combustion, where too-talkative MPs are drawn to hot TV lights and burned to a crisp. Tom Korski. p. 27



Get a load of the chandelier: Indian Affairs Minister Jim Prentice and Liberal MP Anita Neville chat before Mr. Prentice testifies before the House Status of Women Committee last Tuesday on the Hill.

#### PM Harper trying to avoid 'dome disease' with media: Conservative

■ PM Stephen Harper hasn't had a full-fledged press conference in Ottawa since last spring and reporters are baffled by his strategy.

#### By SIMON DOYLE

The "Ottawa-centric" view that news conferences should be held on Parliament Hill represents "typical Ottawa arrogance" and reporters should get accustomed to a Prime Minister who likes to get out his message on the road, says Jason Kenney, Parliamentary secretary to Prime Minister Stephen Harper.

"I think that the press gallery may be a little Ottawa-centric. The government is definitely not Ottawa-centric. That may be part of the tension here. We're very consciously a government of mainstream Canadians who live right across the country, and I think that we make an effort to make sure that the Prime Minister spends time outside of Ottawa, including making major announcements," Mr. Kenney (Calgary Southeast, Alta.) told The Hill Times in an interview.

'The notion that every major announcement has to be made on Parliament Hill or

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#### MP Kenney: a key, trusted liaison straight to Harper and the PMO

■ Jason Kenney, 'the fang-bearing Chihuahua that bites back,' is increasingly seen front-and-centre in Question Period, and he's becoming one the PM's most trusted MPs.

#### By SIMON DOYLE

When Jason Kenney was appointed as Parliamentary secretary to the Prime Minister in February, he asked Stephen Harper, jokingly, whether his primary role would be something like walking

down the steps with him to the House for Ouestion Period.

But Prime Minister Harper (Calgary Southwest, Alta.) told his fellow Calgary MP, Mr. Kenney (Calgary Southeast, Alta.), that he had other plans for the position. "He said he wanted to make something more of the role," Mr. Kenney said in an interview with The Hill Times at his spacious and executive-style East Block office.

Now, Mr. Kenney's position has evolved into prominence, not just in the daily Question Period, but also with direct lines

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#### LEBRETON SAYS **ALLEGATIONS 'PATENTLY FALSE' AND 'OFFENSIVE'**

But Grit Sen. Moore wonders why Minister Verner could visit Kandahar and the Senate Defence Committee could not

#### By SIMON DOYLE

The Leader of the Government in the Senate says it is "patently false' and "offensive" that Liberal Senators suggested there was an organized attempt by the government or the PMO to derail a Senate committee's investigation into reconstruction and aid efforts in Afghanistan.

And another Conservative Senator, who has

withdrawn a controversial "contempt of Parliament" point of privilege against the prestigious Senate National Security and Defence Committee, wants Liberal Sen. Colin Kenny, chair of the committee, to explain before the Senate's Internal Economy Committee the

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#### 'I represent New Liberalism': Grit candidate Kennedy

Liberal leadership candidate Gerard Kennedy says it will take two elections for federal Grits to make big inroads in Quebec again

#### **By ABBAS RANA**

Liberal leadership candidate Gerard Kennedy says the Liberal Party of Canada, booted out of government nine months ago after nearly 13 years in power, needs to undertake a grassroots effort in order to make significant inroads in Quebec and he says this effort could take up to two elections to eventually materialize.

"We can make gains coming out of leader-

ship to a certain kind of consolidation but I think it will probably take two elections in Quebec to build that, said Mr. Kennedy, 46, in an interview with The Hill Times last week.

Mr. Kennedy, who won only 1.1 per cent of delegates in Quebec according to his party's website last week, placed, overall, third

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#### **FEATURE**



### If Peter MacKay and Belinda Stronach were dogs, what kind of dogs would they be, asks HOH

Over the last week, gallons of ink and gigabytes of text have been devoted to deconstructing the now infamous "dog" comment alleged to have been made by Foreign Affairs Minister Peter MacKay. But while everyone's engaged in debating the deeper significance of MacKay's alleged remarks, and what it says about a) the credibility of the minister, and his attackers; b) the role of women in Parliament and c) the appalling state of decorum in the House of Commons, HOH couldn't help considering the obvious question: If Belinda and Peter were dogs, what kind of dogs would they be? For that matter, what about the Prime Minister, or the leaders of the opposition parties?

NDP Leader Jack Layton: Bright eyes, sharp ears, and a tendency to pick on foes twice his size—clearly, the NDP leader is best represented by the Miniature Schnauzer, a feisty powerhouse that can hold his own in nearly any conflict, and makes his presence known even when surrounded by bigger dogs—all with just the occasional burst of annoying yapping.

Bloc Québécois Leader Gilles Duceppe: The Bloc Québécois leader's silver hair and mesmerizing blue eyes most closely match the colouring of the Siberian Husky, but the similarity is more than physical; like Mr. Duceppe, the husky has an aloof, independent nature, but well-equipped to lead his team to the finish line.

Liberal Leader Bill Graham: Dignified, graceful and almost preternaturally serene, even amid the din of the House of Commons, Mr. Graham has the aristocratic air of the Borzoi, also known as the Russian Wolfhound. One key difference, however: the adult Borzoi, unlike Mr. Graham, is virtually mute, which would greatly inhibit its ability to lead the Official Opposition.

to lead the Official Opposition.

Prime Minister **Stephen Harper:** This is a tricky one, possibly because the Prime Minister is, in every way, a cat person. Perhaps that explains why Layton has such a deep urge to chase him up a tree when asking about Canada's role in Afghanistan.

He has the seemingly unflappable bearing of a mastiff, but when it comes to keeping his caucus in line, his instinct is that of a herding dog—woe betide the black sheep who falls out of line when he's on the job. That combination makes him most akin to the Corgi—also, serendipitously, the favoured breed of HRH Queen Elizabeth, who so enjoyed his company when the two met earlier this year that their meeting ran a full 20 minutes longer than scheduled.

As for **Peter MacKay** and **Belinda Stronach**: the latter would clearly be an Afghan hound—tall, blonde and elegant, highmaintenance, but worth it—at least, according to her admirers.

As for the Foreign Affairs Minister, he is best personified—or dog-ified—by the Irish Setter: happiest when on the hunt, particularly when the quarry is a Liberal, but with a tendency to accidentally knock over the china cabinet with his tail when he gets too excited.

#### **Blogging Former Tory Tells All**

Some Tories may be wondering this week whether suspending **Garth Turner** from the government caucus has been the most effective tactic to ensure that what happens in caucus stays in caucus. After all, according to caucus chair **Rahim Jaffer**, it was growing concern over Mr. Turner's blog that was the motivating factor behind the vote to suspend him from the party last month. But what Mr. Jaffer and the rest of Mr. Turner's former caucus colleagues didn't seem to realize was that a post-Tory Turner would be even more candid in his daily musings about life on the Hill, all of which continue to be published, for all to



Cheer up Garth: Rabble-rousing MP Garth Turner's blog is getting a lot of hits these days.

read, on his eponymous garth.ca website.

Last week, for instance, Mr. Turner revealed that Tory committee members have been getting their marching orders directly from Command Central, otherwise known as PMO:

"This government has actually had a PMO senior staffer in national caucus recently instructing MPs on how to politicize the committees and turn them into instruments of government policy. Tory MPs are instructed to meet before committee meetings to plan strategy to help ministers, and to be assigned questions to ask witnesses. Attendance at these meetings is mandatory, and recorded," Mr. Turner wrote on his blog. "Of course," he added, "I never went."

NDP MPs were quick to point out that the previous Liberal government did the same thing, although they weren't able to point to such a clear confirmation as that offered by Mr. Turner on his blog.

Readers have also been kept up to date on what Mr. Turner claims is a plot afoot to remove him from his current office quarters, as well as his take on what happened off-camera during last Thursday's Question Period, when Mr. MacKay returned to the House for the first time since the "dog" incident: "Today, [Belinda Stronach] sat there in the House of Commons, not far away from where the Halton Independent Party (HIP) is now located, and looked pouty, angry, victimized, condescending and patronizing, all at the same time (she is remarkable).

"Across from her was former beau Peter MacKay, professing to the Speaker that he never did call that woman a dog. In fact he said he had never said anything bad about anyone. And, as he did so, he avoided looking at Stronach. The opposition MPs hooted and stomped and groaned. The Conservative MPs clapped a little, and looked upset. It was a moment you could not really soak up unless you were in that chamber at the very moment. It struck me instantly that Mackay could be a man in trouble."

In recent days, he has also criticized both government and opposition backbenchers for their "mindlessly partisan" behaviour during QP, but noted that there are "a few notable exceptions": "Michael Ignatieff, for example, sits beside my desk and stares off with a bemused look on his face, as one would ponder a Parliamentary ant farm." With reports from the Parliamentary frontlines like that, who needs Hansard?

komalley@hilltimes.com The Hill Times

#### The Spin Doctors

by Abbas Rana

"Bloc Leader Gilles Duceppe said that his party will defeat the Harper government if it did not address the fiscal imbalance in the next budget and any amount short of \$3.9-billion for Quebec will be deemed as inadequate. Do you think the Prime Minister will be able to deliver the \$3.9-billion for Quebec?"

#### Mike Storeshaw Conservative Strategist

"Frankly, I'm not convinced that any amount of money in the next budget is going to satisfy Mr. Duceppe, or any of his separatist allies in the Parti Québécois, for that matter. It seems that Mr. Duceppe's ultimatum is based on his own preferred timetable for a federal election, and on what he thinks could help the PQ in a future provincial election against Premier Jean Charest.

"Our government is committed to restoring fiscal

balance in the federation. And we're committed to reducing taxes, paying down the national debt, and ensuring that every dollar we spend as a government goes toward the real priorities of Canadian families. That's the type of budget that the government will introduce, one that continues to follow through on our commitments.

"Of course, this highlights the fundamental shortcoming of the Bloc. They can make demands, threats and ultimatums. But they will never understand what it is like to fulfill a commitment in government. And

mitment in government. And they cannot ever concretely deliver a thing for the people of Quebec."

#### Leslie Swartman Liberal Strategist

"As I said in this column two weeks ago, it will be darn near impossible for the government to meet the demands of the BQ. This will inevitably lead us into a spring election, the third election in three years.

"But hey, you reap what you sow. In an effort to undermine the Martin government, the Conservatives promised they would 'solve' the fiscal imbalance. That now infamous Québec City speech that Mr. Harper delivered during the election was a turning point for the party in Quebec. The PM might as well kiss those 10 seats in La Belle

Province goodbye as Quebecers are realizing that this government does not represent their values and they were hoodwinked into electing Conservatives under false pretenses.

"And if you don't believe me, ask Michael Fortier. He has passed up the opportunity to run in the by-election in Repentigny because he knows how devastating the result will be for the Conservative Party."

#### Philippe Gagnon

"Stephen Harper has the financial means, and these include more than the federal surpluses, to keep the promise he made to Quebecers on eliminating the fiscal imbalance, by confirming in the next federal budget that Quebec will ultimately be receiving \$3.9-billion more per year. Reforming equalization,

transferring tax fields, increasing federal funding for health, education and social services, or a combination of all of these—the Conservative Prime Minister has almost too many choices. If he does not deliver the goods, there will be consequences, as Bloc Québécois Leader Gilles Duceppe repeated just this month

to party delegates: 'If Stephen Harper goes back on his word, we'll bring the government down, that's all. Quebecers will be the judges.'

Ever since it came to power, the Conservative government has been trying to extract itself from Harper's promise, so unless there is an about-face on the government's part, there will be a federal election in the winter of 2007. Last week, Finance Minister Jim Flaherty said that the federal surplus, which is even larger than anticipated, may not be used to tackle the fiscal imbalance, after all. No matter how the Conservatives protest and deny, the manoeuvring room is there and they have an obligation to produce results. Between now and the next budget, the economic update in November and the finance ministers' meeting in December should show

in December should show whether the federal government is lining up behind complete elimination of the fiscal imbalance. The \$3.9-billic a year for Quebec is nonnegotiable."

#### Brad Lavigne NDP Strategist

"Last June's NDP budget contained approximately \$1-billion in additional money for Quebec in the areas of environment, housing and post-secondary education. The Bloc voted against it despite the fact that it took a substantial bite out of the fiscal imbalance.

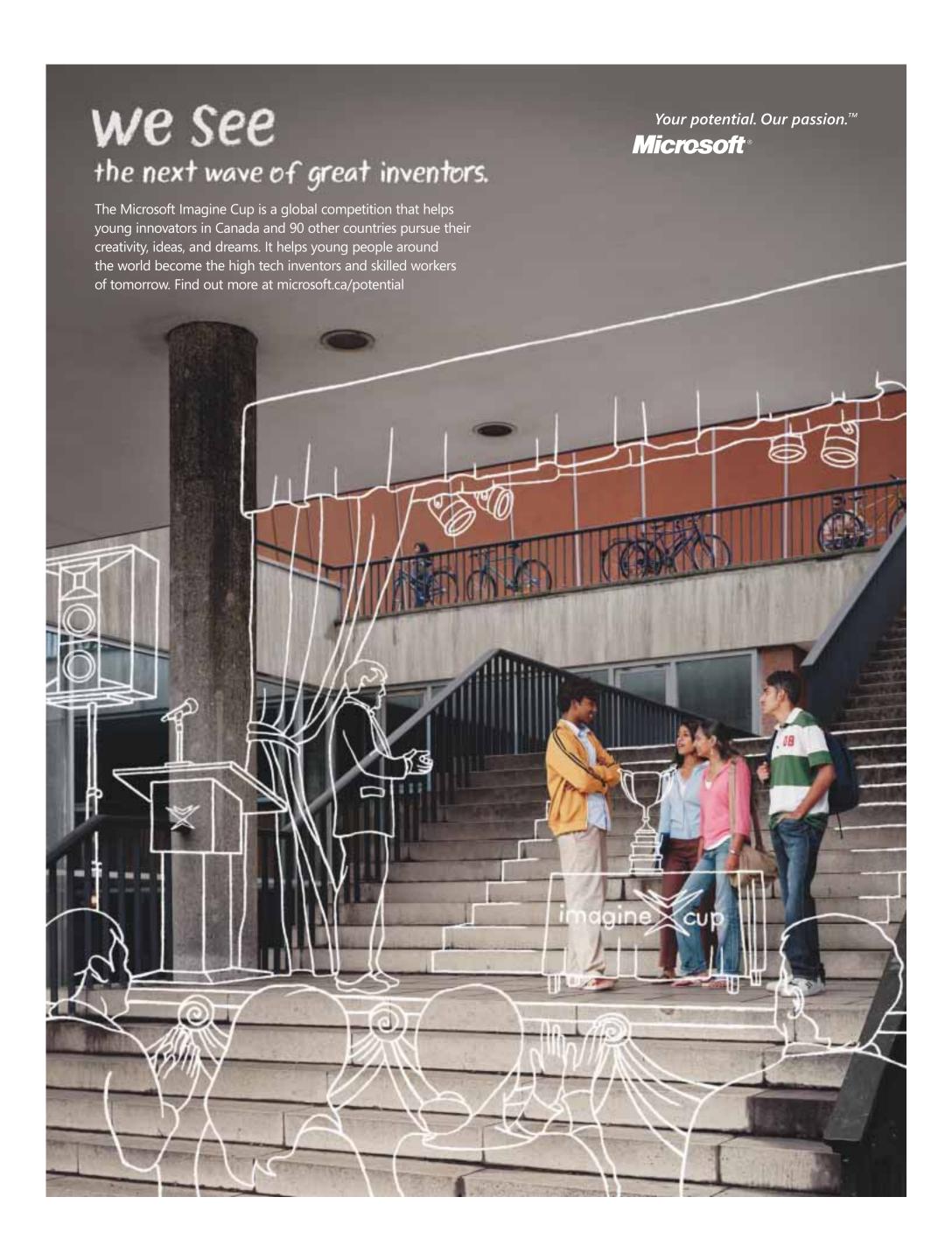
"The Bloc then voted for Harper's 2006 budget that contained nothing in the areas it had traditionally cited as the basis for its support. To sum up: the Bloc voted for a budget that promised to 'study' the fiscal imbalance, but voted against the budget that actually reduced the fiscal imbalance. This is the same party that helped Harper ram through his softwood sellout which undermines

Quebec authority and Canada's sovereignty.

'The recent windfall surpluses yet again illustrate that the Harper gov ernment has the fiscal capacity to invest more in the programs that ordinary Canadians count on, but like their Liberal predecessors they won't. Then Quebecers can address the 'accomplishment imbalance'—in the last 16 years the Bloc has delivered less for Quebec than Jack Layton has delivered in the last 16 months."







## Legislation















Photographs by Jake Wright, The Hill Time.

House legislation in pictures: Pictured top right and clockwise, NDP MP Pat Martin slams the Liberals on Bill C-2, while Reuters reporter David Ljunggren looks on. Grit MP Wayne Easter, top and right, talks to reporters after testifying before the House Public Safety Committee looking into the Maher Arar affair. Mr. Easter is the former Solicitor General. Conservative MP Hugh Segal testified before the Senate's Rules Committee about televising the Senate. Grit Sen. Joseph Day defends the Libs on C-2 amendments. Senate staffers Marc Roy and Josh Morgan pictured with Treasury Board President John Baird's press secretary Patrick Robert. Indian Affairs Minister Jim Prentice and NDP MP Jean Crowder when Mr. Prentice testified at the Status of Women Committee.

#### By BEA VONGDOUANGCHANH



While Conservative MPs blasted Liberal Senators for proposing amendments that would "significantly change the spirit" of the Federal Accountability Act, Bill

C-2, Democracy Watch defended the Liberal amendments last week, saying that many of them strengthen the bill and include some campaign promises the government made but did not keep in the bill's original draft.

"Liberal Senators proposed some changes that clearly are aimed at helping the Liberal Party but they also proposed more changes that will strengthen the federal government's accountability system," Democracy Watch coordinator **Duff Conacher** told *The Hill Times* last week.

The Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee wrapped up its meetings last week with the last of its witnesses on Monday and moved into clause by clause consideration on Tuesday and Wednesday. The bill was reported to the Senate last Friday and is expected to be debated this Tuesday.

Liberal Senators on the committee made approximately 100 amendments including many key ones which the Conservative government said it is not willing to accept. Among them are raising the political donation limit to \$2,000 instead of \$1,000, keeping two separate House and Senate ethics officers and

# Grit Senators boost party's prospects, and improve government accountability in C-2 amendments, says Democracy Watch

providing exemptions for the Wheat Board and the National Arts Centre from Access to Information.

"The unelected Liberal Senate has tried to gut the bill," Treasury Board President **John Baird** (Ottawa West-Nepean, Ont.) said at a press conference last week. "They have tried to weaken the bill. They have been motivated by what is in the best interests of the Liberal Party and not what is in the best interests of Canadians. It is like no one in the Liberal Senate ever watched or read the Gomery report or ever heard Canadians, the huge disappointment, anger, frustration that Canadians had with the way their tax dollars were treated and that is tremendously disappointing. We want to get this back to the House and strengthen it."

Chief Government Whip Jay Hill (Prince George-Peace River, B.C.) echoed Mr. Baird's comments. "I think it's an insult to the Canadian people that an unelected Upper House has the nerve and the gall to attempt to amend legislation as important as this," he said. "The Canadian people supported it in the last election campaign to try to bring an end to the potential for the sponsorship scandal, the misuse and abuse of Canadian taxpayer dollars and that's what the Accountability Act is all about. For them to propose amendments as they have, it only serves me to believe that the Liberal Party of Canada has learned nothing from the sponsorship scandal."

Liberal Senator Joseph Day, his party's critic for Bill C-2 in the Senate, said the amendments were not politically motivated. In a press conference announcing the amendments, he said that the Senate deals with legislation in a different point of view by looking at the government's mandate and looking for "unintended consequences" in the bill. "Our amendments have been well thought out and there are no partisan amendments for political reasons," Sen. Day said. "I hope Mr. Baird will accept the role of the Senate and accept our amendments."

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#### HOUSE LEGISLATION

#### Conservatives, Liberals and NDP spar over Accountability Act

But Democracy Watch's Conacher says Grit Senators actually improved act's accountability measures

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Conservative Senators made approximately 42 amendments to the bill, mostly all "technical" ones including spelling changes or matching English to French translations. There were a total of 156 amendments.

During Question Period last week, interim Liberal Leader **Bill Graham** (Toronto Centre, Ont.) said the Conservatives' attack against the Senate is "election posturing."

Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister Jason Kenney (Calgary Southeast, Alta.) responded by saying it was Liberals who were posturing. "What Canadians demanded in the last election, and I know the Liberals still do not quite get this, was accountability," he told the House. "They wanted a change of culture in Ottawa. We brought that forward in the most dramatic series of reforms ever proposed in the Parliament of Canada in the Federal Accountability Act. The Liberals have held it up in the other place for over 100 days and are now reporting it back stripping out key provisions of that bill. I want to know when the Liberals will cooperate with Canadians to bring accountability to government, when they delivered corruption?'

Mr. Baird said the Liberal Senators were "dilly-dallying" by proposing so many amendments, but Sen. Day said that the Senate committee has been working hard to deliver an improved, unrushed bill. While the Senate committee has had the bill since the end of June, they have met for almost 100 hours over 20 days and heard more than 140 witnesses.

#### Liberals make key amendments to strengthen Bill C-2: Conacher

Mr. Conacher said one of the major self-interested amendments the Liberal Senators on the committee made was to increase the political donation limits but made many other ones in the public interest. For example, when it comes to Access to Information, Mr. Conacher said the Liberals delivered where the Conservatives did not. In their election campaign platform, the Conservatives promised to "provide a general public interest override for all exemptions, so that the public interest is put before the secrecy of the government."The amendment does not require that information be released if there is no public harm, but it does provide for a general public interest override where information "may" be released if there is a public interest. Conservative Senators voted against this amendment.

Access to Information expert **Ken Rubin** said the override is not strong enough because it does not include national security issues. While he said he doesn't expect the government to release information that would be detrimental to national security, information such as the Maher Arar case, which was deemed national security, could possibly never see the light of day.

Another key amendment was in the area of whistleblower protection, Mr. Conacher said. The Conservatives promised to provide "adequate" legal support to whistleblowers, but only allowed the Public Sector Integrity Commissioner to award \$1,500 for legal costs and a maximum of \$3,000 extra if the case warranted. These legal costs are not "adequate," Mr. Conacher said, and praised the Liberal amendment to increase the support for legal costs from \$1,500 to \$25,000. Under exceptional circumstances, the Commissioner would be able to award as much as needed rather than only \$3,000. "With \$1,500, you could probably get only an opinion from the lawyer," Mr. Conacher said. "With \$25,000 you could have them take the full case and represent you."

The Liberals also chose to amend the whistleblower protection section to allow the Public Sector Integrity Commissioner to release information regarding investigations without revealing the identity of the whistleblower. Mr. Conacher said this will allow the public to know that there has been wrongdoing in the government which will add to transparency in government.

The Conservatives promised to establish a procurement auditor but did not guarantee the establishment of one in Bill C-2. The wording said that the governor in council "may" establish one, which gives Cabinet a choice, Mr. Conacher said. The Liberals changed the wording to "shall" which guarantees there will be a procurement auditor. While Mr. Conacher said he was happy to see the Liberals also make an amendment to allow the procurement auditor to cancel contracts, he said it was not strong enough because they used the word "may" cancel contracts if the auditor found it to be unfair.

Mr. Conacher also said he agreed with the Liberals' amendments to establishing a selection process for a variety of appointments. The amendments would allow opposition parties to be consulted, as well as leaders in the Senate. For the Director of Public Prosecutions, the Attorney General would no longer have the ability to pre-select the candidates for the committee to narrow down; rather, the committee, made up of the government and all opposition parties in both the House and the Senate, would pre-select three candidates for the Attorney General to choose from. "They're bringing in more independence," Mr. Conacher said.

When it comes to keeping the ethics officers separate, Mr. Conacher said it 'makes sense" because "you would get into a constitutional issue because the Senate has the right constitutionally to manage its own affairs." He took aim, however, at what he calls the Senate's weak ethics code to begin with. "The new conflict of interest and ethics commissioner would be an independent watchdog over a cabinet minister, senior public officials and MPs, but would be a Senate committee-controlled lapdog when watching over Senators. I think it will be difficult to find a person to take that job. You'll be saying, you have full independence, full investigative powers in the House, but in the Senate, you can't do anything unless the committee says it's okay to do something," he said adding that the government could've taken steps in the Federal Accountability Act to strengthen the Senate Ethics Code and make it law as it did with the Public Office Holders' Code in the House.

"In strengthening the act, the Liberal Senators haven't done only things to help their party," Mr. Conacher said. "It's the opposite of what happened in the House where the Liberal MPs tried to weaken the bill."

Separating Federal Accountability Act not an option, says Tory MP Lukiwski

NDP MP Pat Martin (Winnipeg Centre, Man.), said he believes the Senate has not done the bill justice. He said the Liberals "hate" the Federal Accountability Act because it's an "insult" to them. "The reaction here today is the death rattle of the bill," he told reporters at a press conference after Sen. Day announced what the Liberals intended to amend. He said he feared the bill would go back and forth between the House and the Senate and won't be passed before a potential election next spring.

"It will be death by amendments," Mr. Martin said. "It will run out of gas before it's passed. It's not perfect, but it has many meaningful reforms. The only way to salvage the bill that I can see is to hive off parts and let others go ... [because] the government won't accept these amendments. ... The Liberals can't breathe if the Federal Accountability Act passes. We should condemn the Senate for playing mischief with the bill and I question the sincerity of the amendments."

Conservative MP **Tom Lukiwski** (Regina-Lumsden-Lake Centre, Sask.), who sat on the Legislative Committee studying Bill C-2 in the House, said the government will not accept any amendments that undermine the bill.

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#### HOUSE LEGISLATION

#### SIRC's Filmon to discuss annual report, spending this week

Shapiro to talk about his Ethics Commissioner Office's spending at Commons Access Committee

Week ahead in Parliament:

#### **CSIS Director Judd** appears before Public **Safety Committee**

ommittees will be busy this week with high-profile witnesses testifying. First up is Human Resources Minister Diane Finley who will discuss the report on Plan and Priorities for her department on Tuesday at the Human Resources, Social Development and the Status of Persons with Disabilities House committee.

Also on Tuesday, Canadian Security Intelligence Service director Jim Judd will testify at the Public Safety and National Security committee which is studying the report of the Justice Denis O'Connor's Commission of Inquiry on the events relating to Maher Arar. He will appear with former CSIS director Ward Elcock.

Ethics Commissioner Bernard Shapiro will discuss his office's main estimates at the House Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics committee meeting on Wednesday, while Gary Filmon, chair of the Security Intelligence Review Committee will discuss the main estimates, the SIRC Annual Report and the O'Connor report at the Public Safety committee meeting.

Over in the Senate, Indian and Northern Affairs Minister **Jim** Prentice will appear before the Human Rights committee on Monday to report on Canada's international obligations in regards to the rights and freedoms of children. He will appear with Assembly of First Nations National Chief Phil Fontaine. Mr. Prentice will also appear before the Senate's Aboriginal Affairs committee on Wednesday to discuss the government's claims

Also on Wednesday, Foreign Affairs Minister Peter MacKay will testify at the Senate Foreign Affairs committee to discuss the report on the evacuation of Canadian citizens from Lebanon in July 2006.

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"All of those examples are things that currently we cannot agree with. We feel very strongly that the donation limits should stay as it is. We also feel there should be one ethics commissioner that can oversee the ethics regimes in the upper and lower chamber. Particularly with the Canadian Wheat Board, we feel very strongly that since its farmers' money that funds the Wheat Board, the farmers and the Canadian public have an absolute right to see how that money is being spent. I believe that the Liberal senators are coming back with three amendments that are absolutely untenable and it's something that we will not be able to support," he said.
"Our hope and desire as is Mr. Mar-

tin's is to see this bill be given royal assent as quickly as possible. Having said that, we cannot agree to amendments that significantly change the spirit of the bill. That's why we have to look at all these amendments when they come back. I believe the role of the Senate is clearly to look at the bill when it comes before the Senate but not to make any substantive changes and those three particular amendments would be substantive in nature, things we are not prepared to support.'

Mr. Lukiwski told The Hill Times that separating the bill is not an option.

#### House will 'rebuild' Liberals' 'gutted' bill: Baird

In a press release, Mr. Baird said he's disappointed that the "Liberal-dominated Senate has failed to rise above partisanship self-interest to help ensure greater accountability." He outlined that the Liberals want to "limit the reach of the Access to Information Act in Foundations to only include information created after the Accountability Act's Royal Assent," which Mr. Conacher also took issue with.

"What are the Liberals trying to hide?" Mr. Conacher said, explaining that when new departments or foundations or corporations are added to the Access to Information Act, it includes all information past, present and future.

"It's highly unusual. People should be able to get information on what they did in the past.'

The Liberals also passed an amendment to move the coming into force date of the political donation section to Jan. 1 of the year following Royal Assent. Mr. Baird said this is not in the best interest of Canadians. Mr. Conacher disagreed, however, saying that it's in the public interest because it would be "crazy" to change the rules in the middle of the year, especially when the Liberals are three quarters done their leadership campaign. "That's just spite," he said.

Sen. Day said he hopes the Senate can pass the amended bill at third reading prior to going on a one week break for Remembrance Day, which could mean the House could have it back on Nov. 20 for debate. Once the House receives it, Mr. Baird will report it and the government will likely reject most of the amendments; but in the minority Parliament, it will be difficult to determine if the opposition will reject them as well.

Mr. Conacher said the contentious issue will be over the increased political donations but that the opposition parties are likely to accept the other amendments.

Bloc Québécois Whip Michel Guimond (Montmorency-Charlevoix, Que.) said his party will support the government on keeping the \$1,000 donation limit but will have to take a closer look at all the other amendments before declaring what will pass. Mr. Martin said he prefers that the bill be split up. Liberal Whip Karen Redman (Kitchener Centre, Man.) also said her party needs to carefully consider the amendments

before accepting or rejecting them. The bill could go back to the Senate with some rejected amendments, at which time, the Senate has, by convention, accepted the will of the House.

Mr. Baird maintained that the House will strengthen the bill, just as they did the first time around.

"I'm going to be optimistic, we are going to rebuild this bill, strengthen it, toughen it up and we are going to put the interests of Canadians first, not the narrow partisan interests of ourselves first, certainly not the partisan interests of the Liberal Party," he said. "We want to strengthen the bill and send it back to the Senate and we want the Senate to respect the will of the people.'

bvongdou@hilltimes.com The Hill Times

#### STATUS OF GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

#### **House of Commons**

- S-2 Hazardous Materials Information Review Act (second reading)
- C-6 Aviation Safety Bill (second reading)
  C-7 Military Justice Bill (second reading)
- C-9 Conditional Sentencing Bill (report) • C-10 Minimum Sentences for Firearms
- Crimes Bill (committee)
- C-11 Transportation and Railway Safety Act (committee)
- C-12 Emergency management Bill (committee)
- C-14 Adoption Bill (report)
- C-16 Fixed Election Date Bill (committee)
- C-17 Judges' Salary and Benefits Bill (committee)
- C-18 DNA identification Bill (committee)
- C-19 Street Racing Bill (committee) • C-20 Airports and Transportation Appeal Tribunal Bill (second reading)
- C-21 Firearms Centre and Gun Registry Bill (second reading)
- C-22 Age of Sexual Protection Bill (second reading)
- C-23 Criminal Procedure Bill (committee) • C-24 Softwood Lumber Bill (committee)
- C-25 Proceeds of Crime and Terrorist Financing Act Bill (committee)
- C-26 Pay Day Loans Bill (second reading)

- C-27 Repeat Offenders Bill (second reading) • C-28 Second Budget Implementation Act (second reading)
- C-29 Air Canada Public Participation
- Act (second reading)
- C-30 Clean Air Act (second reading) • C-31 Voter Identification Bill (second reading)

- C-2 Federal Accountability Act (committee)
- C-3 International Bridges and Tunnels
- S-3 Military Sex Offenders Bill (committee)
- S-4 Senate Tenure Bill (second reading) • C-5 Public Health Agency of Canada Bill (second reading)
- S-5 Tax Conventions Implementation Act (second reading)

#### Adopted/Royal Assent

- C-4 Elections Canada Act Mandatory Review
- C-8 Money for the Public Service of
- C-13 Budget Implementation Bill
- C-15 Agricultural Marketing Programs Act

—updated to Oct. 26

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#### **News**

#### Conservatives trying to control Parliamentary associations: Grits

#### But Conservatives say MPs were encouraged in 'team-building' exercise to join associations of interest

#### By BEA VONGDOUANGCHANH

The Conservative government has made a "concerted effort" to take over Parliamentary associations in order to control the message that gets out from Parliament's many international delegations, say Liberal MPs.

Liberal MP Bryon Wilfert (Richmond Hill, Ont.), co-chair of the Canada-Japan Inter-Parliamentary Group for seven years, said the Conservatives joined all of the Parliamentary friendship associations and inter-Parliamentary groups just before elections took place for the executives for the sole reason of taking control of the group. He said that prior to the June vote, his group only had 32 members, but when the Conservatives joined, it spiked to 158.

"I've heard that it was a whipped meeting because the government in fact wanted to be in charge of these associations even though they're Parliamentary associations," Mr. Wilfert told *The Hill Times* last week. "We had a more than significant turn out in our association. Knowing that was going to happen, I got all of my colleagues out but, the point being, for seven years I was uncontested as a co-chair. People liked what I was doing but because of something that happened earlier, I guess I got targeted because the PMO wasn't happy about something that happened in Whistler at our APPCED conference."

Mr. Wilfert said earlier this year, he chaired the 12<sup>th</sup> annual Asia Pacific Parliamentarians Conference on Environment and Development which took place in Whistler, B.C., with the theme of preventing natural disasters. The final communiqué from the three-day conference in April contained the word "Kyoto," Mr. Wilfert said, and the government did not like it.

"We encouraged others to ratify the Kyoto Protocol, and I asked at the time if the head of the Canadian delegation who was a Conservative [MP Jim Abbott (Kootenay-Columbia, B.C.)] had seen that. It wasn't up to me, because I wasn't head, I was chair of the conference and they said that was fine," Mr. Wilfert said, adding that was probably why the government wanted him off the executive. "I guess it's a question of making sure people keep the government line."

For the government's part, Chief Government Whip Jay Hill (Prince George-Peace River, B.C.) said he wouldn't "dispute" that he "encouraged" his Conservative colleagues to join the groups and associations if they had an interest, but there was no "concerted effort" to take them over. There was no other reason for it, except as a team-building exercise, he told *The Hill Times*.

We tried to get our people elected where they had an interest," Mr. Hill said. "I didn't orchestrate it, but I certainly encouraged my colleagues to get out and join some of the Parliamentary Associations and groups and support their colleagues as a sort of team-building, morale-building type of thing. If one of my Conservative colleagues, for whatever reason, wanted to serve in a capacity of chair or co-chair or even on the board of directors for the group, I feel that part of being a colleague and supporting one another is to spend the \$10 or \$25, or whatever it might be to join the association, and be able to cast a ballot and vote for my friend rather than see an opposition Member be elected or re-elected to those positions."

Mr. Hill said it's appropriate Conservatives head the Parliamentary asso-

ciations and groups because they are the government. The opposite was true when the Liberals were in power, he said. "We've had some Conservatives for so many years who felt that it was either not appropriate or didn't have a good opportunity to get elected as the head of the association or the friendship group. When it comes to electing the executive positions, people tend to vote on party lines which is understandable," he said, pointing out that there are still more opposition members than there are government members on the Parliamentary associations and that any group could have elected anyone they wanted

Opposition whip Karen Redman (Kitchener Centre, Ont.) said that while there has been precedent in the past that chairs and co-chairs of the groups and associations have usually been government members, there was no major effort to ensure that while her party was in government. "I've never seen people come out en masse. There are Conservatives who have left black tie dinners to come and vote on a Parliamentary executive," she said. "It's really quite extraordinary. I've only been here nine years, but I've never seen this kind of concerted effort to take over the executive in quite this way."

There are 12 Parliamentary associations on the Hill, with representatives from both the House of Commons and the Senate. They are designed "to promote Canada's interests abroad on a continuing basis" on a bilateral and multi-lateral level. The 12 associations are: Canada-China Legislative Association, Canada-France Inter-Parliamentary Association, Canada-Japan Inter-Parliamentary Group, Canada-United Kingdom Inter-Parliamentary Associa-

tion, Canada-United States Inter-Parliamentary Group, Canada-Africa Parliamentary Association, Canada-Europe Parliamentary Association, Canadian-NATO Parliamentary Association, Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, Inter-Parliamentary Forum of the Americas, and the Inter-Parliamentary Union. These groups are funded through Parliament, 70 per cent by House, 30 per cent by the Senate.

There are also four inter-Parliamentary groups that don't receive funding from Parliament: Canada-Germany, Canada-Israel, Canada-Italy and Canada-Ireland.

Mr. Wilfert said on the one hand, "it's wonderful to see all these people join these associations," but on the other hand, he fears it's only a "one time wonder."

Ms. Redman stated the same concerns. "I would reiterate that it should reflect the individual interest of the individual Parliamentarian or Senator or perhaps the interests of the region they represent," she said. "My sense is that they just joined *en masse*. I don't know the numbers but my observation would tell me that every friendship group has swelled."

Mr. Wilfert said he also hopes the independence of the groups and associations remains, adding that the Parliamentary associations should not be extensions of the government. "They're designed to represent Parliament," he said. "When you deal with the policy of Canada, when you go over, irrespective of government, you're there to promote Canada's interests and I never subscribed to the view that you should be overseas bashing whoever the government is. I've been overseas since

and I defy anybody to say I've ever badmouthed the government because that's not our job. Our job is to represent Parliament and to promote an understanding and certain issues irrespective of party. At the end of the day, you need all parties to buy in on these issues and you're not doing yourself or anybody a service. When you go from 30 something members to 100-some, you have to question why the sudden interest? I would hope that the independence of the associations would be there and not be run by government. It certainly wasn't when we were in because that's not the role of government."

Mr. Hill said that there's a "fine line" between partisanship and representing the country, but that partisanship should be allowed in certain circumstances to show that democracy works in Canada. Mr. Hill said when he's travelled abroad, he's had to defend what the country's doing. In those cases when he was in opposition, he had to defend the Liberal government as an opposition Reform or Conservative member. "In that sense, it crosses party lines because when you get on the international stage you have to remember that we're Canadians first," he said. "There are also times when it's appropriate to show ... that you don't have everyone thinking exactly the same and that we have four parties that are represented in our House of Commons that are elected by the Canadian people of Canada and that means we have four different opinions on different issues. As long as it's presented in that light I think that's healthy because it shows foreign countries that democracy is alive and well in Canada."

bvongdou@hilltimes.com The Hill Times

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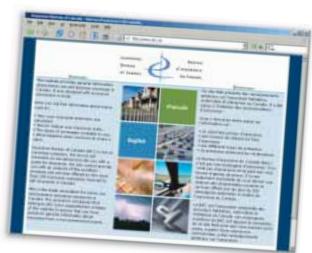
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#### EDITORIAL

#### House of Commons decorum: II

eave it to the NDP to come up with the ✓idea of docking pay for those MPs who shout racist or sexist slurs in the House of Commons and don't apologize. The NDP wants sanctions of forced apologies, suspensions and monetary fines. Foreign Affairs Minister Peter MacKay, for instance, who earns \$220,622 a year, would be charged \$604 for every day that he didn't apologize.

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Mr. MacKay, you'll recall, denies he called his ex-girlfriend Liberal MP Belinda Stronach a dog when he allegedly shouted, "You already have her!" and motioned to her empty seat in the House after Liberal MP David McGuinty yelled to Mr. MacKay, "Don't you care about your dog?" in the Commons during a debate on the Conservatives' Clean Air Act recently.

The NDP may be well-intentioned and may want to clean up the House, but this isn't the way. MPs shouldn't be fined for free speech in the heart of democracy. How dreary. MPs don't need "civility meters." The House of Commons is not an office. Politics is ugly and dirty, but it can also be glorious and rewarding. Most MPs know this. The smart ones do.

The House of Commons has been unusually raucous in this minority Parliament and is becoming increasingly so because most MPs are in the House every day, day in and day out. Tempers are flaring. Wednesdays used to be the most exciting day of the week in Question Period under majority governments, but, today, the drama, sometimes amateurish, unfolds nearly every day.

Most MPs know they could do a better job of offering a better "show." They also know there should be zero tolerance of sexist and racist remarks in the House.

Please include your full name, address and daytime phone

number. The Hill Times reserves the right to edit letters. Letters do not reflect the views of The Hill Times. Thank you

CCNA

House Speaker Peter Milliken said he didn't hear the alleged slur, but was forced to look into the point of privilege last week when Liberals stepped up with sworn affidavits from some Liberal MPs who said they heard Mr. MacKay. Needless to say Mr. MacKay would have been a lot smarter to apologize for anything he may or may not have said a long time ago, putting both himself and all the rest of us out of misery.

But MPs shouldn't start clamping down on free speech in the House because of one sexist, juvenile remark.

Declared Mr. Milliken: "We do enjoy freedom of speech in this House. Members are free to say what they want within fairly wide limits and the Chair enforces those broad limits.

"However, the list of language that is unparliamentary is relatively short. Obviously words can be used in ways that are considerably impolite or improper in respect of other members and it may result in intervention by the Chair in certain circumstances. However, I caution all hon. members to bear in mind that we do enjoy freedom of speech in this House and that members ought to conduct themselves in ways that are in accordance with the high expectations that Canadians have in members in electing them to serve in this place."

As Speaker Milliken said, MPs should use proper caution, but, they could offer better debates. They should watch the Brit-



#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Tory government is committed to key **Defence promises:** Minister O'Connor

Re: "Prime Minister Harper reneges on promise to buy three new ice-breakers for Arctic: what's next?" (The Hill Times, Oct. 23). I would like to correct the record regarding comments made by Liberal MP Larry Bagnell in last week's edition of The Hill Times.

Our New Government. unlike the previous Liberal government, is committed to keeping our commitments. Since taking office, that is exactly what we have been doing.

During the election campaign we outlined a robust plan to strengthen our ability to ensure our security and assert our sovereignty, particularly in the North. We made a promise and we intend to keep that promise.

I would like to remind Mr. Bagnell that our commitments for the North were reinforced when both the Prime Minister and I travelled to the region during the summer. We have, and will continue to fulfill our commitments for the long-term interests of all Canadians. Any comment to the contrary is completely false and misleading.

**National Defence** Minister Gordon O'Connor Ottawa, Ont.

#### Good HT article on 'narrowcasting'

Re: "Tories run 'narrowcast' government, says pollster," (The Hill Times, Oct. 23). Good article. I think that unbiased news reporting is key nowadays. I've just switched my homepage to Google/news for that reason.

I think that there's a story in covering bias news station/ newspaper owners because if you watch and read them over time, it's quite evident. I for one consider someone trying to steer my opinions or even the direction of this country, from the sidelines, as being an armchair politician throwing cheap shots most of the time, because there's no accountability in that arena. These same individuals could not possibly stand up under their own devices

Anyway, that's how I

#### **Paul Macknight** Parksville, B.C.

- Canadians don't trust the Conservative Party anymore because the PM is arrogant, presumptuous, flippant, and, finally, politically-dependent on U.S. President George W. Bush. Hugo Giovanni Felice Yassin Thunder Bay, Ont.
- After many years of not being very political, I find myself very active in politics and not with the Conservative party. I find that the Conservatives have made a



Listen up: Defence Minister Gordon O'Connor responds to Grit MP Larry Bagnell's column and defends the government.

serious mistake with their attention to their core membership. I say this because of the number of their members who have switched to our party. The main reason for this, I believe, is that many who were former Progressive Conservatives find that they cannot follow the new, more extreme and ideological Conservative Party. It is too far to the right and too intolerant.

Nick Burman Calgary, Alta. (The letter-writer is a Green Party member.)

■ Your story "Tories run 'narrowcast' government: says pollster"was excellent. It gives an accurate portrait of a government of dilettantish autocrats committing political suicide. The 2007 election, I believe, will see a Liberal majority.

**Greg Felton** New Westminster, B.C. (The letter writer is a columnist for the Canadian Arab News.)

#### Government downgrades Senate: reader

Recently a media story focused on complaints against the Senate Defence Committee for the expenses they incurred in a trip to the Middle East to investigate systems of port security and to get first-hand knowledge of the mission in Afghanistan. The Senators were refused permission to visit Afghanistan because the sıtuatıon there was"in flux.

Last weekend the Minister of International Cooperation Josée Verner made a surprise visit to Kandahar and Kabul for what appears to be nothing more than a photo-op to reannounce funding already announced in Canada.

Why were the Senators prevented from visiting Afghanistan while the Minister was allowed in? It would appear the reasons are simple: on the one hand, there is the government's effort to "control the message" while on the other hand it is trying to downgrade the Senate.

**Derrall Bellaire** London, Ont.

#### Prime Minister is on right track: reader

Re: Garfield Marks' letter (The Hill Times, Oct. 9). With all due respect, why you are accusing the Conservative government of cutting and running? Yes, they may have cut spending to build museums, like you Liberals may want but don't you think since the Liberals got us into Afghanistan we should finish? Or, is this another Liberal cut and run as we only went there as a Liberal election ploy?

Yes we cut and run from Kyoto. As a Liberal, do you really think we had any way to meet these requirements? If your Liberal government had listened to the provinces at the time, we may have met the Kyoto requirements in seven years instead of five. The Prime Minister at the time wouldn't listen.

As far as the women's rights issue is concerned, that is ridiculous. There are so many women's groups but only about three actually help women and the rest just draw money so their executives can get big paycheques and travel the country giving speeches.

As for the Kelowna Accord, you cannot just throw money at the problem as the Liberals are notorious for doing. It doesn't work. Each group has their own unique problems and needs to be dealt with as such. Canada has never cut and run from a war.

Stan W. Currie Edmonton, Alta.

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Sookman clouds over number of issues: Geist

Re: "Copyright reform: let the sun shine in," (The Hill Times, Oct. 23). For an opinion piece that purports to let the light shine in on copyright, Canadian Recording Industry Association lobbyist Barry Sookman's response to my article on the growing public concern with copyright clouds over a surprising number of issues.

In addition to failing to come clean on his CRIA relationship while citing a CRIA-funded survey, Mr. Sookman misleadingly suggests that Canada risks isolation by adopting copyright policies that favour national interests over those originating in Washington and Hollywood. In fact, the majority of Canada's leading trading partners have yet to ratify the WIPO internet treaties, enabling the government to stand up for Canadians by adopting a "made in Canada" copyright approach.

Moreover, Mr. Sookman's warning of "fewer jobs and slower economic growth" for failing to amend the Copyright Act does not reflect the experience of Canadian cultural industries. For example, Canadian Heritage recently reported that Canadian music has experienced remarkable growth over the past four years with Canadian music labels taking advantage of the opportunities presented by the internet and new technologies.

That is good news for the many Canadian independent record labels that are responsible for 90 per cent of new Canadian music, though given the fact that CRIA is governed by foreign interests, perhaps a less welcome development for Mr. Sookman's client.

Dr. Michael Geist Canada Research Chair in Internet and E-commerce Law University of Ottawa, Faculty of Law Ottawa, Ont.

■ Is it usual for *The Hill Times* to run op-eds by registered lobbyists without disclosing that fact? I believe that that is the case for Barry Sookman who is a registered lobbyist for CRIA. If this is usual, might I suggest that you reconsider this policy?

Chris Brand New Westminster, B.C.

■ Mr. Sookman's opinion piece starts by talking about things most Canadians agree are good, such as protecting the rights and economic interests of artists. He then describes specific policies which the reader is intended to presume might protect those rights.

As a Canadian software author and activist working to protect the rights of all authors, as well as all users of information technology, I disagree with most of Mr. Sookman's claims.

The copyright revision debate mirrors a classic "innovators dilemma," where there are incumbent industries vs. innovators. The incumbents, their associations, and the lawyers who often work for them, are proposing rules which will protect current market positions against competition.

Mr. Sookman quotes from highly controversial Business Software Alliance studies. These studies don't adequately differentiate between people who are illegally infringing the copyright of BSA members, from people who have chosen legal alternatives to BSA member software. As a person who only produces, uses and commercially supports Free/Libre and Open Source Software (FLOSS), the BSA studies have never adequately differentiated me or my customers from copyright infringers.

The highly controversial 1996 WIPO treaties include legal protection for specific abuses of technical protection measures. Copyright holders would be protected in their desire to encode their content in ways such that they are only interoperable with an "authorized" subset of access devices. This circumvents the intent of competition law which is necessary to protect the broader free market economy from the harm of monopolies. It is also a massive expansion of copyright law into areas that have nothing to do with copyright.

This is coupled with technical measures applied by device manufacturers to communications tools which treat their owners as "attackers" of these devices. Most of the attacks to the rights of Canadians (including authors) that Michael Geist speaks about are derivatives of this attack on basic tangible property rights.

Mr. Sookman and his clients are proposing a marketplace that excludes FLOSS, where FLOSS represents the greatest competitive threat to BSA members. FLOSS protects the rights of owners of computers to "run, copy, distribute, study, change and improve software." It is obvious that content will be encoded such that it is not interoperable with this transparent and accountable type of software.

The abuse of these technologies to protect copyright is based on science fiction, and not science. Cryptographic theory, the strongest of the technical measures, describes why you can't use these technologies to protect copyright given the encrypted content and the decryption key are in the attackers home.

It is only law abiding citizens who are impacted by these technologies, not those who wish to infringe copyright. I can only conclude that copyright infringement is being used as a scare tactic to introduce legal protection for technologies being abused to bypass other laws that protect Canadians.

Mr. Sookman ignores much of the debate that is happening outside of Canada, including how controversial the DMCA legislation is within the U.S.A. This includes many of the industries that were proponents of these

laws in the past and are recognizing that they misunderstood the consequences. While the USTR is still lobbying based on a decade-old ideology, many in the U.S.A. have moved forward. We should be learning from this experience.

I also urge political parties of all stripes to support reforms that will usher in a new era of innova-





Photographs by Jake Wright, The Hill Times

**It's the Copyright Act...** Industry Minister Maxime Bernnier and Heritage Minister Bev Oda are responsible for the Copyright Act which happens to be a hotly-discussed public policy issue in the pages of *The Hill Times* newsweekly these days.

tion, cultural advancement and economic growth for Canada. This means a rejection of the backward-facing reforms proposed by the incumbent industries that Mr. Sookman commercially represents.

#### Russell McOrmond Ottawa, Ont.

(The letter-writer is policy coordinator for Canada's Association for Open Source).

#### House needs more women

The recent coming out of Newmarket-Aurora MP Belinda Stronach against the Conservative government for not having enough women in their Cabinet is a good example of the "do as I say, don't do as I do"mentality.

Are there any women present on the board of directors at Magna or do any women who occupy the top executive positions where she was the CEO?

If the issue of having a woman in a leadership role is so dear to her, you would think she would have done something about it. Unless of course, the recent outrage is nothing else than a simple opportunistic move.

There is only one way to get more women into a Cabinet position. More women need to take interest in a political career, more women need to run for Parliament and more women need to get elected. When this happens, regardless of the political party in power, I can pretty much guarantee that more women will be Cabinet ministers.

#### Michel Trahan Verdun, Que.

(The letter-writer is a card-carrying member of the Conservative Party.)

■ I am so tired of both hearing and reading about the Peter MacKay and Belinda Stronach issue! I am sure I speak for many in saying this as most feel as I do that this ongoing alleged "dog" remark is getting old and overrated. In light of the fact that there are so many more urgent and pressing issues, this is something most Canadians have now deemed trivial.

Incidentally, if the remark were made, contrary to the spin by opposition party members, it was not sexist, it was just childish. It is rather insulting to my intelligence for them to presume that such a remark should even merit acknowledgement. Now, children, can we please move on? The House of Commons has a lot of work to do and Canadians are paying for it! Enough already!

Conrad Y. Levesque Kanata, Ont.

#### Why won't Harper ask Senator Fortier to run?

On Parliament Hill these days, does the capital 'C' stand for Conservative? Or does the 'C' stand for Chicken? I am appalled at Quebec Conservative Senator and Public Works Minister Michael Fortier's decision not to run in the upcoming Repentigny byelection.

There was nothing legally wrong with Prime Minister Stephen Harper's decision earlier this year to name Fortier to his Cabinet post at Public Works even though Fortier had never been elected.

After all, Harper wanted a Cabinet voice from the Montreal area.

And there has been precedence. Pierre Trudeau once picked the unelected Pierre Juneau to be minister of Telecommunications in the 1970s. But Trudeau also insisted on Juneau running for office in the first available byelection. When Juneau lost, he was rightfully turfed out of Cabinet. For all his faults, Trudeau believed that it was important for Cabinet ministers to be elected.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper talks a lot about the need for an elected Senate. I wonder how the Prime Minister reconciles himself when he looks at Michael Fortier, the man he appointed to the Senate to serve in Public Works (the office where much of the Liberals' sponsorship scandal developed), a man never elected to office (and didn't even run, a man appointed by Harper to a Senate that the Prime Minister firmly believes should have only elected members, a man now choosing not run for office in a riding near Montreal

because he suspects he will lose.
Which brings me to the letter
'H.' According to the Christian
press, which I sometimes read
on-line, Stephen Harper is very
involved in his church. If I remember my own Bible readings right,
Christ reserved many of his most
critical comments for 'hypocrites'.

So, in Canada, does 'H' stand for hypocrite'? Or Harper? Or maybe both?

John Steeves Sussex, N.B.

#### Liberals stole our money

Re: "Liberals to pay off Quebec wing's \$1.9-million debt," (The Hill Times, Oct. 23). Before the Liberals decide to pay off Quebec wing's \$1.9-million debt, they have to return the money they stole from the Canadian people. I dare any Parliamentary Press Gallery reporter to ask that question, or, better yet say it"live" on Don Newman and Mike Duffy. What do you think? I'd say it's not going to happen. So I'll ask: where in the hell is the Canadian peoples' money? Why don't journalists start questioning and demand answers from the Liberals?

Jennifer Meaden Leduc, Alta.

#### A new, false narrative

Israel did commit war crimes in Lebanon. That is not an "anti-Israel" statement, it is the conclusion of Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch. These are not partisan groups, they are internationally respected to monitor conflict and provide the most unbiased reporting available. Both groups are routinely cited by world governments as authorities in human rights investigations.

Unfortunately our Western narrative now bears the taint of rightwing political correctness. In this new, false narrative it is assumed Israel can never do any wrong, all enemies are terrorists, Liberals are cut-and-runners, and global warming is still being debated. This is the 1984-ish drone from almost all editorial pages, and from our current leadership.

Sean Ledwich Winnipeg, Man.



### **Been anywhere** interesting lately?

Christoph Borchers has. Using state-of-the-art technology, he's peering into the inner workings of our cells to find new ways of diagnosing and treating diseases such as cancer.

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#### BACKROOMS

#### How about the dogs? Will anyone represent them in Parliament?

By ANGELO PERSICHILLI



The canine debate between Peter MacKay and Belinda Stronach has given to all Canadians one clear message: politicians, in general, and Liberals and Conservatives, in par-

ticular, don't like dogs.

Okay, we can safely assume that dogs don't read newspapers. However, let's pretend for a moment that they do (in fact, in some movies they do!) Can you imagine their reaction when, in the morning, on the leash and safely in the hands of their masters, Fido and Fifi pass by the newspaper boxes showing the various front pages of the newspapers?

Fido: "Why does Peter want to involve us in the dispute between he and Belinda?"

Fifi: "Yeah, it's unfair. However, we still don't know if the dog Peter was talking about was male or female."

Fido: "It's not clear yet. I read in The Globe and Mail that it will be ascertained at a Parliamentary committee. However, this is besides the point. What offends me the most is that he is using us to offend his former girlfriend. Are we that bad? The Conservatives have no respect for animals, and dogs in particular.'

Fido: "You're right. Where is the justice for canines? Unfortunately we can't even expect help from the opposition parties. They share the same feelings about us."

is why are they upset at Peter MacKay if the Liberal Party doesn't help them run for the leadership?'

Fido: "It's easy, Fifi. For political reasons they are trying to embarrass the government of Stephen Harper with the female electorate. They know they can embarrass MacKay for those remarks, and they keep attacking him for denying them.'

Fifi: "I might be a dog and politically stupid, but don't you think Peter could have easily gotten out of trouble just by saying, like I said before, 'I'm sorry!"

Fido: "Well for us, the dogs, it is very simple. But humans are not necessarily smarter than us.'

Fifi: "Well Fido, I'm very upset. The Prime Minister defends Peter and the Liberals defend Belinda, asking for an apology on her behalf."

Fido: "So, why are you upset?" Fifi: "Because, I'm wondering, who is going to apologize to us!"

Fido: "You are right, but it is not that easy. We need to have someone in the House who stands up on our behalf."

Fifi: "That shouldn't be difficult. Everybody has a representative in Parliament. We need someone like Paul McCartney.'

Fido: "No thank you. He's got a lot on his plate right now. Look at the accusations from his ex-wife."

Fifi: "I know, but he defends animals, the seals. We definitely need someone to defend us. Like for instance, the other day, I stopped beside a tree on Sussex Drive, just to do my business, when all of sudden, the

#### What offends me the most is that he is using us to offend his former girlfriend. Are we that bad?' — Fido the dog

Fifi: "Worse than the Conservatives?" Fido: "Yeah. Look at the NDP and the Liberals. They believe that associating one of them with us is cause enough to fire the minister of Foreign Affairs. Definitely they are very upset and they do not want to be associated with us."

Fifi: "They call us their 'best friends' and they include us in their family Christmas pictures. And now this. What HS."

Fido: "You mean BS."

Fifi: "No, 'H' stands for 'Human'. But look, Fido, I kind of understand them. It may be that they are only trying to make the point that women are badly treated by the Conservatives. You know, it's politics.'

Fido: "No, I don't buy that, they can't be

Fifi: "Why do you say that?"

Fido: "I mean, look at the Liberals. They are going to elect a new leader in December and, among the nine candidates, there is only one woman. And she is someone from the 'outside'. Is it possible that amongst the women in the Liberal caucus nobody was good enough to be on the

stage in Montréal?"
Fifi: "Well, Fido, you should know that the rules are clear: the party is open to all humans. Liberals are the party that created an important policy called mult something. It's democracy in action. It is also written in the Liberal constitution. I've read it in The Toronto Star. so it has to be true. You should respect democracy."

Fido: "You're starting to talk like humans. Shame on you, don't go so low." Fifi: "Sorry Fido, I apologize, So, why

do you think that there are no Liberal women MPs amongst the candidates?"

Fido: "Apology accepted. I don't know. Either they have no skills or the Liberal Party doesn't make it easy for women."

Fifi: "But Fido, what I don't understand,

tree started screaming at me, telling me that he was going to have a representative of the Green Party in Parliament and things would change. So, where am I going to pee after the next election? All other animals have more respect than us. In Toronto, they had a formal funeral for a police horse and mayor David Miller was there. Did you ever see a funeral for a police dog with the mayor of Toronto reading the eulogy?'

Fido: "Okay, you convinced me, you are right. But who should be our leader? We need a human."

Fifi: "I have an idea. The only one that has been treated worse than us by the Liberals, according to the Corriere Canadese, is Joe Volpe. Furthermore, he is of Italian origin. An ethnic is always good to have on hand and, there is another bonus for the CPC.

Fido: "What's CPC?"

Fifi: "Canine Party of Canada." Fido: "And what's the bonus?"

Fifi: "Volpe in Italian means 'fox'. He would be perfect for the Canine Party.'

Fido: "Fifi, you convinced me. Let's go ahead. Go on the Hill and talk to the national media.

Fifi: "Me talking to the media? You're crazy. No thanks, you go!"

Fido: "No. you go!

Fifi: "No you go! Bow wow, bow wow...." The Barking Period lasted for a while. Then Fido and Fifi did their business at a tree near their home near Stornoway. They finished just before a loud and scary voice, from inside the residence, called out to their master. "Bill, vou are late, come inside!!".

"Okay Paul, I'll be right there." Angelo Persichilli is political editor of Corriere Canadese, Toronto's Italian language daily newspaper.

persichilli@corriere.com The Hill Times

## Government, PMO denies orchestrated attempt to derail Senate committee

Continued from Page 1

\$30,000 the committee spent while he and other Senators were holed up in Dubai earlier this month.

"I can't comment on the source of the documents, but Sen. Kenny saying that it's orchestrated or by us or ministers' offices is patently false. That is not the case. We often are the authors of our own misfortune, after all," Sen. LeBreton (Ontario), the Leader of the Government in the Senate, told The Hill Times

On Oct. 20, the Senate Committee on National Security and Defence released an unusually detailed and highly critical press release on events related to the committee's work from Sept. 5 to 15. The committee, chaired by Liberal Sen. Kenny (Ontario), took issue with a CTV news report aired Oct. 17 that said members of the committee, who intended to conduct a fact-finding mission in Kandahar, waited in an "expensive hotel in Dubai for seven days," spending \$30,000 on hotel bills.

The story about the trip was leaked to CTV, the news report said, and after it aired, Sen. Kenny told reporters that he believed the story may have been part of an organized attempt to not only block the committee's investigation of reconstruction efforts in Afghanistan but also to discredit the institution of the Senate.

Sen. Kenny was not available for an interview last week because he was out of town, but at the time that the story broke he suggested to reporters that he believed the leak, or news tip, came from sources hoping to block the committee's work or to discredit the Senate.

The committee's press release reveals similar opinions. "We pride ourselves on being the antithesis of the cartoon image of the Senate perpetrated by some media and by some politicians who feel there are votes to be gained in denouncing the Senate," it states.

"Parliament Hill is an easy place to become paranoid, and anyone who works here should resist paranoia. But it isn't easy. Recent events suggest that we may be seeing a concerted effort to discredit both the committee—which has been critical of both this government and the last government—and the Senate. What better way to argue the uselessness of the Senate than to discredit one of its most useful committees?"the nine-page news release says.

The Canadian-led mission in Afghanistan has faced increasing criticism from opposition critics who say that there is not enough emphasis on humanitarian aid and reconstruction in Afghanistan. The committee had hoped to investigate aid development in Kandahar because committee members felt that, in its public hearings, they did not receive accurate figures on

Sandra Buckler, director of communications to the Prime Minister, told the Canadian Press on Oct. 20 that the "accusation is false," and Sen. LeBreton told The Hill Times in the Senate foyer last week that the committee's suggestion of an organized or political attempt to derail its factfinding work was the "most offensive" part of the allegations.

"That was the most offensive of all because this is not a partisan issue. After all it was the previous government that sent us to Kandahar province. Any Canadian who cares about our military, who cares about the situation in Afghanistan, would support any efforts to inform Canadians and shine a light on Canadians over there," Sen. LeBreton said.

The CTV news story said that the four

committee members on the fact-finding mission—Sen. Kenny, Liberal Sen. Tommy Banks (Alberta), Liberal Sen. Wilfred Moore (Nova Scotia), and Conservative Sen. Michael Meighen (Ontario)—went on the trip despite being advised against it by the military. It quoted John Williamson, director of the Canadian Taxpayer's Federation, who called the trip "a junket dressed up as Parliamentary business pure and simple.'

After the original CTV story, the network ran a follow-up on Oct. 19, which reported on a leaked document that said Defence Department officials warned Sen. Kenny, one week before the trip, that "for reasons of personal safety, the committee would no longer be able to travel to Kandahar." Sen. Banks was quoted in the news report, telling CTV about the original story, "Your whole report is bullshit!"

The committee's press release took issue with several details in the original CTV report, which it said was "full of inaccuracies and artistic licence.'

In an interview last week, Sen. Moore said he wonders why, due to the security situation, the committee could not visit Kandahar; nor could reconstruction officials visit them in Dubai, yet International Cooperation Minister Josée Verner (Louis-Saint-Laurent, Que.) visited Kandahar on the weekend of Oct. 21.

In the surprise visit, Ms. Verner announced a number of multi-million-dollar aid projects, but had to stay within the security of the Kandahar air field and military compounds.

"I find that pretty inconsistent and interesting," Sen. Moore said about Ms. Verner's ability to travel to Kandahar. "This whole discussion and this whole situation makes you wonder that perhaps our committee was doing its work well and maybe somebody was trying to derail us from pursuing our inquiries into where Canadian tax dollars are being spent, and what success is being obtained, because we couldn't get those answers from Minister Verner when she was before us [at the committee]."

Sen. Moore said the committee members were told that officials from NGOs and the Canadian International Development Agency may have been able to meet with the committee in Dubai. However, the committee found out on Sept. 11, after arriving in Dubai on Sept. 9, that officials could not make the trip because the Canadian Forces could not spare the military equipment to transport them. The Senators then spent a few of days trying to schedule the earliest flights home and working on reports.

Karen Johnstone, a spokeswoman with the Department of National Defence, left a phone message with The Hill Times in response to some questions, in which she said DND advised against the Senate committee going to Afghanistan because of Operation Medusa, which was ongoing at the time. "So of course it's a different environment now, with Operation Medusa in full swing as it was in that time period," she said.

As to whether there may have been any political direction in the advice that the department gave to the Senators, Ms. Johnstone said such questions must be put to political offices. "I really can't answer questions about political direction on that advice," she said.

Conservative Sen. Terry Stratton (Manitoba) said in an interview last week that Minister Verner travelled to Kandahar because the security situation had changed. "Operation Medusa was taking place when Kenny wanted to get in, and it's not now.













Senate scoop: Grit Sen. Colin Kenny, top left; Senate Government Leader Marjory LeBreton, top right. Tory Sen. Terrance Stratton, middle photo right with Sen. Lowell Murray; PM Harper, d-comm Sandra Buckler and chief of staff Ian Brodie. Sen. Kenny suspects an orchestrated smear campaign against his committee and the Senate.

They are not in a full-front offensive," he said. "Kenny was insisting on going in right at the height of Operation Medusa.

Conservative Sen. Meighen told The Hill Times last week that he had no reason to believe there was an organized attempt to block the Senate committee's investigation of the Canadian reconstruction efforts. "I have no evidence of that, no reason to believe that is so. If I can refer you to the Prime Minister's Office, they issued a categorical denial, and I accept that," he said.

Sen. Stratton, the Government Whip in the Senate, on Oct. 19 raised a question of privilege, which called for the committee's 'misuse of funds" to be investigated by the Senate Committee on Rules, Procedures and the Rights of Parliament.

Sen. Stratton said he believed the trip to be "a contempt of Parliament" and an "affront to the privileges of every Senator and of this place." However, on Tuesday of last week, Sen. Stratton withdrew the question of privilege.

Instead, Sen. Stratton said he intends to push the Internal Economy Committee, of which he is a member, to ask that Sen. Kenny come before it publicly and voluntarily to explain the \$30,000 in spending.

'I'm essentially going to push for, on a voluntary basis, that Kenny appear to justify what he did to the committee," he said. "To give them credit, from what I've heard, the Liberals want the same thing."

sdoyle@hilltimes.com The Hill Times

#### INSIDE POLITICS

## Conservatives to road-test

## an alternative route to a Second electoral victory

If the federal Conservatives can't win an urban southern Ontario riding like London North Centre next month, they're unlikely to stay in power



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UN Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld, recorded message to members of the United Nations Emergency



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#### By CHANTAL HÉBERT



Prime Minister Stephen Harper can no longer count on Quebec to keep him in power in the next election, let alone give him a majority. Under the cover of a set of by-elections next

month, his Conservatives will be road-testing an alternative route to a second electoral victory.

It runs straight through Ontario.

Given their sharp decline in the polls, the Conservatives will be hard-pressed to turn back the tide in Quebec in time for a possible spring election. The fact that Public Works Minister Michael Fortier will not be running in the vacant Montreal-area riding of Repentigny next month speaks for itself, as does his failure to declare the riding in which he will try to get himself elected in the next campaign.

Harper has sunk like a rock in Quebec. His momentum is a thing of the past.

A majority of Quebecers now feel that Michael Ignatieff, Bob Rae or Stéphane Dion would each make a better Prime Minister.

Between the two of them, the Bloc and the Liberals might shut the Conservatives out of the larger Montreal area in the next election—and Fortier along with the rest of his party. The Conservatives can't even assume they will hang on to the 10 seats they now hold.

There may be those around Harper who still think he can pull a rabbit out of his election hat in time to bolster his fortunes in Quebec. After all, in the last campaign he turned things around in the province on the basis of a single speech.

But the only rabbit in sight would be a deal on the fiscal imbalance. And it is immensely more likely that any deal on that contentious front will make every party to it mildly unhappy than the opposite. An accord that fully satisfied Quebec could only be achieved at the cost of a backlash against the Conservatives in other parts of the country.

But even supposing, for the sake of argument, that Harper and the provinces came to an arrangement that was embraced whole-heartedly by Quebec's federalist establishment, that does not mean Quebecers will rush to support a party whose policies on just about every other front are at odds with their strongly-held views.

Fiscal debates may have a high profile

in Quebec but a battle centred on numbers hardly packs the emotional punch of a Meech-style discussion of the province's distinct character.

Under the circumstances, Conservative strategists have to be looking for an alternative route, one that would allow them to bypass Quebec and march back to power through Ontario.

For 10 years, a divided right allowed Jean Chrétien to enjoy a virtual free ride in that province. Now, Harper can only hope that the tables are turned.

In the last general election, 69 per cent of the voters of London-North-Centre, the other riding whose voters will go to the polls at the same time as Repentigny on Nov. 27, supported a party other than the Conservatives.

But they split three ways between a well-established Liberal incumbent, the NDP and the Green Party

NDP and the Green Party.
In this by-election, the three of them will be vying for the anti-Conservative vote. Indeed, the Green Party and the NDP will be gunning for Liberal votes with at least as much vigour as the Tories. That will also pretty much be the pattern in the next general election, too.

While only a minority may support the gist of Harper's policies, at least those voters are his alone.

Over the past six weeks, the Prime Minister has engaged in what can only be construed as a systematic effort to firm up his core vote.

His government has brought in tough law-and-order measures that have little or no chance of being passed in this Parliament, thrown out the Kyoto Protocol on climate change, mused about launching a rearguard battle on same-sex marriage and expelled an Ontario MP whose views were more progressive than that of his party.

In so doing, the Prime Minister has driven what is likely to be a permanent wedge between himself and Quebec.

As a result, he has dramatically upped the Ontario stakes for his government.

If the Conservatives cannot make inroads in suburban Quebec ridings such as Repentigny, their chances for a majority in the next election are virtually non-existent.

But if they also cannot win urban Southern Ontario ridings such as London-North-Centre, they are unlikely to stay in power.

Chantal Hébert is a national affairs columnist for The Toronto Star. This column was released on Oct. 25.

> news@hilltimes.com The Hill Times



Photograph by Jake Wright, The Hill Time

Fortier won't run: The fact that Public Works Minister and Quebec Sen. Michael Fortier will not be running in the vacant Montreal-area riding of Repentigny, Que., next month speaks for itself, as does his failure to declare the riding in which he will try to get himself elected in the next campaign.

#### OPEN GOVERNMENT

By KEN RUBIN



There's a bully-like mindset in Ottawa on the part of some who believe if you use the Access to Information Act you're exhibiting near criminal behaviour. Conversely, if

you step outside of the Access Act to gain information, particularly sensitive security data, you are a potential criminal to be targeted, too.

Recently, this mindset was put to the test when Ontario Superior Court Judge Lynn Ratushny issued her decision in the Juliet O'Neill case.

The O'Neill case arose after the *Ottawa Citizen* challenged the validity of the Jan. 21, 2004 RCMP raid on the home and office of reporter O'Neill. The police obtained a search warrant under Sec. 4 of the Security of Information Act and seized O'Neill's notes and computer hard drive. The RCMP reputedly wanted to find the source of leaked but inaccurate documents that O'Neill used in a Nov. 8, 2003 story about Maher Arar.

Government lawyers in the O'Neill case had argued last August that people, like journalists, should confine legitimate government information queries to requests under the Access Act because they claimed it was the mechanism to define what was secret or not. Going outside the Access Act to seek information is then somehow suspect and could be considered as engaging in criminal activity, at least under the Security of Information Act.

Judge Ratushny, however, in her ruling, quite rightly stated that "I have no evidence that Parliament intended the ATIA (Access Act) to be the exclusive avenue for the communications of government information and that every other avenue is intended to amount to a criminal offence."

It is interesting to note that Judge Dennis O'Connor, in his September 2006 inquiry report on the "Events Relating to Maher Arar," saw the O'Neill media case as the "most notorious" case that referred directly to classified inaccurate data, garnered after Arar was tortured in Syria, and provided by an unidentified source or sources. O'Connor took very seriously the question of leaks of intentionally inaccurate information about Arar.

Government documents that I accessed, beginning in late 2003, for example, at the Canadian Border Services Agency, showed that officials at the time saw the O'Neill story as interesting with "lots of detail in this one" and likely accepted that Arar was indeed a bad guy. Such information, that the RCMP knew early on was inaccurate, was widely shared within government.

It's ironic that this past July I was denied any data I applied for on behalf of Arar and his wife Monia Mazigh by the RCMP, as requested under the Access Act, pertaining to its Security of Information

# Beware: Ottawa doesn't need an Information War Measures Act commando mentality or another O'Neill-type raid

Act investigation on the leaks, be they provided to outsiders like O'Neill or even more embarrassingly, to far too many inciders

The RCMP denial cited an ongoing law enforcement investigation, national security, international relations and solicitor-client privilege exemptions for reasons in denying Mr. Arar and Ms. Mazigh any of this information. I have complained to the Information Commissioner.

then heard in-camera.

The O'Connor report, itself only a summary public version, contained more than 50 blanked-out gaps of varying lengths only identified by an asterisk, given government lawyers' objections. To date, unlike in the *Ottawa Citizen* O'Neill case, the excessive national security claims made by the government to keep matters secret in the Arar review have not been tested in the courts.

'Ottawa officials treat those making access requests with more than suspicion. Government officials actually engage in parallel exercises to track and profile and counter access act users. This ranges from a system of early warnings to government officials about potentially embarrassing requests called amber lighting, to preparing briefing notes on access requests and watching the kinds of requests certain access users make and for what purpose.'

The RCMP is not apologetic either in withholding from Mr. Arar much of the data surrounding many of the RCMP actions in this affair and is not working in the slightest to reverse such continued secrecy.

In addition, throughout the O'Connor Commission, the federal government worked to keep much information secret related to the Arar file. Government lawyers argued that the government needed greatly-expanded, but undefined national security denial powers and that those claims superceded any other competing disclosure claims or information rights or the Access Act. Much too much of the O'Connor Commission hearings and arguments were

Meanwhile, Ottawa in the last few weeks has also had examples presented by myself and others at the House Access Committee that show how Ottawa officials can treat those making access requests with more than suspicion. Government officials actually engage in parallel exercises to track and profile and counter Access Act users. This ranges from a system of early warnings to government officials about potentially embarrassing requests called "amber lighting," to preparing briefing notes on access requests, to watching the kinds of requests certain access users make and for what purposes.

Those that see Access Act usage or information queries as border-line criminality, also see such efforts as interfering with inside government operations and taking away from the "real" activities of government. These activities they engage in, however, include costly communications spinning exercises.

Some of the House Access Committee members saw government tracking efforts as victimizing access users. As I told the committee: I, for one, am not going to be intimidated or see myself as a victim. But I'm using and defending my information rights, however unnecessarily targeted I and others have wrongly become.

But the dislike and watching and penalizing of access users continues unabated and needs to be outlawed. Under the Access Act, government officials are now possibly subject to fines and jail time for altering records. So why not do the same now for discriminatory and profiling activities?

Judge Ratushny called government arguments placing journalists (or for that matter, others) seeking information outside of the Access Act parameters too wide ranging. She said it limits "freedom of expression and amount(s) to a clear 'chilling' of free speech and of a free press." Ditto for those exercising their full rights within the Access Act facing unconstitutional barriers.

While information rights are a newer form of freedom of expression rights, they nonetheless, are equally protected under the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. And in fact, federal courts have given requestor's rights under the Access Act, a quasi-constitutional standing.

The problem is that the current access act route is in need of drastic reform. It's too complicated, slow and full of exemption and exclusion roadblocks. Journalists do not normally make every-day use of it and if anything see it as a last resort or none too desirable route to nowhere.

Instead they conduct interviews, use other information they can locate, and rely on (and should test) sources to provide them information they need.

Until those within government give up seeing any kind of information query as a matter of "them" and "us," of suspect activities, and a matter for counter-investigation, tracking and even police surveillance and raids, we're in trouble here in Canada.

With increasing secrecy claims being legalized and investigations of those seeking information growing, we're crossing the line to a much more unaccountable and retrograde type of governance that badly needs checking.

We do not need an Information War Measures Act commando mentality operating in Ottawa.

Ken Rubin is a long time information rights advocate.

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#### Against the motion:

Honourable **Perrin Beatty**, President and Chief Executive Officer, Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters

Senator **Jack Austin**, Leader of the Government in the Senate (2003 – 2006)

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## Politics













Need a light? Bloc Leader Gilles Duceppe, Liberal Leader Bill Graham, Conservative MP Deepak Obhrai and Prime Minister Stephen Harper all attended the Diwali celebration of lights last week on the Hill, pictured in the top left picture and the PM at the same event in the above pictures, including one with Immigration Minister Monte Solberg, right. Diwali, which symbolizes good over evil, is a major Hindu festival. Meanwhile, the Queen Silva and King of Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden met with the PM and his wife Laureen Harper, top right. Queen Silva with House of Commons Speaker Peter Milliken on the Hill.

#### **Health Minister Clement transfers** pharma shares to Khurana

Accused by Liberal MPs and the Canadian Health Coalition in June of being in a conflict of interest over his 25 per cent stake in Toronto-based Prudential Chem Inc., Health Minister Tony Clement (Parry Sound-Muskoka, Ont.) transferred his shares the following month to **Vikram Khurana**, his former business partner in the pharmaceutical chemical company, says Mr. Clement's press secretary.

"Because the company is privately held and a relatively new start-up, it's not listed on any stock exchange and was very difficult to determine the appropriate value of his shares. So he decided over the summer to transfer them at no profit to himself," said Erik Waddell.

"He has fully divested himself of having any interest in that company.

Word that Mr. Clement quietly made the transfer came last month when documents filed with federal Ethics Commissioner Bernard Shapiro no longer listed Prudential Chem as one of the Minister's declarable assets.

Mr. Waddell said that Mr. Clement and Mr. Khurana established the business, which makes active ingredients for prescription drugs, after leaving provincial politics in 2003.

But once Mr. Clement joined the fed-

eral Cabinet in February, "he immediately resigned as an officer and director of the company," said Mr. Waddell.

"At no time has Mr. Clement had any involvement in the business or decisions affecting the business while he's been a Minister of the Crown. And at all times, he's followed the rules established by the Ethics Commissioner."

In documents made public by Mr. Shapiro's office in June, Mr. Clement agreed not to participate in any discussions involving or decisions affecting Prudential Chem or its parent company, Prudential Consulting Inc.

Now that he no longer has a financial interest in the company he co-founded, Mr. Clement is longer bound by the recusal order from the Office of the Ethics Commissioner.—by Christopher Guly

#### Quebec 'nation' resolution like throwing 'a cluster bomb' at **Liberal convention: Gossage**

A recent resolution passed by the Quebec wing of the federal Liberals urging the national party to officially recognize Quebec as a nation is receiving sharp criticism from party insiders, three top leadership contenders and political pundits.

The resolution, passed on Oct. 21, recognizes Quebec as a nation, and requires a group of experts "to advise the next party

leader to explore different ways and the most opportune moment to sanction this historic and social reality."

This resolution will be debated at the Liberal Party's leadership convention. It's backed by Liberal leadership front-runner Michael Ignatieff (Etobicoke-Lakeshore, Ont.).

Critics of the resolution say that it could

potentially divide the party.

"Having it voted on and having the party commit itself to bringing it forward at the convention in the last week of November is tantamount to throwing a cluster bomb into the convention and into the Liberal leadership race. It's gong to have impact that I don't think I can even begin to calculate but it's going to have a huge impact. And it could have some incredibly nefarious consequences," said Patrick Gossage, a Liberal insider on CBC Newsworld Don Newman's Politics show.

David Herle, former Liberal campaign manager under prime minister Paul Martin, described Mr. Ignatieff's decision to support the resolution as "hugely risky" also on the same show last Thursday evening.

Declared Mr. Herle on Politics: "He's put a lot of stuff out there, he's not afraid to be controversial, so this is part of a pattern of this. He's really asking the Liberals not just to elect him as leader but to give him a mandate to do a number of quite remarkably aggressive things for what normally passes for policy in the leader-

ship contest. It's a hugely risky issue to have brought up," said Mr. Herle.

Three Liberal leadership candidates, former Ontario premier **Bob Rae**, Liberal MP **Stéphane Dion** (Saint-Laurent-Cartierville, Que.) and former Ontario education minister Gerard Kennedy have declared their opposition to the resolution, warning that this could potentially divide the party.

But Gordon Gibson of the Fraser Institute on The National's widely-watched 'At Issue' panel last Thursday, said Mr. Ignatieff's decision to support this resolution is a "brilliant strategy."

"The goal of a leadership candidate is to control the action, to set the agenda, and Ignatieff has done that right from the start. The Iraq war: different take on that. Carbon tax: everybody's been afraid of a carbon tax. Ignatieff says let's have one. Now this one on Quebec and a nation. The Liberal convention will endorse the Ouebec motion that asks Quebec to be recognized as a nation because it has to. It will split the party if it doesn't. And what's the result of all that? This will undermine Mr. Harper's Quebec strategy. Mr. Harper was hoping to make the Tories the default federalist party in Quebec. This tactic undermines that. It's a very serious blow to him. It will help Mr. Harper slightly in Western Canada where he doesn't need help, not help him elsewhere."—by Abbas Rana

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#### POLITICS PAGE

#### Liberal MP Kadis declares support for contender Rae

Liberal MP Susan Kadis, who withdrew her support from the Michael Ignatieff (Etobicoke-Lakeshore, Ont.) leadership campaign over his remarks about Israel recently, announced last Friday that she's thrown her support behind Bob Rae.

"I have made the decision to support Bob Rae because I believe he's uniquely experienced, truly devoted to public service and his fundamental principles are consistent with my own," said Ms. Kadis last week in a press release. "He is ready for the rigours of leadership and has demonstrated a strong commitment to the progressive vision that Liberals believe in as opposed to the Harper government."

Ms. Kadis, who was first elected to the House in the 2004 federal election and reelected in the Jan. 23 election, withdrew her support from the Ignatieff campaign in protest over Mr. Ignatieff's statement that Israel committed a "war crime" in Qana. Mr. Ignatieff later on downplayed his earlier comments and said that war crimes were possibly committed by both Israel and Hezbollah.—by Abbas Rana

#### Miles from Mint, Dingwall teaches business leadership

David Dingwall, who resigned last year as president and chief executive officer of the Royal Canadian Mint amid what were later found to be unproven accusations of lavish spending, is teaching a course on business leadership at Cape Breton University in Sydney, N.S., where he now lives.

The 54-year-old former federal Chrétien-era Liberal Cabinet minister was hired on a short-term contract to teach "Leadership in Organizations," a threecredit elective fall course running until December for third-year students pursuing a bachelor of business administration, according to **John MacKinnon**, dean of the school of business.

The controversy surrounding Mr. Dingwall's departure from the Mint "went into our thought process in terms of making that appointment," Mr. MacKinnon said in an interview last week with *The Hill Times*. "But we're happy with the decision that we made and the students are very happy."

Mr. MacKinnon said Mr. Dingwall, who only teaches once a week for three hours on a Monday afternoon, brings unprecedented credentials to the business school in the dean's view.

"It's the first time our students have been exposed to someone with that type of experience teaching them," said Mr. MacKinnon, a CA who taught accounting at the university before becoming dean of the business school in July.

"I don't think we've ever had an ex-Cabinet minister or anybody who has risen to become CEO of an organization as large as the Royal Canadian Mint."

Mr. Dingwall was accused of ringing in expenses of about \$730,000 in 2004, including one bill of \$5,800 reportedly spent on one meal. It was also alleged that he made frivolous expense claims, including for chewing gum.

But later on, an independent audit found that 99.64 per cent of Mr. Dingwall's claims were legitimate.

In January 2006, an independent arbitrator said that when Mr. Dingwall was accused by the then-opposition Conservative party, he had "no support from the government regardless of the complete absence of wrongdoing on his part."

George Adams also found that "the departure of Dingwall was clearly involuntary" and he should have been paid "lawful severance entitlements."

Mr. Adams' report also stated: "all of the expenses of Dingwall's office (\$730,000 approximately) involving several other employees were being attributed to him. In fact, well over 70 per cent of these approved expenditures related to the other employees and two subsequent independent reviews (subsequent to Dingwall's departure) confirmed the propriety of the expenditures and the governance mechanisms in place to approve and monitor such expenses."

The independent arbitrator ordered a \$417,780 severance payment be made to Mr. Dingwall and awarded him a \$42,010 annual pension.

Mr. Dingwall is a lawyer by training who holds an honorary doctorate from the university.—by Christopher Guly

## Natural Resources Committee calls for revival of 'inefficient climate change programs

The House of Commons Standing Committee on Natural Resources last week passed two motions calling on the government to re-instate the EnerGuide for Homes retroit Program and the Wind

Power Production Incentive Program. Liberal MP and Natural Resources critic **Roy Cullen** (Etobicoke North, Ont.) tabled the motions at the committee. The Conservative government announced this year that it was winding down the programs because they were inefficient.

Liberals say the Wind Power Production Incentive program attracts investment in wind energy, and that the EnerGuide program had helped make more than 100,000 homes more energy efficient.—by Simon Doyle

#### A unanimous show of hands in caucus ousted Turner, Kenney says

Jason Kenney, Parliamentary secretary to the Prime Minister, says reports that said former Conservative MP Garth Turner was unanimously removed from caucus without a show of hands are false.

"He's claiming in his blog that there was no vote in our national caucus," Mr. Kenney said in an interview with *The Hill Times* last week. "Not true. We actually did have [a vote]. Garth said there was no show of hands. Well, I'll reveal the caucus confidentiality and say that we actually did, and there was nobody who supported his retention in caucus."

Conservatives suspended Mr. Turner, who now sits as an independent, from caucus on Oct. 18, citing concerns about caucus confidentiality. The Canadian Press reported on Oct. 19 that there was no vote in caucus to remove Mr. Turner, who openly criticized his government on his blog.

Mr. Kenney also challenged Mr. Turner's suspicions about an "organized" attempt to get rid of him and the unusual presence of **Doug Finley**, the Conservative Party's director of operations, in caucus on the day of his suspension.

"He was there waiting to give a presentation, just sitting in the back of the room," Mr. Kenney said of Mr. Finley's presence. "He didn't say a word, and I think knew nothing about the motion that had come forward."—by Simon Doyle

#### Fining MPs for hurling insults won't work: Tory, Liberal MPs

The NDP's call for stricter penalties against MPs who make sexist or racist remarks or treat other MPs with disrespect is not gaining traction with other parties. NDP MP **Dawn Black** (New Westminster-Coquitlam, B.C.) said the House should revive a set of recommendations from 1993 that received all party support to change standing orders

in the House for the Speaker to conduct investigations, make recommendations and give out escalating penalties such as withholding Parliamentary privileges or a day's pay.

"Everyone is appalled, but we don't take that step forward to try to change our behaviour in order to have an effective way of bringing a higher level of decorum in the House which is necessary," she told *The Hill Times* last week. "I challenge the House to take a good look at those recommendations. They agreed to them 13 years ago, and should agree to them today. ... The conclusion we came to, is that some people, not all people, the only thing that would stop them from behaving in such a manner is a hit in their pocket book."

Chief Government Whip Jay Hill (Prince George-Peace River, B.C.) said he likes the sentiment, but doesn't believe the "penalties" will work. "Who's going to perform the role of police man? That's not the role of the Speaker," he said. "You can get into a situation like what's happened in the House where the minister of Foreign Affairs has said that he didn't say something, other members say he did say something. Who's going to be the judge, jury and executioner in those types of cases? I've been here 13 years now and sat through some extremely heated debates and tempers were very short and emotions were very raw, I understand the need to distil greater decorum in the House but I just don't think that's a workable solution. I support the intent, but my observation has been that, as I've said many times to my colleagues, it really comes down to self discipline.'

Liberal Whip Karen Redman (Kitchener Centre, Ont.) said that House decorum has declined steadily since 2000 because of the minority governments and agreed with Mr. Hill that increasing the level of decorum has to come from individuals. "I think that personal attacks seem to be more of a daily occurrence instead of a rare exception but I don't think fines are going to change it. I think we have to start policing ourselves," she said, adding that it's a challenge "to keep a lid on" insults and heckling, but she reminds her caucus on a regular basis to respect others.

"We've degenerated into a personal level of heckling and I think that's very unfortunate on all of us. That's not why we came to this place," Ms. Redman said.—by Bea Vongdouangchanh

Continued on Page 18

## SAFER DRIVERS IN SAFER VEHICLES ON SAFER ROADS

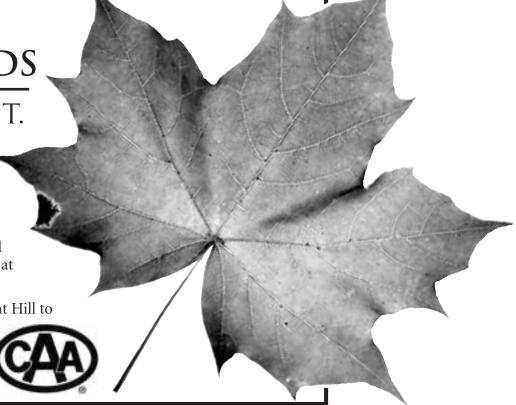
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## GODNews

## TORONTO PEARSON INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

#### **BEST GLOBAL AIRPORT 2006**



Toronto Pearson International Airport has been awarded

Best Global Airport 2006 from the Institute of Transport Management (ITM)

— an organization formed in the United Kingdom in 1977 with

the express aim of providing further education and information to transport managers.

The award is granted on the basis of the ITM's annual aviation research program, conducted by the Institute's research team, that sets out each year to establish which airport has demonstrated the political leadership and commitment backed by considerable investment.

The ITM noted that Toronto Pearson has become a growing force within

North America, and wider destinations, for its excellent facilities and customer-focused attitude towards passengers. The ITM Awards Committee noted that Toronto Pearson's strong management structure has enabled the airport to meet current industry demands through its high operational standards and focus on service excellence. They also praised many other facets of the GTAA operations and the fact that because of its foresight, the GTAA has positioned Toronto Pearson to handle the challenges that lie ahead.

The findings of the institute followed an extensive research program through testimonies from users of Toronto Pearson and airports across North America and around the globe.

**AHEAD of the CURVE** 



#### **FEATURE**

#### Continued from Page 1

to Cabinet, and more importantly, the PMO. National reporters may find him scrappy, forcefully partisan, and more available for sound bites about "corrupt Liberals" than for newsworthy information. But insiders and observers say his quick political wit, ability to avoid controversy and sound understanding of a broad number of files have guided his rise in what one MP called Mr. Harper's "inner sanctum."

Mr. Kenney, 38, has become most prominent in Question Period, where he fills in for the Prime Minister on Fridays and anytime Mr. Harper is out of town. Although the role of Question Period coordinator is filled by a staffer—Rob Taylor—within the office of Government House Leader Rob Nicholson (Niagara Falls, Ont.), Mr. Kenney plays a large role in QP planning.

He also brings experience, because he was Question Period coordinator under Mr. Harper as the official opposition leader. Mr. Kenney joins QP strategy meetings, not only with staff from Mr. Nicholson's office and the PMO, but also at full meetings of Cabinet on QP strategy each day before Question Period.

Yaroslav Baran, a Conservative lobbyist at Tactix Government Consulting who worked with Mr. Kenney in the Conservatives' national war room in the last campaign, described Mr. Kenney's role as a "pinch hitter" for the government. "He's got a good political nose and instinct in every respect, and he's very quick on his feet, which makes him a perfect pinch hitter in Question Period when the Prime Minister is out of Ottawa."

The PM seems to welcome Mr. Kenney's communications skills in what is a very controlled media environment in Ottawa, where ministers often avoid the news media and Parliamentary press conferences with the Prime Minister have withered away. On Fridays, it sometimes seems to reporters that Mr. Kenney is about the only Conservative to emerge from the House and scrum at any length in the foyer.

Geoff Norquay, a Conservative lobbyist at Earnscliffe Strategy Group, worked with Mr. Kenney as director of communications to Mr. Harper as opposition leader. Mr. Kenney, QP coordinator at the time, brought a great deal of strategic advice, Mr. Norquay said, especially on how to make politics of policy, and vice versa.

But his top skills are largely seen in communications and political instinct. A reporter will never corner Mr. Kenney in a political snafu, Conservatives say, and that's partly why the Prime Minister has placed so much trust in him. "It's very difficult to draw Jason into a blind alley." Mr. Norquay said in an interview.

a blind alley," Mr. Norquay said in an interview.

New Democrat Pat Martin (Winnipeg Centre, Man.),
a Member of Parliament since 1997, said the PM selected
Mr. Kenney as his substitute in Question Period because
Mr. Kenney is "enormously talented and light on his feet."
He said he recalled one Question Period this year in which
Mr. Kenney took every single question.

"I'm not exaggerating. One day I was marvelling that he took every question," Mr. Martin said. "He seems to get himself whipped up into a state of frenzy, where you ask your question at your peril."

Mr. Martin said he believes that, just like Indian and Northern Affairs Minister Jim Prentice (Calgary Centre-North, Alta.), Mr. Kenney is quickly becoming one of Mr. Harper's most trusted Members of Parliament. "I think there's an inner sanctum that's gradually congealing, and Jason's definitely part of it."

In fact, last February, Mr. Kenney was originally appointed as Parliamentary secretary to the PM for multiculturalism. It wasn't until April, when Mr. Harper announced changes to the ranks of the Parliamentary secretaries, that Mr. Kenney became PS to the PM, now a key role in a government controlled by 'the Centre'.

"Generally he's regarded as a guy who's never caught without the facts at his fingertips and the right clip to throw back at them. Look at how he handled the Peter MacKay [Central Nova, N.S.]-Belinda Stronach [Newmarket-Aurora, Ont.] stuff and how he handled the Clean Air Act stuff," said Don Martin, a political columnist with the Calgary Herald. "Harper clearly has embraced him and trusts him."

Don Martin added that Mr. Harper has "handed over the microphone to Jason for an awful lot of questions," and that if one were to check the Hansard debates for the record, one might find that Mr. Kenney has answered as many, if not more, questions than the Prime Minister. "And that would make him more than any minister in the House," Don Martin said. "I'm not suggesting in any way that Kenney is the deputy Prime Minister, but he certainly is the fang-bearing Chihuahua that bites back."

His rise to Mr. Harper's "inner sanctum" appears to be the case. Mr. Kenney said sometimes he meets with

## Kenney plays prominent role in Harper government

Not just in the daily Question Period, but also with direct lines to Cabinet, and more importantly, the PMO



Photograph courtesy of Jason Kenne

**PM's pinch-hitter...** Conservative MP Jason Kenney has fairly quickly become an important and trusted member of Prime Minister Stephen Harper's government. He answers more questions than most Cabinet ministers and maybe even the Prime Minister.

PMO officials as frequently as every day to discuss issues other than QP planning. These may be meetings with the Prime Minister or his senior staff, such as Mr. Harper's chief of staff, Ian Brodie.

Although it's a subject he was reluctant to discuss—"I don't think I should talk about the regularity of my contact with the Prime Minister, but it's regularly, put it that way," he said—he also said he receives Cabinet confidences when they are relevant to his specific files.

"There have been Cabinet meetings where if I have a particular responsibility, I might be invited, as will others. I'm obviously not a Cabinet minister per se, but I do have some security clearance. I'm not quite sure what it is," Mr. Kenney said.

Observers also point out that Mr. Kenney and Mr. Harper may not have always agreed on the direction of their one-time Canadian Alliance Party. Mr. Kenney was known as a strong supporter of Stockwell Day (Okanagan-Coquihalla, B.C.) as leader of the Canadian Alliance, whom Mr. Harper succeeded as leader in 2002 and as opposition leader.

And when Mr. Kenney, who was born in Ontario and grew in up in Saskatchewan, failed to win a Cabinet post in Mr. Harper's new government in February, it seemed something of an embarrassment for the highly-touted member of Mr. Harper's team.

"He was pretty distraught after the Cabinet announcement, thinking he was heading for oblivion. Keep in mind Jason was a Stock-a-holic as much as [Western Standard publisher] Ezra Levant was, and

Harper clearly wasn't," Don Martin said. "There was baggage there, but clearly if there was ever anyone being held to account for past errors, that's all forgotten now."

When asked by *The Hill Times* last week if he had wanted a Cabinet position, Mr. Kenney said, "Sure, everybody [does], I suppose. I mean,"—there was a long pause—"I'd love to serve in whatever way I could make the most effect, but you also have to be realistic in politics, and coming from Calgary, a riding right next to the Prime Minister, and with eight MPs, there are some obvious conventional limitations based on the geography of Cabinet postings."

Although Mr. Kenney, the former director and CEO of the Canadian Taxpayers' Federation, may be known as a "pinch hitter" for the government, covering the same broad range of files as the Prime Minister, he also focuses on Conservative outreach and relations with Canadian cultural groups. He was very involved in the government's redress of the Chinese head tax.

Some say it is the first time that a Parliamentary secretary to the Prime Minister has served in such an important role. Mr. Kenney's proximity to the PM means that he's not just a spokesperson, but a powerful point of contact for lobbyists, interest groups and anyone wanting to get a message to the PM.

During the summer, when the war between Israel and Hezbollah erupted and the Prime Minister caused a stir by calling Israel's air strikes a "measured response" to Hezbollah attacks, Mr. Kenney was said to be the main line of communication with the PM, who was in Europe.

At the time, *The Hill Times* heard that Mr. Kenney played a key role in coordinating Cabinet communications with Mr. Harper and his senior staff, and that Mr. Kenney made the rounds in talks with Jewish and Arab interest groups, explaining the government's position. But he brushed off the suggestion that even some ministers who wanted to talk to the Prime Minister at the time went through Mr. Kenney first.

"I think that's exaggerated," Mr. Kenney said last week. "I think that if ministers want to talk to the Prime Minister, they would go through his chief of staff or his executive assistant. But sometimes people will sort of give me messages to pass on to PMO, or the Prime Minister. My role in that respect is sort of informal."

Mr. Kenney once worked as an assistant to Liberal House Leader Ralph Goodale (Waskana, Sask.), when he was a member of the Saskatchewan legislature. Now, Mr. Goodale calls Mr. Kenney a "tenacious worker" and a "prolific speaker and debater," and that the Conservatives like him in QP because he puts forward powerful rhetoric with little substance.

In an interview, Mr. Goodale added that he believes Mr. Kenney's prominent position puts him in potential conflict with ministers. He pointed to Question Period on the day of the release of the Conservative government's Clean Air Act, which received a large amount of criticism from environmentalists for setting distant emissions targets.

Although the Minister of the Environment, Rona Ambrose (Edmonton-Spruce Grove, Alta.) was in the House, Mr. Kenney answered a surprising number of questions off the top, all of them on the environment.

"Many times, the ministers just sit there, silent, while the Parliamentary secretary leads the crusade. And over time, that's bound to accumulate some restlessness among ministers," Mr. Goodale said. "The Ministers have the political and legal authority to speak on behalf of their departments. The Parliamentary secretary does not."

But Mr. Kenney dismissed any suggestion of tension with ministers. "I don't think so. Quite frankly, I think I'm expendable and ministers aren't, and it's not a good thing if any minister gets bombarded with too many questions, so I partly see my role as providing general responses when the Prime Minister's not there."

Mr. Kenney added that a typical "leader's round"

Mr. Kenney added that a typical "leader's round" in Question Period—in which the Prime Minister or Mr. Kenney answer the first set of questions from the party leaders—can be lengthy. The "leader's round," he said, can be interpreted as the first round of questions, including those from each party leader as well as Members' supplementary questions.

bers' supplementary questions.

"So if you take a maximal interpretation of the leader's round, that's 11 questions. But I would rarely answer that, and sometimes I won't even take the second Bloc round," Mr. Kenney said.

"Petty jealousies and so on, there's really just no evidence of that," he said, adding that Mr. Harper's leadership has kept Cabinet and caucus very well focused. "There's a lot of people who say critical things about the government, but I don't think anybody's writing that we're divided or that there's resentments."

sdoyle@hilltimes.com The Hill Times

#### POLITICS PAGE

#### Garth not going Green, just yet

More than a week out of the federal Conservative caucus, **Garth Turner** (Halton, Ont.) appears to be adjusting well to life as an Independent Member of Parliament.

He says that as a Tory MP, he couldn't ask questions, make statements or present private member's bills in the House of Commons without first obtaining permission. Now, the former federal Cabinet Minister can do all three unencumbered as illustrated last week when he finally got his former caucus colleague, Finance Minister Jim Flaherty (Whitby-Oshawa, Ont.), to acknowledge during Question Period that Mr. Turner's idea of allowing senior couples to split their combined pension income is a "worthy" issue.

Last week, Mr. Turner also got a better view of the House when Speaker **Peter Milliken** (Kingston and the Islands, Ont.) consented to his request to relocate from the Opposition corner next to Deputy Speaker Bill Blaikie (Elmwood-Transcona, Man.) to a spot more in the middle as a "wedgie" between Liberal and Bloc Québécois MPs.

"I'm going to move every week and keep surprising people,"Mr. Turner teased in an interview last week.

But with Halloween on Oct. 31, he hopes

his old caucus won't be out for more tricks than treating and moves him from his current digs in Room 600 of the Justice Building.

"I hope it doesn't happen because it'll take MPtv off the air," said Mr. Turner. "Canada's digital democracy leader" about his television studio-equipped office that feeds content for his webcast.

Already removed by Chief Government Whip Jay Hill (Prince George-Peace River, B.C.) as a member of the Commons Standing Committee on Finance, Mr. Turner said the committee process has become politicized.

Since the summer, Conservative MPs have been "instructed to make committees instruments of government policy," he explained. "They're not all-party committees independent from the government anymore."

Mr. Turner said that a senior staffer from the Prime Minister's Office, whom he didn't name, told caucus members to meet before committee meetings and plan strategies to assist Cabinet ministers and be assigned questions to ask witnesses. Attendance at these meetings is mandatory and recorded.

"Of course, I never went," wrote Mr. Turner on his Garth.ca weblog.

He told *The Hill Times* that it's "reasonable to believe" that the process was imple-

mented in response to Prime Minister **Ste-phen Harper**'s (Calgary-Southwest, Alta.) choice earlier this year of retired oil executive **Gwyn Morgan** as chairman of the proposed public appointments commission—a nomination rejected by opposition members of the House Standing Committee on Government Operations in a six to five vote.

As for his own future, Mr. Turner will remain affiliated with the "Halton Independent Party" as he watches how "the political landscape unfolds."

He's already met and had a "preliminary discussion" with Green Party Leader Elizabeth May, who is running in the Nov. 27 byelection in London North Centre, Ont., a seat left vacant by Liberal MP's Joe Fontana's resignation to run for the London mayor's job.

"The Green Party is convinced that I would be useful to them, but it's important for me to wait," said Mr. Turner, who explained that he wants to see how the federal race in London plays out.

He has also met with Liberal MPs and candidates running for the federal Grit leadership, but declined to reveal their identities—and last Thursday, met with senior officials from the Conservative Party in his riding.

Though he has yet to hear from the Prime Minister, Mr. Turner said he would give Mr. Harper a "decent interval" to contact him before he initiates the call following his Oct. 18 dismissal from the Tory caucus.

"I have talked to a couple of [Conservative] MPs, [who] have been supportive," said Mr. Turner, without naming names. "I don't expect anyone to stand up and defend me. There's a pretty clear message that, if you want to join Garth Turner, go ahead."

In terms of rejoining the Conservatives, Mr. Turner said, "they're going to have to mend their errant ways" before that happens.

And as for stepping down as the MP for Halton and running as an Independent in a by-election, he said he would do so only at the request of a majority of his constituents.—by Christopher Guly

#### Happy anniversary, class of '93

The name has changed, but the MPs remain. Thirteen years ago, the first wave of Reform MPs entered Parliament as a small grassroots party from Western Canada and grew to occupy the government benches.

Fifteen of the 52 original Reformers are still sitting MPs: Jim Abbott, Diane Ablonczy, Leon Benoit, Garry Breitkreuz, John Cummins, Ken Epp, Art Hanger, Dick Harris, Jay Hill, Bob Mills, Monte Solberg, Darrel Stinson, Chuck Strahl, Myron Thompson and John Williams.

Strahl, Myron Thompson and John Williams. Prime Minister Stephen Harper was also elected during the 1993 election, but took a break after the 1997 election when he didn't run and returned in 2002. Liberal MP Keith Martin was also a former Reformer from the "class of 1993," but later broke ranks with the party over differences of opinion on foreign and social policy.

Mr. Hill said that he's proud that he's served for 13 years. "These are trying times in a minority government, we're all feeling our way along after the last one and this one but I enjoy the work," he said. "I enjoy representing the people of Prince George-Peace River. I think it's a great honour and privilege. At any given time, there are only 308 people that have this job and it's a great honour and privilege and we should respect that."

—by Bea Vongdouangchanh

#### CBC's Sorensen new Global bureau chief in Washington, D.C.

CBC political reporter **Eric Sorensen** is leaving Canada's capital for the American capital as Global News'Washington, D.C., bureau chief.

"It's a great opportunity to work for an organization that's having an important impact on network news," Mr. Sorensen told *The Hill Times* last week. "Washington has no end of interesting stories to tell. It also has a nice climate."

Mr. Sorensen will start his new job just in time for the American mid-term elections in November. He said he is looking forward to it, but also said he will "miss the political story here," with the minority government and the upcoming Liberal Leadership race. He will be covering Canada-U.S. relations while heading up the bureau of five.

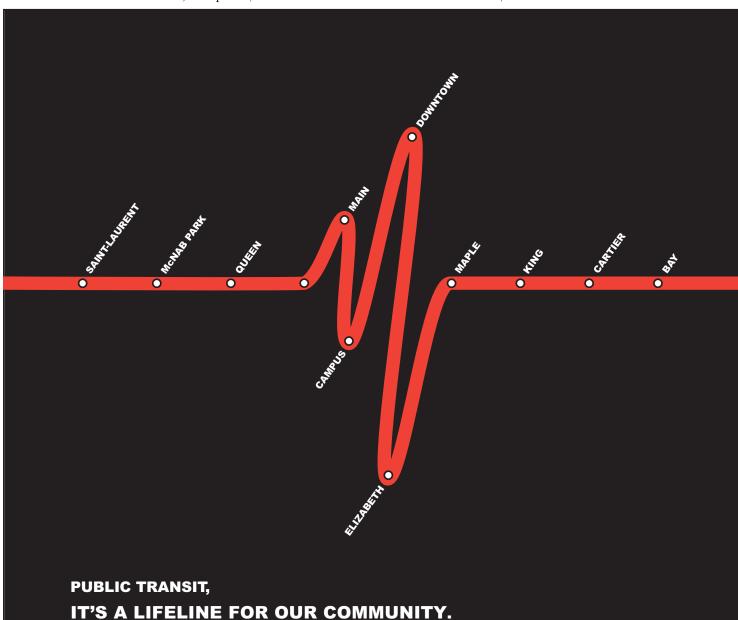
Mr. Sorensen has worked for CBC's for 14 years and has been on the Hill for last eight. Prior to that he worked across the country in the North and in Saskatchewan for the public broadcaster. Before joining CBC, he worked at a number of private news outlets in Toronto and New Brunswick.

He replaces **Troy Reid**, who was a former Parliament Hill reporter with Global. Mr. Reid is heading to Toronto to be a vicepresident of news. Mr. Sorensen said he will miss Ottawa, "but my kids will miss it more. They're still getting used to the idea." —by Bea Vongdouangchanh

#### Waddell won't run again

Former NDP MP **Ian Waddell** recently announced he won't seek his nomination in the federal riding of Vancouver-Kingsway, B.C., because he wants to "cede" the nomination to the next generation.

Mr. Waddell, who represented the riding through the 1980s, was defeated in the 2004 and 2006 elections by **David Emerson**.—The Hill Times



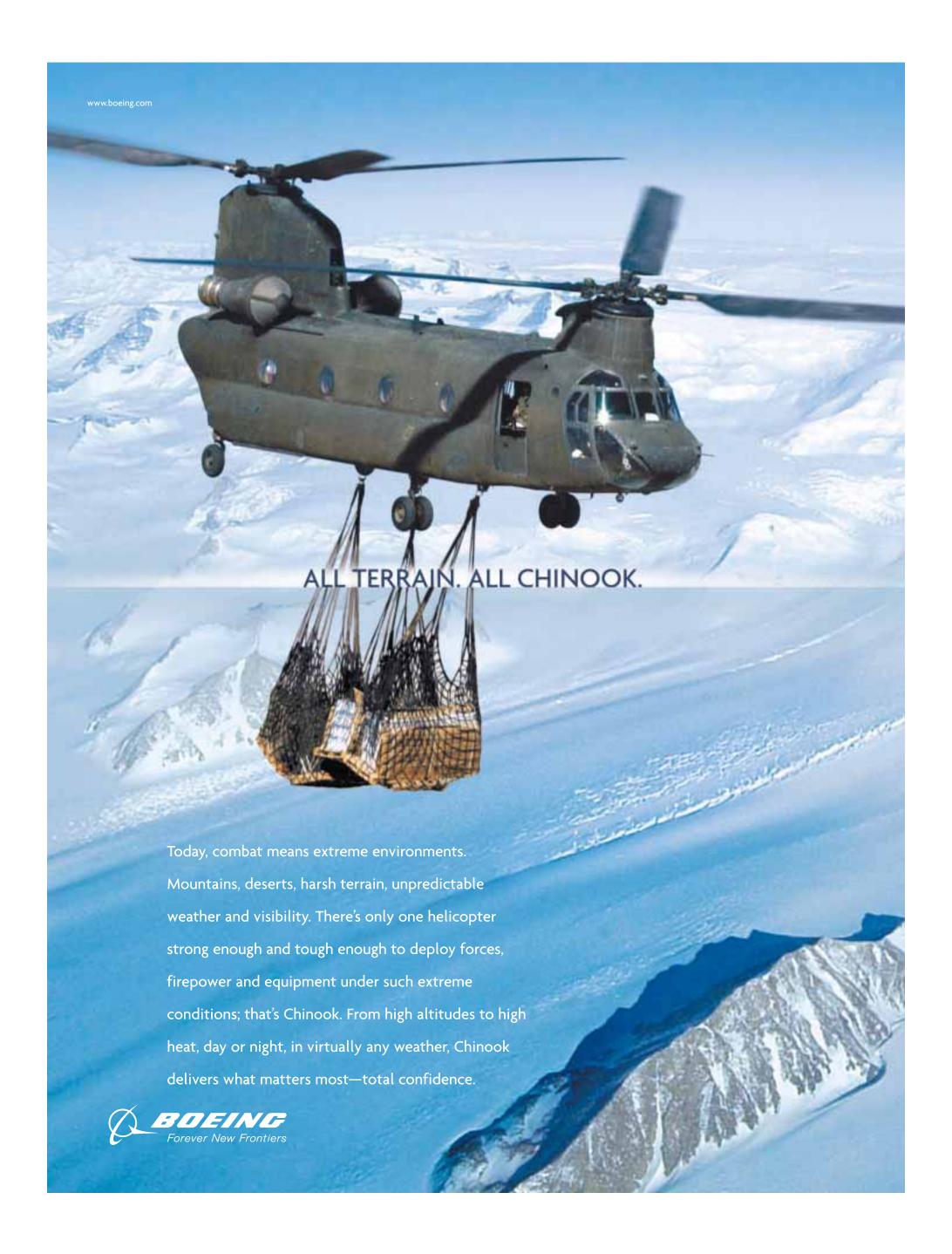
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#### Kennedy leads among B.C. Grit riding presidents: HT survey

#### And Dion is ahead of pack in support among unsuccessful federal B.C. Liberal candidates in the last election

#### By ABBAS RANA

Gerard Kennedy is leading all other Grit leadership candidates in support among B.C. federal Liberal riding association presidents, but Stéphane Dion is ahead of the pack in support from unsuccessful federal Liberal candidates in Canada's westernmost province, according to a survey by The Hill Times.

The telephone survey, conducted last week, indicates that Mr. Kennedy, a former Ontario education minister, has the support of four riding association presidents out of 36, or 11.1 per cent, and Mr. Dion (Saint-Laurent-Cartierville, Que.) has the support of seven out of 28 unsuccessful

B.C. candidates, or 25 per cent.

Among the riding association presidents, Mr. Kennedy is followed by Liberal leadership front-runner Michael Ignatieff (Etobicoke-Lakeshore, Ont.) who has the support of three riding association presidents or 8.3 per cent support. Former Ontario NDP premier Bob Rae and Mr. Dion share third place with backing from two riding association presidents or five per cent support.

The four other candidates, Liberal MP Scott Brison (Kings-Hants, N.S.), Liberal MP Ken Dryden (York Centre, Ont.), Liberal MP Joe Volpe (Eglinton-Lawrence, Ont.) and Toronto lawyer Martha Hall Findlay did not win the support of any riding association presidents in British Columbia.

In the survey, 11 riding association presidents, or 30.5 per cent, were unavailable to participate in the survey, three riding association presidents, or 8.3 per cent, said they have made up their minds but did not want to announce publicly and 10 riding association presidents, or 27.7 per cent, said that they're still undecided.

As for the unsuccessful candidates in the last federal election, Mr. Ignatieff follows Mr. Dion with the support of four former candidates, or with 14.28 per cent support. Third place, however, is shared by Mr. Rae and Mr. Dryden with the support of two former candidates each or with 7.14 per cent of support. Mr. Kennedy in this category won the support of only one former candidate.

In the survey, 11 riding association presidents, or 30.5 per cent, and 11 former candidates, or 39.8 per cent, were unavailable to participate in the survey. Ten riding association presidents, or 27.7 per cent, and one former candidate, or 3.5 per cent, said that they are still undecided. One riding association president Russell Lazaruk said that he's staying neutral.

Riding association presidents and unsuccessful federal Liberal candidates in the last federal election are part of the approximately 900 ex-officio delegates across the country who do not need to be elected for the Liberals' biennial and leadership convention. The ex-officios also include MPs, Senators, members of the Queen's Privy Council, past party leaders, elected members of the national executive and some of the executives from the provincial and territorial wings of the Liberal Party of Canada. The ex-officio delegates make up about 15 per cent of the total delegates eligible to vote at the Nov. 29-Dec. 3 convention in Montreal.

More than 5,000 delegates are eligible to go to the convention.

Support of the riding association presidents and unsuccessful federal candidates in the last federal election is considered key in the success of a leadership race, not only because of their ex-officio status but also because riding association presidents are usually the links between the grassroots members and the sitting MPs. Most of the unsuccessful candidates also stay in touch with the grassroots members because they start preparing for the next election soon

after the last election has ended. Undecided riding association presidents said in interviews that they haven't been able to make up their minds because all the candidates have numerous positive and negative points and that they're still finding it hard to choose one. They predicted they will likely go to the convention undecided.

"Everybody wants to assess everybody," said Mike Coleman, riding association president for Nanaimo-Cowichan. "It's a very important decision, I don't want to make it in a rush. There's a number of issues yet to be dealt with. I want to see them in action. In person, I've met most of them and I'm reasonably pleased with the calibre but I have not consulted with enough of my friends across the country to get a sense of who will have what impact where and that's certainly an issue.'

Don Grant, riding association president for Delta-Richmond East, offered a brief analysis of the top four candidates to illustrate why he's still undecided.

'Ignatieff is very articulate, very intelligent and he's been very courageous on some of his statements but I don't think he's done enough homework on the full tenor of where public policy in Canada has been in the last [few] years. I think that has led to some of his mistakes,"he said.

Bob Rae decided to become a Liberal basically within the last year and a half. He's had time to do this before and hasn't been talking too much specifically about policy. He's been talking more about what he might be doing for leadership. I know that he's started doing that, I read his piece in Maclean's. It's probably the first time he's really put that out there but I would like to see some specifics."

Mr. Grant said he thinks Mr. Dion is doing a good job with sharing his vision for Canada and his experience will help, but he needs to spend more time in explaining his views about Western Canada. "He's still got some articulation issues with Western Canada," he said. "He's still seen too much as a Quebec and not enough as a federal politician.

As for Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Grant said he's worried about his lack of support in Ouebec. "He's the youngest of them. He certainly needs to address the lack of support in Ouebec."

Meanwhile, on the Sept. 29 "Super Weekend" when Liberals elected delegates across the country, Mr. Ignatieff emerged as the front-runner with 1309 delegates, or 30.2 per cent of the support. Mr. Rae followed with 881 delegates, or 20.3 per cent of the support, while Mr. Kennedy came in third with 751 delegates or 17.3 per cent support. Mr. Dion had 694 delegates, or 16 per cent of the support, to place fourth.

The last four candidates, Mr. Volpe, Mr. Dryden, Mr. Brison and Ms. Hall Findlay won 211 delegates or 4.9 per cent support, 187 delegates or 4.3 per cent support, 153 delegates or 3.5 per cent support and 38 delegates or 0.9 per cent of support respectively. On the "Super Weekend," federal Liberals elected 109, or 2.5 per cent, undeclared delegates.

arana@hilltimes.com The Hill Times

#### British Columbia's 36 Liberal Riding Association Presidents and How They'll Vote:

No riding association president declared support for Liberal leadership candidate Scott Brison in The Hill Times survey

#### Liberal MP Stéphane Dion

- 1. Okanagan-Shuswap: Rod Drennan
- Vancouver Kingsway: Ivan Curman

#### Liberal MP Ken Dryden

No riding association president declared support for Liberal leadership Ken Dryden in The Hill

#### **Toronto Lawyer Martha Hall Findlay**

No riding association president declared support for Martha Hall Findlay in *The Hill Times* survey.

#### Liberal MP Michael Ignatieff

- 1. Surrey North: Surjit Kooner
- 2. Port Moody-Westwood-Port Coquitlam:
- 3. New Westminster-Coquitlam: Jacques Leger

#### Former Liberal MPP Gerard Kennedy

- Vancouver Centre: Gregory Elzinga Vancouver Island North: Sterling Campbell
- Pitt Meadows-Maple Ridge-Mission:
- Marcel Juneau
- Vancouver Quadra: Craig Munroe

- Vancouver South: Manjit Bal
- 2. Prince George-Peace River: Arleene Thorpe

#### Liberal MP Joe Volpe

No riding association president declared support for Liberal leadership candidate Joe Volpe in The

#### Undecided

- 1. British Columbia Southern Interior: Dan Ashman
- Burnaby-Douglas: Peter Yung
- 3. Delta-Richmond East: Don Grant Kelowna-Lake Country: Terrence Foster
- Langley: Allan Peterson
- Nanaimo-Cowichan: Mike Coleman
- Saanich-Gulf Islands: David Kelly
- Skeena-Bulkley Valley: Bruce Martindale South Surrey-White Rock-Cloverdale:
- Scott Nicoll 10. Chilliwack-Fraser Canyon: Stan Rogers

#### Declined to reveal

- 1. Cariboo-Prince George: David Wilbur
- 2. Kamloops-Thompson-Cariboo:
- Francis Barnett
- 3. Okanagan-Coquihalla: Parveen Sandur

#### Unknown

- 1. Abbotsford: Stephen Evans
- (acting riding president)2. Burnaby-New Westmister:
- Gurdev Dhillon
- 3. Esquimalt-Juan de Fuca: Jason Walker
- 4. Fleetwood-Port Kells: Shahin Soheili
- Kootenay-Columbia: Betty Aitchison Nanaimo-Alberni: Tar Binng
- Newton-North Delta: Jack Hittrich
- 8. North Vancouver: Adam Walters 9. Richmond: Bud Hoffard
- 10. Vancouver East: Daniel Lee
- 11. West Vancouver-Sunshine Coast-Sea To Sky Country: Doug Hammond

Victoria Russell Lazaruk

—by Abbas Rana

#### **British Columbia federal Liberal Unsuccessful** Candidates in the 2006 Federal Election:

#### **Liberal MP Scott Brison**

No unsuccessful B.C. candidate from the last election declared support for Liberal leadership candidate Scott Brison in *The Hill Times* survey.

#### Liberal MP Stéphane Dion

- 1. Burnaby-Douglas: Bill Cunningham
- Joyce Murray
  3. Okanagan-Coquihalla: David Perry
- Prince George-Peace River: Nathan Bauder
- Skeena-Bulkley Valley Gordon Stamp-Vincent
- Vancouver Kingsway: Wendy Yuan Victoria: David Mulronev

#### Liberal MP Ken Dryden

- Kootenay-Columbia: James Burwell
   Saanich-Gulf Islands: Sheila Orr

#### **Toronto Lawyer Martha Hall Findlay**

No unsuccessful B.C. candidate from the last election declared support for Liberal leadership candidate Martha Hall Findlay in  $\it The\ Hill\ Times$  survey.

#### Liberal MP Michael Ignatieff

- Surrey North: Surjit Kooner 2. Abbotsford: David Oliver
- Chilliwack-Fraser Canyon:
- Myra Sweeney South Surrey-White Rock-Cloverdale: Jim McMurty

Former Liberal MPP Gerard Kennedy Vancouver Island North: Jim Mitchell

- 1. Nanaimo-Cowichan: Brian Scott
- 2. Langley: Bill Brooks

Liberal MP Joe Volpe
No unsuccessful B.C. candidate from the last election declared support for Liberal leadership

Undecided

Nanaimo-Alberni: Jim Stewart

- 1. British Columbia Southern Interior: Bill Profili
- 2. Burnaby-New Westmister:
- Mary Pynenburg
  3. Cariboo-Prince George: Simon Yu
- Delta-Richmond East: Patricia Whittaker
- 5. Fleetwood-Port Kells: Brenda Locke
- 6. Kamloops-Thompson-Cariboo: Ken Sommerfeld
- Kelowna-Lake Country: Vern Nielsen
   Okanagan-Shuswap: Will Hansma
   Pitt Meadows-Maple Ridge-Mission:
- Keith Henry 10.Port Moody-Westwood-Port Coquitlam: Jon Kingsbury
- 11. Vancouver East: Dave Haggard

—Compiled by Abbas Rana













Let's get the party started: Pictured clockwise from top left, Michael Ignatieff, Joe Volpe, Scott Brison, Stéphane Dion, Bob Rae, Martha Hall Findlay, Gerard Kennedy and Ken Dryden.

#### **FEATURE**

#### Harper hasn't had full press conference on the Hill since May

Parliamentary Press Gallery still fighting against PMO's controlled list of media questioners on Hill

Continued from Page 1

in the National Press Theatre is, I think, typical Ottawa arrogance. So when he does major announcements outside the city and ends up being available for journalists in Vancouver or Montreal or Toronto, or, out West, that's perfectly legitimate."

The Prime Minster has not held a full Parliamentary news conference since mid-May, when a room full of journalists walked out on Mr. Harper at an announcement on the Hill. A dispute had emerged over the issue of whether the Prime Minister or the press gallery should control which reporters ask the questions. The only exception to the Prime Minister's absence of Hill pressers has been when foreign dignitaries visit, at which time the Prime Minister has held media availabilities on the Hill. At such events, however, only a total of four questions are allowed from domestic and foreign media.

Last week, at a general meeting of the Parliamentary Press Gallery, members adopted a motion that many reporters felt came in vain. At the meeting a number of reporters expressed little hope that news conferences with the PM can resume on the Hill.

The adopted motion says that the gallery's "proposal to negotiate an operating procedure for the Prime Minister's press conferences has not been resolved"; that "attempts to re-establish lines of communication to inform the members of Cabinet meetings proved in vain"; and that the gallery regrets "the PMO's attempts to control the flow of information."

The resolution also called for a return of access to ministers after Cabinet meetings and proposed that the gallery submit its own list of questioners at the Prime Minister's news conferences on the Hill—if he holds any.

Right now, at the Prime Minister's media availabilities on the road, his press aide, Dimitri Soudas, asks reporters to sign up if they want to ask questions. Press gallery members say the system gives the Prime Minister the opportunity to "cherry pick" reporters from the list.

The gallery attempted a one-month, temporary suspension of its boycott of the Prime Minister's list, in what it called a "good faith" attempt at using the Prime Minister's system, but in that time the PM did not hold a news conference on the Hill.

Yves Malo, TVA reporter and president of the press gallery, said the gallery has not had a single conversation with the PMO about their relations since the spring. "We have many examples of how he's not interested in talking to us, but we cannot go into some kind of stubborn battle. There's got to be someone, somewhere, that keeps the lines of communication open," he said.

Although ministers are making announcements on the Hill, Mr. Malo said it's clear that the Prime Minister is avoiding the national media in Ottawa, pointing to the Prime Minister's recent announcement in Vancouver that he would table

the government's Clean Air Act. "We keep smiling and hope for the best," he said.

But Mr. Kenney suggested that some are making too much of the Prime Minister's lack of availability in Ottawa. "There have been opportunities here for the media to ask questions. I don't know how you all define a press conference, but I think he's been, generally speaking, very available. I think he made it clear from the very beginning that he wasn't going to have formal press conferences with nothing to announce. When there's a major announcement or a major foreign visitor, he's available," Mr. Kenney said.

Mr. Kenney said regional or local media bureaus are perfectly capable of asking questions of the Prime Minister, and that Mr. Harper is trying to avoid what Alberta Premier Ralph Klein has called the "dome disease."

"I don't agree with everything that Ralph Klein has ever said, but one of his laws of political folk-wisdom is to avoid what he calls the 'dome disease,' under the legislature's dome. You've got to get out into the rest of the country and that's what this prime minister has made a very deliberate effort to do, and makes no apologies for it. He's accessible."

Mr. Kenney said he attended a Chinese dinner with the Prime Minister a few weeks ago, where he stayed for two hours and shook more than 700 hands. "That's typically what he does when he's on the road at these events," he said. "He's quite a remarkable retail politician."

Coincidently, last week Mr. Klein said he was disappointed in Mr. Harper's relations with the media. "His relationship with the media is not all it should be," Mr. Klein said in a speech in Toronto on Thursday of last week, in which he gave a 'B' grade to Mr. Harper's government. "I accommodate the media. I was in the media. I know that it's nothing that I say that's going to get the media attention. It's always the reaction."

In a scrum on the Hill last week, NDP leader Jack Layton (Toronto Danforth, Ont.) said Mr. Harper's apparent contempt for the media is part of an overall governing style that is creating deadlock with the opposition parties in Parliament.

"There's such an arrogance and controlling attitude coming from the Prime Minister towards the House, towards the media and community groups and so on that I think this is why you're seeing a form of paralysis setting in here. He just has a rather contemptuous attitude towards the democratic process."

The Prime Minister has said the national media have a liberal bias and that he does not need to talk to the national press to get out his messages. James Travers, national affairs columnist in the *Toronto Star*'s Ottawa bureau, said Mr. Harper seems to want to appear more presidential than prime ministerial, and that his strategy is to avoid tough questions from the national press.

However, Mr. Travers said he does not believe the strategy will work. "I'm quite stunned by the fact that this government, or this Prime Minister, doesn't see that it's



Photograph by Jake Wright, The Hill 7

**Talk to us Mr. Prime Minister:** PM Harper, who hasn't had a full-blown press conference since May, is backdropped by his favourite colour of Conservative blue, pictured on Oct. 26 on Parliament Hill.

to his advantage to meet regularly with the national gallery because it's an opportunity for them to broadcast their message in a relatively controlled environment."

Mr. Travers said the current environment is forcing reporters to find more exclusive and hard-hitting stories, which tend to be critical of the government. "What they're saying to the national media, and which I think would be a good thing for journalism, is, 'Don't expect to get your stories on the

Hill every day. Fan out and find them yourself.'Well, I think that's great for journalism and good for public policy but I don't think it's in the government's interest."

Another negative consequence of this strategy, he said, is that news stories will portray the government as more closed and secretive, and the public will slowly come to view it this way.

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#### One-on-one interviews with the Prime Minister

Vancouver Sun/CanWest News Service, Feb. 8 Maclean's, Mar. 6 Policy Options, March CBC's The National, Apr. 4 TSN, April 18 A-Channel, London, May 24 CTV, May 31 Globe and Mail, May 31 Radio-Canada, June 15 Western Standard, June 19 Global TV, June 20 Reader's Digest, August
The Hill Times online/Embassy/Corriere
Canadese, June
TVA, August
Reuters, Aug. 22
La Presse, Aug. 22
Vancouver Sun/CanWest News Service,
Aug. 23
Ottawa Citizen/CanWest News Service,
Aug. 23
Radio-Canada, September
Le Devoir, Sept. 27

#### GRIT LEADERSHIP

Continued from Page 1

place with 751 delegates or 17.3 per cent of the delegates.

A native of The Pas, Man., Mr. Kennedy resigned as Ontario's education minister, last May to run for the leadership. He was first elected to the Ontario legislature in a byelection in 1996 vacated by then NDP MPP Bob Rae. Mr. Rae's NDP provincial government was defeated in 1995. Mr. Kennedy was re-elected in the 1999 and 2003 elections in the modified riding of Parkdale-High Park which was redrawn after the redistribution of electoral boundaries.

In the 1996 Ontario Liberal leadership race, he unsuccessfully ran for the provincial Liberal Party leadership against current Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty. He won the second place.

Prior to entering politics, he served as the first executive director of the Edmonton Food Bank from 1983 to 1986. The same year, Mr. Kennedy was recruited as executive director of the Daily Bread Food Bank in Toronto, where he served until 1996.

The following is an edited Q&A.

#### Why do you think you're the best person to lead the Liberal Party over all the other candidates?

"I can relate to Canadians, working families better than the other candidates have and I have a track record of doing that: of getting the public to have faith in whatever I am working on, whether it's fighting hunger or fixing education or the time I spent in opposition. I was able to mobilize large groups of people, I was able to help us to win the last election in Ontario. It's a proven thing. I also represent New Liberalism. I have, in part of my time in the McGuinty government [been] preparing for that, chairing the election preparedness committees and so on. We have got the ingredients that could work very well at the federal level, a Liberalism concerned with delivering results and implementation and not having a long list of possibilities. That's how you fight neo-Conservative governments. You can't win unless you have something practical, clear to offer as a progressive-type party and that is what I did as minister of education and it is what I participated in forming the approach that the McGuinty government took and I see the next evolution of thatit's been used by the Blair government and so on in need to have a real drive that people can see, feel and touch in their lives of the neo-Conservatives and their simplistic answers will almost always win out.'

#### Some political pundits and Liberals have been saying that your French is weak and this seems to be a major issue for a lot of Liberals who think that their new leader should be fluently bilingual. How do you respond?

"Most of them should first talk to me in French because most of them have not. I do agree that there's a challenge that I've been developing and I have improved my French in the course of this and I will continue to. But I would say that it has never been a barrier to me both understanding and presenting the concerns and the interests of Quebecers or Franco Ontarians or Acadians because I've done that for a long time in French and I'm simply getting more performance capability in French and I have accepted that as a challenge and I'm starting to demonstrate that clearly as something that I can do. Most people in the race are seen to have a drawback or two, that's my principal drawback. It's one that I can fix and people can judge for themselves where others may not be as fortunate."

#### On the super weekend, you managed to win only 1.1 per cent of the delegates in Quebec.

"It's actually almost two now. Not that I want to say we doubled or anything" (laughs).

Given Quebec's significance in federal politics, your opponents can say you were

## Kennedy: Libs will need two elections before breakthrough in Quebec



former Grit MP Marc Godbout, MP Borys Wrzesnewskyj and MP Marc Holland last spring.

Photograph by Jake Wright, The Hill Times Follow me Liberal people: Gerard Kennedy, pictured with his wife, Jeanette Arsenault-Kennedy, and supporters, including former Liberal MP Charles Caccia, right, Liberal MP Bernard Patry, rear left,

able to win only two per cent of the delegates on the super weekend and that's not good enough. How would you counter that kind of criticism?

"Quebec was a closed network and the results do not reflect my potential support among Quebecers, at large. The number of voters estimated by some people to be around 4,000 was fewer than almost any other province, including Prince Edward Island. Groups of Liberals who are already attached to other candidates, we tried to reach out to membership that didn't exist in some cases. So, clearly the Liberal Party, at a weak point, is not the only reflection in terms of where things are at and the people who were elected are interestingly very open to my candidacy now that they know the kind of support I have in the rest of the country.

"It was difficult before to become known in Quebec under the conditions that existed in Quebec for which I accept responsibility. Different strategies might have worked better in terms of being able to do that, I'm not trying to pass off any excuses, but what I would say is that I have yet to be really understood in Quebec and that will happen in the course of these next five weeks and then people can make a fair assessment. In Alberta and British Columbia, particularly where I was not known at all before the leadership

started, I've had an extremely strong reaction and I haven't had the big backrooms, I haven't had the media hype, but we've still been able to convince Liberals and a whole lot of other people. We have brought people from other parties who believe in my potential as leader and I expect to get the same response in Quebec, the same recognition of credibility and a viability as someone who can appeal to Quebecers."

#### How long do you think it will take to rebuild the party in Quebec?

We can make gains coming out of leadership to a certain kind of consolidation but I think it will probably take two elections in Quebec to build that. And I sav because my ambition for Quebec is to have a real grassroots party—one that starts to cut across some of the traditional geography because I do believe there are a lot of concerns that we need to address rural and urban, the question of jobs.... If Quebecers want to see a party that stands up for them, the Bloc can't do that, the Bloc would never be in a situation to affect those things. They can act defensively but who is going to go out there and make sure that Canada and Quebec gets its fair share of jobs and particularly ones that are rooted in Canada and in Quebec and that's the main pitch that I have to Quebec. There's a new challenge we can only accomplish as all regions of the country working together. That's the only possible way we can succeed, Liberal government did a lot of foundation building but now is the time to take the next chapter, the next phase of Liberalism and on this one, provinces have to be treated like partners. They have to play an important role, it's what Quebecers call a *projet de société* and it's what we need to do....

"My proposition to Quebec is going to be say, 'Yes to this because it is the way that you and your families are going to succeed similarly to Ontario or Alberta or any other parts of the country.' None of us can do it alone and that I can think is a more salient way of engaging Quebecers than talking about pieces of paper or laws or what have you. It's a better way of showing respect for Quebecers to say 'we understand what your real concerns are. They're not talking about the Constitution at Tim Hortons in Quebec, they're talking about the uncertainty of Bombardier, they're talking about what's going on in terms of the forest industry and they want to know who is standing up for them. And a federal government that focuses on that in the right way and engages Quebec and is a partner in that, I think will find itself getting respect."

## Very briefly, if you become the leader of the Liberal Party, what will you do to renew your party and what will you do to bring the party together?

"Basically offer a very clear leadership on unity in the sense of including people and making sure that there are no Kennedy Liberals, just Liberals."

#### In September, you said that if you become the leader of the party, you will empower the caucus with a veto over some of the leader's decisions.

"I will not undercut the role of the leader. What I will do though is put in what I call some safety valves so that we all know and can behave in a way that is more respectful of the contributions of the elected caucus and the members of the party. So, I do think it's time to put in some checks and balances that won't override or overrun the effectiveness of the leader's office but they tell people that the leader's office doesn't have infinite power and that it is responsible under certain conditions and at certain times to both caucus and membership. That is a key part of what I will be bringing forward and people will see that I've done that in a way that is creative and still permits us to function but it reminds people that the power of the leader is only the power that he or she has from the membership and confirmed by the caucus."

## After the second or third ballot, if you come to the conclusion at the Montreal convention that you're unlikely to win the leadership, who will you support?

"Well, I was through a leadership before and I never had to come to that conclusion and that was my instinct then and that's my instinct now. I'm very focused on becoming the leader of the party. I gave up what I was doing because I felt not just obligated, but I felt it was extremely important that the party have me this kind of leader at this time. We've got a very committed team right across the country. We've got a fair bit of momentum and we've a great thing that helps in sports or in politics—we're underestimated, and we're going to be able to make this happen."

#### Will you still run for Parliament if you lose the leadership of the party?

"I made that commitment at the beginning. I'm committed to the federal realm. I gave up my provincial seat. I gave up my ministership and I'll be running if the voters of the riding allow me [nominate me] to do that."

Arana@hilltimes.com The Hill Times

#### OPINION PAGE

#### A daring idea: Kudos to Ambrose's Clean Air Act, says Morton

Significance of act might be getting overlooked, but the federal government could also be going further

#### By IAN MORTON

The commitment by the Harper govlernment's Clean Air Act to introduce measures for improving indoor air quality is a landmark policy announcement in Canada, the significance of which might be getting overlooked.

Until now, governments in Canada generally have been slow to formally recognize that indoor environments have real impacts on health, the environment, and the economy. With the exception of toxic exposures in the workplace, attention for indoor pollution issues generally did not get any policy consideration until the late 1970s, with regulation related to Urea Formaldehyde Foam Insulation (UFFI) in homes. With the recent and growing amounts of evidence linking indoor air quality to the development and exacerbation of asthma and allergies, it has become cleared that the government must act in this area. And while progress has been made on some issues (e.g., smoking in public places), far too many houses have high levels of indoor pollution—particularly in aboriginal communities and low income households

Internationally, Canada lags behind many countries—including the United States—in recognizing and addressing issues impacting indoor environments. Canada's residential guidelines for indoor air quality are almost 20 years old—despite the recognition at the time that they may not provide adequate protection for at-risk populations such as allergic or asthmatic people. In fact, the current guideline for radon is five times higher than the radon standard in the United States. The process to review the residential exposure guidelines has been excruciatingly slow and had limited public input. The Harper government's announcement to introduce a new radon guideline in early 2007 as part of an overall radon strategy is a positive step toward addressing the need improving for indoor air quality in Canada.

In addition to formally recognizing the importance of indoor air, the Government of Canada should:

•Direct Health Canada to co-ordinate



It all started with the Clean Air Act, people: Environment Minister Rona Ambrose's Clean Air Act has been roundly criticized by environmental groups, opposition parties and political pundits, but lan Morton says the federal government's initiative is a good one and should be recognized as such.

federal and provincial activities related to IAQ. Health Canada has the legislative authority (e.g., the Tobacco Act, and the Canadian Environmental Protection Act) to take action. Health Canada has previously shown leadership around the issue, by chairing Federal-Provincial Working Groups on IAQ, producing educational guides and funding research in the area of indoor environmental health. And, two recent Private Members' Bills on Indoor Air Quality have identified Health Canada as the appropriate Federal Agency for developing a coordinated response to the indoor environment issue: including research, standard setting, code develop-

•Increase funding for research into the effect of indoor exposures on health:

Canada needs to dedicate more resources to improve our understanding of the relationship between housing and health—in particular the effects resulting from prolonged and intermittent exposure to low-level concentrations of chemical and biological pollutants as well as complex pollutant mixtures.

• Engage the public: Consumers must be better informed about the health risks associated with the products they buy and use in their homes; and informed about available alternatives that can help minimize these risks, for example, through improved product labelling.

Most Canadians are still under the misconception that air pollution is an outdoor phenomenon. Yet, on average Canadians spend over 90 per cent of their time indoors, where most studies show the air quality to be many times more polluted than the outdoor air quality. For these reasons, I think the Harper Government's recognition of indoor air quality as a significant issue for Canadians is long overdue and should be seen as a welcome development.

Ian Morton is the co-founder and former chief operating officer of the Healthy Indoors Partnership and has been registered as a lobbyist for the Clean Air Foundation. news@hilltimes.com

The Hill Times

#### Rae and Ignatieff both bright lights: former NDP MP Waddell

By IAN WADDELL



**7** ou know me better than that. You've known me for 40 years,"-Ignatieff to Rae at the Toronto debate of the Liberal leadership candidates.

Some years ago when I was a 22-year-old law student at the University of Toronto, I found myself secretary of the Hart House Debates Committee. People like Bill Graham, the current Opposition Liberal Leader, and the late Ian Scott had also been secretaries. And Hart House prided itself as being the Canadian equivalent to the Oxford Debating Union.

Special invited "honoured guests" to Hart House debates have in the past included a young American Senator, John F. Kennedy, and about every Canadian Prime Minister. The guest was joined by student debaters, one side for the "Ayes" and another for the "Nays".

It was the 20th anniversary of the United Nations, so we invited our Canadian Ambassador to the UN, George Ignatieff, and chose a topic around the success (or failure) of the UN as an institution.

My job as secretary was to choose the lead student debaters from some 30 or so

of the best and brightest who had taken part "from the floor" in previous debates.

I chose a lanky, brilliant, 17-year-old from Trinity College. He looked like a young Gary Cooper and his name was Michael Ignatieff. I then paired him with a bespectacled, nerdy looking little guy from University College, named Bob Rae.

Neither disappointed.

Michael happened to be the Ambassador's son so I put him on the "Nay" side against his father. He analytically took apart the UN's record and his father looked stressed and stuffy in comparison.

But, Rae was the surprise of the evening. He spoke with vigour. Indeed, we all wondered, how could so much wit and humour come out of this guy? When I attended last week's debate in Toronto, the famous TV clip, as Martha Hall Findlay correctly called it, came up. Rae and Ignatieff were at it again. I thought nothing has changed.

Can Ignatieff, with that layered and brilliant professorial mind, be a possible PM after only nine months in politics? Will he be for the Liberal Party another winner like Pierre Elliott Trudeau or just a noble loser like Robert Stanfield?

Rae has experience in government and it showed in Toronto. But, will the convention delegates demand more than

quick wit and a dash of show business? Will he wear his loss in Ontario politics or will he be like a Bill Clinton who came back from a gubernatorial defeat and got another chance?

I don't envy the delegates. Yea or nay. was hard to tell at Hart House. It's even harder now and the stakes are higher. Ian Waddell is a former NDP MP. He is active in the Sierra Club of Canada, the Arts Club of Vancouver and is a lawyer with Myers, Waddell and Company Trial Lawyers in Vancouver.

The Hill Times

#### 2006 LAW & PARLIAMENT **CONFERENCE**

Theme: Accountability as a Pillar of Democratic Governing

#### **KEYNOTE SPEAKERS**

The Chief Justice of Canada The Right Honourable BEVEKLEY MCLACHLIN, P.C.

The Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, The Honourable VIC TOEWS, P.C.

The President of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY)

The Honourable JUDGE FAUSTO POCAR

Dates: Nov. 2, 3 and 4, 2006; starting at 8 am, Nov. 2. **Location:** Government Conference Centre, 2 Rideau Street **Registration:** Carole Roussel, Canadian Bar Association (613) 237-2925 or caroler@cba.org

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l'honorable VIC TOEWS, c.p., M.P., Le Ministre de la Justice et Procureur général du Canada

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#### GRIT LEADERSHIP LIST

#### LIBERAL LEADERSHIP 2006-07: An update on Liberal leadership candidates and some of their supporters:

Liberal MP Scott Brison: Patrick Albert Dan Aquila Gail Asper Tyler Bent John Bethel Josh Bragg Jamie Bryan N.B. MLA T.J. Burke Mike Burton Greg Byrne, NBLA President David Cameron, NSLP past-president Archie Campbell Ben Carr Nick Cartmell Lib Sen. Jane Marie Cordy Lib Sen. Jim Cowan Former NB MLA Georgie Day John Delacourt Darcy Diachinsky Richard Diamond NB MLA Ed Doherty Chris Emanuel Lib MP Mark Eyking Kevin Ferraro Marlene Floyd Cheryl Fougere

Vince Gasparro **Lib Sen. George Furey**Dr. John Gillis, NSLPVP Sheldon Gillis David Goldstein Amerjit Grewal Vincenzo Guzzo Edy Hadad Kevin Herbert

Josh Fraser

Former MP John Herron Fraser Holditch Josh Justice N.B. MLA Brian Kenney Lib Sen. Michael Kirby

Milé Komlen Francis Laforesterie Jarett (J-Lo) Lalonde Patrick Lalonde Leigh Lampert Dave Lapommeray Chris MacInnes (national campaign

director)
Greg McClinchey N.S. MLA Manning McDonald Lucas Mitchell Lib Sen. Wilfred Moore

Sheryne Morcos Emmanuel Morin Lib MP Shawn Murphy Former Lib MP Rey Pagtakhan

Dale Palmeter Michael Penner Lib Sen. Gerard Phalen

Richard Phillips Gray Picco Earl Provost Edward Rawlinson John Risley Gerald Sampson

Lib MP Mike Savage (campaign co-

Jonathan Schneiderman Denis Schryburt Carolyn Scott, NSLPVP Leslie Swartman Jean-François Thibault Derek Wells, NSLP president and former MP Sarah Wong Cindy Woodhouse John Young, NSLP past-president

Liberal MP Stéphane Dion: Former Lib MP Warren Allmand Former Lib MP Eleni Bakopanos

Lib MP Sue Barnes Doug Beaton Tudor Beattie Lib MP Colleen Beaumier Bruce Benson David Berger Andrew Bevan

Former Lib MP Jean-Jacques Blais Former Lib MP Don Boudria Former Lib MP Claudette Bradshaw Stephen Bronfman
Lib MP Bonnie Brown

Denise Brunsdon Lib Sen. John Bryden Rod Bryden Lib Sen. Maria Chaput

Jason Cherniak Former Lib MP Hector Clouthier Sheila Copps

Bill Cunningham Titch Dharamsi Rod Drennan Natalie Duhamel Claude Duplain Isobel Finnerty Jim Goetz

Karen Graham Colin Hebb Keith Henry Charles Hubbard

Daniel Hurley Ovid Jackson
Lib MP Marlene Jennings Michel Joncas Former Lib MP Joe Jordan Andrew Kania Brian Klunder

André Lamarre Daniel Lee Marc Lavigne Sabrina Loiacono Marjory Loves Maureen Lyons Ron MacDonald Former N.S. Premier Russell

MacLellan Nancy MacIntosh John Manley

George Mancini Leonard Marchand Mark Marissen (national campaign

Herb Metcalfe Geoffroi Monpetit David Mulroney Tim Murphy
Former B.C. Lib Cabinet minister

Tom Manley

Joyce Murray Denis Paradis

Forrest Parlee Ont. Lib MPP Richard Patten

Former Nfld. Lib MP Jean Payne Heather Pearcey Dave Perry
Former MP Doug Peters
Lib Sen. Vivienne Poy Darryl Raymaker Patricia Raymaker

H. John Relton John Roberts Caroline Savio

Lib MP Francis Scarpaleggia Former Lib MP David Smith Lib MP Paul Steckle
Alberta Senator Claudette Tardif

Former Lib MP Yolande Thibeault Former Liberal MP Paddy Torsney Norm Whelan Heather Watson

Mike Witherly Lucille Whissell
Lib MP Bryon Wilfert

Liberal MP Ken Dryden:

Tony Antonio Dan Ashman Sarah Bain Lib MP Don Bell Paula Biggar Alex Bonenfant Roy Bornmann Lib MP Ken Boschcoff

Greg Caldwell Kevin Carlson Robert Carlson

Lib Sen. Sharon Carstairs

Sean Casey **Lib Sen. Marilyn Trenholme Counsell** Kirk Cox Jennifer Crane

Jesse Davidson Andrew Dennis Daniel Dezainde Joanne Dobson Murray Downing
Lib Sen. Art Eggleton

Lib Sen. Joyce Fairbairn
Pat Ferguson
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Alan Young Abe Zakem Lib Sen. Rod Zimmer Toronto lawyer

Martha Hall Findlay: Tom Haves Quito Maggi Raj Sandhu

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Lib MP Larry Bagnell
Giuseppe Barbieri
Shirley Baril

Radey Barrack Élise Bartlett Pascal Beaupré Marc Bélanger Sylvain Beaudrey

Lib MP Mauril Bélanger Raynald Belval Andrew Block Former Lib MP Françoise Boivin

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Patsy Bouthillette Dan Brock Former Lib MP Sam Bulte Paul Burman

Lib MP Gerry Byrne John Campbell John Campion

John Campion
Lib MP John Cannis
Ont. MPP David Caplan
Former Lib MP Elinor Caplan
Former Alberta MLA Debby Carlson Former Lib MP Aileen Carroll

Robyn Cassidy Former Lib MP Marlene Catterall Marc Chalifoux

Bill Cheema Nick Colosimo

Brian Clow Nancy Coldham Lib MP Denis Coderre Jean-François Coderre

Ken Cole Chris Collenette Former Lib MP David Collenette Hubert Cosgrove

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Vicken Darakdjian Former Lib MP Bob Daudlin

Ian Davey Jim Davis Shanon Davis

Charles Daviault Lib Sen. Dennis Dawson
Lib MP Jean-Claude D'Amours

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Yannick Guénette Nick Hamel Jean-Jacques Hermans Kyle Harrietha Bev Hendrickson

Len Hoyt David Hurford Nicole Hurtubise James Janeiro

Hursh Jaswal Garry Johnson Richard Jones

Ali Jonzon Marcel Juneau Jan Innes Jeff Kehoe John Khawand

Bruce Knutson Surjit Kooner John Laforet Pierre Lajeunesse Patrick Lasalle

Jacques Leger Mario Lévesque Lib Sen. Rose-Marie Losier-Cool

Robert Loyer
Lib MP Gary Merasty Ont MPP Shafiq Qaadri Serge Lafrenière Former Lib MP Marc Lalonde Paul Lalonde

N.B. MLA Denis Landry N.B. MLA Abel Leblanc Lib MP Derek Lee

Cory Lynch N.B. MLA Roly MacIntyre Robert MacBain David MacLean

Jean-Pierre Maisonneuve Denise Malo Lib MP John Maloney Former Lib Senator Marian Maloney Michael Marzolini

Grieg Mordue Patrice Marin-Best Lib MP Keith Martin Andrez Martinez Mark Masongsong Lib MP John McCallum Danielle McGee

Tom McGrath
Lib MP David McGuinty Lib MP Joe McGuire Lib MP John McKay Mary McLaughlin

Costas Menegakis Evatt Merchant Lib Sen. Pana Merchant Former N.B. MLA Marcelle

Mersereau Allan Mills Paul Minhas Lib MP Maria Minna Lib Sen. Grant Mitchell

Chuck Mrena Yasir Naqvi Walt Nilsson N.B. MLA Ron Ouellette

Philip Owen
Lib MP Stephen Owen
Phillip Owen
Georges Parent
Tanya Parks

Lib MP Jim Peterson
Former Ont. premier David Peterson Ont. MPP Tim Peterson

Gord Phaneuff Fomer Lib MP Beth Phinney Mario Poirier

Ross Priest
Lib MP Marcel Proulx Ghislaine Provencher Christian Provenzano Jatinder Rai Lib MP Yasmin Ratansi

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Jonathan Ross Lib MP Todd Russell Vijay Sappani

Lib MP Raymond Simard Karyne Simard Lib Sen. David Smith Charles Sousa Lib MP Lloyd St. Amand Silvia Stroie
Lib MP Paul Szabo Soeung Tang Maxime Thériault Lib MP Robert Thibault Lib MP Alan Tonks Peter Thurton Keith Torrie Marko Trivun Former N.B. MLA Doug Tyler Khalid Usman
Lib MP Roger Valley Anne Venton Jason Walker Keith White Lib MP Blair Wilson Lib MP Paul Zed Ont. MPP David Zimmer

Former Liberal MPP Gerard Kennedy:

Former Lib MP Peter Ad Lib MP Omar Alghabra Ont. MPP Wayne Arthurs Lib MP Navdeep Bains Ont. MPP Bas Balkissoon Ont. MPP Lorenzo Berardinetti Dave Brodie
Ont. MPP Jim Brownell
Former Lib MP Charles Caccia

Social activist June Callwood Lib Sen. Larry Campbell Lib MP Raymond Chan
Ont. MPP Kim Craitor
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Ont. MPP Bob Delaney Ont. MPP Vic Dhillon Lib MP Joe Fontana Former NB MLA Ray Frenette

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Ont. MPP Michael Gravelle
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Jack Graham Tom Hann Lib Sen. Mac Harb André Harvey Vicky Harvey Reine Hebert

Bill Hogg Lib Sen. Mobina Jaffer Lib MP Susan Kadis Lib MP Susan Kadis
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Leo Kolber Kevin Lamoureux Eugene Lang Kim Leclerc Lib MP Lawrence MacAulay Allan MacEachen Lib MP Diane Marleau Pam McDonald Isabelle Metcalfe Lib MP Brian Murphy
Ont. Lib Sen. Jim Munson Mike Murphy Robert Nixon Oscar Peterson Randy Pettipas David Price John Rae
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Liberal MP Joe Volpe: Amar Bajwa Lib MP Joe Comuzzi

Michel Tremblay

Julia Turnbull

Generino Conte Former Lib MP Nick Discepola

Corey Hobbs Al Iafolla Lib MP Wajid Khan Ted Lojko Lib MP Massimo Pacetti

Ian Perkins (national campaign director)
Ont. campaign manager Robin Russell Lib MP Lui Temelkovski

**Undecided Liberal MPs:** Lib MP Brenda Chamberlain Lib MP Ralph Goodale

Lib MP Charles Hubbard Lib MP Nancy Karetak-Lindell

Lib MP Jim Karygiannis Lib MP Bill Matthews Lib MP Dan McTeague

Lib MP Judy Sgro Lib MP Belinda Stronach Lib MP Tom Wappel

**Neutral Liberal MPs:** 

Lib MP Ray Bonin Lib MP Bill Graham

Lib MP Jean Lapierre Lib MP Dominic LeBlanc

Lib MP Paul Martin Lib MP Peter Milliken Lib MP Karen Redman Lib MP Lucienne Robillard

**Undecided Liberal Senators:** 

Lib Sen. Willie Adams Lib Sen. Jack Austin Lib Sen. Tommy Banks

Lib Sen. George Baker

Lib Sen. John Bryden Lib Sen. Ione Jean Christensen Lib Sen. Eymard Georges Corbin Lib Sen. Joseph Day

Lib Sen. Ross Fitzpatrick Lib Sen. Francis Fox Lib Sen. Aurélien Gill

Lib Sen. Yoine Goldstein Lib Sen. Jerry Grafstein

Lib Sen. Sandra Lovelace Nicholas Lib Sen. Céline Hervieux-Payette Lib Sen. Elizabeth Hubley

Lib Sen. Jean Lapointe Lib Sen, Raymond Lavigne Lib Sen. Paul Massicotte

Lib Sen. Lorna Milne Lib Sen. Lucie Pépin ib Sen Fernand Robichaud

Lib Sen. Nick Sibbeston Lib Sen. Peter Stollery

**Neutral Liberal Senators:** 

Lib Sen. Catherine Callbeck Lib Sen. Percy Downe Lib Sen. Joan Fraser

Lib Sen. Dan Hays

Lib Sen. Serge Joyal Lib Sen. Marie-Paule Poulin -Compiled by Abbas Rana and Kate

Mallov. Note: This is not a complete list and will be updated regularly over the coming months.

#### BOOK REVIEW

## What's the biggest mistake to make before a Parliamentary committee? Not delivering an effective, crisp message

#### By JENEFER CURTIS

Taking It to the Hill: A Complete Guide to Appearing Before Parliamentary Committees. Second Edition. by David McInnes. University of Ottawa Press. 2005 269 pages

When Taking it To the Hill was first published in 1999, it became the guide for anyone planning to appear as a witness before a House of Commons or Senate committee. Its author, David McInnes, then with the Canadian Bankers Association and now the VP International Relations for cancer therapy company MDS Nordion, found himself a good publishing niche in the University of Ottawa's Governance Series and produced a volume that was academic in its depth (the footnotes were lengthy and still are) yet truly a hands-on "how-to" guide.

This fall, an updated version is available. Its format is identical to the first edition: a chapter on the "Parliamentary backdrop" of committees, a chapter called "Committees 101" which explains the types of committees and committees" "authority to send" (for persons, papers and records), a chapter on the political process and how it provides opportunities to influence people and get your case heard, a chapter on getting yourself ready to appear and, finally, what to do when you are on the stand.

The book's many quotations offer much food for thought. There are some that are simply amusing: "Okay we'll call the meeting to order. [The Chair] is ill. I understand she's suffering from pneumonia. I understand we have some substitutes on the Liberal side, which has some ill people as well. We have only two survivors. Only two survivors on the Health Committee—that doesn't look good." (Conservative MP Rob Merrifield, vice-chair, Standing Committee on Health. Feb. 3, 2005).

And others that are revealing: "Going in-camera is fine as long as everybody can be trusted to keep it in camera. There's no guarantee that people will keep it in confidence." (Then Liberal MP Beth Phinney, Standing Committee on Public Accounts, Feb. 17, 2004).

One interesting aspect of the book is that it discusses the wider context of a person's committee appearance, offering up various lobbying methods one can use to enhance this appearance, even going as far as calling up party research bureaus to brief them on your case. The book's case studies of successful campaigns—remember the 1997 appearance of the Canadian Association of Broadcasters before a Commons committee with a pamphlet carrying actual black magnetic tape?—are instructive.

The book does have faults, one being that while this new version promises an update, "to reflect key developments in procedure and committee practices," these updates are not highlighted in the chapters and are dispersed among the various chapters rather than being available in one place.

The Hill Times spoke with Mr. McInnes to flesh out these updates and to get more insight into what is, in the end, a must-have volume for any Canadian politico.

What, briefly, are the key changes in committee procedures and practices and how have these affected, if at all, a witness' preparation for appearing?

"From a witness standpoint, and, gen-

erally speaking, what is really important is how committees see themselves, how they operate. Since the first edition [of the book] there has been a shift towards giving backbenchers and their committees more authority, and giving committees more power, and to ensure that committees act as the formidable force they are mandated to be. We've seen many examples of this, just one being when the Public Accounts Committee refused to give into demands that Chuck Guité's privilege, protected comments before the committee be allowed to be used in his examination before the Gomery Inquiry.

'Some rule changes have attempted to improve efficiencies and make House committees more relevant, such as getting the government to respond to their reports sooner (120 days vs. 150 days). A private member's bill, once it makes it to committee, is now deemed to be reported back to the House after 60 days whether the committee has considered it or not. Other recent changes include the election of committee chairs, giving committees more scope to review federal appointments and giving committees greater ability to review the estimates. Moreover, there has been a repeated desire on behalf of recent prime ministers to enhance accountability and openness in government and this has, in some cases, stiffened committees' resolve to investigate issues."

You stress in the book how much real authority committees have to pursue



Photograph by Jake Wright, The Hill Times

**Taking it to the Hill:** The Special Senate Reform Committee, above, is studying the PM's suggestion on reforming the Upper Chamber. David McInnes says to have a solid message when testifying.

issues and witnesses and the power they have to examine any matter under their purview. What prevents them from doing this as well as they could?

"What usually tends to hold back committees from performing at their best is politics and partisanship. Plus, workloads are daunting and prevent committees from more fully delving into matters, such as the estimates."

#### What is the biggest mistake people make appearing before a Parliamentary committee?

"They do not appreciate how to deliver an effective message to a committee. It's not only communicating in a way that is focused, but it's communicating in a way so that Members and Senators *need* the information. It's lobbying 101 in a way—it's not just about arguing well for your case, but how you can work towards reconciling your case with other legitimate and well-argued cases. You have to balance your case with the bigger picture, because that is what the Parliamentarians will have to do

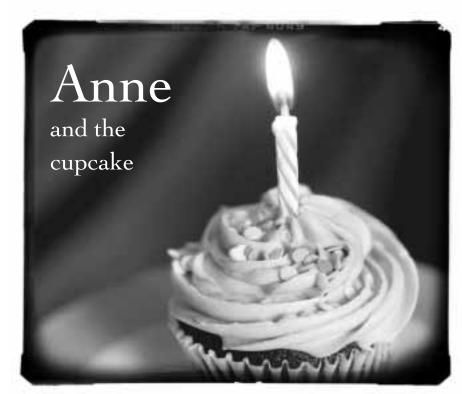
when they write their report."

#### What did you learn writing this and why did you decide to write it?

"As for what I learned, I never appreciated the breadth of committee powers and authorities, which are considerable, and which we've seen played out over the last few years in the cases like the Guité one. As well, I see just how critical it is that a witness doesn't just read his case and leave, but it's all about the stuff you do on the shoulders—it's the pre-work, the pre-meetings, the following of the whole hearing, it's working with the department and the minister—it's all of that stuff to truly make sure that your message gets listened to.

"Why did I write this? At the CBA, we'd often coach bankers on how to appear and we were going over the same points for each group and person, so I started to take a more systematic approach and that led to writing the book. I did it at night and before my kids got up."

news@hilltimes.com The Hill Times



Anne, our meeting room attendant, was sharing the elevator with guests one day when she struck up a conversation with an almost-six-year-old girl. "It's my birthday tomorrow," beamed the girl. "Well, happy birthday," chimed Anne. A pleasant, if unexceptional, exchange. It didn't end there, however. Knowing that the family was booked into the breakfast buffet the next day, Anne developed a plan.

She bought a cupcake, a card, a candle, and a camera. The next morning, Anne and other staff members lit the candle, placed it in the cupcake, sang happy birthday, and took photos of the surprised and delighted six-year-old, creating a birthday moment her family will never forget. It seems that when you stay at the Victoria Park Suites hotel, you're never too young to be a VIP.



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#### **WISEGUYS**



## In The Infamous Dog Episode<sup>TM</sup>, MacKay could have made short work of farcical drama by apologizing...

By TIM POWERS and WARREN KINSELLA

The House Goes to the Dogs...

Powers: Did he or didn't he say it? Did Foreign Affairs Minister Peter MacKay call his ex-girlfriend a dog? He says he didn't and I take Peter at his word! Certainly, it is unacceptable to call a woman a dog. If anyone made a comment like that they should apologize. We all learned that in kindergarten! What is driving me batty, note self-deprecating bird-like reference, about this entire tale of Parliamentary parlance is how the Liberals are trying to turn Peter's alleged comment into a charade about the Conservative Party being anti-women. If I may be allowed to employ some less civil language—what a load of crap!

Sadly, no one party has a monopoly on stupid things that have been said or allegedly stated. We only have to step back to the last election campaign when a member of the Liberal party executive, Mike Klander, made a canine reference about Olivia Chow. Not long before that, who can forget Pat O'Brien questioning the intelligence of his colleague Sarmite Bulte based on her hair colour. Plus the memory of Jean Chrétien's former family planning suggestions to ex-CBC reporter Christina Lawand remains strong.

News flash! Even Kinsella and I say stupid things. We faced far more serious punishments than public condemnation. A wife and a mother, respectively, are inclined to favour verbal emasculation as just desert for dumb utterances. Try barking then!

Kinsella: Throughout this entire shabby affair—which could have been resolved, as with most things in politics, with approximately 30 seconds of common sense—I have been reminded of someone's Nixonera maxim. Namely, it's never the breakin. It's always the cover-up.

In The Infamous Dog Episode™, Peter MacKay could have made short work of this farcical drama. "Mr. Speaker, some Members heard me make a derogatory reference. I will not get into a lengthy debate about who said what and when, and the motivations of some honourable members opposite. I will merely say to the honorable Member, who knows me, that if she—she alone—is offended by something I have done, I regret that. I wish her the best, Mr. Speaker."

The honourable member in question, based upon recent events, would have a hard time saying much of anything after that. End of story. End of The Infamous Dog Episode™.

But, Ottawa being Ottawa, the whole mess has gotten a lot messier than it ever needed to. Sworn affidavits, allegation and

counter-allegation, Zapruder-esque analysis of audio tapes. Everyone looks crappy in this one.

What's frustrating, too, is that bullshit so often crowds out reality in Ottawa—and the media deserve some of the brickbats, too. For instance: all sorts of groups and individuals—with bona fide concerns about bona fide public policy issues, including abuse of women—couldn't command as much attention as The Infamous Dog Episode™ did. Not even a fraction of it. Because the pair in question are photogenic, because they had a romance, because it's all sort of amusing, this story got more play, almost, than did North Korea joining the nuclear club.

It's not just maddening, it's flat-out crazy.

Peter: call her up, express regret. Belinda: tell him thanks, forget about it.

And then, as rapidly as possible, the rest of us will do likewise.

Iggy and Quebec...

Powers: Lord Michael Ignatieff, the self-proclaimed second coming of Pierre Trudeau, took time to tell we the people that he thought Quebec should be a nation. Like most Iggy references because he is so much wiser than the rest of us, as his team often tells us, we are not sure what he means. Certainly, Mr. Trudeau might find it entirely disappointing to hear Iggy's confused proposition. Fuddle Duddle you might say to this Tory as it takes more than a 30-second sound bite to clarify.

Quebec is unique because of its culture, language and history among other things. Prime Minister Stephen Harper has taken clear steps to make federalism work in the province. From moving to address the fiscal balance, to getting Quebec recognized at UNESCO and simply doing things in a straight-forward accountable manner makes a difference to Quebecers. You earn respect with Quebecers, as you do with other Canadians, by keeping your word. Addressing environmental challenges in substantive manner as the government is doing with the Clean Air Act is another example of effective federalism. It isn't the jiggery pokey dance of Iggy nomenclature.

Michael Ignatieff might want to take some lessons from Bob Rae on transparency. Perhaps it is time for Iggy to go skinny dipping with Rick Mercer so we can truly gauge the substance of the member from Etobicoke-Lakeshore. Note to all outside of Newfoundland that was a joke! We still need some humour in politics.

**Kinsella:** I left the Paul Martin party–exiled myself, in effect—because I was horrified by its dalliances with separat-





Photographs by Jake Wright, The Hill Times

Did you hear the one about Peter MacKay walks into this bar, and there's this dog sitting there... If Foreign Affairs Minister Peter MacKay, left, had just apologized to his ex-girlfriend Grit MP Belinda Stronach, right, in this whole dog thing, based upon recent events, Stronach would have a hard time saying much of anything after that. End of story and End of The Infamous Dog Episode™.

ists, and its giddy willingness to dismantle Canada to satisfy a cabal that will never be satisfied. So forgive me for repeating to Team Iggy what I have said elsewhere. I pray to God, wherever she is, that they heed my modest warning.

The Liberal Party of Canada became the most successful political machine in Western democracy because it had great leaders and great people. It also achieved success by faithfully safeguarding the two Unique Selling Propositions of the Liberal Party of Canada. These are:

1. Managerial competence: You can trust us to run things better than the other guys.

2. Strong central government: You can trust us to put Canada first.

During the Martin blip, which my therapists have very nearly expunged from my consciousness, both USPs went straight into the shifter

Gomery—the calling of it, and the fact of it—successfully banished any notion that Liberals could run a two-house paper route. Give praise to the Martinites: it's hard to wreck in a few weeks something it took a few decades to achieve. But you guys did it! All hail!

As with USP numero uno, the second USP was also consciously tossed into the political dumpster by the Martinite brain trust. Canada? Federalism? Strong central government? Those are so Expo 67, dude!

As historians will note, recruiting Jean

Lapierre—and all those who regard Canada as an inconvenient detour, a geographic trifling—wasn't the smartest strategic move, now, was it? Nope.

The only self-destructive things left to do were to ditch the Liberal logo, and put the name of the then-leader ahead of the brand. They did those things, too. Prime Minister Stephen Harper, c'mon down!

Michael Ignatieff therefore wouldn't be the first Prime Minister, aspiring or otherwise, to toss out USP Number Two—Martin did that, as noted, and so did his muse, Chick Turner. And so did Brian Mulroney, with Meech.

But here's the point for Iggy: you may not be the first Prime Minister to try and do that. But—if you are successful—you might well be the last. Think about that.

Some Grits say Iggy's move is good strategy. I respectfully disagree.

When Martin and Turner did it, it (a) split the party (b) alienated the public and (c) made separatists deliriously happy. That's not very strategic.

My advice to the Igsters, all of whom I like—when you have a USP, don't give it away. And, while we're on the subject of apologetic phone calls (see above), give Stéphane Dion a call. After what that man has done for Canada, he doesn't deserve to be booed. Least of all by Liberals.

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#### POLITICAL REPORTING

■ Witness the spectacle of media combustion, where too-talkative MPs are drawn to hot TV lights and burned to a crisp.

#### By TOM KORSKI



Witness the spectacle of media combustion, where too-talkative MPs are drawn to hot TV lights and burned to a crisp. Ex-Liberal MP Carolyn Parrish got into hot water by yammering to

reporters. Ex-Conservative MP Garth Turner did it by yammering to himself, in a web log.

Turner is a former business columnist. He has a tortured relationship with media. In his first term in Parliament, Turner cut such a narrow swath that Peter Lougheed

such a narrow swath that Peter Lougheed once introduced him at a Conservative convention as "Garth Turcotte." It must have been shattering. No MP ever spent more energy in making sure we got his name right.

Turner daily updated a blog; he converted part of his office into a studio where he produced "interviews" with other MPs. He sent unsolicited emails to journalists—nine emails in five months.

Why was he banished from caucus? Maybe people didn't like his style. The Halton MP can have that effect. Columnist Claire Hoy, who knew Turner at the *Toronto Sun* years ago, called him "a shameless grandstander."

Others who never worked with Turner find him fascinating.

"Garth Turner matters," wrote *Globe and Mail* columnist John Ibbitson, who called the MP's self-immolation "dark news."

CTV News, in a website profile, reported that "Turner is known and trusted by millions of Canadians as an author,



## Turner's tortured relationship with media

broadcaster, columnist, speaker, successful entrepreneur and opinion leader."

The *Vancouver Sun* called him "an outspoken champion of taxpayers."

Others hailed Turner as a "financial guru" (CBC News Online) and "financial whiz" (Ottawa Citizen).

Turner returned the compliments. "Media is not the enemy but rather a pipeline to the voters," he wrote in an Oct. 19 *Globe* web chat. "Media people are professionals as are politicians, and some mutual respect would do a lot more for the political process than the spitting war to date."

At least, that's what Turner says now. Prior to his guillotining, he was also known for serving 18 weeks as Minister of Revenue in 1993.

Turner wrote a book, *Garth! Just What the Hell Is Going on in Ottawa?* It was part of his bid for the Conservative leadership that year. He got 76 votes.

In *Garth!* we are told journalists are "vipers" (pg. 195) who are "responsible for destruction of the political system" (pg. 68). Ottawa is a "media-crazy" place (pg. 58) where "we've allowed the media to

hijack the national agenda" (pg. 137) and reporters are "accountable to nobody" (pg. 52) while "MPs are replaced by the Parliamentary Press Gallery" (pg. 54).

As an ex-journalist "my know-it-all

As an ex-journalist "my know-it-all media ego and arrogance was tested and, I hope, defeated by the realization of how little I actually did know about things," wrote Turner (pg. 208).

Even as a Bay Street columnist he ridiculed media as "weenies" (*June 12, 2000 column*) who were "full of rotten advice" (*May 14, 2001*) and had "blown their credibility when it comes to financial reporting and interpretation" (*Dec. 10, 1999*). "Don't get your investment advice from the media," he said (*July 9, 2001*).

What was Garth's advice?

•"If you do not own Nortel, then this is the time to start accumulating it." (Nov. 27, 2000). Nortel stock peaked at \$124 that year. It is now worth some \$3;

•"I think the boom times have another 19 years to run—at least" (June 26, 2000). A subsequent recession and stock crash saw the Dow Jones Industrial Average trade below 2000 levels for six years;

•"This stuff (gold) is on the way down, big time. The bottom for gold is nowhere yet in sight, and might not be reached for months, maybe years" (June 18, 1999). Gold then traded at \$260 U.S. an ounce. It is now worth \$600.

•"I'd wager that right now dollarization (Canadian adoption of U.S. currency) is a lot more likely outcome in the years to come than a revitalized made-in-Canada currency" (Nov. 26, 2001). The 62-cent dollar subsequently jumped 40 percent in value to its highest level since 1978.

Hey, Garth! What the heck is going on with your portfolio?

In another career move, Turner also spent time "shilling financial advice on infomercials," as the *Kingston Whig-Standard* put it.

He starred in bank-sponsored television ads called *The Mortgage Minute With Garth Turner*. And Turner's Millennium Media Television produced business programs in which companies were reportedly offered "paid profiles" in exchange for fees of up to \$12,500 (see cbc.ca/disclosure, "Paying For Time," Jan. 29, 2002).

As infomercial host, MP and financial something-or-other, Turner has been a "self-promoter," sighed the *Winnipeg Sun*. Turner, himself foretold his doom in *Garth!* 

"The quest for media attention can turn into a disease," he wrote (pg. 62). "Some Members of Parliament go overboard; they become instant nationally-recognizable figures through mass exposure on a single issue, and the addiction takes hold. Just as a title in Ottawa is thought to confer power, big-time media exposure is even more powerful. But media over-exposure can be fatal" (original italics).

It's no wonder Turner talked and talked and could not stop talking. But why did media keep listening?

nt why did media keep listening? news@hilltimes.com The Hill Times



#### PARLIAMENTARY CALENDAR













hotographs by Jake Wright, The Hill Times

**Around town and then some...** On Nov. 1, U.S. Ambassador David Wilkins, left, pictured with his wife, Susan, will talk about, 'The U.S./Canada Border and Beyond,' at the NPC in Ottawa. On Nov. 7, the Institute of Public Administration of Canada hosts a panel on the federal government's five priorities featuring Queen's University's Ned Franks, top centre, Parliamentary reporter Hugh Winsor, above centre, and *The Globe and Mail*'s Jane Taber, top, and John Ibbitson, above, in Ottawa. On Nov. 9, former U.S. president Clinton, right, will speak at the Nelson Mandela Tribute Gala in Toronto.



#### U.S. Ambassador Wilkins to host a breakfast this week

#### Prime Minister Harper to travel to Finland and Latvia for NATO Summit on Nov. 28

MONDAY, OCT. 30

Foreign Policy Under a Conservative Government: An Interim Report Card—CDFAI's 2006 annual conference will examine the Harper government's record on foreign policy, defence and development. The keynote speaker is Foreign Affairs Minister Peter MacKay. 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Ballroom A/B, Crowne Plaza Hotel, 101 Lyon St., Ottawa. For more information please call Janice Andersson at 403-231-7677 or visit www.cdfai.org.

Giving Back to the Community: The Media Responsibility—A discussion by Max Keeping, hosted by the Media Club of Ottawa. Dinner, 6 p.m., at the National Press Club, Ottawa. \$25. For more information or to reserve, please call 613-521-4855.

Citizen of the World Book Launch—Alfred A. Knopf invites guests to the launch of Citizen of the World: The Life of Pierre Elliott Trudeau, Volume One: 1919-1968, by John English. 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., at the Renaissance Room, the Chateau Laurier, Ottawa, Ont. TUESDAY, OCT. 31

Speechwriting: Beyond the Basics—Spend a day learning how to write, manage and evaluate speeches. National Press Club, Ottawa, Ont. For more information or to register, please contact Wendy Cherwinski at 613 746-4954.

CGA Luncheon—This discussion, called "Compliance: A Canada-U.K. Dialogue," will be led by Anthony Ariganello, president and CEO, CGA-Canada; and Caroline Oades, head of research, Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, U.K. 12 noon, at the National Press Club, Ottawa, Ont. For more information or to reserve please call 613-233-5641.

International Development Discussion and Presentation—Stephen Wallace, CIDA, will discuss "Forces and Factors Shaping Canada's Development Assistance Agenda," hosted by the Society for International Development, Ottawa-Gatineau Chapter, and the Canadian Association of Management Consultants. 7 p.m., at the National Press Club, Ottawa, Ont. For more information or to reserve, please call 613-225-8894
WEDNESDAY. NOV. 1

Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians Reception—Michael Wilson, Ambassador to the United States, will address the association at this CAFP dinner. Reception at 6:30, dinner at 7 p.m., at the Canadian War Museum, 1 Vimy Place, Ottawa, Ont. For more information please contact David Rodier at National Public Relations at 613-233-1699 ext. 243 or drodier@national.ca.

Parliamentary Reception—The Canadian Chiropractic Association hosts a reception for MPs, Senators, staff and health care leaders. Dr. Stan Gorchynski, president, and the members of the board will attend. 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., at the Laurier Room, Chateau Laurier, Ottawa, Ont. To register or for more information please call Barbara at 613-235-1400.

Newsmaker Breakfast—Join David Wilkins, Ambassador of the United States, for a discussion on "The U.S./Canada Border and Beyond."7:45 a.m., at the National Press Club, Ottawa, Ont. \$15 members, \$22 others. For more information or to reserve, please call 613-233-5641.

#### THURSDAY, NOV. 2

Newsmaker Breakfast—Dr. Jackalina Van Kampen, assistant professor of Neuroscience at the Mayo Clinic, discusses a major breakthrough in Parkinson's research. 7:45 a.m., at the National Press Club, Ottawa, Ont. \$15 members, \$22 others. For more information or to reserve please call 613-233-5641.

#### FRIDAY, NOV. 3

Newsmaker Luncheon—Enjoy a talk by António Guterres, UN High Commissioner for Refugees. 12 noon, at the National Press Club, Ottawa, Ont. \$20 members, \$25 others. For more information or to reserve please call 613-233-5641.

Navy Appreciation Day—Hosted by the Navy

League of Canada, this event provides an opportunity for Parliamentarians to meet members of the Navy and Coast Guard. Close to 200 MPs and Senators and about 40 naval 10 Coast Guard personnel have confirmed their attendance. 5:30 to 8 p.m., Senate Foyer, Centre Block, Parliament Hill. For media information please contact Jerrod Riley at the Navy League of Canada at 613-998-2952 or jriley@navyleague.ca. SATURDAY, NOV. 4

Governor General's Performing Arts Awards—Join Governor General Michaëlle Jean for this 15<sup>th</sup> annual celebration honouring Canada's performing artists. Tickets go on sale at the NAC box office and Ticketmaster on Sept. 20. National Arts Centre, Ottawa. For more information please visit www.bce.ca/ggawards or call Taline Jirian at 613-241-5297 ext. 202.

Parkdale United Church Christmas Bazaar—This bazaar will feature several silent auction items, knitting, jewelry, crafts, baked goods and gently used items for sale. Parkdale United Church at Parkdale and Gladstone streets. For more information please call the Parkdale United Church at 613 728-8656.

SUNDAY, NOV. 5

CAB 80th Anniversary Convention—The Canadian Association of Broadcasters' 80th Anniversary Convention has more than 80 panelists confirmed and will take place Nov. 5 to 7 at the Westin Bayshore Hotel, Vancouver, B.C. For media information please contact Kevin Desjardins 613-233-4035 ext. 331 or kdesjardins@cab-acr.ca.
TUESDAY, NOV. 7

Skills and Productivity Forum--This forum will bring together decision-makers, leaders and senior executives from business, government and education to examine strategic issues relating to skills and productivity that affect competitiveness. Nov. 7 to 8, in Montreal. For more information please contact scott@conferenceboard.ca.

'Five Priorities' Panel—The Institute of Public Administration of Canada hosts a panel on the federal government's "five priorities" featuring Queen's University's Ned Franks, Parliamentary reporter Hugh Winsor, and *The Globe and Mail's* John Ibbitson and Jane Taber. 6 to 9 p.m., at the Lord Elgin Hotel, 100 Elgin St., Ottawa \$15 members, \$20 non-members. For more information please call Kaili Lévesque at 613-952-2351 or levesque kaili@ic.gc.ca

#### WEDNESDAY, NOV. 8

2006 Honorary Associate Dinner—The Conference Board of Canada will bestow its highest honour on Jacques Lamarre, President and CEO of SNC-Lavalin Group Inc. The Honorary Associate Award is given annually to an individual who has served both country and organization with distinction. Hilton Montreal Bonaventure, Montreal, Que. For more information please visit www.conferenceboard.ca.

National Network on Governance Dialogue—This meeting is for public sector representatives responsible for public consultations, citizen engagement and stakeholder relations. At this meeting the network will discuss harmonizing consultations across levels of government and effective ways to engage minority, cultural and religious groups in decision-making. Toronto. For more information please contact gkhoury@ipac.ca.

Newsmaker Lunch—Sadaaki Numata, Japanese Ambassador to Canada will discuss Japan's foreign policy priorities under Prime Minister Abe. 12 noon, at the National Press Club, Ottawa, Ont. \$20 members, \$25 nonmembers. For more information please call 613-233-5641. THURSDAY, NOV. 9

Former U.S. president Clinton to Speak at Nelson Mandela Tribute Gala—The fourth annual Gala Dinner celebrating Nelson Mandela's life and work will feature a special appearance and address from former U.S. president Bill Clinton. 5:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Metro Convention Centre, Toronto. For tickets or more information please visit www.mandela-children.ca or call 416-591-4000.

Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Meeting—Prime Minister Stephen Harper will visit Hanoi, Vietnam to attend the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation meeting to discuss Canadian relations with the Asia-Pacific region. For more information, please call 613-957-5555.

Public Policy Forum Power Hour: What will it take to get out the vote?—Whose role is it to reach adults, new Canadians, urban and rural, employed and unemployed and why it matters. National Club, Toronto. For more information or to register please contact Kelly Cyr at 613-238-7858 ext. 248 or kelly.cyr@ppforum.ca.

National Network on Governance Dialogue—This meeting, for public sector representatives responsible for public consultations and citizen engagement, will discuss effective compliance frameworks and innovative approaches to regulation and should be of interest to representatives from all orders of government and the public sector. Toronto. For more information please contact gkhoury@ipac.ca.

Managing the Federation: A Citizen-Centred Approach—The draft agenda for this meeting includes participants Environment Minister Rona Ambrose, Alberta government deputy minister of municipal affairs Dan Bader, and Ontario MPP John Milloy. Nov. 9 to 10, at the Ottawa Congress Centre, 55 Colonel By Dr., Ottawa, Ont. For more information please visit www. crossingboundaries.ca.

#### FRIDAY, NOV. 10

Newsmaker Breakfast—Join an address by Peter Clark, president of Grey, Clark Shih and Associates, titled "WTO negotiations: Dead or Reviving?" 7:45 a.m., at the National Press Club, Ottawa, Ont. \$15 members, \$22 others. For more information or to reserve please call 613-233-5641.

#### SUNDAY, NOV. 12

Conference on Values-Driven Electoral Reform— This event is being co-sponsored by Queen's School of Policy Studies and the Ontario Citizens' Assembly Secretariat. Nov. 12 to 13, Rm. 202, Policy Studies Building, 138 Union Street, Queen's University, Kingston, Ont. For more information or to register please visit http:// www.queensu.ca/sps.

#### TUESDAY, NOV. 14

Newsmaker Luncheon—Zul Khoja, Ottawa Chapter Chair of the Nelson Mandela Children's Fund, will discuss "Plight of children and youth in Africa." 12 noon. \$20 members, \$25 others. For more information or to register please call 613-233-5641.

Winnipeg Reception for Hon. Ralph Goodale—Join Liberals for this reception, 5 to 7 p.m., at the Manitoba Club in Winnipeg, Man. \$50 (\$25 for youth). For more information or to register please contact Matt Maruca at winnipegcentre@gmail.com.

WEDNESDAY. NOV. 15

Public Sector Shared Services 2006: Transforming Service Delivery—At this event, experts will describe the implementation of shared services as a transformation that requires an in-depth understanding of the broad reaching changes required to ensure that costs are reduced, processes are improved, and that the entire process results in comparable or superior service delivery. Nov. 15 to 16, in Ottawa Register before Sept. 20 and save \$200 on the conference fee. For more information please visit www.conferenceboard.ca. SATURDAY, NOV. 18

Edmonton East Electoral District Association Annual Christmas Dinner—Join Conservatives for cocktails at 6 p.m. and a buffet dinner at 7 p.m., at St. Josaphat's Hall, 9637-108 Ave., Edmonton, Alta. \$50. To reserve for more information please call Cora at 780-478-9272, Mike at 780-473-5000, or Lorraine at 780-903-8554.

Governor General Visits Africa—At the request of the Prime Minister, Governor General Michaëlle Jean will lead a delegation of distinguished Canadians from civil society to Algeria, Mali, Ghana and South Africa, with a final brief stop in Morocco. Nov. 19 and Dec. 11. For more information please visit http://www.gg.ca. **THURSDAY, NOV. 23** 

Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences Breakfast on the Hill—Dr. John W. Berry speaks on "Fitting in: A place for immigrant teens in Canadian society." Dr. Berry will analyze immigration as both a source of problems and as an opportunity for individuals and societies. 7:45 to 9 a.m. at the Parliamentary Restaurant, 6th Floor, Centre Block, Parliament Hill. Free for parliamentarians and media, \$10 others. To reserve or for more information please call 613-238-6112 ext. 310, email fedcan@fedcan.ca or visit www.fedcan.ca. SUNDAY. NOV. 26

PM Travels to Finland—Prime Minister Stephen Harper travels to Helsinki and Tampere, Finland, before heading to Riga, Latvia for the NATO Summit on Nov. 28. The Prime Minister returns to Ottawa on Nov. 28. For media information please call the PMO Press Office at 613-957-5555.

MONDAY, NOV. 27

Ontario and Quebec By-elections—By-elections will be held in the Quebec riding of Repentigny and Ontario riding of London North Centre. Fore more information please visit www.elections.ca. TUESDAY, NOV. 28

NATO Summit—NATO Heads of State and Government will meet for two days to take stock of accomplishments and chart the way ahead for the alliance. Nov. 28 to 29, Riga, Latvia. For more information please visit www.rigasummit.lv. WEDNESDAY, Nov. 29

Liberal Party Leadership Convention—The Liberals are scheduled to elect a successor to former leader Paul Martin at a convention in Montreal from Nov. 29 to Dec. 3. For more information places cell Thit Superce at 612, 202, 016.

information, please call Tait Simpson at 613-203-0216.

Leaders' Roundtable on Health Human Resources:
Taking Action through Multi-sectoral Dialogue—This new solution-oriented network will enable national leaders to engage in focused discussions around current health human resources issues and their solutions. It will fuel research on productivity and interdisciplinary forecasting models that will support better planning and management of our health care workforce. Toronto. For more information please contact healthprograms@conferenceboard.ca.

Preparing for the Next Pandemic: Ready or Not?—An MP breakfast hosted by the Canadian Federation of Nurses Union. Speakers include Dr. Eilish Cleary, medical officer of health for Emergency Preparedness and Response in Manitoba, and Dr. Raymond Tellier, microbiologist with the Hospital for Sick Kids and associate professor at the University of Toronto. 200 West Block, Parliament Hill. For more information or to reserve, please contact Pamela Foster at 613-526-4661 or pfoster@nursesunions.ca. MONDAY, DEC. 11

Canadian Study of Parliament Group Essay
Competition Deadline—The CSPG welcomes submissions relating to Parliament, legislatures or legislators, including political parties or the relationship between legislatures or legislators and other branches or areas of government such as the executive or the courts. For more information please visit www.studyparliament.ca.
MONDAY, JAN. 15

Emergency Preparedness and Safety for Municipalities and Cities—Municipal governments are on the front-line of increasing public safety risks from power interruptions, extreme weather, public health, terrorism, criminals, and other man-made or natural hazards. The Conference Board of Canada, in collaboration with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, invites you to participate in this unique event. Jan. 15 to 16, in Ottawa. For more information please visit www.conferenceboard.ca.

The Parliamentary Calendar is a free listing edited by Simon Doyle who can be reached at 613-232-5952, ext. 260. Emails regarding political, governmental and cultural events should be sent to sdoyle@hilltimes.com with the subject line "Parliamentary Calendar" by Wednesdays at noon. Our fax number is 613-232-9055. We can't guarantee every event will get in, but we do our best.

sdoyle@hilltimes.com

#### HILL CLIMBERS

#### Two more senior ministerial communications aides leave their jobs on Parliament Hill

By ABBAS RANA



wo top Cabinet ministerial staffers have left their jobs on Parliament Hill recently.

Mark Cooper, director of communications to Environment Minister Rona Ambrose (Edmonton-Spruce Grove,

Alta.), and Nancy Heppner, director of communications to Heritage Minister Bev Oda (Durham, Ont.), left their jobs two weeks ago.

Mr. Cooper, who was not available for an interview last week with Hill Climbers, started his new job in Ottawa last month with Ms. Ambrose, but stuck around for only about four weeks.

Ms. Heppner served only about four months in Minister Oda's office.

Minister Ambrose's exempt political staff has undergone a number of significant personnel changes since last summer, starting with the departure of **Daniel Bernier**, who was the then-chief of staff to Minister Ambrose. He left soon after the end of the spring session of Parliament. Since then, neither Minister Ambrose nor Mr. Bernier have explained publicly why they parted ways, but Conservative sources have told Hill Climbers that Mr. Bernier left his job over differences with the Environment Minister Ambrose on how to handle the increasingly controversial environment public policy file.

He was succeeded, on an interim basis, by Bruce Carson, legislative assistant to the Prime Minister. Mr. Carson recently returned to his job in the Prime Minister's Office when Minister Ambrose hired Darrel Reid as her new chief of staff.

After Mr. Bernier's departure, Shannon Haggarty, who was then director of communications, was moved into the position of senior adviser. At the time, Mr. Cooper was brought on board to take up the position of director of communications.

Also recently, Ryan Sparrow, former associate director of communications to Minister Ambrose, left his full-time position to start to work on a contractual basis with the minister's office.

Born and raised in Edmonton, Alta., Mr. Cooper earned his diploma in journalism from Grant MacEwan College in Edmonton.

Prior to coming to Ottawa, Mr. Cooper served as director of communications to the Department of Justice in Alberta. Before joining the Alberta provincial government in 2000, he worked as a reporter for the Edmonton Sun where he covered general assignments, Edmonton City Hall

and the Alberta Legislature. Mr. Cooper has been succeeded by Bob Klager.

Prior to starting his new job last week, Mr. Klager, 37, served as director of communications to International Trade Minister David Emerson (Vancouver Kingsway, B.C.)

Originally from Cambridge, Ont., Mr. Klager, in the past served as a reporter for Sun Media and for New Brunswick's *Telegraph Journal.* Prior to joining the ranks of Conservative ministerial staffers, Mr. Klager worked in the private sector as director of strategy and public affairs at SUM Incorporated, a strategic communications firm in Ottawa.

Meanwhile, over in Minister Emerson's office, Jennifer Chiu, press secretary to Mr. Emerson, declined to say when a new director of communications be hired but Francois Jubinville, a departmental spokesperson has been brought to the Minister's Office to fill in on interim basis.

Directors of communications to Cabinet ministers provide communications advice to their bosses and brief ministers on issues relevant to the department. As the chief spokesperson of the ministers' office, directors of communications are also required to consult regularly with the Prime Minister's Office and other Cabinet ministers' offices to coordinate communications within the government.

Directors of communications can earn





What's up: Heritage Minister Bev Oda and Environment Minister Rona Ambrose have had a number of significant Cabinet ministerial staffer changes since winning government last January.

the equivalent to the salary for an EX-02 level up to a maximum of \$121,000.

Meanwhile, Ms. Heppner who left her job recently with Minister Oda, was not available for an interview. She came to Minister Oda's office in late June and left only after about four months. At the time, she succeeded Robert Paterson, a former CTV and Global TV producer, who also stayed in the Minister's Office only for three months.

Prior to joining Minister Oda's Office, Ms. Heppner, worked in the Prime Minister's Office as caucus liaison for the issues management branch of the PMO.

Originally from Rosthern, Sask., Ms.

Heppner first came to Parliament Hill in September, 2001, to work for then-Conservative MP Carol Skelton (Saskatoon-Rosetown-Biggar, Sask.) as a legislative assistant. In 2002, she moved to the then-Stephen Harper's OLO as a Question Period coordinator.

Ms. Heppner, who is the daughter of Saskatchewan MLA Ben Heppner, in the last federal election worked in the Tory war room and before that worked for Tory MP Dave Batters (Palliser, Sask.) as the Parliamentary assistant in his constituency office.

> arana@hilltimes.com The Hill Times

#### Ministers, Secretaries of State, Chiefs of Staff and Directors of Communications

Minister	Department	Chief of Staff	Directors Of Communications	Press Secretary	Phone Numbe
Stephen Harper	Prime Minister	Ian Brodie	Sandra Buckler	Carolyn Stewart-Olsen	613-957-5555
Rob Nicholson	House Leader	Maureen Murphy-Makin	Genviève Breton	-	613-952-4930
David Emerson	Trade	Larry Malloy	-	Jennifer Chiu	613-992-7332
Jean-Pierre Blackburn	Labour	Michel Lalonde	Pierre Floréa	Roxane Marchand	613-953-5646
GregThompson	Veterans Affairs	Jacques Dubé	Gerald Lefebvre	Richard Roik	613-996-4649
Marjory LeBreton	Senate Leader	Sandy Melo	James Maunder	-	613-943-0756
Monte Solberg	Immigration	Ian Todd	Lesley Harmer	Pema Lhalungpa	613-954-1064
Chuck Strahl	Agriculture	Laurie Throness	Conrad Bellehumeur	Jeff Howard	613-759-1059
Gary Lunn	Natural Resources	Blair Dickerson	-	-	613-996-2007
Peter MacKay	Foreign Affairs	John MacDonell	Dan Dugas	André Lemay	613-995-1851
Loyola Hearn	Fisheries	Scott Tessier	Steve Outhouse	Michelle Brazil	613-992-3474
Stockwell Day	Public Safety	Neil Drabckin	Mélisa Leclerc	-	613-991-2924
Carol Skelton	National Revenue	Perry Martin	Mike Winterburn	-	613-995-2960
VicToews	Justice	William Stairs	Mike Storeshaw	Mark Quinlan	613-992-3128
Rona Ambrose	Environment	Darrel Reid	Bob Klager	-	613-997-1441
Michael Chong	Intergovernmental Affairs	Geoffrey Dean	GaryToft	-	613-943-1838
Diane Finley	Human Resources	John Bracken	Lisa Murray	Colleen Cameron	613-994-2482
Gordon O'Connor	Defence	Aaron Gairdner	Etienne Allard	Jae Malana	613-996-3100
Bev Oda	Heritage	Joanne McNamara	-	Véronique Bruneau	613-997-7788
Jim Prentice	Indian Affairs	Jean-Sebastien Rioux	Bill Rodgers	Deirdra McCracken	613-997-0002
John Baird	Treasury Board	Chris Froggatt	Michael Van Soelen	Patrick Robert	613-957-2666
Maxime Bernier	Industry	Robert Valcov	Mark-André Plouffe	-	613-995-9001
Lawrence Cannon	Transport	Paul Terrien	Catherine Loubier	Natalie Sarafin	613-991-0700
Tony Clement	Health	Bill King	Rita Smith	Erik Waddell	613-957-0200
Jim Flaherty	Finance	David McLaughlin	Dan Miles	Eric Richer	613-996-7861
Josée Verner	Intl. Cooperation	Denis Jolette	Pascale St. Pierre		613-953-6238
Michael Fortier	PWGSC	Fred Loiselle	Jean-Luc Benôit	-	613-997-5421



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#### Thursday, November 2 **NEWSMAKER BREAKFAST**

Dr. Jackalina Van Kampen - Canadian Assistant Professor, Neuroscience, Mayo Clinic "Breakthrough - Parkinson's Research." 7:45 a.m. RSVP

Thursdays - Live jazz with the Peter Fleming Combo and guests 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

> The National Press Club 165 Sparks St. - 613-233-5641 www.pressclub.on.ca

#### MANAGING THE FEDERATION A Citizen-Centred Approach

Keynote Address by The Hon. Rona Ambrose

• • Thursday, November 9th at 7:30 pm • •

Crossing Boundaries National Council has just released its seventh volume in the Crossing Boundaries Papers series: Managing the Federation: A Citizen-Centred Approach

> As part of its national forum, Council Co-Chair The Hon. Rona Ambrose will deliver the keynote address

For more information, contact idelacourt@crossingboundaries.ca

Ottawa Congress Centre, 55 Colonel By Drive, Ottawa, ON — Capital Hall, Rm. 5B





les frontières

... DMs presently in Canada are not up

there. As I've said to the Public Accounts

to full speed in their portfolios," Prof. Franks said. "There's a bit of a problem

#### CIVIL CIRCLES

## Experts say DMs being shuffled too often

■ David Zussman says the high turnover of DMs in the federal public service has become a serious issue and suggests fixed terms for DMs.

#### By BEA VONGDOUANGCHANH



Federal government departments are run less efficiently and are more "backwards" today than they were 30 years ago because Cabinet ministers don't get to choose who their depu-

ties are and are assigned to work with deputy ministers who have no knowledge of the files, claims a former Trudeau-era Cabinet minister.

"It has been quite a while since I was a minister, but I still follow things closely," said former agriculture minister **Eugene**  Whelan when he testified on public appointments at a Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee meeting last Monday. "I cannot believe there can be such a drastic change from when we were there."

Mr. Whelan, who was the agriculture minister for 12 years under prime minister **Pierre Trudeau**, told the committee which is studying Bill C-2, the Federal Accountability Act, that the problem with the public service now is that ministers, deputy ministers and other top officials don't hold the necessary backgrounds in the department they're running and aren't around long enough to do a good job.

"I believe strongly that the ministers should remain knowledgeable of their departments," he said. "It is obvious in past and present Cabinets that some have no knowledge of the ministry they are in charge of"

Mr. Whelan, the green-Stetson wear-

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ing former farmer who served on the United Co-operatives of Ontario, the Co-operators Insurance Association and the Ontario Federation of Agriculture before entering politics, said when he was the minister in 1972, his deputy served for eight years and "everyone of any authority in that department had either agricultural training or a degree." He praised his first DM, **Sidney Williams**, for his knowledge and dedication to the agriculture portfolio. Mr. Williams was also a farmer and a career public servant at Agriculture Canada.

"He lived and breathed agriculture," Mr. Whelan said of Mr. Williams. "Things have changed since that time."

Mr. Whelan said the mentality in the government now is that anyone can run a department if they have an education or if they know how to manage money. That's not enough, he said.

Another problem is choosing deputy ministers, Mr. Whelan said. Ministers should be able to choose their own DM because of the close relationship that is required. "For deputy ministers, I think that ministers should have some knowledge of the kind of person you are getting because you are going to work with that person so closely, every day and night," he said. "If there is an emergency, you have to talk to one another. If something is going astray, you have to be able to contact that person. That deputy should not be appointed by the Prime Minister. Maybe the Prime Minister should be informed on what you will do, but I do not think he should have total say."

Mr. Whelan recalled that Mr. Williams resigned from the public service because he was being appointed as the DM in a different department and did not want the job. Mr. Whelan said he didn't think much of his replacement.

"To continue to send people from the Privy Council to be deputy ministers of any department is wrong. You should have an open concept competition, if necessary, for deputy ministers if you are going to fluff him or her off to that other position," said Mr. Whelan.

David Zussman, the Jarislowsky chair in Public Sector Management at the University of Ottawa, said that the turnover of DMs in the public service has become a serious issue. "It is the Prime Minister of the day who makes the decision to move people around," said Mr. Zussman, who also testified at the Senate's Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee meeting last Monday. "The Prime Minister can simply decide that for good management reasons and for better accountability, which is the second cornerstone of this legislation, that is, to increase trust in public institutions, he will keep his deputy ministers longer in one portfolio."

ministers longer in one portfolio."

Accountability isn't the only reason, however, to keep DMs in the same position for longer periods of time, Mr. Zussman said. "From a strictly management point of view, one knows when you have a multi-thousand-person organization it does take some time to get up to speed and to appreciate the complexities of the portfolio. I am sure some deputy ministers would agree with you. They would like to stay a bit longer to be able to accomplish what they set out to do."

At an earlier Sentate committee meeting on Bill C-2, retired Queen's University professor **Ned Franks** explained that **Gordon Osbaldeston**—a 35-year veteran of the federal public service, where he served as the DM in various departments and was clerk of the Privy Council Office—conducted a study in 1989 about the accountability of DMs and found that it takes at least three years for a deputy minister to fully grasp the demands and responsibilities of any portfolio.

Today, deputy ministers, on average, have stayed in their positions for about three years and are then moved to new departments, Prof. Franks said.

"Accepting Osbaldeston's criteria

Committee, true responsibility and accountability means that you have to hang around long enough so that you're living with the consequences of your decisions. I feel that the system doesn't do that, either with the deputy ministers or the assistant deputy ministers."

Since Prime Minister Stephen Harper's (Calgary Southwest, Alta.) Conservative government came to power, four major DM shuffles have taken place

er's (Calgary Southwest, Alta.) Conservative government came to power, four major DM shuffles have taken place involving 41 people. One of the moves included **Suzanne Hurtubise**, who has been shuffled three times in three years. In 2003, Ms. Hurtubise was deputy minister at Environment Canada and was moved to Industry Canada in 2004 and recently became the deputy minister at the Department of Public Safety and Emergency in April, this year.

Mr. Zussman suggested that the committee could deal with the issue of revolving DMs by recommending fixed terms for appointments where the Prime Minister of the day could not reassign deputy ministers at will. "It does take the flexibility out of the hands of the Prime Minister of the day," he said. "If there is a change in government, it would mean that the government could not put people in different slots. However, it would address the very issue that you are raising, that is, accountability would be more guaranteed because they are still there after some certain period of time."

Mr. Whelan took issue with the idea, however, saying that if the PM appointed knowledgeable deputy ministers who had an interest and experience in the portfolio in the first place, there would be no problem with getting the government's programs completed efficiently. "It has been said that deputies should have a long tenure in a department so that they can learn," he told the committee. "Learn at whose expense? Are they serving an apprenticeship running one of the most important departments of all? Are they serving the Canadian population they are supposed to serve?"

The layers of bureaucracy have also increased over the years and departments are run less efficiently as a result, Mr. Whelan said. When he was a minister, he said, he worked with his officials in the department to establish a good working environment where things got done. Today, there are too many rules for public servants to follow and they accomplish less because they worry about doing something wrong rather than completing the task, Mr. Whelan said.

"I worked hard and I knew the department and I understood it and we promoted it," he said. "I cannot remember being refused a document by anyone. If I had to have a report the following morning for a visiting minister, I had it. We had that rapport. ... We did not have to have all these regulations. If you wrote me a letter, I would pass it on to my back-up staff and they would send it down to the department. When we were there [in power] it would come right back. When we left it had to go through the deputy's office and through seven people. Can you imagine the waste of that?"

Mr. Whelan told the committee that the last year he was minister, he kept track of all letters people wrote to him and all the ones he responded to personally—there were more than 18,600 letters in total, he said. "They knew it was me and not a machine because I would sign them and put a P.S. asking them to contact me if they did not like the answer,"he said, adding that ministers don't get involved in the department as often anymore. "It was not some form of technology or mechanism that did it. ... I believe the minister is the boss, not merely a mouthpiece for the deputy."

bvongdou@hilltimes.com The Hill Times



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- Residential Real Estate 10
- **Retirement Homes**
- 33 **Townhouses for Sale**
- **Waterfront Properties**

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- 1 Bedroom Rentals 43
- 2 Bedroom Rentals
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4 bedrooms, 3 bath, 20' ceilings, 30min drive or boat to downtown, \$950,000, 613-

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9

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1334 FONTENAY CR. 4 BEDROOM 2.5 baths, F/P, 2 door garage, large corner lot, ready to move in. \$299,900.

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Lepage Team Realty 5 RUE DU HAVRE — HULL \$529,000 or RENT: \$2750. 2-storey, 2500 sq.ft., built 2003, 6 bedrooms, 5 baths, C/Air, finished basement, double garage. Pictures: www.robertbleau.com #058362 Robert Bleau, Royal LePage,

98 RANGE RD. - REDUCED \$419.000 Red brick Cape Cod, family room, garage, charm & character, hardwood floors throughout. Sutton Group Premier, Tom Hare, 613-727-5505

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Semi detached, 1400 sq. ft. Land 5000 sq. ft., 3 + 1 bedrooms, 1.5 bath, part finished basement, recent new roof & windows. 12' x 12' Gazebo, REDUCED PRICE!!! \$149,900. 819-684-5661

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WAKEFIELD, QUEBEC 3 bedroom, 3 bathroom, all hardwood, peace and quiet, 20 minutes from the city.

#### marcjamesryan.com La Capitale Outaouais. 1-866-459-7150. **HANDSOME**

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WOLFE ISLAND Panoramic view of Kingston harbor. 2,400 sq. ft on 1 acre. Dock with deck, 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, fireplace, XL garage, garden shed, near 2 golf courses. Henny

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LAC ST-PIFRRF One of a kind; you have to see it to believe it. 4 bedrooms. Log gourmet kitchen. Breathtaking view. Surrounded by 365 feet of waterfront property. 30 minutes from Ottawa/Hull. Selling price: \$789,900. Ask for Renee; 819-457-2727.

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0015 OUT OF TOWN

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On Lake Ontario, spectacular Water front view. Tastefully furnished all amenities. With 2 ensuite bedrooms, It is perfect for sharing. \$400. weekend, \$700. weekly, \$1550. monthly, inclusive until lune 30th . monthly, inclusive until June 30th, 2007. 250-220-3364.

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179 GEORGE IN THE BYWARD MARKET Spectacular views, 1 bedroom - new appliances, large balcony, Underground parking, concierge & more. \$310,000. negotiable. Call: 613-220-8855

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#### **0020 CONDOS FOR SALE**

#### ISLAND PARK WEST

\$625,000 -\$1,600,000 1730-3300 sq. ft. 5 Condos Including deluxe penthouse. 2 bedrooms + den. Panoramic city/ river views, lavish bathrooms, gourmet kitchen w/granite. Full amenities, Colleen Rushforth, Minto Realty, 613-782-2331. www.colleenrushforth.com

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#### LePAGE La Renaissance, 819-360-6631 ${\sf PLACE\ CHAMPLAIN-WATERFRONT}$

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#### 41 79 364 1589 in Switzerland

A1 - BYWARD MARKET Luxurious, New, 14th floor, 2 bedrooms, 6 appliances, hardwood, Indoor Parking.

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199 Kent St. Corner unit. 2 bedrooms
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#### ARSOLUTE IEWEL - SANDY HILL Luxury 2-bedroom, 2-bathroom. In-suite laundry. Unfurnished. \$1590 inclusive.

613-265-1934 mhotz@rogers.com www. freewebs.com/373lauriercondo AMAZING LOFT.STUDIO ARGYLE Downtown, secure, 12' ceilings, 6 appliances, hardwood, balcony + BBQ. \$1195 + utilities 613-234-0697

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#### BEECHWOOD VILLAGE

2 bedroom, balcony, underground parking, pool, sauna, exercise room, workshop, near DFAIT, market. \$1200 inclusive. 613

#### **0030 CONDOS FOR RENT**

#### BEECHWOOD VILLAGE

Penthouse. Beautiful 17th Flr. views of Rideau River & Parliament Hill. 2-bedroom corner unit, big windows, skylight, South view. Sunfilled. Walk to Byward & Foreign Affairs. Available immediately. \$1300. 613-747-5350

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2 bedroom loft condominium. \$2000/mo. includes heat, hydro, water, laundry, parking. Hardwood. Dec. 1st. 613-266-781 613-562-8185 condo@ictinusdesign.com

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Nov. 1st - February 28th. Fully furnished luxury condo with spectacular view of Parliament. 2 Bedrooms, Den, 2 bathrooms. Indoor parking. Storage locker. \$1900/month. Call 613-558-4566.

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613-288-1500. www.homes-for-rent.com

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ISLAND PARK WEST S4600/month utilities & parking included. 2570 sq. ft., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, den, c/air, 7 appliances, 24 hr. security. Colleen Rushforth Minto Realty, 613-782-

#### 2331 www.colleenrushforth.com MARINA BAY

Richmond Rd. Exclusive 2 bedroom, 5 appliances, Atrium, October 17, \$1200 + utilities. Prefer lease. 705-522-0982

#### NEW 2 BDRM WESTBORO CONDO

2 full bath. Riverview. Transitway. 5 appliances. Parking. www.domicile.ca: The Exchange, unit 601. Jan 1/07. \$ 1900. dynamic7271@rogers.com NEW EXECUTIVE CONDO

#### \$1400. Orleans (Avalon), 2 bedroom. Facing park w/lake. Parking, 5 appliances, immediately. 613-824-8964 OTTAWA EAST - THE HIGHLANDS 2 storey condo apartment, 3 bedrooms, new renovations, \$1650 all inclusive, 819-

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SANDY HILL LOFT Bright 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Loft is located in a beautiful heritage building. Features include exposed brick walls, fireplace, balcony, parking and storage. Available Nov. 1, \$1490 + utilities. Acernus Property

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#### 613-288-1500 www.homes-for-rent.com THE LAURIER/SUSSEX SQUARE

Fully furnished, 1 bedroom + Den, HW, granite, parking, incl. Immed. 2 Unfurnished 1 bedroom + Den, HW, granite, parking, \$1325/MONTH plus Hydro. Nov. 1st, and Dec. 1st. www.thesuitespot. pst {13,292,1341 net 613-229-1341

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January, 3 storey, with den/office, open concept, carpet and hardwood, 1.5 baths gas fireplace, 5 appliances, garage and patio/yard. A/C, unfinished basement. \$1925. includes part utilities, call Cityview rental Services, 613-594-4998

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AYLMER Spacious and modern townhouse. Quiet neighbourhood. Near Champlain bridge. Available immediately. \$900+ services. 613-

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Stylish, Inviting Townhouse. 2 bdrm / 1.5 bath, 5 appls. Close to shops and DFAIT. Available immediately. \$1600.00. 613-288-1500 www.homes-forrent.com

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230-5933, prefonr@sympatico.ca FXFCUTIVE New executive 3 bedroom/3bath, hardwood, fireplace, garage, 5 appliances, 2 decks. No smokers. \$1,575 + Utilities. Oct

#### HULL Half double, 3 bedroom, 4 appliances, near all bridges. \$1200 + heat & hydro. November 1. Marc 613-746-8611 evenings

1-Qualicum 613-592-6292.

SANDY HILL Beautiful heritage townhome, 4 bedroom + loft, 1.5 bath, livingroom and diningroom with hardwood, 6 appliances, C/A, garage, fireplace, \$2,900.00. Immediate. 613-288

#### 1500 www.homes-for-rent.com TUNNEYS PASTURE

Brand new executive 2 bedroom, 2 baths, 4 appliances, gas f/p, c/a, finished family room. \$1350 + utilities. October 613-227-

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fenced/hedged yard w/hot tub. Bernice Bartlett, Sales Rep 613-592-6400 Royal

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Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively. Solutions will appear next week.

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**DIFFICULTY: 5 OUT OF 6** 

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## Last week's solutions 9 5 6 3 4 1 7 8 2 7 4 3 9 2 8 1 6 5 2 8 1 5 6 7 3 4 9 8 3 7 2 1 4 9 5 6 1 6 9 8 3 5 4 2 7 5 2 4 6 7 9 8 3 1 678492513 395186274 412753698 5

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#### **0040 HOUSES FOR RENT**

3 BEDROOM BUNGALOW WITH LOFT Executive home on corner lot. 5 appliances,3 full bath with Roman tub.Fantastic backyard with interlock patio, PVC fencing and above ground pool. Lawn care and snow removal included. \$1700.00. Serious enquiries only. www.rentinot-tawa.com Call Joe 613-868-0264.

4 BEDROOM - ALTA VISTA AREA Executive 4 bedroom, 3 baths, 5 appliances, a/c, family room, F/P, double garage, large lot. \$1699. + utilities. garage, large lot. \$1699. + unimes. Installments accepted. 613-612-3760

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Totally renovated, executive, 3 bedroom bungalow, 5 new appliances, wood fp, hardwood, 1 bath. 10 minute drive to \$1750. including utilities. 613-736-1454.

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#### 0931 CAREERS

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Seeking non-smoking professional tenant or couple in stunning furnished luxury home on wooded river-front lot. Bright, 2 bedrooms, one with ensuite: 1 study I library; wood fireplace, spacious open concept kitchen, living and dining room; finished basement; 2 powder rooms; glearning hardwood floors; huge deck; satellite TV. Garage parking. Serene country living; magnificent views of the river. Use of van included. December 20 to March 30 '07 (dates negotiable). \$800/mo. + hydro/heat. 20 minutes to Hill. dstasi@ccs.carleton.ca 819-827-

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The Government and Community Relations group, within Corporate and Public Affairs, is responsible for TD's relationships with government officials and representation of TD's interests from a legislative viewpoint. This group is also responsible for TD's community giving program including charitable giving and working with community partners to run major community programs.

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Interested candidates can apply by email to susan.e.lindsay@td.com or by fax to 416-983-0289. Only those selected for an interview will be contacted.



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within both the public sector and the NGO sector is an asset.

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**Public Policy Analyst** 

Permanent Part Time Position – 3 days per week

The Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada is seeking an individual with an undergraduate degree

undertake effective policy analysis through synthesis of information is required. Work experience

A key activity of this role is the ability to work inter-departmentally and to communicate effectively

with varied external audiences. Excellent verbal communication skills and strong writing skills are

health policy development, program and communication decisions related to cardiovascular

Conducting literature searches, writing, reviewing and editing documentation for internal and

Supporting the development of position statements in the areas of health promotion,

■ Searching, synthesizing, analyzing and interpreting relevant public policy reports to support

and a minimum of 5 years of previous work experience in policy analysis, including advocacy,

information and /or data analysis, in the public or not for profit sectors. Evidence of ability to

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Please send your résumé and covering letter, by November 3, 2006, to: CGA-Canada, Human Resources Department, 800 - 1188 West Georgia Street, Vancouver, BC V6E 4A2. Fax: 604-605-5016. E-mail: hr@cga-canada.org

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#### **CANADIAN AGRI-FOOD TRADE ALLIANCE**

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#### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

CAFTA is a coalition of national and regional organizations, associations and companies that have come together in support of a more open and fair international trading environment for agriculture and agri-food. Our membership includes producer organizations, processors, marketers and exporters from the major trade reliant sectors in Canada. Together our members account for almost 80% of Canada's agriculture and agri-food exports; conduct about \$40 billion in business annually; employ close to 500 thousand Canadians directly in production, processing and marketing; and account for more than half of Canada's farm cash receipts. More on CAFTA and its member organizations can be found at www.cafta.org

The Executive Director is a leadership position reporting directly to a Board of Directors. The Executive Director must work independently, yet in concert with member organizations, to advocate increased openness of international trade using solid defensible analysis. The Executive Director will continuously monitor national and international activities, positions and decisions to assess impacts and recommend and implement strategies. This is accomplished through working relationships with policy makers and complementary international organizations.

To submit a resume or to obtain a job description, please contact CAFTA President Alanna Koch, alannakoch@imagewireless.ca.



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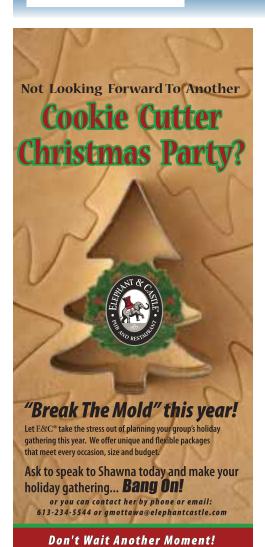
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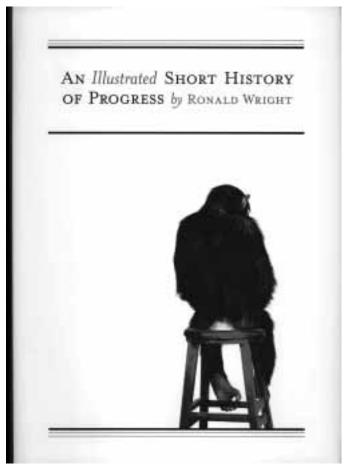
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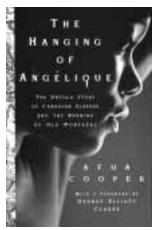
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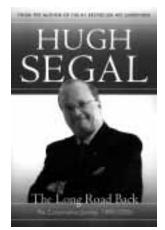
#### BOOKS

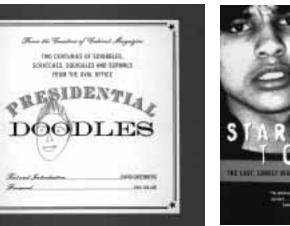
#### Noteworthy and Notable Recent Book Releases

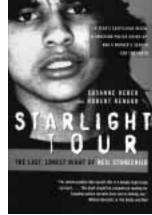
- An Illustrated Short History of Progress, by Ronald Wright, Anansi, \$37.95. Blurb: "I was thoroughly shaken up by Ronald Wright's A Short History of Progress, a brilliant analysis of everything humanity has done to ruin itself down the ages."—Jan Morris, The Independent
- Canada's Governors General: Biography and Constitutional Evolution, by Barbara J. Messamore, 1847-1878, University of Toronto Press. Blurb: "Canada's Governors General takes a novel approach in Canadian historiography, and makes a significant contribution to our understanding of Canada and its consti-tutional evolution."—Kenneth Munro, Department of History, University of Alberta.
- **②** "Go To School You're a Little Black Boy": The Honourable Lincoln M. Alexander, A Memoir, with Herb Shoveller, Dundurn, \$40. Blurb: "Throughout my life I have believed thoroughly in the power of education, and that belief is the grand gift that my mother, May Rose, gave me. The title of this book, the quote, 'Go to school, you're a little black boy,' is hers, and I have used it to honour her insight and wisdom. Those words, her words, have been at the core of what I have accomplished in this life. She was a mere maid, but her knowledge and foresight transcended her station in life; she knew that accepting defeat was easy, but success was possible, and education was the vehicle to take you there. She was right, and
- The Long Road Back: The Conservative Journey, 1993-2006, by Hugh Segal, Harper Collins, \$34.95. Blurb: "Ten years after his No. 1 national bestseller No Surrender, Hugh Segal delivers a timely and intimate look at today's Conservative Party.'
- Presidential Doodles: Two Centuries of Scribbles, Scratches, Squiggles and Scrawls From the Oval Office, text and introduction by David Greenberg and foreword by Paul Collins, Basic Books, \$30. Blurb: "This book sets a new standard not just for scholarly treatment of presidential doodles, but for Doodle Studies in general. David Greenberg's introduction is, at one level, a masterpiece of pointless erudition, and, on another level, highly informative and entertaining. If you read only one book on presidential doodles this year, make it this one."—Michael Kingsley
- O Right Side Up: The Fall of Paul Martin and The Rise of Stephen Harper's New Conservatism, by Paul Wells, McClelland & Stewart, Douglas Gibson Book, \$34.99. Blurb: "The rise of Stephen Harper—and the tumbling fall of Paul Martin-deserves a dramatist like Shakespeare. Or, perhaps a writer like Paul Wells."
- Running Alone: Presidential Leadership, JFK to Bush II, Why It Has Failed and How We Can Fix It, by James MacGregor Burns, Basic Books, \$31.50. Blurb: "Over the past half century, James MacGregor Burns has emerged as America's wise man on the interplay between politics and leadership. Here the master offers a fresh telling of presidential stories stretching back to John F. Kennedy and a forceful argument that only those who are true party leaders will succeed. A long-time liberal, Burns worries that Republicans understand this better than Democrats. He's right again."—David Gergen
- The Acadians: In Search of a Homeland, by James Laxer, foreword by Maurice Basque, Doubleday Canada, 326 pages, \$34.95. Blurb: "The Acadians is the definitive history of a little-known part of the North American past, and the quintessential story of a people in search of their identity. In many ways, their diaspora, Le Grand Dérangement, persists to this day."
- The Canadian Way of War: Serving the National Interest, edited by Colonel Bernd Horn, foreword by Major-General (retired) Lewis MacKenzie, Dundurn, 500 pages, \$50. Blurb: "Contrary to popular opinion, this nation has always consciously and consistently utilized military force to further its security, as well as its economic and political well-being. Despite the best of intentions to aid others, the reality is that military force has most often been used to serve the national interest in ways that were not always altruistic but rather to serve practical political purpose.'

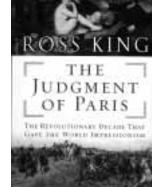


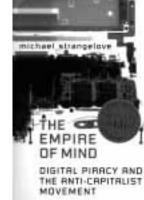


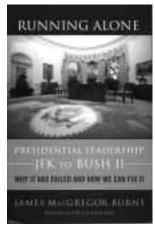


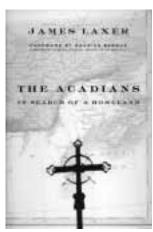


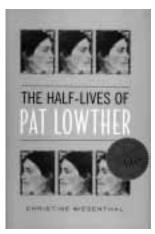




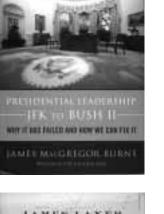


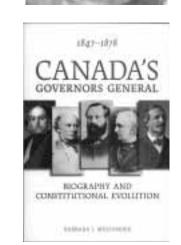












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#### Finalists for GG's Literary Awards Non-Fiction to be Announced Nov. 21:

- 🕈 The Hanging of Angélique: The Untold Story of Canadian Slavery and the Burning of Old Montréal, by Afua Cooper, with a foreword by George Elliott Clarke, Harper Collins, \$32.95. Blurb: "The most important piece of Canadian history written in decades."—Dionne Brand, author of What We All Long For and A Map to the Door of No Return
- The Half-Lives of Pat Lowther, by Christine Wiesenthal, University of Toronto Press Incorporated, \$65. Blurb: "Her name was Pat Lowther and according not only to the people who knew her best, but to the most influential figures
- in Canadian literature, she'd been on the Starlight Tour: The Last, Lonely Night verge of joining that small but treasured of Neil Stonechild, by Susanne Reber group of artists who rank as major stars in the constellation of Canadian letters, although the rest of us may not have heard of her until her murder, Pat Lowther was, in the eyes and ears of the poets, a very important person."—Peter
- The Empire of Mind: Digital Piracy and The Anti-Capitalist Movement, by Michael Strangelove, \$32.95. Blurb: 'This Dr. Strangelove want to tell you how the internet will destroy capitalism."
- and Robert Renaud, Vintage Canada, \$22 Blurb: "A powerfully written, meticulously researched work with a cinematic feel, which should be on reading lists for students of Canadian history, journalism and law enforcement."—The Toronto Star
- The Judgment of Paris: The Revolutionary Decade That Gave the World Impressionism, by Ross King, Bond Street Books and Doubleday Canada, \$35. Blurb: "A wonderfully detailed portrait of the making of an artistic masterpiece."—Maclean's



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As we celebrate the 10th Anniversary of NAV CANADA, we wish to thank our employees, customers and other stakeholders for a decade that has taken us all to a higher level.

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