



The Day Report

Newsletter of Senator Joseph A. Day

Summer 2006—Volume 5, Issue 8



Hello and welcome to the latest edition of the Day Report! The Senate has now adjourned for summer recess and I am enjoying more time at home in New Brunswick, visiting with friends and family.

Since my last report much has changed in Ottawa. As a member of the Official Opposition I have had to work from the other side of the Senate floor for the first time. This has been an interesting and challenging adjustment.

Despite the change in government, I continue to serve on the National Security & Defence Committee, the Subcommittee on Veterans' Affairs, the Special Committee on the Anti-Terrorism Act and the Legal & Constitutional Affairs Committee. Furthermore, I was honoured to be asked to serve as Chair of the National Finance Committee. Since that committee deals with the budget and the supply of funds to the government, we have been busy since the 39th Parliament first sat in early April.

Recently I was asked to be the Opposition Critic for Bill C-2, the Federal Accountability Act. This is a tremendous responsibility and one to which I will dedicate a significant amount of time over the coming months.

I have also had the opportunity to travel with various Senate groups, including the Canada-China Legislative Assembly, l'Assemblée Parlementaire de la Francophonie, and the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum. My involvement in these groups has helped me broaden my understanding of other forms of government, and has helped me recognize what a truly special form of government we have here in Canada, including the important role of the Senate in checking the power of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

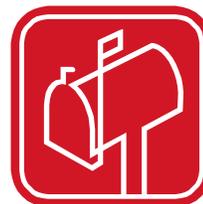
As you read through this newsletter I trust you will learn something new and informative, which will help you better understand some of the important occurrences in Ottawa, New Brunswick, and Canada. I always appreciate your comments and suggestions.

If you wish to receive this newsletter in French, please contact my office. If you wish to receive future editions of the newsletter in electronic format, or if you would like to have your name removed from my distribution list, please let us know.

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Saint John Harbour Cleanup

The Saint John Harbour Cleanup project has yet to receive the \$44 million Prime Minister Harper promised the city in his election campaign. That promise matched that of then Prime Minister Martin's. Instead, Saint John has received only \$8.5 million from the Canada-New Brunswick Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund, a fund which was renewed in the 2006 Conservative budget for rural infrastructure projects. Hence, rural infrastructure projects that might otherwise be funded in our rural communities will lose out. Harbour Cleanup needs and deserves full and specific funding now.

It is the Opposition's role to remind the Conservative government of its election promises made during the election campaign. I certainly hope that the Opposition is able to reinforce the importance of the Saint John Harbour Cleanup to Prime Minister Harper in a timely manner. The Saint John harbour sees approximately 16 million litres of raw sewage pumped in on a daily basis. Some of us remember when Saint John harbour salmon were a delicacy!

Saint John is currently the only major Atlantic city dumping untreated sewage into its waterways. Not only does this raise serious health issues for the inhabitants of the city, but it is also causing extensive environmental damage. Affected areas include the City of Saint John, the Bay of Fundy, and the Saint John River and surrounding communities.



St. Stephen-Calais Border Crossing

The bridge connecting St. Stephen to Calais is coming under criticism from some residents in Maine. The concerned group, Friends of Magurrewock, is hoping that the bridge will be moved a few kilometers away from its proposed site in order to preserve a wildlife reserve that lies directly in the path of the bridge. Officials say changes are unlikely so late in the planning stages.

The cost of this border crossing will be shared equally between the Canadian and American governments, with both the federal and provincial governments expected to carry some of the cost. My office, along with many others, has put forth a tremendous "behind the scenes" effort into this project, which I believe is critical to the economic development of our Atlantic region.

The bridge is scheduled to open in the fall of 2008.

Fundy Trail Update

This year the provincial and federal governments have allocated a combined sum of \$7.8 million dollars towards the completion of Phase 2 of the Fundy Trail. This money will be spent on building a bridge across the Big Salmon River, which is expected to cost approximately \$5 million. The Park is currently examining the environmental impact of the project, with construction expected to begin by the Fall of 2006.

The final project for the Fundy Trail is the construction of 17 kms of parkway, which will connect to the western end of Fundy National Park. This will cost an estimated \$35 million for the design and construction. Once this has been completed, the three major tourist destinations (the Fundy Trail Parkway, Fundy National Park and Hopewell Rocks) hope to collaborate for a unique experience of world class eco-tourism in Atlantic Canada. The economic impact for the surrounding communities will be significant.



North American-Mongolia Business Council

On April 27th, I had the honour of hosting a reception in Ottawa for the North America – Mongolia Business Council (NAMBC). The Council was formed to foster trade and investment opportunities, and to encourage government relations between Canada, the United States and Mongolia. The theme of this years meeting was “The New Mongolia at its 800th Anniversary,” and acted as a celebration of the founding of the Mongolian state. (Remember the name Genghis Khan?)

Mongolia is a landlocked central Asian country, strategically located between Russia to the north and People’s Republic of China to the south, and North Korea to the east. Mongolia has a democratically elected parliament, which is now run by a coalition government as the result of the last election where the governing party was voted in with a minority (it happens in other countries too!).

To promote the diplomatic presence between our nations, the conference was attended by two distinguished guests. Speaking to the assembly were Mongolia’s Ambassador to Canada, Dr. Dugerjav Gotov, and US Ambassador to Mongolia, Pamela Slutz. The event was very successful, and I enjoyed the chance to introduce Canada’s beautiful capital to the attendees.

Summer Student Internships

This year I was pleased to work with two Parliamentary Internship Programs. These programs allowed both Canadian and American students to work in a parliamentary office in the opposite government.

The Canadian program, known as the Canada-Washington Parliamentary Internship Program, saw 4 Canadian students, including Adele from my office, working in the offices of American Parliamentarians or lobby groups. The American internship program is called the Canadian Parliamentary Internship Program, and this year consisted of 38 students from 9 American universities and 5 states.

From early May to mid-June, I was pleased to host an intern from Indiana in my office. She, along with the other interns assisted Parliamentarians with writing speeches, correspondence and newsletters. The interns also attended numerous events such as receptions, committee meetings, and of course, question period. During the six week program, they visited the offices of the Leader of the Opposition, the Speakers of the House and of the Senate, the American Embassy, and the National Assembly of Quebec.

The Canadian interns were in Washington from mid-June to mid-July. While there, they worked through The Washington Center, where they learned more about the American political system. They attended lectures, receptions and various other political functions.

These two programs are valuable for the future of both nations, as they explore the similarities and differences between our political institutions.



Left: Sarah Robb with Ambassador of China H.E. Lu Shu Mien and Adele Ho.
Right: Canadian interns Anthony Garretto, Adele Ho, Colleen Leminski and Shaheen Lotun.





Liberal Leadership Candidates Information



Carolyn Bennett: (official leadership website: <http://www.carolynbennett.ca/>)

Carolyn Bennett was first elected to the House of Commons for the riding of St. Paul's (Toronto) in 1997. Dr. Bennett is currently the Critic for Social Development. She previously served as Minister of State (Public Health) for Prime Minister Paul Martin.

Prior to her election, Dr. Bennett was a family physician and a founding partner of Bedford Medical Associates in downtown Toronto. She was President of the Medical Staff Association of Women's College Hospital and Assistant Professor in the Department of Family and Community Medicine at the University of Toronto. Dr. Bennett served on the Boards of Havergal College, Women's College Hospital, the Ontario Medical Association, and the Medico-Legal Society of Toronto.

Dr. Bennett is the co-author of a book on the Canadian health care system.

Carolyn Bennett's focus is on democratic reform, health care, aboriginal policy and youth issues.



Maurizio Bevilacqua: (official leadership website: <http://www.maurizio.ca/>)

Maurizio Bevilacqua was first elected in 1988 in the former riding of York North, now Vaughan. Mr. Bevilacqua is currently the Critic for Competitiveness and the New Economy.

He was named to cabinet as Secretary of State (Science, Research and Development) in early 2002. Later that year he was appointed Secretary of State (International Financial Institutions). Before that, he served as Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Labour (1993-1994) and to the Minister of Human Resources Development (1993-1995).

Mr. Bevilacqua attended Emory Collegiate and York University, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree.

In addition to fiscal policy, immigration, and health care, Maurizio Bevilacqua will concentrate on employment strategies for youth, women, rural communities, and entrepreneurs.



Scott Brison: (official leadership website: <http://www.scottbrison.ca/>)

Scott Brison was first elected in 1997 for the Nova Scotia riding of Kings-Hants. Mr. Brison is currently the Critic for the Environment.

In 2003, Mr. Brison was appointed Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister with special emphasis on Canada-U.S. Relations. In 2004, he was appointed Minister of Public Works and Government Services, and Receiver General of Canada.

Mr. Brison has private sector experience ranging from business start-ups and U.S. market development to serving as Vice-President of a Canadian Investment Bank. He graduated from Dalhousie University in Halifax in 1989 with a Bachelor of Commerce degree in Finance.

He believes in a competitive economy, a progressive society, environmental responsibility, and renewal of the Liberal Party.



Stéphane Dion: (official leadership website: <http://www.stephanedion.ca/>)

Stéphane Dion was first elected in a 1996 by-election for the riding of St. Laurent-Cartierville (Montreal). Mr. Dion is currently the Foreign Affairs Critic.

In 1996, Mr. Dion was sworn in as President of the Queen's Privy Council for Canada and Minister of Inter-governmental Affairs, a position he held until late 2003. He was appointed Minister of the Environment in 2004.

Mr. Dion graduated from Université Laval with a B.A. in 1977 and an M.A. in 1979, both in Political Science. In 1986 he received his doctorate in Sociology from the Institut d'études politiques in Paris. In 2002 he received an honorary doctorate from the Carlos III University of Madrid.

Stephane Dion's main issues are a sustainable economy, the Kyoto Accord regarding climate change, a united and strong Canada, respect for our farmers, saving and strengthening our social programs, and access to universal health care with significant federal transfers – but with a role for the private sector.



Ken Dryden: (official leadership website: <http://www.kendryden.ca/>)

Ken Dryden was first elected as the Member of Parliament for York Centre (Toronto) in 2004. He is now the Health Critic. During the last session of Parliament, he served as Minister of Social Development.

Mr. Dryden is the author of four best-selling books. In 1984, he was appointed Ontario's first Youth Commissioner. Before entering federal politics, Mr. Dryden served as President of the Toronto Maple Leafs. He holds a degree in History from Cornell University and a degree in Law from McGill University.

Mr. Dryden has been involved with several community and charitable groups with a particular focus on children, youth and education. In 1996, he created the Ken Dryden Scholarship, awarded to young people currently or formerly in the care of the Canadian child welfare system who demonstrate great achievement and promise.

Mr. Dryden is well-known for his achievements as goaltender for the Montreal Canadiens hockey team from 1971 to 1979. He also played in the original 1972 Canada-USSR hockey series. Mr. Dryden is a proud member of the Hockey Hall of Fame, the Canadian Sports Hall of Fame and the International Scholar-Athlete Hall of Fame.

Ken Dryden is concerned about climate change; conditions for success (balanced budgets, debt reduction, national savings, low inflation, and a competitive tax system); early childhood development and care; encouraging Canadians (particularly women) to engage in politics; learning at all ages; and finally, the interconnection between economic and social policy.



Martha Hall Findlay: (official leadership website: <http://www.marthahallfindlay.ca/>)

Martha Hall Findlay ran as the Liberal Candidate for Newmarket - Aurora (GTA) in the 2004 Federal Election. In a close race, she lost to (then) Conservative Belinda Stronach. In 2006 Martha stepped aside to allow Belinda Stronach to run as the Liberal candidate.

Ms. Hall Findlay is a successful lawyer, businesswoman and entrepreneur, with experience in both large and small business. She founded The General Counsel Group of Management and Legal Consultants in 1997. In this capacity, she has worked primarily in the high-tech and telecommunications fields, in both Canada and Europe. Ms. Hall Findlay has practiced international corporate and commercial law.

In addition to her legal and business background, Martha has extensive non-profit and volunteer community experience. She has served as a Director and Executive (including President) for various community, ratepayer and environmental organizations.

Martha Hall Findlay wants to see strong communities, which will encourage economic growth, more funding for post-secondary education, lower taxes for the individual, fiscal transparency, and conservation of the environment with tax incentives for alternative energy production.



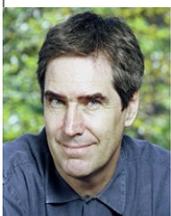
Hedy Fry: (official leadership website: <http://www.hedyfry.com/>)

Hedy Fry was first elected Member of Parliament for Vancouver Centre in 1993. Ms. Fry is the Critic for Sport and the Vancouver Olympics.

She has served the government in a number of capacities. For six years, she was Secretary of State for the Status of Women and Multiculturalism. During the last session of Parliament, Hedy Fry served as Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration with a Special Emphasis on Foreign Credentials.

Prior to her federal election, Ms. Fry was an active member of both the British Columbia and Canadian Medical Associations.

Hedy Fry believes that Canada must lead the 21st century in technology, innovation and communication. Dr. Fry believes that in order to do this, we must develop our human resource potential. This begins with early childhood education and retraining adults whose jobs are endangered by emerging global industrialization. We must also implement solutions to the challenges Aboriginal peoples still face in gaining access to education and training. Dr. Fry believes strongly in the importance of education. She believes we must put strategies in place now to integrate internationally trained workers into the Canadian workforce.



Michael Ignatieff: (official leadership website: <http://www.michaelignatieff.ca/>)

Michael Ignatieff was first elected in 2006 as the Member of Parliament for Etobicoke Lakeshore (Toronto). He is the Associate Critic for Human Resources and Skills.

Mr. Ignatieff is the former director of the Carr Centre for Human Rights and Policy at Harvard University. He is also an author and has written works on political ethics, and Canada's role on the international stage. Mr. Ignatieff has also been a regular broadcaster and critic on television and radio.

Mr. Ignatieff received a degree in History at the University of Toronto and a Doctorate at Harvard University. He is a former Senior Research Fellow at King's College, Cambridge, and has held teaching posts at Harvard, Cambridge, Oxford, the University of California, the University of London and the London School of Economics.

Michael's own words: "I want to channel the federal government's energy into strengthening the common bonds of citizenship – common rights, common responsibilities, common knowledge, and common experience. I want our party to be a leading force for social progress in our country. Equality is a hollow word if Canadians go to bed hungry, if others can't get jobs because of discrimination or lack of education. We need leadership on the environment if we are going to meet the challenge of sustainable development and fairness to the generations that follow. We must devote our efforts to develop a strong, united, prosperous Canada that is confident in its place in the world and is a model of individual rights and social justice at home."



Gerard Kennedy: (official leadership website: <http://www.gerardkenedy.ca/>)

Gerard Kennedy was first elected as a Member of Provincial Parliament (Ontario) in a 1996 by-election in the riding of York South, now Parkdale-High Park. He served as Ontario's Minister of Education from 2003 until 2006. In opposition to the Mike Harris government, he served as Critic for Consumer Affairs and Housing, Health, and Education.

He was educated at Trent University in Peterborough and the University of Alberta in Edmonton in Political Science and Economics. He later lived in Edmonton and worked as a historical researcher and then Executive Director of the Edmonton Gleaners Association/ Edmonton Food Bank, Canada's first such organization, from 1983 to 1986. Mr. Kennedy moved to Toronto to establish The Daily Bread Food Bank, of which he served as Executive Director until 1996. He also participated in local initiatives to develop food banks in Quebec City, Halifax, Ottawa, St. John's and abroad in Ireland, France, Poland, Israel and the Ukraine.

Gerard Kennedy was named one of the Top 50 Influential People ([Toronto Life Magazine](#), 1992) and "Newsmaker of the Year" (Toronto Star, 1993). The Financial Post Magazine awarded him "honourable mention" as CEO of the Year in 1995, and in 2002 he was chosen as one of the city's "Torontonians of Distinction" (Toronto Star).

Mr. Kennedy believes strongly in education, skills training and targeted social programs. He does not support the Canadian military presence in Afghanistan in its current capacity, and would like to see the return of the more traditionally Canadian peacekeeping missions.



Bob Rae: (official leadership website: <http://www.bobrae.ca/>)

Bob Rae served as Ontario's 21st Premier, and was elected eight times to federal and provincial parliaments. He has experience in negotiation, mediation and arbitration, and consults on issues of public policy in Canada and world-wide. In 1997 Bob was asked by Prime Minister Jean Chretien to begin consultations in Canada and abroad regarding the possibility of creating a new, Canadian based international organization that would focus on federal governance. The result was the creation of the Forum of Federations. Bob served as its first Chairman, a position he held for seven years. In 1998, he was appointed to the Security and Intelligence Review Committee, a group authorized by Parliament to supervise the activities of CSIS. In 2000, he was asked by the federal government to help mediate aboriginal fishing rights in New Brunswick. In 2004, he completed a review of Ontario's Postsecondary School Education for the Ontario Provincial government. In 2005, Bob was appointed a special advisor to the Canadian Minister of Public Safety on the Air India bombing of 1985. He was further appointed as Independent Counsellor to the Prime Minister of Canada and Chair of the Air India Inquiry and review board.

Mr. Rae's private sector work has involved various commercial mediation and arbitration issues, as well as participation on a number of boards of public companies. He has lectured widely on issues of company and non-profit restructuring and corporate governance.

He has a B.A. and an LL.B. from the University of Toronto. As a Rhodes Scholar in 1969, he obtained a B.Phil. degree from Oxford University in 1971. He was named a Queen's Counsel in 1984. Mr. Rae was appointed to Her Majesty's Privy Council for Canada in 1998, was appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada in 2000, and was appointed an Officer of the Order of Ontario in 2004. Mr. Rae is an Adjunct Professor at the University of Toronto and Senior Fellow of Massey College.

Bob Rae's campaign for leadership of the Liberal Party of Canada is setting forth an achievable agenda for Canada in the 21st Century that promotes prosperity, sustainability, shared opportunity, and a positive role for governments. This agenda will put Canada and Canadians on track to compete and thrive in the global economy of the 21st Century.



Joe Volpe: (official leadership website: <http://www.joevolpe.ca/>)

Joe Volpe first became the Member of Parliament for Eglinton Lawrence in 1988. He is currently the Critic for the Treasury Board.

In the last Parliament, he served as the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration Canada and the Minister Responsible for Ontario and Toronto. Previously, Mr. Volpe served as Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development after joining the cabinet of Prime Minister Paul Martin in December 2003. In addition, he has served as Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Health, and during that time prepared reports on both the status of organ transplantation in Canada, and natural health products available in Canada. Before entering politics, Mr. Volpe was a school principal. He holds a Master of Education degree from the University of Toronto.

Mr. Volpe believes that we must invest in skills training and post graduate research and become a nation that is capable of exporting talent, innovation and technology and one that is capable of attracting foreign direct investment.

Intellectual Property Day

April 26th was Intellectual Property Day. Together with the Intellectual Property Institute of Canada, I hosted a reception for those interested in the legal field of Intellectual Property. The Institute, also known as IPIC, is Canada's pre-eminent association of professionals who specialize in intellectual property. It has members nation-wide who specialize in a variety of knowledge based fields, including patent agents, trade-mark agents and lawyers specializing in intellectual property. 2006 marks the 80th anniversary of the IPIC. For more information on the Intellectual Property Institute of Canada, please visit their website at <http://www.ipic.ca/>.

Senator Day and Senator Mahovlich at the Intellectual Property Day reception. Photo courtesy of Mike Pinder Photography.





The Accountability Act: Bill C-2

On June 22, 2006 the Federal Accountability Act, or Bill C-2, was introduced in the Senate Chamber. Subsequently, I accepted the position of opposition critic for this very far reaching piece of legislation.

The House of Commons legislative committee responsible for the study of Bill C-2 made just under 150 amendments to the Bill at the clause-by-clause stage, and some 23 more amendments at report stage. All were debated and voted under marathon-like conditions in an effort to pass the legislation and put it in the hands of the Senate before breaking for the summer recess.

It is important that we take the time necessary to study the Bill carefully and thoroughly. We cannot seek to enhance accountability to Parliament and transparency of Government if we do not fulfill our role and thoroughly study the Bill itself.

As Senators, we have the responsibility to deal with the Bill in a reasonable timeframe, while giving witnesses ample opportunity to present their cases to the Senate Committee studying the Bill. Bill C-2 is too important to treat lightly.

Resuming on September 4th, the Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs will hold hearings to study, amongst others, the following topics which relate to the Federal Accountability Act: Ethics, Political Financing; Lobbying; Whistleblowing; Audit Powers; and Access to Information.

The Government has introduced the Federal Accountability Act to increase political transparency. However, it is important to start keeping in mind that Canada is not a country ripe with corruption. We have a good governing system that can always be improved upon. For this important and far reaching piece of legislation the Senate must take the time to properly study the provisions and make changes if deemed necessary.

Throughout the summer months we will be working diligently to ensure that the interests of all stakeholders are taken into account during the committee hearings.

National Security & Defence Report: The Government's No. 1 Job

In June, the Standing Senate Committee on National Security and Defence published a report entitled 'The Government's No. 1 Job,' which represents the second report in a three part series focused on the state of Canada's military.

Through this report my fellow committee members and I reiterated the importance of rebuilding the Canadian Forces. It is our belief that Canadians need better protection now, and we will need it even more, if threats to our national well-being continue to increase.

'The Government's No. 1 Job,' focuses on solutions to persisting problems and makes recommendations that the new government must consider as it continues the process of rehabilitating Canada's armed forces.

The third report of the three part series will examine future challenges facing Canada and recommended structural changes that the government must make to end the current crisis that plagues the Canadian Forces.

Information regarding the Committee can be obtained through its web site at www.sen-sec.ca. Questions regarding this report or other work by the National Security and Defence Committee can be directed to myself or the Committee Clerk at defence@sen.parl.gc.ca. If you would like copies of this important report, we would be pleased to hear from you.