

Freeland's foreign policy speech

How it came together
p. 4

Defence policy review

We've seen this script before, and it didn't end well

Taylor, p. 9; **Powers**, p. 10

Our prisons are full of men



Britney Dennison, p. 13

PS looks to Facebook for help harnessing data

p. 6

More staff hired for ministers' regional offices

Hill Climbers, p. 17



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News NDP leadership race

Stogran alleges 'malicious' rumour, harassment from insiders led to quitting NDP leadership race

'I quite frankly would be surprised that any of the campaigns have been involved in that,' responded candidate Peter Julian.



Former NDP leadership candidate Pat Stogran speaks during his first and only leadership debate in Sudbury, Ont. in May. Less than two months after he launched his campaign, Mr. Stogran quit the race. *The Hill Times* photograph by Andrew Meade

BY SAMANTHA WRIGHT ALLEN

After blaming "insiders" for his decision to pull out from the NDP leadership race less than two months after entering, Pat Stogran says the real reason was far more nefarious: someone within the party had crossed the line, sharing "a malicious and

unfounded" story that he thought would harm his family.

Party insiders and people who know him paint a picture of an outsider who brought a breath of fresh air to the race but who didn't understand the tremendous work required to mount a serious leadership bid.

A media outlet "was investigat-

ing a malicious and unfounded story passed to them by political insiders," which invaded the privacy of "family members," had no business being public, and "amounted to harassment," said Mr. Stogran, best known as Canada's outspoken first federal

Continued on page 7

News Elections

Parliament should rewrite voting law to regulate foreign money, says elections commissioner

BY MARCO VIGLIOTTI

Ottawa should rewrite voting legislation to scrap a limp, un-enforceable provision that appears to prohibit non-Canadians from expressing views about how Canadians should vote, and instead put in place a new rule to limit undue influence of foreign funding, says Canada's elections commissioner.

Yves Côté told the House Procedure and House Affairs Committee on June 8 that he believes

existing election legislation barring foreign influence should be rewritten to restrict monetary support from non-Canadian entities.

"Considering the act's focus on maintaining a level playing field, the focus should probably include elements that prohibit foreigners from incurring significant expenses to oppose or promote a candidate or party," he told committee members.

Continued on page 19

News Appointments

Ex-languages commissioner says Liberals waited a year to begin search for his replacement

BY MARCO VIGLIOTTI

Graham Fraser says the Liberal government waited until 2017, after he'd already left his extended term as languages commissioner, to really begin the search to replace him, despite being reminded of the impending vacancy a year before, raising renewed concerns about the sluggish pace of governor-in-council

appointments under the Liberals.

Mr. Fraser, who left the post in December 2016, said he wrote to the clerk of the House in January of that year to notify that his mandate was expiring in October and give the government a leg up in finding a replacement.

But no successor was chosen in time and Mr. Fraser had his

Continued on page 18

News Hill Life & People

Long hours, quiet hallways; what it's like to work the late shift in silly season

BY SAMANTHA WRIGHT ALLEN

Sitting in a room on the lowest level of Centre Block, a handful of interpreters took a break waiting for their next shift, their murmurs

the only sound along a quiet hallway in the waning hours before midnight.

Staff taking on the late shifts across departments told *The Hill*

Continued on page 16



HEARD ON THE HILL

by Marco Vigliotti

Liberal MP fighting cancer delivers emotional speech calling for greater civility



Liberal MP Arnold Chan, pictured with his wife Jean Yip, urged his colleagues to listen to each other in an often-emotional 20-minute speech to the House on Monday. Mr. Chan is currently fighting cancer that resurfaced last year but said he has no intention of stepping down. *The Hill Times* photograph by Rachel Aiello

In an emotional speech on Monday, Liberal MP **Arnold Chan** urged his colleagues to go beyond talking points and make meaningful contributions for Canadians, saying he didn't know how many more opportunities he would have to deliver lengthy speeches in the House as he battles his resurfaced cancer.

With his family in attendance, Mr. Chan (Scarborough-Agincourt, Ont.) told the House in a wide-ranging 20-minute speech that members must listen and engage with those who hold different opinions, instead of shutting down debate by reciting choreographed lines.

"That is what democracy is about. When we listen, we listen to one another despite our strong differences, that's when democracy really happens," he said.

"That's the challenge that's going on around the world right now. No one is listening."

He also said it has been a "tremendous honour" to serve as an MP for two terms and stressed to his colleagues that it was important to "treat this institution honourably."

Mr. Chan, who just turned 50 this week, was first diagnosed with cancer shortly after winning a byelection in 2014. He said although he wouldn't resign his seat, he has felt "more debilitated" over the last few months as he fought the illness, acknowledging that ongoing treatment has left him feeling worn down.

"I've been a cancer patient now for almost two and a half years, and [with] ongoing treatment, it wears you down," he told reporters after his speech.

"Even in terms of overall performance in the House of Commons, there's been a marked decline over the last few months. So I'm practical and realistic, but at the same token, I have every intention of carrying on."

Mr. Chan, a lawyer and a former veteran political staffer at the Ontario legislature, was first diagnosed with nasopharyngeal carcinoma in 2014. After months of radiation combined with six months of chemotherapy treatment following the first diagnosis, the cancer returned in February 2016.

Supreme Court chief justice announces resignation

Supreme Court of Canada Chief Justice **Beverley McLachlin** is leaving the bench after a historic judicial career.

The veteran adjudicator announced Monday she would resign her seat on the top court on Dec. 15, nine months before she reaches the mandatory retirement age of 75.

Ms. McLachlin, the first-ever female chief justice, was appointed to the Supreme Court in 1989 by then-prime minister **Brian Mulroney**. She was elevated to chief justice by prime minister **Jean Chrétien** in 2000.

At nearly 18 years of service, Ms. McLachlin is the longest serving chief justice in Canadian history.

"It has been a great privilege to serve as a justice of the court, and later its chief justice, for so many years. I have had the good fortune of working with several generations of Canada's finest judges and best lawyers," she said in a statement announcing her impending departure.

"I have enjoyed the work and the people I have worked with enormously."

Under federal law, Ms. McLachlin can still participate in judgments on cases heard before her retirement for up to six months after leaving the bench.



Beverley McLachlin is resigning as chief justice of the Supreme Court of Canada after nearly 18 years as the presiding judge of the country's top court. Appointed by then-prime minister Brian Mulroney, Ms. McLachlin has served on the Supreme Court for 28 years. *The Hill Times* photograph by Jake Wright

In a statement, Prime Minister **Justin Trudeau** (Papineau, Que.) thanked Ms. McLachlin for her service, calling her a "leader and trailblazer" whose judicial accomplishments are "unparalleled" in Canadian history.

"She is one of Canada's very finest jurists. After 28 years at the Supreme Court of Canada, her contributions reach into every part of our law," he said.

"Canadians owe her an immense debt."

Ms. McLachlin first stepped behind the bench in the spring of 1981 after being appointed to the Vancouver County Court. Later that year, she was appointed to the Supreme Court of British Columbia and, in 1985, was elevated to the Court of Appeal for British Columbia.

She was appointed chief justice of the Supreme Court of British Columbia in September 1988 but was sworn in as a judge of the Supreme Court of Canada only seven months later.

With the retirement, Mr. Trudeau will not only have another opportunity to fill a vacancy on the court, but also to select a new chief justice.

The soon-to-be vacated seat will leave a position on the bench that has historically been filled by a jurist practising in British Columbia, however, the prime minister has indicated he doesn't feel bound by the traditional geographic allotments.

Mr. Trudeau courted controversy last year when he announced applicants would be considered from across the country to fill the seat traditionally reserved for Atlantic Canada, before settling on Newfoundland and Labrador judge **Malcolm Rowe**.

Liberal MP returns to military roots

Liberal MP **Marc Miller** (Ville-Marie-Le Sud-Ouest-Île-des-Sœurs, Que.) took a walk down memory lane on Tuesday as he returned to his old army stomping grounds to tout his government's new defence policy.

Mr. Miller made an appearance at the Canadian Grenadier Guards (CGG) facility in Montreal to talk about the new investments for the Canadian Armed Forces reserves promised in the defence policy.

A lawyer by training, Mr. Miller previously served in the Canadian Armed Forces as an infantry section commander.

On Monday, he posted a photo of himself during his military years on Twitter, saying he proudly spent four years serving in the CGG and expressed excitement about returning there as an MP.

An accomplished attorney, Mr. Miller has ties to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau owing to their childhood friendship.

He attended Collège Jean-de-Brébeuf, an elite private school in Montreal, at the same time as Mr. Trudeau.



Liberal MP Marc Miller previously served as an infantry commander in the Canadian Armed Forces. Photo courtesy of the Twitter account of Marc Miller

According to reporting by *The Senior Times*, Mr. Miller said he met Mr. Trudeau after the future prime minister had just moved from Ottawa in 1984 and was beginning high school.

"He asked me for a pencil. We've been best of friends ever since, for 31 years," Mr. Miller was quoted as saying in the article.

He also said that he had travelled with Mr. Trudeau to Africa alongside a close group of friends for several months.

Ex-*Globe and Mail* scribe Ross Howard dies

Former Hill journalist **Ross Howard** has passed away.

A familiar presence on Parliament Hill during the late 1980s and early 1990s, Mr. Howard spent nearly a decade as a senior parliamentary correspondent for *The Globe and Mail*.

He began his journalism career in 1970 as a staff reporter at the now-defunct *Toronto Telegram* before eventually landing at the *Toronto Star*, according to his online resume.

After nearly a decade with the *Star*, he joined *The Globe and Mail* as a national correspondent in Toronto before joining the paper's Ottawa bureau in 1986. He left Ottawa in 1994 to become the paper's Vancouver-based national correspondent.

He most recently taught journalism at Vancouver's Langara College.

In commemoration, the Vancouver Foundation will be managing the Ross Howard Fund to recognize his contributions in shaping public-interest journalism in Canada and abroad for more than 40 years, according to NewsMedia Canada, an advocacy body for the print and digital media industry.

Freedom of expression advocate elects new head

PEN Canada has a new president.

Canadian media executive **Richard Stursberg** was elected the new head of the freedom of expression advocacy body at PEN Canada's annual general meeting last week in Toronto.

Mr. Stursberg, a former executive vice-president of English services at the CBC, succeeds novelist and academic **Randy Boyagoda** as president.

He also previously served as executive director of Telefilm Canada, chairman of the Canadian Television Fund, president of Starchoice and Cancom, president of the Canadian Cable Television Association, and assistant deputy minister of culture and broadcasting for the federal government.

PEN Canada is a self-described non-partisan advocacy body composed of writers, and works to defend freedom of expression as a basic human right at home and abroad. It also promotes literature, fights censorship, helps free persecuted writers from prison, and assists writers living in exile in Canada.

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A high-angle, front-facing view of an F/A-18E/F Super Hornet in flight. The aircraft is white with dark grey accents on the wings and tail. It is carrying several missiles on its wings and a pod under the nose. The background is a dramatic sky with soft, golden light from the sun low on the horizon, creating a warm glow. The aircraft is positioned in the upper half of the frame, flying towards the viewer.

The fighter they send to the front.

In ongoing military operations around the globe, the Super Hornet is the fighter forces depend upon in combat. Fully networked with integrated sensors and weapons, it delivers a full range of missions from close air support to air combat and interdiction. The Super Hornet also sets a new standard of availability, maintainability and cost per flight hour—providing customers with combat-proven, dominant aircraft today and for generations to come.

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RAYTHEON NORTHROP GRUMMAN GENERAL ELECTRIC BOEING

News Global affairs



Foreign Minister Chrystia Freeland last week presented a long-awaited foreign policy speech in the House of Commons. *Hill Times* photo by Jake Wright

Putting foreign policy to paper: Freeland largely crafted speech, with help from lengthy talks with PM

Using the House as a forum to outline Canada's foreign policy added weight to the speech, says former leader Bob Rae.

BY SAMANTHA WRIGHT ALLEN

Last week's 4,000-word foreign policy speech reveals weeks worth of work, cross-departmental collaboration, and though many likely had a hand in the document, insiders say it was crafted in large part by Foreign Affairs Minister Chrystia Freeland.

With its talk of "hard power," Canada being an "essential coun-

try" and taking a strong stance as a middle power, Ms. Freeland (University-Rosedale, Ont.) didn't mince words June 6 during the first of three international policy updates last week—seen by some as the loudest repudiation by the Trudeau government of American protectionism and policies without ever saying President Donald Trump's name.

"What she expressed was a more stark description of the impact of the Trump administration on international affairs than we've heard from a Canadian official before, and she was clearly differentiating the Canadian policy position," said Roland Paris, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's (Papineau, Que.) former foreign policy adviser.

"People have said, 'Why wasn't China mentioned more explicitly, why wasn't there more on the details?' And I think the answer is because the speech served as a statement of principles and directions for Canadian foreign policy, not details," said Mr. Paris, the University of Ottawa research chair of international security and governance.

Ms. Freeland's speech set the

stage for the next day's sweeping defence spending announcement, promising \$62.3-billion in new funding over 20 years, and Friday's "first feminist international assistance policy," which allocated \$150-million from existing funds over five years to "support local women's organizations and movements that advance women's rights in developing countries."

The three long-awaited announcements should be viewed as the equivalent of a major international policy review, said former Canadian diplomat Colin Robertson, or the first articulation of a Liberal "global policy" said a source who was not authorized to speak.

"It's all one," said Mr. Robertson, and while Canada's international affairs budget is mostly spent on defence and development, it'll be Ms. Freeland's speech that other countries will refer to. "As we'd say at foreign affairs, that's the chapeau."

A former journalist who covered economics, Ms. Freeland is "particularly well-equipped" to speak on the issue, said Mr. Paris, calling the speech "a significant undertaking."

"What they produced was a very substantive speech," said Mr. Paris, calling it a "cut above in terms of sophistication" and a speech he suspected Ms. Freeland had "a very direct role" in drafting.

"I've seen a lot of foreign policy speeches that disappeared the moment they're delivered but this one...I think will have enduring quality to it."

Ms. Freeland's spokesperson Alex Lawrence said much of the speech's content "flowed from the minister herself."

"There were staff involved in editing and shaping it, the minister sought input from a number of her cabinet colleagues, and the department was integral in the process as well," Mr. Lawrence said by email. "The speech largely came together over the past month, especially during some lengthy conversations she and the prime minister had while they were at the G7."

Foreign affairs policy staff were not made available for interviews and none of the three foreign affairs parliamentary secretaries responded to interview requests. The Prime Minister's Office declined to comment on its involvement in the speech, deferring the request to Mr. Lawrence.

But Mr. Robertson said around the time the government announced Ms. Freeland would make a major speech, her staff and the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) would have narrowed down what she would cover.

"It's like a white board. They would sit down and start putting up stickies: here are the various potential themes. And then the challenge becomes, you've only got so much time, so what are we going to talk about?"

The first point was clearly the United States, and Mr. Trump, he said.

"But what is the most important? So climate comes in, gender comes in, then the rules-based system. I think those were the three areas they chose to highlight. There could've been many others," said Mr. Robertson, who also pointed to the personal anecdotes discussing Ukraine and her father.

"I do think there was a lot of Chrystia Freeland in this. I think because she is a superb writer... and if she did not dictate it, [she would have] at least given the chapter headings to her team, and then the speech writer would come back."

Because of her "expertise," Ms. Freeland didn't need on-the-job training in the same way of foreign ministers past, said former Liberal justice minister Irwin Cotler by phone from Israel.

"I think she had an understanding of foreign policy that would allow her to know... the people and resources that would be necessary for crafting such a speech," said Mr. Cotler, founder of the Raoul Wallenberg Centre for Human Rights, who added having the speech so early in her tenure as minister was significant. Ms. Freeland took over for Stéphane Dion in January after serving as minister of international trade.

"You saw here an integrated approach—involving defence, involving foreign policy, involving economic policy, involving multiculturalism, involving Canadian

heritage—so I suspect there was a canvassing of expertise from different ministries of government and she knew who to go to and what materials [to] rely upon."

One source said the approach to the three announcements has Trudeau's senior adviser "Gerald Butts written all over it." While most interviewed agreed the PMO would have been intimately involved, including Butts and chief of staff Katie Telford, Mr. Cotler said that, given Ms. Freeland's background, the PMO would have taken a supporting role.

"The PMO is involved necessarily, but at same time it depends on who the minister is, whether the involvement is directive or the involvement is advisory," said Mr. Cotler, who thought the latter was likely in her case.

"She can factor in the PMO role within her own context and understanding, and she could set the basic principles and policies. The PMO becomes yet another resource...but it doesn't become a directing influence."

The speech probably went through several iterations, Mr. Robertson added, and when they were comfortable with it, they would share it with the PMO and Privy Council's Office, because it represents the government's foreign policy—a departure in approach to Dion's "responsible conviction" speech last year.

While Mr. Dion's address was delivered at University of Ottawa, Ms. Freeland's carried the weight of the House of Commons. That was a clear choice by government, and not an entirely common forum for policy announcements.

"We haven't seen very many examples of that, where a vision has been clearly presented to [the] House," said former interim Liberal leader Bob Rae, adding the three announcements work well together.

"I think [government is] acting coherently, and they're acting together, and in coordination," said Mr. Rae, now a senior partner at Olthuis Kleer Townshend LLP. "I've been a very strong advocate of that, and the very real need to coordinate what we do in aid, which is a substantial part of our foreign affairs budget."

Mr. Rae said the Trudeau government has done a good job walking a thin diplomatic line with the United States, though he's been hearing more from Liberal MPs since he started publicly writing about the problems with Trump's approach.

"I think there's been a sense of frustration among a lot of Liberals and a lot of Canadians saying, 'We know the government has to be responsible and we know they have to be diplomatic in what they say, but we do need to express our difference as well as our desire to get along.'"

Calling the speech a "robust defence of internationalism and a middle power role and multilateralism," Mr. Robertson said it was a "back-to-the-future" approach in keeping with postwar Canadian foreign policy.

"I don't think this is where this government began; from where they started 18 months ago to where [they] are today, that's a big shift."

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2 FOR 2

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News Policy

Facebook schools feds on data analytics, privacy

‘Never before has there been more data, nor more advanced analytical techniques with which to analyze and interpret information.’

BY DEREK ABMA

Both the federal government and Facebook agree that the public sector could learn a thing or two from the private sector about how to use data to optimize operations.

The government participated in a workshop put on by social media giant Facebook in February about how the government could make better use of data at a time when so much of it exists, the results of which were summarized June 14, in a report from Facebook.

“The government of Canada has made a big point of making data and results and delivery a key priority for the government when it thinks about trying to understand whether or not what they’re doing is impactful for Canadians,” Kevin Chan, Facebook’s head of public policy for Canada, said in an interview this week.

“And we kind of noticed that there was a gap in the sense that the government has set this as an important priority, the public service has a lot of different people and different teams working on this, but not a

lot of leveraging of the private sector.”

A key part of the report was an emphasis that government departments need to find the right partners in order to use data most effectively. Mr. Chan said Facebook is interested in being a partner, but added that this isn’t a money-making endeavour for the tech giant.

“We are public policy people and very much see ourselves as doing public policy,” he said. “A lot of these datasets, a lot of the know-how, will come from the private sector, and so we do feel like we can contribute to try and crack this public policy issue.”

He said Facebook had already partnered with Elections Canada during the 2015 election to post reminders to vote on the news feeds of Canadians 18 or older, and provide links to Elections Canada’s website for people to find their polling stations.

The Facebook report suggested seeking out those who have an interest in the same information you are seeking. “The data you need may already exist, but have been collected by a different organization for an entirely different purpose,” the report said.

It used the example of Global Affairs Canada wanting information on how many Canadians travel to conflict zones around the world. It noted how Statistics Canada regularly collects data on Canadians travelling abroad. While the point of that data is not to look at travel to conflict zones, it could be used for that purpose by Global Affairs.

“Never before has there been more data, nor more advanced analytical techniques with which to analyze and interpret infor-



Kevin Chan, Facebook Canada’s head of public policy, addresses a workshop the company hosted in Ottawa in February. Photograph courtesy of Facebook

mation,” said the report’s introduction.

Privy Council Office deputy secretary Matthew Mendelsohn, in a keynote address to the workshop captured by Facebook on video, said the federal government “wants to have as an internalized, regular process of using data and using evidence to inform decision-making in a way that we haven’t done in Canada before.”

He added that “there is no master plan in how we’re going to use data to inform decisions. ... We are exploring, we are innovating, we are experimenting. We are doing that with partners like Facebook.”

The Feb. 23 workshop was the first its kind to be held outside of Facebook’s home base of Silicon Valley in California. The main departments participating at this event, held at the National Arts Centre, were Innovation, Science, and Economic Development Canada; Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada; Global Affairs Canada; and the Public Health Agency of Canada.

“The workshop provided some interesting examples of how to leverage Facebook as a means to disseminate prevention initiatives and messaging,” wrote Public Health Agency spokesperson Rebecca Gilman in an email. “For example, Facebook provided detailed information about how it tailored public-health prevention messages around Zika virus specific to the demographic of Facebook users in Brazil to increase the utility of the prevention messages. The presenters also demonstrated how mapping the use of the Facebook ‘safety check-in’ feature helped to understand which areas of Fort McMurray were most severely impacted by its recent wildfires.”

Stephanie Palma, a spokeswoman for Indigenous and Northern Affairs, said in an email her department was interested in exploring ways of “measuring reconciliation for the purposes of the workshop and scoping possible uses of open data.”

The Facebook report said privacy concerns must be taken into account when attaining and using data. It suggested that the use of people’s information must provide “real benefits to people, community, and society” to be justifiable. It added that potential downsides to any collection and use of data must be identified and mitigated, that government should be transparent with the public on why any given research and data collection are being done, and that strict controls should be placed on protecting people’s privacy.

During his address to the workshop, Mr. Mendelsohn said Canada’s federal govern-

ment had a “really good balance between openness and privacy” in legislation and policy, adding, “I do think that we are at a time now...that we can look at how we ensure that our privacy legislation and other legislation is modern and appropriate, and that it facilitates data sharing where appropriate and where people can consent to that. Because we don’t want to be in a position where we have fallen too far on one side of that, and prevent the ability to do the work that needs doing.”

The paper identified a major challenge for most government departments as “identifying the right people” to receive the “right message,” reaching them, and then assessing whether the message had its desired effect.

During workshop, Mr. Mendelsohn talked about Prime Minister Justin Trudeau’s (Papineau, Que.) preoccupation with effects of government policy on people, and how to measure it.

“One of the things that is striking is how frequently in policy conversations that the prime minister immediately goes to issues around, ‘What will the impact of this big thing we’re talking about [be] ... and how will we know it’s having that impact?’”

The report also suggested that departments be simultaneously “precise and flexible” when it comes to defining their data needs.

“Rarely will you discover the ‘perfect’ dataset for your problem,” the report said. “Rather than getting stuck, think about how you can layer data from multiple sources to create a more complete picture.”

The report also recommended building the “infrastructure” to make data more accessible across government. This includes implementing technology that allows cross-departmental access to information.

Mr. Mendelsohn said the government is already in possession of an ample amount of data, but he described much of it as “a stranded asset that we need to use in better ways, to make it more accessible.”

Mr. Chan said the workshop showed that the government is not necessarily lacking data, but not using what it has to its full potential.

“What we heard, some of it was just being worried about how to think of this in new ways,” he said. “It’s not that there was a dearth of data. ... Maybe a colleague in a different department might actually have the data that I’m looking for, and that I may not have to do it all on my own.”

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Appointment Notice

B2GOLD CORP.

Neil Reeder

Vice President, Government Relations

B2Gold’s President and CEO, Mr. Clive T. Johnson, is pleased to announce that Mr. Neil Reeder has joined the Company as Vice President, Government Relations.

Mr. Reeder joins B2Gold following a distinguished government career of over 35 years with Global Affairs Canada. He helped advance Canada’s trade, foreign policy and development agenda during seven different diplomatic postings overseas and in increasingly senior positions in Ottawa. His last assignment in Ottawa was as Director General responsible for the management of Canada’s relations with Latin America and the Caribbean.

Most recently, Mr. Reeder served as Canada’s Ambassador to the Philippines. His previous ambassadorial postings include serving as Canada’s High Commissioner to Brunei and as Canadian Ambassador to Costa Rica, Nicaragua and Honduras. He has also served as Deputy Head of Mission at the Canadian Embassy in Mexico.

Mr. Reeder holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Saskatchewan and a Bachelor of Journalism degree from Carleton University. He is fluent in English, French and Spanish.



Join us in welcoming Mr. Reeder at B2Gold’s upcoming Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Friday, June 16, 2017, at The Sutton Place Hotel, 845 Burrard Street, Vancouver, British Columbia. Please visit our website for the webcast and dial-in details for the AGM.

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Stogran alleges ‘malicious’ rumour, harassment from insiders led to quitting NDP leadership race

Continued from page 1

veterans ombudsman who served in the Canadian military for over 30 years. He pulled from the race June 3.

The retired Canadian Armed Forces colonel wouldn't comment further on the allegations, and when asked if the "insiders" responsible were connected to another leadership campaign or the party, he said "a combination of both."

"They're not mutually exclusive. It was a deliberate attempt and there was collusion...but suffice to say it was enough for me to say it was not worth me putting my reputation on the line and my personal finances in jeopardy to try and bring a party that is dysfunctional as the NDP together to take on politics incorporated," said Mr. Stogran in a June 12 interview.

Canada's New Democrats said the party had not received "any complaints or information regarding harassment with regards to the leadership race."

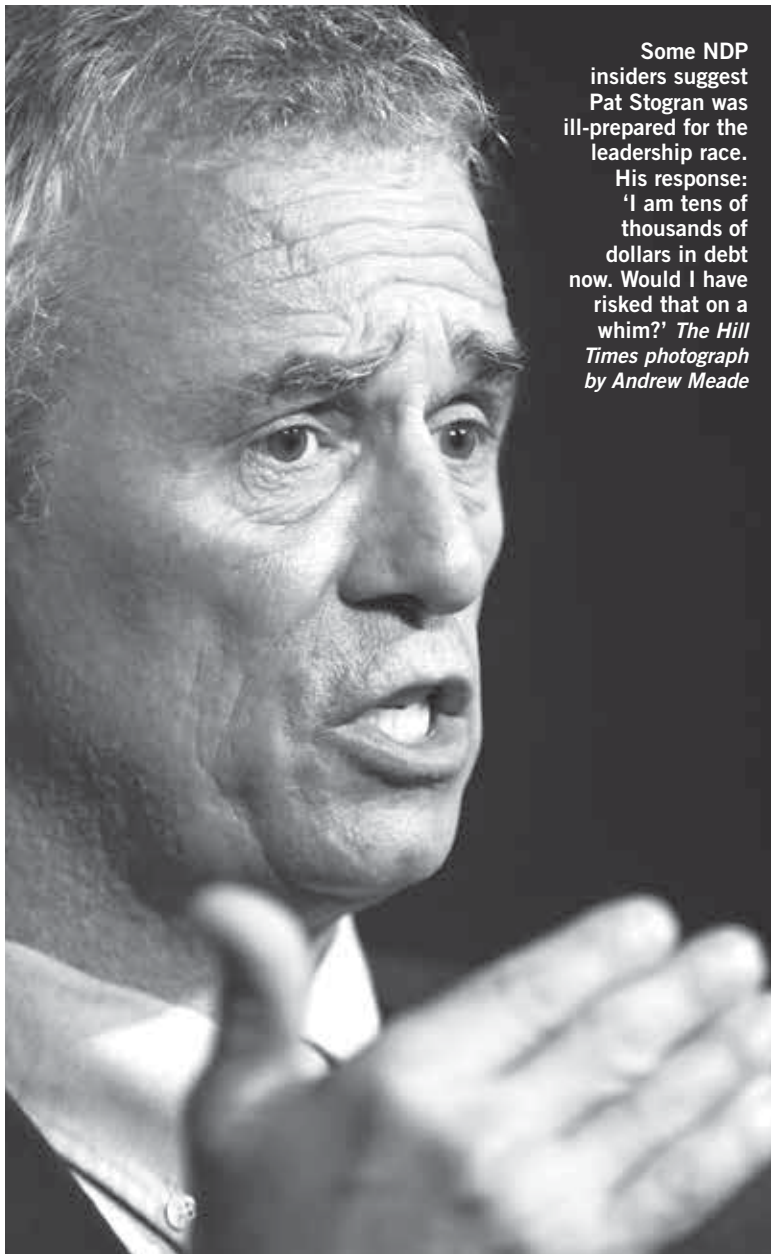
"We take any allegations of harassment and bullying very seriously and it should not be tolerated," said NDP national director Robert Fox by email when asked to comment on Mr. Stogran's allegations.

Many NDP insiders said they were confused by Mr. Stogran's vague announcement of his departure from the race via a five-minute video posted on YouTube in which he cited the need for party reform and the importance of his family as reasons for quitting. The party's former interim national director Karl Bélanger said these latest allegations shed some more light on Mr. Stogran's decision to leave.

"The tone of his video...he seemed genuinely upset. This would explain that. Most people thought it was about the rules in place to join the race," said Mr. Bélanger, president of the Douglas-Coldwell Foundation, who noted that despite being an outsider Mr. Stogran was putting forward a serious effort. "This opens a totally different door."

Mr. Bélanger, former principal secretary to outgoing leader Thomas Mulcair, said the "serious allegations" could be investigated by the party's chief electoral officer if an official complaint is lodged.

When asked if he planned to do so, Mr. Stogran said "no." But



Some NDP insiders suggest Pat Stogran was ill-prepared for the leadership race. His response: 'I am tens of thousands of dollars in debt now. Would I have risked that on a whim?' *The Hill Times* photograph by Andrew Meade

he suggested he hoped the party would forgive some of his almost \$60,000 in campaign costs, which included a \$30,000 "non-refundable" registration fee and \$25,000 he forwarded his campaign out of his own pocket.

"As far as I'm concerned, myself and the party, I have nothing to do with them," said Mr. Stogran, who also said fundraising proved problematic. His supporters had technical difficulties using the party's website to donate, he said. The party should "accept some degree of responsibility for their administrative effectiveness and our inability to capitalize on the early surge of support that we had

in terms of me perhaps not having to go into debt on my own behalf."

Mr. Fox said all campaigns encountered difficulties as the party rolled out new online tools, which "were corrected several weeks ago."

"The party has also done everything in its power to minimize the consequences on candidates," he said.

Not all campaigns responded to *The Hill Times'* query whether their camps had any role in Mr. Stogran's allegations, though Charlie Angus' (Timmins-James Bay, Ont.) campaign emailed "no" and Peter Julian (New Westminster-Burnaby, B.C.) said in a brief

interview "we do not campaign that way."

"I quite frankly would be surprised that any of the campaigns have been involved in that," he added.

Niki Ashton's office (Churchill-Keewatinook Aski, Man.) said it was concerned about the allegations and "there is no room for attacks of this nature in politics," while Jagmeet Singh and Guy Caron (Rimouski-Neigette-Témiscouata-Les Basques, Que.) did not respond to emailed requests for comment by print deadline.

Outsider not prepared for leadership bid, insiders suggest

In interviews last week prior to Mr. Stogran's allegation of harassment, several NDP insiders took exception to his assertion that the party is "fundamentally flawed" with insiders blocking his way and putting "obstacles in place for candidates trying to grow the party's base from the grassroots."

Navigator senior consultant Sally Housser said if a person is seeking to lead a political party they should have an understanding of its culture and the way the party structure works.

"I think it's unfortunate he felt that frustration, but at the same time I don't think a party structure can completely change to accommodate somebody because they've never had any experience with that party structure before," said Ms. Housser, who worked as deputy national director of the federal NDP during the 2012 leadership race.

Former NDP national director Robin Sears said the party has been open to outsiders as leaders, including Jack Layton, whom Housser also pointed to as an example. The late Mr. Layton won the party leadership in 2003, a year before he first was elected as an MP.

"This is the sort of comment you get from someone who has put their toe in the water, discovered it is very cold, and leapt back," said Mr. Sears, a principal of Earncliffe Strategy Group, by email. "He might want to ask himself why he received such a chilly reception."

Longtime former NDP veteran affairs critic and current Capital Hill group associate Peter Stoffer said he'd spoken to Mr. Stogran about six months ago and encouraged him to run. While he hadn't himself encountered the complaints Mr. Stogran made about the party, he said the NDP is "going through an awful lot of challenges right now."

"To be frank with you, he obviously had some dealings with people in the party that probably weren't favourable in this regard, but I haven't spoken to him," said Mr. Stoffer, who, like Mr. Stogran, has been critical of the party's connection to unions, noting it only pulls in about 15 per cent of the labour vote.

Some criticism of the party may be warranted, said Ms. Housser, but every candidate faces challenges.

"I think that the federal party seemed to me...to really do a good job of trying to get him in and accommodate that first debate," said Ms. Housser, who isn't sup-

porting any candidate but signed Mr. Stogran's nomination papers to help him get in the race after Mr. Angus noted the candidate was having troubles meeting the requirements.

"There's some criticisms that are reasonable to be made, but not as strongly as that."

Several people interviewed praised Mr. Stogran's passion for making a difference, but described him as a warrior and not a politician. He was a well-intentioned candidate and a breath of fresh air, several said, but one who didn't have a true understanding of the type of organization, fundraising, and structure needed to run for leader.

"I definitely didn't," replied Mr. Stogran, who has described being a politician "distasteful" but said he thought he could change "politics incorporated" from within. "I had huge support coming my way from disaffected individuals from the NDP" and from those disillusioned with other parties, he said.

He had about 20 people working for his campaign across the country, including those he said were "experienced campaigners." Neither campaign director Patrick McCoy nor communications director Jessica Pounton responded to interview requests. Ms. Pounton took over for Cam Holmstrom, who said by phone he left the role three weeks before for family reasons and had no comment.

Alice Funke of the website Pundits' Guide said it wasn't clear Mr. Stogran had "a complete set of expectations" about the demands of a leadership contest, with so much to learn for someone new to electoral politics.

A leadership bid needs a campaign manager with contacts across the country, chairpeople in every province, strong social media engagement, and, first and foremost, "effective fundraisers," she added.

On Facebook and Twitter, the leading NDP contenders had between three and 10 times his following.

Veterans advocate Jerry Kovacs said he offered to help Mr. Stogran's campaign about two weeks ago but "he declined my offer." Though not a member of the NDP, Mr. Kovacs said he offered "because of the connection" and thought Mr. Stogran could fill a political "void" on veterans issues.

But watching from the outside, Mr. Kovacs didn't see the efforts he would expect, like reaching out to veterans groups to secure endorsements.

"I just never saw any evidence of campaign organization," said Mr. Kovacs, adding he's run for city council and provincial politics and worked with several MPs. "He was entering a world which he knew very little about."

Even so, Mr. Stogran said he was a serious candidate and Mr. Bélanger regarded him as such, pointing to Mr. Holmstrom's campaign involvement and other longtime NDP staffers who knew what they were doing.

"I am tens of thousands of dollars in debt now. Would I have risked that on a whim?" said Mr. Stogran, who said the party is partly to blame for what has happened to him, pointing to a proverb: "A fish rots from the head down."

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Editorial

Enough delays on access to information reform

When CBC reporter Dean Beeby accepted the prestigious Charles Lynch Award from his peers at the Press Gallery Dinner earlier this month, he did so with a plea. The prime minister was in the room along with hundreds of journalists, listening to his speech. Rather than gloating about himself, the modest, hardworking reporter made a pitch for a better access-to-information law. As it stands, the Access to Information Act is the “worst it’s ever been,” he said.

He would know, as he knows the act intimately; making access requests is the bread and butter of his reporting. Mr. Beeby regularly breaks solid news stories using the cumbersome, lengthy process. And that should be commended, given the fact that often a requester receives a response to their request for government information months after the original legislated deadline, and with dozens of pages blacked out.

Fast forward to this week, when departing information commissioner Suzanne Legault released yet another annual report pointing out the problems with the access legislation.

“Our investigations highlight that the act continues to be used as a shield against transparency and is failing to meet its policy objective to foster accountability and trust in our government. The act urgently needs to be updated to ensure that Canadians’ access rights are respected. A lot of work needs to be done before this government delivers on its transparency promises,”

Ms. Legault was quoted in a press release as saying, marking the tabling of her report on June 8.

Though the year “began on a positive note,” she said, with a promise by the government to reform the act, as the year ended, she said there was “a shadow of disinterest on behalf of the government.”

Indeed, the Liberals had promised in the 2015 election campaign to “expand the role of the information commissioner, giving them the power to issue binding orders for disclosure,” and “ensure that access to information applies to the prime minister’s and ministers’ offices, as well as administrative institutions that support Parliament and the courts.”

But earlier this year, Treasury Board President Scott Brison’s office said those pledges have been indefinitely put on hold.

Changing the relevant law would be “complex,” and the government needs an undefined amount of additional time to “get it right,” Mr. Brison’s spokesperson, Jean-Luc Ferland, told the Canadian Press.

No ones wants the government to rush it and get the reforms wrong. But, at the same time, we’re now nearing the halfway mark of this government’s tenure, and it’s surprising that this delay is only coming to the fore now.

The government should make these changes a priority. Ms. Legault’s been waiting her entire mandate, and Mr. Beeby for much of his career.

Letters to the Editor

Turkey is fighting Daesh, not helping it

Re: “Trump’s ‘principled realism’ is anything but” (*The Hill Times*, May 31, p. 9) Turkey’s resolve to wipe out Daesh (also known as ISIL, ISIS, and the Islamic State) and other terrorist organizations in Syria cannot be logically brought together with a claim that it kept its border open so that weapons, money, and recruits could be brought into Syria by the same groups it has fought. Although Turkey has been part of the Global Coalition against Daesh since its inception, and it is supporting moderate opposition members in Syria, it is regretful to see this unfair claim being floated again.

With Turkey’s support, from Jarablus to al-Bab, more than 2,500 towns were liberated and cleared of Daesh. Turkey successfully completed its Operation Euphrates Shield, and the ensuing return of tens of thousands of refugees represented a major achievement. The global coalition’s efforts could not enjoy greater, more solid support than from Turkey to throw back a monstrosous terror organization.

Turkey has banned almost 40,000 foreigners with possible ties to terrorist organizations from entering the country, deported more than 3,500, and arrested more than 1,000 terrorists.

No one can know as well as Turkey how ending the terror in Syria can help solve a good part of the humanitarian problems our world is experiencing now. From ending tragedies in the seas, to ensuring the return of some of the refugees—the number of which is now over 2.7 million and to which 300,000 people from Iraq was also added—a series of much-awaited results requires us to end terror in Syria and in the region.

The suffering of people from terror in Europe and elsewhere must unite us around a clearly stated objective. Our most serious hurdles are convoluted statements and actions to blur the picture before our eyes.

Selçuk Ünal
Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey to Canada
Ottawa, Ont.

Foreign aid leadership is questionable without money to back it up

International Development Minister Marie-Claude Bibeau announced the Liberal government’s new feminist international assistance policy last week. It is a bold approach that will ensure our international assistance program looks at potential partners and recipients through a feminist lens.

Minister Bibeau states that Canada will work toward increasing funding of local women’s organizations, with a view to ensuring equality and empowerment. She maintains that Canada will be a global leader in this respect, but such leadership is questionable without the dollars to back it up.

Canada has not increased its international assistance budget in many years; it is currently at 0.26 per cent of gross

national income, which is well below the United Nations target of 0.7 per cent.

If Canada truly wishes to be a global leader in international development, it should increase its commitment to the Global Partnership for Education’s replenishing fund. Given the GPE’s track record to date, this would go a long way to ensuring that more of the world’s children can go to school. Every dollar invested in education results in a \$10 improvement in health benefits and wages.

Canada has rebranded its international assistance program. It is now time to provide the funds to make it actually mean something.

Sherry Moran
Ottawa, Ont.



Of North Korea and nuclear deterrence

Ever since making and using the atomic bomb, the United States of America has threatened communist countries with nuclear attack.

Weak countries that resist great powers are often pushed to the limit of endurance. Citizens experience terrible hardships because leaders decide to protect national sovereignty. The fate of the communist countries of North Korea and Cuba under siege seems preferable to what happened to Arab countries like Libya after they renounced nuclear arms. When conventional defence resources are exhausted, having nuclear deterrence capability is a weak country’s last resort in maintaining sovereignty.

Despite almost intolerable living conditions, the North Korean people have not revolted against their leadership. Regarding state violations of citizenry, Bruce Cumings in the preface of his book *North Korea: Another Country*, writes, “In human rights circles, the easiest thing has always been to look one way and condemn the communists, while ignoring the reprehensible behaviour of our allies, that is, U.S. support for dictators who make Kim Jong-il [former North Korean leader and father of current ruler Kim Jong-un] look enlightened (the Saudis, for example).” Cumings’ criticism applies to us in Canada as well.

Andrew Romain
Gatineau, Que.

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Defence plan: believe it when rubber hits the road

Canadian governments have historically been much better at promising military equipment than they have been at buying it.



Scott Taylor
Inside Defence

OTTAWA—Last Wednesday’s release of Canada’s new defence policy reminded me of the old Peanuts cartoon. In a long-running gag, Lucy promises to hold the football in place for Charlie Brown to kick. Charlie Brown is always suspicious, and reminds Lucy that on every previous occasion she has snatched away the football at the last moment, leaving him kicking

at air and landing flat on his back. Somehow, Lucy is always able to convince simple Charlie that this time it will be different. Once he is convinced, Charlie sets himself up with a long run, throughout which he tells himself “This time I’m going to kick this ball clear to the moon.” That is where all of the self-proclaimed military boosters are right now. They have convinced themselves that this time, Lucy (a.k.a. the government of the day) is really going to come through on her promise for a whopping 70 per cent increase in the defence budget over the next decade, including the acquisition of all kinds of new equipment. The policy review also calls for an increase in personnel up to 71,500 from the current level of 68,000—which in reality is fewer than 66,000. For those of us long enough in the tooth to remember such things,

30 years ago the Progressive Conservative government promised a similarly robust investment in Canada’s military. The 1987 White Paper on Defence advocated for the acquisition of 12 nuclear submarines and 400 main battle tanks. The Royal Canadian Navy now operates four used diesel-electric submarines, and there are but 40 operational tanks in our Army. That same blueprint called for the purchase of 820 Northern Terrain Vehicles—an articulated, tracked, multi-purpose utility vehicle that would have equipped Army reserve units across Canada. That project got as far as the factory being built in Calgary to assemble the NTVs, before the whole thing was scrapped. The original plan for our current Patrol Frigates was to build 12 with an option for an additional six. When six additional frigates were cancelled, it was announced that the Navy would get six ocean-going Corvettes instead. That scheme simply disappeared from the books. In 2005, the Army announced it was going to invest nearly



General Dynamics Land Systems Canada shows off one of its lightly armoured vehicles at the 2016 CANSEC military equipment trade show in Ottawa. There is plenty of hardware available for purchase to shore up Canada’s armed forces, if and when the government comes up with enough cash to pay for it. *The Hill Times* photograph by Jake Wright

\$1-billion into something called the Multi-Mission Effects Vehicle. These 30 MMEVs were essentially a reconfiguration of the 1980s Air Defence, Anti-Tank (ADAT) system mounted on a wheeled chassis. Like the ADATs, the MMEV never actually entered Canadian service and in 2007 the project was quietly scrubbed. In the summer of 2009, the Army announced with much fanfare that it was going to spend over \$2-billion to purchase 108 Close Combat Vehicles. After conducting not one but two sets of trials, the decision was taken in December 2013 to not buy any CCVs for the Army. In 2004 Canada announced the Joint Support Ship project, which should have had the first of three supply ships built and in operational service by 2012. That procurement was cancelled in 2009, and now the Navy cannot

expect delivery of a new supply ship before the year 2021. The Air Force first announced it was seeking to replace its ageing Sea King helicopters in 1983. Thirty-four years later the same old Sea Kings are conducting operations in the Mediterranean. So forgive me if I don’t join in the current discussion as to how high we are going to kick the football this time. I will believe it when I see it. The huge projected budget hike did resonate well south of the border, it would seem. Trump’s spokesman, Michael Short, tweeted out a triumphant message that Canada’s 70 per cent increase in defence spending was a case of The Donald “getting results.” Yeah, and Charlie Brown thought he could kick a football to the moon. *Scott Taylor is editor and publisher of Esprit de Corps magazine. The Hill Times*

Britain: ‘soft’ Brexit or no Brexit?

A year after Britain’s referendum on leaving the EU, Prime Minister Theresa May’s poor election showing leaves her not knowing what her negotiating position is.



Gwynne Dyer
Global Affairs

LONDON, U.K.—“We don’t know when Brexit talks start. We know when they must end,” tweeted Donald Tusk, former Polish prime minister and now president of the European Council. He doesn’t know when the talks will start because even now, a year after Britain’s referendum on leaving the European Union, Prime Minister Theresa May doesn’t know what her negotiating position is.

She thought she knew. It was going to be a “hard Brexit” where Britain left both the European Union’s “internal market” (complete free trade between the half-billion people in the EU’s 28 members) and the customs union (the same external tariffs against everybody else). “Free movement” would also end (to limit immigration from EU countries), and Britain would flourish all alone thanks to its genius for free trade. Good luck with that. But then May called a needless election to get a bigger majority in parliament—to “strengthen [her] hand” in the negotiations with the EU that are scheduled to begin next Monday, or so she said. Instead, after a botched campaign focused entirely on May, the Conservative Party lost its majority in last Thursday’s election. Now she is a zombie prime minister: “Dead woman walking,” one senior Conservative called her. Yet the Conservative Party can’t dump her yet because she is in the midst of talks with the small Democratic Unionist Party (exclusively Northern Irish) to get enough votes in parliament to keep the government in power. Even if May succeeds, “hard Brexit” is dead. To get the support of the 11 DUP members of parliament—even to retain the support of the 13 MPs of the Scottish Conservative Party—she will have to agree to a much softer Brexit. That would certainly include a



Even if British Prime Minister Theresa May succeeds in keeping her minority government afloat, ‘hard Brexit’ is dead, writes Gwynne Dyer. *U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Jette Carr photograph courtesy of U.S. Department of Defense*

customs union, and maybe also continued membership of the internal market. That may tear the Conservative Party apart, as the hard-line Brexiters in the party will fight against it tooth and nail. May’s Brexit minister, David Davis, has already warned that next week’s start to the talks with the EU may have to be postponed. But the deadline for an agreement is only 18 months away, in practice, and the negotiations will be extremely complex. No wonder Donald Tusk is losing patience. The Brexit referendum was originally promised in 2013 by May’s predecessor, David Cameron, in order to prevent a split in the Conservative Party. May’s devotion to Brexit today is still mainly aimed at avoiding that split, but the rest of the country has moved on.

If the referendum were held again today, it would almost certainly result in a victory for the Remainers, not the Leavers. The problem is that both main parties include large numbers of Leave voters. They are a bigger proportion of the Conservative Party, although around half of the Conservative MPs are still secretly anti-Brexit. Jeremy Corbyn’s Labour Party is equally divided: at least a third of Labour’s voters were Leavers. Corbyn would not have come so near to displacing the Tories if he had not maintained his ambiguous stance on Brexit in the recent election. Many of the traditional Labour voters who came back to the Labour Party this time were former supporters of the United Kingdom Independence Party. They had been made homeless by the collapse of that party, but they are still Leavers.

So neither party is going to propose a second referendum now. To do so would be to lose many of their pro-Leave voters, and probably to lose the new election that is likely to be called before the end of the year. Yet the outcome of last week’s election does open up a possible path to a new referendum. If the Conservative Party shreds itself over who is to replace Theresa May, or if either the DUP or the pro-Remain Scottish Conservatives withdraw their support, there will have to be another election. Labour could win that election, but only if Corbyn can convince the Leavers in his party that he will try very hard to make a “soft Brexit” work. At the same time, he must persuade all the students and other young people who voted for the first time this month (and almost all voted Labour) that he will put the results of the negotiations with the EU to a second referendum, even though he cannot promise that publicly now. It’s a fine line to walk, and Corbyn is genuinely ambivalent about the EU. Nevertheless, the final result could be either an acceptably soft and amicable Brexit (leaving Britain in a close relationship with the EU, like Switzerland or Norway) or an abandonment of the whole Brexit project after a second referendum. But it will leave deep scars for a generation, whichever way it comes out. *Gwynne Dyer is an independent journalist whose articles are published in 45 countries. The Hill Times*

Comment

Liberal defence blueprint a political win—for now

It's easy to talk about spending big, right up until you have to actually do it.



Tim Powers

Plain Speak

OTTAWA—It appears the federal Liberals have achieved an early victory in the communications war surrounding their just-released defence policy review. Defence Minister Harjit Sajjan must be relieved, as he more recently has been riding some choppy waves for publicly exaggerating his role in a mission in Afghanistan and then apologizing for doing so.

One week after the rollout of the plan, there seems to be less controversy and diminished criticism of Canada's future defence blueprint. As announced by the

Trudeau government, the initiative lays out a boost to the defence budget by 70 per cent over the next decade to \$32.7-billion. New equipment purchases are in the offing. The overall size of the military is set for a slight increase of both the regular and reserve forces. The special forces will also see modest growth.

Initially, critics properly pounced on the fact that the bulk of new investments in the military were planned to commence later than 2019, effectively in the next election cycle. Also at the time of the unveiling, Minister Sajjan was unable to explain how our military expansion was going to be paid for. Would there be deficit spending? Tax increases? Program cuts? Still no clear answers are available for those questions.



Defence Minister Harjit Sajjan, pictured here during a roundtable event last year for the government's defence policy review, finally unveiled that policy last week, including promises of big funding increases after the next election. *The Hill Times* photograph by Andrew Meade

That ought to be concerning.

Outside of the Ottawa bubble and within the defence business in Canada there seems to be a lukewarm-to-positive perspective on the plans. For example, the Canadian Association of Defence and Security Industries (CADSI), Canada's national defence lobby group, was positively delighted with the government's plan. It decreed in a statement, "The government's new defence policy statement is the first time in over 30 years that positive language has been used to recognize the value of Canada's defence industrial base and how industry contributes to meeting Canada's defence objectives." The release went on to commend the government for its work. Somewhere Sajjan is high-fiving his staff for such praise.

You can't blame defence industry members for championing potential investment in their sector; they'd be fools not to. But before a mass state of euphoric giddiness sets in, it is important to remember the last government talked a big game on defence investment, and made some big-ticket purchases. However, where it was found lacking was on the ongoing commitment to the sector. After promising "stable and predictable funding" for the military, it ended up carving as much as \$2.1-billion annually out of the defence allocation to balance budgets.

It is easy to talk about future spending and commitments, until you actually have to get down to doing it—something the Liberals have not yet really done with the military. In this year's budget, for example, the government said it was going to spend \$933-million less than anticipated on new military equipment over a six-year period. There's also no sign that Canada's \$28.5-billion deficit is going to disappear with a snap of the fingers. Some finance minister in the future is going to have to make tough choices about whether to eradicate the deficit or add to it significantly.

Nonetheless, here we are a week after the Liberals' defence announcement and there seems to be some acceptance that what the Liberals have promised is doable and inevitable. This is somewhat ironic, given the history of defence spending in Canada (inconsistent), the current government's fidelity when it comes to promises (equally inconsistent), and our nation's ever-changing fiscal and defence priorities.

But the Liberals will take the win. Many different voting cohorts will like the language around defence investment. Sajjan will be delighted he is talking about a forward-looking strategy, not a misinterpreted personal past. Frankly, no one can really levy criticism until after the next election, if and when the money actually flows. Some will consider the job done for now, and in politics that can be chalked up as a win.

Tim Powers is vice-chairman of Summa Strategies and managing director of Abacus Data. He is a former adviser to Conservative political leaders.

The Hill Times

PERSPECTIVE WITH ALISON SMITH

SUNDAYS
10:30 AM EST

THIS WEEK
International impacts
of Britain's election

CATCH IT AGAIN
12 PM AND 8 PM EST

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Truth, lies, and Trump

The most surprising thing about the Trump-Comey dinner was that the former FBI chief actually blew the whistle.



Lisa Van Dusen

What Fresh Hell

As we hit peak tactical fake news this week, with an entirely plausible but false *Time* magazine cover on Donald Trump headlined “Liar in Chief” being shot down as a hoax, let’s look at the truth about the liar in chief from a less fake source.

In an era when Trump’s lies go all the way around the world 10 times a second, the world actually

stopped last week to watch the truth get its pants on.

Former FBI director James Comey painted a riveting picture Thursday of what it’s like when a reality-dwelling public servant gets sucked into the surreal reality show of Trump’s presidency.

Comey’s account of the unprecedented private dinner between a thuggish and volatile president and an FBI director investigating that president’s associates for possible collusion with a foreign government was a scene that, if it had been included in a Mike Myers script a decade ago, with Myers playing the elaborately pompadoured commander in chief, would have been cut for suspension-of-disbelief-crashing preposterousness.

As it was, the most shocking thing about the Trump-Comey story wasn’t Trump’s behaviour. Nothing he does to demean or degrade the office he occupies surprises anyone anymore except as the newest, precedent-violating low. It was the fact that someone with sufficient Washington self-preservation skills to have become the head of the FBI actually blew the whistle on an egregious abuse of power and attempted obstruction of justice by a sitting president.

The headline on the breaking Comey story could have been “Pow-

erful Washington player declines Faustian bargain!” The most questionable element of his testimony before the Senate Intelligence Committee was the “Lordy, I hope there are tapes!” moment.

If a foreign government turned a presidential campaign into a ridiculous fake narrative to propel a particular candidate into the White House, and the U.S. intelligence community *isn’t* now recording everything that goes on in the White House, the world is in far more trouble than it knows.

They don’t need surveillance to find a quid pro quo; from pulling out of the Trans-Pacific Partnership, to trolling NATO, to ditching the Paris agreement, to his perpetual one-man degradation of U.S. credibility, Donald Trump’s presidency has been an hourly parade of quos for America’s geopolitical rivals. They need it to find out what he’s going to destroy next.

As it happens, some other people have told the truth in the past week. Foreign Affairs Minister Chrystia Freeland told the truth in the House last Tuesday when, in a speech endorsing the existing rules-based international order, she said, “International relationships that had seemed immutable for 70 years are being called into question.”

Barack Obama told the truth in Montreal later Tuesday when he



Then-FBI director James Comey, alongside then-deputy attorney general Sally Yates, addressing the media after the Orlando nightclub shooting last year. U.S. President Donald Trump fired both officials, and Mr. Comey has said he had refused a request from the president to pledge loyalty to him. *Photograph by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, courtesy of Flickr*

said of globalization and technology, “I believe we cannot unwind integration. I don’t think we can pull up the drawbridge, we cannot stuff technology back in the box. We can’t reverse progress, we have to build new social compacts to make progress work for everyone.”

Bernie Sanders told the truth in his *Financial Times* interview on the weekend when he said, in response to the observation that many Europeans now see the U.S. as a rogue state, “What I would say to our European friends is not to confuse Donald Trump with the people of the United States.”

As was clear in the response to Trump’s Paris agreement breach,

the people of the United States are finding ways of making sure nobody confuses them with Donald Trump. And while Trump is tweeting insults, other politicians are talking about serious problems, including the ones he’s causing, and how to solve them.

Lisa Van Dusen, associate editor of *Policy Magazine*, was a *Washington* columnist for *The Ottawa Citizen*, *Washington bureau chief* for *Sun Media*, and international news writer for *Peter Jennings* at *ABC World News Tonight*, as well as an editor at *AP* in *New York* and *UPI* in *Washington*.

The Hill Times

Trudeau making cannon fodder of rookie ministers

Had Joly, Chagger, Monsef, and Gould served under a PM less committed to gender parity, they might have been left to learn the ropes on the backbenches. That might have been better than serving as cannon fodder on missions programmed to fail.



Chantal Hébert

Inside Politics

MONTREAL—Almost two years into her mandate, Heritage Minister Mélanie Joly has clocked more time on her feet in the House of Commons defending the indefensible appointment of a close member of the Liberal family to the office of commissioner of official languages than advancing transformative policies.

For the past three weeks the heritage minister has been the public face of a fiasco of her government’s own making. Last week, former Ontario cabinet minister Madeleine Meilleur withdrew her name from contention for languages watchdog, probably just in time to avoid having her appointment quashed in the Senate.

Once Joly has wiped the egg off her face she will have to go back to the drawing board, under intense media and opposition scrutiny and under a cloud of doubts as to her judgment.

Joly was appointed to cabinet before she had served a day in the Commons. Like many of her colleagues she was a political rookie. It would be tempting to put the episode down to ministerial inexperience and/or incompetence.

Except that if she is walking

wounded today, it is, in no small part, the result of the nonchalance of the prime minister.

For when it comes to parliamentary watchdogs the buck has always stopped with prime ministers. If you don’t remember what Stephen Harper’s heritage minister had to say about the appointment of journalist Graham Fraser as official languages commissioner in 2006 it is because no one was interested in Bev Oda’s opinion.

Five of Trudeau’s predecessors managed to come up with nominees whose independence the opposition had no cause to question. By appointing a just-retired Ontario Liberal to a job that, by definition, calls for independence from the government, the prime minister was breaking with tradition.

Knowing that, Trudeau could have sounded out his opposition to get a sense of the lay of the land. He did not. He could have anticipated that—absent consent from the other parties—Senate approval for a non-consensual candidate would not be a done deal. He is, after all, the prime minister who gave the Upper House its independence.

If it’s any consolation to Minister Joly, she has companions in misery.

Earlier this year Bardish Chagger was appointed House leader. She is the first woman to occupy this strategic government position. She also brings to the role less hands-on experience in the Commons than any of her predecessors.

To be able to read the mood of the House is an essential skill for one in Chagger’s position. It is also a skill usually acquired over time.

As a parliamentary neophyte, Chagger would have had her hands



Government House Leader Bardish Chagger, Democratic Institutions Minister Karina Gould, Heritage Minister Mélanie Joly, and Status of Women Minister Maryam Monsef. *The Hill Times* photographs by Jake Wright

full just keeping the government’s legislative agenda on track.

Yet, shortly after her appointment she was tasked with implementing a controversial set of parliamentary reforms. Included in the government’s unilateral wish list were measures that would have curtailed some of the few procedural tools at the disposal of an opposition minority.

Chagger might as well have set out for a stroll across a minefield. She pressed on with the plan until a predictable procedural war threatened to bring the House to a grinding halt. At that point she beat back in retreat, at cost to her credibility.

As it happens, the prime minister poisoned the well of his rookie House leader. When Trudeau summarily pulled the plug on his promise to change the voting system, he squandered a serious amount of opposition goodwill.

In the process, he also damaged not one but two other rookie ministers. Trudeau sent Maryam Monsef, his first democratic institutions minister, on a trip to nowhere that had her and the opposition parties running around

in circles for months.

Then he shuffled Monsef out of the portfolio and dispatched successor Karina Gould to announce, as one of her first acts as a minister, that the promise of a new voting system was off the table.

That left Gould with a minimalist electoral reform agenda to implement. Despite the lighter load, she has yet to find her way to appoint a permanent chief electoral officer. That, too, is a decision that must bear the imprimatur of the prime minister.

Joly, Chagger, Monsef, and Gould are part of the younger female tier of Trudeau’s cabinet and of a new promising wave of Canadian politicians. Had they served under a prime minister less committed to gender parity, they might have been left to learn the ropes on the backbenches of the government. In hindsight, that might have been a preferable alternative to serving as cannon fodder on missions programmed to fail.

Chantal Hébert is a national affairs writer for *The Toronto Star*. This column was first released on June 10.

The Hill Times

Comment

Freeland's foreign policy speech: actions speak louder than words

Canada helped to build the global rules and institutions that stabilized the world in the aftermath of the Second World War.



Foreign Minister Chrystia Freeland said Canada has been called to help form a new international order, in a speech made shortly after United States President Donald Trump said the U.S. would pull out of the Paris climate agreement. Photograph by Benedikt von Loebell, courtesy of the World Economic Forum

strengthen the system of global governance. What big ideas is Canada ready to put on the table? Is Canada willing to directly and forcefully challenge the Trump administration, or are we afraid of direct disagreement because of NAFTA renegotiation? How far will Canada go to support Europe in its challenge to Trump on the future of the international order?

A great deal is at stake. Climate change is the most obvious, with high risks to future populations unless we take determined action now. The world must adjust the international order to accommodate the views and aspirations of new powers, ranging from China, India, and Indonesia to Brazil, Mexico, South Africa, and Nigeria, as well as updating the roles of multilateral organizations. Stark poverty exists in much of Africa and parts of Asia, and solutions will depend on a strong commitment to the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, including reduced poverty and hunger, improved health, clean water and sanitation, education, gender equality, decent work, and affordable clean energy. Growing inequality is a problem within nations and between nations.

Terrorism and the threat of regional conflict require concerted action and co-operation among nations, as does the growing threat to cyber security. Ebola and other diseases, some unknown, still present serious pandemic threats. The world avoided another Great Depression following the 2008-09 global financial crisis, with concerted action by the G20 and the IMF, but the risks of future financial instability remain. Reforming the World Trade Organization is an even greater priority than NAFTA since it is the only trade agreement that covers the entire global community.

In a powerful essay in the U.S. journal *Foreign Affairs*, one of America's leading experts on international relations, G. John Ikenberry, warns that Trump's "every instinct runs counter to the ideas that have underpinned the postwar international system." He argues that "if the international order is to survive, leaders and constituencies that support it will need to step up." That, of course, includes Canada.

The risk is that if Trump aggressively pursues his unilateralist instincts, other countries will feel they have no choice but to follow suit. This is how a 1930s stock market crash on Wall Street became the global Great Depression: a zero-sum-game world where beggar-thy-neighbour overrode all else.

"Today, the defenders of the order will need to recapture its essence as a security community, a grouping of countries bound together by common values, shared interests, and mutual vulnerabilities," Ikenberry writes. "Trump will do a lot of damage to this order, but the decisions of others—in the United States and abroad—will determine whether it is ultimately destroyed." Canada cannot sit on the fence.

A reflection paper on harnessing globalization, published by the European Commission in May, warns that interdependence, connectedness, and simply the scale and complexity of challenges we face means that "even the biggest and richest countries no longer have the capacity to deal with the challenges they face alone. In today's world, global co-operation is increasingly essential." "Multilateral institutions and rules are needed to enable coun-

tries to jointly promote common solutions. They are essential to tackle issues which require collective action." So "we need more global governance and global rules."

But undermining multilateralism also means lost opportunity for a better world, the European paper argues.

"Countries can produce more for less by specializing in what they do best and exploiting economies of scale in global markets. International competition, global climate action, scientific co-operation and exchange of ideas have stimulated creativity and accelerated innovation. Companies active in international markets remain competitive because they learn and adapt faster." At the same time, people can travel, work, learn, and live in different countries in a world where no country, not matter how large, has a monopoly on good ideas.

The direction for the postwar multilateral world was set, at a time of great crisis, in what became known as the Atlantic Charter, a statement of postwar intent agreed to by British prime minister Winston Churchill and U.S. president Franklin Delano Roosevelt when they met in 1941 at Placentia Bay, Newfoundland. It set out eight points which included the right of all people to self-determination, the reduction of trade barriers, agreement for global economic co-operation and the pursuit of social welfare including improved labour standards, economic advancement and social security, the goal of a world free of want and fear, and the pursuit of world peace.

In January 1942, representatives of 26 countries, including Canada, signed the Declaration of United Nations, which endorsed the Atlantic Charter and set the stage for establishment of the UN. In 1945, 50 nations, including Canada, representing more than 80 per cent of the world's population, met in San Francisco and created the UN to bring nations together in the hope of building a better world.

Earlier, in 1944, delegates from 44 countries, including Canada, established the International Monetary Fund to help achieve global financial stability and the World Bank to fund postwar reconstruction. Subsequently, 23 nations, including Canada, met in Geneva in 1947 to conclude the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade—the first steps to reduce global trade barriers and rules to govern the conduct of international trade.

All of these efforts were driven by the desire to avoid repeating the mistakes that led to the Great Depression and the Second World War. The embrace of multilateralism and new rules and standards for international behaviour were seen as the answer.

We live in a different time today and the challenges are different. But they are also real and dangerous. Rather than turning the clock back on what has been accomplished, as Trump seems to want, we have to, instead, strengthen multilateralism for the new challenges if the world is to avoid stark problems in the years ahead.

Freeland's speech suggests our government wants to be part of this process. But actions will speak louder than words. So what will be the actions?

David Crane is an award-winning journalist with special interests in the economics of globalization, innovation, sustainable development, and social equity. He can be reached at crane@interlog.com.

The Hill Times



David Crane

Canada & the 21st Century

That was a big promise Foreign Affairs Minister Chrystia Freeland made in her foreign policy speech to the House of Commons last week. The government, she said, would be "tireless in working to create a rules-based international order for the 21st century."

Some 70 years ago, a core of world leaders vowed to create a new global system

based on strong rules and high-minded aspirations, to avoid a repeat of the disastrous Great Depression of the 1930s or the horrors of the Second World War. The institutions they created included the United Nations, the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

Canada, Freeland said, "played a pivotal role in forming the postwar international order. By virtue of our unique experience, expertise, geography, diversity, and values, we are now called to do this again for a new century."

Her message was seen as a response to the disregard and even contempt held by United States President Donald Trump and those around him for the strategic importance and enormous benefits the post-war system has delivered worldwide, including for the U.S.

But what Freeland didn't tell us was what Canada planned to do to sustain and

Appointment Notice



Forest Products Association of Canada welcomes Mr. Brad Thorlakson as its new Chair

On behalf of the Board of Directors, **Derek Nighbor**, Chief Executive Officer of the Forest Products Association of Canada (FPAC) is pleased to announce that **Brad Thorlakson**, President and CEO of Tolko Industries, has been appointed FPAC's new Chair of the Board, effective May 18, 2017.

Mr. Thorlakson will succeed Mr. Curt Stevens, President and CEO of Louisiana-Pacific, who was FPAC's Chair for the past two years. The

Board and team at FPAC express our sincere thanks to Curt for his leadership and dedication to driving positive environmental and economic outcomes for Canada's forest sector and its workers.

Mr. Thorlakson represents the third generation of family leadership since Tolko was founded in 1956. He has more than 30 years of experience in the industry. He began his career at the Lavington Planer Mill and progressed through the company to the position of Vice President of Marketing and Sales before becoming President and CEO in February 2010.

Mr. Thorlakson studied Business Administration at Okanagan University College in Vernon, British Columbia.



Our prisons are full of men

It's Canadian Men's Health Week, a time to remember that 93 per cent of federal inmates are men. Many are from minorities and struggle with mental health and substance abuse issues.



Britney Dennison

Canadian Men's Health Week

As viewers start binge-watching the new season of *Orange is the New Black*, they might be forgiven for missing one of the most startling facts about prison life. In federal prisons in both Canada and the United States, 93 per cent of people behind bars are men.

What the Netflix show does do well is show how prison disproportionately affects minorities, people struggling with substance abuse, and those with mental health challenges. The statistics out of Canada paint a picture of a problem worsening, with the number of black men incarcerated in Canada jumping 69 per cent in the past decade, and the aboriginal inmate population growing by 50 per cent. And more than 80 per cent of all male inmates struggle with addiction and mental health challenges.

It's no wonder some argue that our prisons are the new mental health hospital, the new residential school, and the new ghetto.

Ruth Elwood Martin, who leads the Collaborating Centre for Prison Health and Education program out of the University of British Columbia, says that some of the men she works with used to speak nostalgically of their time in federal prison—how it helped them develop friendships, build skills, and be rehabilitated. But now the men tell a different story. Because of a decade of tough-on-crime legislation in Canada it has been much more difficult for these men to access positive resources and work on their rehabilitation.

The approach to the justice system is often at the whim of the party in power. With the last Conservative government of Canada we saw increases in mandatory minimum sentences, restrictions for pardons and early release, harsher sentences for young offenders, and the elimination of job-skills programs.

This is a system that simply doesn't work. But as a society we are not just failing these men when they are incarcerated. We are failing them long before that.

In Canada there is a lack of public support systems in place that would help prevent people from entering the justice system in the first place. For example, access to mental health-care and substance use treatment is costly; much of the care is privatized, and the public supports are limited and include lengthy wait times. Our rehab centres have been known to throw people back into the streets if they relapse. Our recovery homes are sometimes nothing more than unregulated flophouses.

In prison, programs like education and job training, which are the most successful measures for reducing recidivism rates, have been slashed. And there is a lack of employment opportunities following release.

But there are things we can do. There are policies that focus on restorative justice and take into account the unique experiences that lead vulnerable men into the hands of the justice system. One good example is Gladue, a report that can be requested for aboriginal offenders who have pleaded guilty to a crime. It details the history of the offender, which often includes socio-economic status, abuse, addictions, and intergenerational trauma. This report is then presented to the judge to take into consideration during sentencing, who can then consider avenues besides incarceration, including restorative justice, community service, and reduced sentences. Just imagine if this type of report were made available to all offenders.

There are even more radical reform arguments.

James Gilligan, a clinical professor of psychiatry and a professor of law at New York University, argues that we should dismantle the entire prison system and rebuild it from the ground up, by removing the punishment model and focusing on rehabilitation. He suggests creating secure communities that provide programming for education, mental health-care and substance abuse, and health care.

We also need to increase support for people following release. One study in the U.S. found that recidivism rates were significantly lower when juvenile offenders were referred to mental health services following release.

The reason for many of these gaps in resources and services is a lack of funding. Even the Gladue system is overburdened and under-funded, which has led to significant delays in proceedings.

However, the problem is not the lack of money, but where it is being spent.

The budget for Correctional Service Canada increased from about \$1.7-billion in 2006 to \$2.6-billion in 2014. But much of those additional funds were spent on more correctional officers and physical security measures. This type of enforcement spending has led to objectively worse outcomes across the board.

So we need to instead spending on evidence-based, proven-effective programming that leads to lower incarcerations and recidivism. We need to divorce policies from political viewpoints. And we need to provide social support to our most vulnerable populations.

So as you tune in to watch this season of *Orange is the New Black*, remember that these struggles are real for many people, and until we make changes we will continue to fail our most vulnerable populations.

Britney Dennison is the research adviser for Men's Health Research at the University of British Columbia and the deputy director of the Global Reporting Centre. Her journalistic work has won numerous awards, including several Edward R. Murrow awards.

The Hill Times

What would you like Canada to become in the next 50 years?

"I would like Canada to be a country that has kept its promises, Indigenous people, that is honouring where we really listen and that we're a country to each other."

Shelagh Rogers

Chancellor, University of Victoria
Host and producer, The Next Chapter, CBC Radio



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Opinion

Canada could be a key contributor, beneficiary of China's Belt and Road project

The massive infrastructure campaign aims to boost global economic growth and China's connection to the world.



Lu Shaye

Infrastructure

OTTAWA—Last month, China successfully held the Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation in Beijing. Twenty-nine foreign heads of state and government leaders attended the forum as well as more than 1,500 representatives from over 130 countries, including Canada, and over 70 international organizations.

The forum sent positive signals to the international community to jointly promote

the Belt and Road construction and strive to boost international cooperation.

The Belt and Road is the abbreviation for the "Silk Road Economic Belt" and the "21st Century Maritime Silk Road." The goal is to synergize the national policies and development strategies of all countries, deepen practical cooperation, promote coordinated and interconnected development, and achieve common prosperity. The priorities of cooperation are: policy communication, infrastructure connectivity, unimpeded trade, capital flows, and people-to-people bonds.

The Belt and Road initiative draws wisdom and strength from the ancient Silk Road and promotes cooperation in that spirit to support peace, openness and inclusiveness, mutual learning, and mutual benefit. It is a public international product provided by China to push for global economic growth in the new era.

Since the initiative was first proposed, over 100 countries and international organizations—guided by the principle of wide consultation, joint contribution, and shared benefits—have actively participated in and supported the Belt and Road construction, achieving a fruitful early harvest. A batch of major infrastructure projects such as railways, ports, and pipe networks is now under construction.

Total trade between China and other Belt and Road countries has exceeded US\$3-

trillion and China's investment in these countries has surpassed US\$50-billion. Chinese companies have set up 56 economic cooperation zones in over 20 countries, generating some US\$1.1-billion in tax revenue and 180,000 local jobs. The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) has offered a loan of US\$1.7-billion for the Belt and Road construction, and China's Silk Road Fund has invested a total US\$4-billion.

From vision and plan to actions and reality, the Belt and Road initiative has attracted an increasing number of participants. At last month's forum in Beijing, the participating countries further clarified the direction for future cooperation, worked out a clear road map of the construction, confirmed the major areas and routes, and identified major projects in the next phase. At this forum, China also put forward many new measures for cooperation, such as an additional 100-billion renminbi (about CDN\$19-billion) to the Silk Road Fund, and 380-billion renminbi (about CDN\$75-billion) in special lending schemes for infrastructure.

Although the Belt and Road initiative was first proposed by China, its construction belongs to the world. It serves as a major driving force for world economic growth in the next period of time and provides a huge market for countries around the world.

Canada is one of the major countries in the Asia-Pacific region. It boasts advan-

tages in many areas such as transportation, communication, clean energy, financial services, and talent training.

Canada could absolutely be an important participant, contributor, and beneficiary of the Belt and Road construction. Canada has joined the AIIB, which makes for good conditions for Canada to participate in the Belt and Road infrastructure construction. It is hoped that Canada could enhance policy coordination with Belt and Road countries, and seek specific areas and projects that it can take part in as soon as possible so as to gain early achievements through early participation.

The government of British Columbia signed the Belt and Road cooperation documents with China's Guangdong provincial government last year. We hope that the two local governments will take quick actions and actively participate in the construction.

China is also willing to cooperate with Canada to jointly explore the third-party markets under the Belt and Road project. The initiative responds to the trend of the times, conforms to the law of development, and meets the people's interests. It surely has broad prospects. I hope Canada will not miss any important opportunities for cooperation.

Lu Shaye is the Chinese ambassador to Canada.

The Hill Times

Mining group tells government to stand at wrong end of elephant

The Mining Association of Canada is pushing joint fact-finding as a tool to help solve disputes involving Canadian mining companies overseas. But that's not always the best option.



Kristen Genovese

Extractive sector ombudsperson

The Mining Association of Canada is apparently concerned that the Canadian government may be ready to introduce a human rights ombudsperson for the extractive industries that is actually effective. Model legislation proposed by the Canadian Network on Corporate Accountability late last

year would give such an ombudsperson the mandate to carry out independent investigations in addition to dispute resolution.

In an op-ed in these pages earlier this spring, MAC suggested that communities harmed through the operations of Canadian mining companies overseas would be better served by an ombudsperson restricted to just one tool: joint fact-finding. MAC held up the dispute resolution function of the compliance adviser/ombudsman (CAO), the grievance mechanism of the World Bank's International Finance Corporation (IFC), as a model, claiming that joint fact-finding is a defining feature of the CAO.

Reading MAC's flawed description of the CAO, I'm reminded of the fable of the blind men and the elephant. MAC has got ahold of the elephant's tail, but thinks it's a rope.

The CAO, as its name suggests, has three functions: dispute resolution, compliance investigation, and an advisory role.

Even within the CAO's dispute resolution function, joint fact-finding is only one of several approaches that the CAO uses. Its other tools include facilitation and information sharing; dialogue and negotiation; and mediation and conciliation. Joint fact-finding by itself is a bit like a mango fork, which is extremely useful when you have a mango, but useless and somewhat dangerous when you don't.

Where it's appropriate, of course, it can work well. In one Nicaraguan community whose complaint I supported, joint fact-finding was used as one part of the dispute resolution process to answer a question that the CAO would not have been able to answer on its own, and for which millions of dollars (provided by the CAO, company, and the Nicaraguan National Committee of Sugar Producers) were required to research. Critically, both the community and the company agreed on that approach.

But because every complaint is unique, the CAO needs as many tools at its disposal as possible so that it can select the right one for the job. Not every complaint to the CAO results in dispute resolution, with fewer resolved through the joint fact-finding approach. In 2016, while 23 per cent of the CAO's cases were undergoing dispute resolution, 31 per cent were subject to compliance investigations.

In cases where dispute resolution is not appropriate—where, for example, the interests of the parties do not overlap or where the complainants fear retaliation—the necessary tool is an objective, independent investigation of compliance with the relevant standards. In such cases, the subject of that investigation never participates in investigating itself.

Further, whereas MAC asserted that "experience has shown that unilateral investigative processes are ineffective in a non-judicial context," the facts with respect to the CAO demonstrate quite the opposite.

An independent investigation into IFC's investment in Wilmar, a palm oil company, found that IFC's actions "were counterpro-

ductive to its mission and mandate and to its commitment to sustainable development." In response to the report (and pressure from civil society), the World Bank Group suspended its investments in palm oil until it had revised its investment strategy for that sector.

In fact, in 2012 the CAO removed its requirement that dispute resolution be tried first before a complaint could go to compliance investigation. Since that change, the number of compliance investigations has greatly increased.

But while the CAO has a lot more to it than just a tail, there is one thing it doesn't have.

Like Canada's two existing mechanisms, it doesn't have teeth.

The review of the CAO's first 10 years (2000-2011) cited by MAC found that "imbalances of power often lay at the heart of the problem." This is the *real* elephant in the room.

A CAO compliance investigation may deliver a substantiated and well-reasoned report, but the CAO doesn't have the authority to require IFC or its client to act. So complainants have to rely on the willingness of the IFC—the same people who failed to follow the IFC's policies—to remedy the harm. Many communities are left waiting for a remedy that never comes.

In order to begin to level the playing field, Canada needs an independent, well-resourced, robust non-judicial grievance mechanism with all of the necessary tools at its disposal, including independent investigation and a process to promote implementation of recommendations.

I'm hoping Canada will take on the whole elephant, and not just a part of the beast.

Kristen Genovese is a senior researcher at the Centre for Research on Multinational Corporations (SOMO). Based in the Netherlands, SOMO is a critical, independent, not-for-profit knowledge centre on multinationals. She specializes in supporting communities and workers who are seeking remedy through non-judicial grievance mechanisms for corporate-related human rights abuses.

The Hill Times

Korea: under the influence of 'Moonshine'

The country's new president, Moon Jae-in, must act delicately on defence so as not to alienate his U.S. ally.



Paul Meyer

Asia

The North Korean problem and the policy that the new South Korean government of President Moon Jae-in will pursue to address it were the dominant themes of a major annual gathering of regional security experts known as the Jeju Forum, which wrapped up in South Korea earlier this month.

Having criticized the previous administration for trying to outsource the North Korean issue to other governments, President Moon in a message to the forum promised: "We will take the lead in dealing with Korean Peninsula issues without relying on the role of foreign countries."

He stated that he would "bring North Korea out to dialogue through persuasion and pressure and resolve the North Korean nuclear issue." Such a feat is, of course, easier to say than to do, but it speaks to a more proactive policy towards the North, one combining pressure with engagement that has already been dubbed the "Moonshine" approach.

President Moon will need to navigate between some perilous diplomatic shoals, represented by delicate relations with China, Japan, and the United States, in embarking on a new policy tack.

Prominent amongst the issues he must manage is the future status of the U.S. ballistic missile defence system known as THAAD (Terminal High Altitude Area Defense) recently deployed in South Korea pursuant to an agreement concluded by the previous government.

Already, this system has provoked a domestic controversy as the defence ministry has been accused of withholding information during a briefing about the true number of systems in the country (six as opposed to the publicly acknowledged two). President Moon has now suspended further deployment of the system beyond the two already positioned.

President Moon is set to have an initial meeting with President Donald Trump sometime later this month.

While the THAAD deployment has been presented as a prudent defensive action in the face of North Korean missile threats, it has provoked tensions with China as Beijing claims that the systems' powerful radar enables it to "look" deeply into Chinese territory and poses a national security threat. China has backed up its diplomatic protests with discouragement of touristic traffic to South Korea and the closure of Korean-owned Lotte department stores in China, a retaliation that has already had significant economic repercussions for Seoul.

President Moon will have to be careful not to alienate his U.S. ally in handling the THAAD issues, especially given the earlier off-the-cuff remarks by President Trump to the effect that South Korea should pick up the tab for the missile defence system. While Trump's national security adviser, General H.R. McMaster, subsequently "corrected" this stance, it is clear that Washington could easily take offence if the new South Korean government appears

ambivalent or ungrateful for the deployment of this missile defence system.

A visiting Democratic senator (Dick Durbin, ranking member of the Senate Appropriations Committee for Defense) pointedly stated after a meeting with President Moon "if South Korea doesn't want the THAAD missile system, it is \$923-million that we can spend some other place."

Beyond the immediate problem posed by THAAD, there is also the more fundamental issue of how to address the growing North Korean missile and nuclear threat. Pyongyang has not made it easy for President Moon, greeting his new administration with a ballistic missile launch a week since he assumed office. In the absence of any diplomatic traction with the North Korean regime for years, leading states may have to settle for something less than the full commitment to denuclearization that had been set as a pre-condition for resuming talks.

The combined effect of at least six UN Security Council resolutions imposing sanctions on

North Korea for its ballistic missile and nuclear weapon testing has not brought Pyongyang back to the negotiating table. Several security experts at Jeju suggested a "freeze" on these programs by the North was a more realistic condition for renewing negotiations, which would take on a phased approach with denuclearization remaining the ultimate goal.

Others noted the difficulties with this approach, including the inability to adequately verify a freeze, and the problem of appearing to accept North Korea as a nuclear-weapon state.

There remains debate over the true aims of North Korea, with some disputing the proposition that the regime has determined that it requires nuclear weapons to deter an attack against it, by arguing that the North's conventional military capacity (e.g. the estimated 10,000-plus artillery tubes within range of Seoul) constitutes sufficient deterrence. These analysts suggest that the North's strategic programs are designed to compel the U.S. to normalize its relations with Pyongyang or to

serve as "regime consolidation" measures for the youthful leader Kim Jong-un.

Canada, as a country with significant ties to Korea, cannot be indifferent to the crisis on the peninsula.

In her June 6 foreign policy statement, Foreign Minister Chrystia Freeland referred to the challenge posed by "the dictatorship in North Korea" to the liberal democratic world that Canada espouses. Of particular relevance to the evident strains in South Korea-U.S. relations was her acknowledgment of an American retreat from global leadership and her call for "middle powers" to "implicate themselves in the furtherance of peace and security."

The new administration in Seoul creates an opportunity for the middle powers of Canada and South Korea to assume a greater role in countering threats to the "multilateral order" they both uphold.

Paul Meyer is an adjunct professor of international studies and a fellow in international security at the Simons Foundation in Vancouver.
The Hill Times

À quoi voulez-vous que le Canada ressemble dans 50 ans?

« J'aimerais l'inclusion de toutes les diversités; (...) que les immigrants, les femmes, les Autochtones et les personnes de la communauté LGBTQ participent à une économie active et à l'innovation; (...) l'égalité pour tous. »



Myriam Fehmiu

Animatrice, Montréalité sur MATv



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#MonCanada2067

Long hours, quiet hallways; what it's like to work the late shift in silly season

A few 'night owls' enjoy the relative quiet of the late shifts, but it can be a difficult time for those with families.

Continued from page 1

Times that the hours are an expected part of the job this time of year, when the government of the day extends House sitting. While it's planned for in the parliamentary calendar, this year's four-week stretch has created an almost necessary camaraderie—and shared exhaustion—among all who keep Parliament up and running.

Day or night, every 20 minutes teams of two translators rotate out of their booths because of the high pace of that work, three interpreters explained.

"You're not fresh as a daisy starting [later]," said one of interpreters who asked not to be named because they weren't authorized to speak. "I find it tiring."

By Thursday, after a week of late nights you're "feeling it," said one. Even so, another said, when you get to the House "adrenaline kicks in."

The senior director of services to Parliament and interpretation with the Translation Bureau said staffing levels aren't affected by the late evenings, and the work is "no different," with interpreters working a maximum of six hours over a period of 12 hours.

"The work is taxing and it is the nature of interpretation work," said Robin Strang-Lindsey by phone Monday. "It's business-as-usual. It's the life as an interpreter... it's nothing out of the ordinary for us."

Since May the Library of Parliament has been open past midnight once, and six times after 9 p.m., with two people manning the main desk in the evening. Evening staff have watched 164 people—mostly Parliamentarians—walk through the sliding doors in that month or so, said Branches and Reference Services chief Maureen Martyn.

"It's nothing out of the usual for us. May and June are always busy months," said Ms. Martyn. "We always enjoy having clients come in and we find this year we're having a few more requests for tours—probably around the 150th [celebrations]."

While reference workers are on rotation, most interpreters volunteer to take the night shift rather than being scheduled, which they said makes a difference with morale.

One noted she was a "night owl," so it wasn't so bad. The calm in the hallways is a nice reprieve, she added, free of the tourists that bustle through the building on tours.



Centre, Library of Parliament staff have seen 164 people come through the doors of the library in Centre Block during evening hours. Bottom left, former MP Ian Waddell does some after-hours research. Bottom right, spending some quiet time reading in the House lobby. Top, protective services staff and House administration staff have time to chat. *The Hill Times* photographs by Jake Wright

"I love it," she said.

And the late nights seem to have a bit of an effect on the mood for MPs and other staff.

This time of year they call it "silly season," said one. "[It's] a little bit of giddiness as people try to stay awake."

The NDP's lobby officer Anthony Salloum told *The Hill Times* he tends to "get giggly" as fatigue sets in and staff start joking around to sustain energy. Salloum is one of the more frequent faces on the Hill at night, having tallied more than 100 hours over the last two weeks.

"The parliamentary staff, be they the Speaker's office, the clerks and his office, security, maintenance, food services, you

name it. All these people have families and all of them are working overtime," said Mr. Salloum during a brief break Thursday evening.

"It's probably costing tens of millions of dollars to keep this place open."

On the question of daily costs to keep the House late, Heather Bradley, spokeswoman for the Office of the Speaker of the House of Commons, deferred to the 2016 Report to Canadians, noting "late sittings are part of the House's ongoing operations." The report does not break down costs connected to longer hours in the House.

When asked how night staffing levels compared to the day, which departments are seeing

more hours, and how many extra staff are working, Ms. Bradley referenced collective agreements written to account for "a work-force that can respond to varying operational requirements that fluctuate based on parliamentary activities."

The late sittings keep security numbers "basically the same" said the House of Commons Security Services Employees Association—with close to 100 during the day—because all doors remain open.

Some members are working anywhere from 10 to 14 straight days—and not normal hours. Those same people would be working 15 or 16-hour shifts, said union president Roch Lapensée.

"People are tired and not only

that, people are also not being asked to stay—but most of the times are being ordered to stay," said Mr. Lapensée, whose union is in a labour standoff with its Parliamentary Protective Service employer.

That's why one constable volunteered to take a late shift—to "pull [their] weight"—especially since some colleagues were taking the bulk of the extra shifts.

"It hits a lot on morale," continued the constable, who asked not to be named, but added "we work as a team... Some don't mind. It's extra cash."

"It's every year and we always expect it, [but] it's taxing."

Mr. Lapensée said his colleagues can't wait for the summer holidays.

"We're all very tired. It's not only because the House is sitting late. It's a combination of being short for so long... so after a certain point of time, it gets to everybody."

On the third floor the cafeteria is typically steady in the evening with a bit of a rush before the hot bar closes at 6 p.m., as Hillites pack away meals to sustain themselves later. Around this time on Thursday, the usually-bare fridge is stocked with sandwiches and salads.

Jason Laflamme has been on the late shift these last three weeks, but he says he doesn't mind, and the two-person team manages just fine when the deli worker goes home after 7 p.m.

"It's not too busy. It's a bit more chill," he said of the evening mood.

For one food services employee, who asked not to be named, the late nights have less to do with the long sittings than the inevitable "crazy" event schedule that comes as the House winds down and lobbyists and groups plan political events.

"This is their chance," before the fall sitting to fit in moments with MPs, but it can mean that events run long past their slated end.

"We can't leave," he said, adding it's especially tough for those who have children or are facing upcoming shifts at second jobs.

"Although we complain about late nights," and being tired, many are grateful for the extra time "because for three months we'll be jobless" making those staff happy to get "as many hours as they can."

Even though MPs rarely take them up on the service, the cafeteria is always open a half hour after sitting, Mr. Laflamme said.

"They just want to go home," said Mr. Laflamme, who's worked in the cafeteria since November.

Sometimes the late nights can become a subject of shared sympathies between Parliamentarians and service staff.

"The MPs do feel for us. They usually mention they appreciate [that we] work late," he said. "It's kind of like camaraderie ... [it] makes it easier for everyone."

-with files from Rachel Aiello
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HILL CLIMBERS

by Laura Ryckewaert

New political staffers in Winnipeg, Toronto ministers' regional offices

Dovejot Parmar and Rebecca Parkinson are the latest new hires to join the political staffing ranks in separate MROs.

Two more staffers have been hired to work in two of the 16 ministers' regional offices across the country, which serve all of cabinet but organizationally are listed under the office of the public services and procurement minister.

Dovejot Parmar is now a special assistant for regional affairs in the regional office in Toronto, having started on the job on May 23.

Mr. Parmar was previously an assistant in former Liberal MP John McCallum's constituency office in Markham-Thornhill, Ont., having been a co-campaign manager to the longtime former MP during the 2015 federal election. Mr. McCallum resigned his seat in January to become Canada's ambassador to China.

Mr. Parmar has been a research and policy analyst with the CG Group, a public affairs consulting firm in Toronto, and was campaign manager to Khalid Usman in his ultimately unsuccessful bid to once again be elected the councillor for Ward 7 for the City of Markham in 2014.

Already working in the Toronto MRO is Sarah McEvoy, who's the Ontario regional affairs manager.

Rebecca Parkinson, meanwhile, was hired as a special assistant for regional affairs, starting work in the MRO in Winnipeg on May 15.

Before then, Ms. Parkinson was an executive assistant to Natural Resources Minister Jim Carr in his capacity as the Liberal MP for Winnipeg South Centre, Man., having been hired on shortly after he was elected for the first time in the October 2015 federal election, during which she was campaign director to Mr. Carr. She studied at the University of Manitoba.

Mr. Carr is currently playing double duty and filling in for Public Services and Procurement Minister Judy Foote, who is on an indefinite personal leave of absence.

Also currently working in the Winnipeg MRO is Bill Balan, senior adviser and regional issues management adviser.

Along with the offices in Toronto and Winnipeg, the other 14 ministers' regional offices are located in Vancouver, Calgary, Edmonton, Regina, Kitchener, Montreal, Quebec City, Halifax, Fredericton, St. John's, Charlottetown, Iqaluit, Yellowknife, and Whitehorse.

The Liberal government has been working to hire political staff to work in these regional offices, which before had largely been run by departmental staff. The MROs are meant to provide support to ministers across cabinet on issues in the region and during trips to the respective areas.

Two former staffers set to join Carleton political management faculty

Carleton University's political manage-

ment master's program has churned out many a current and former staffer, and two former Conservative staffers are among the new faculty members for the upcoming academic year.

William Stairs, a former communications director to then-prime minister Stephen Harper during his early days in government in 2006, has been appointed a practitioner-in-residence with the program for the 2017-18 year.

Mr. Stairs had previously been communications director to Mr. Harper as leader of the official opposition, and went on to serve as chief of staff to a number of ministers, including to then-Treasury Board president Vic Toews, then-industry minister Tony Clement, and then-international co-operation minister Bev Oda.

In between, he returned for a time to the PMO to serve as senior adviser and director of issues management to Mr. Harper. He's also previously been communications director to then-federal Progressive Conservative leader Peter MacKay.

Mr. Stairs left the Hill in 2011, after almost two decades, and for a time was CEO of Delta Media Inc.

"Stairs will be teaching two courses on strategic communications, acting as a mentor to students and organizing public events," reads a press release announcing the new program hires.

Previously, former Liberal staffer Rob Silver was practitioner-in-residence with the program.

Former Conservative staffer Rachel Curran has also been hired to teach a course with the program for the coming year. Ms. Curran is a former policy adviser and eventually director of policy to Mr. Harper as prime minister. A former B.C. Liberal staffer, she also previously served



Dovejot Parmar, right, pictured with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau. Photograph courtesy of Facebook

as director of parliamentary affairs to then-human resources minister Monte Solberg and later to then-Treasury Board president Vic Toews on the Hill.

Of late, she's been working as a senior associate with Mr. Harper's new firm, Harper & Associates, as well as appearing as a political commentator on the CBC.

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News Appointments

Ex-languages commissioner says Liberals waited a year to begin search for his replacement

The initial notice about the opening for Graham Fraser's job was posted on Nov. 2, 2016, says the PCO, after his term was originally supposed to end. The application deadline was pushed back to January, a year after Fraser says he flagged the opening.

Continued from page 1

tenure extended an additional two months before he eventually left office. He was replaced on an interim basis by assistant commissioner Ghislaine Saikaley.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau (Papineau, Que.) finally announced in May that former Ontario Liberal cabinet minister Madeleine Meilleur had been nominated to succeed Mr. Fraser, however she withdrew as a candidate last week after her appointment drew the ire of the opposition parties, who accused the Liberals of politicizing the post by appointing a well-known partisan.

When reached by *The Hill Times*, Mr. Fraser suggested that the government was slow to begin the process to find a new commissioner, saying it was his "understanding" the search for a full-time replacement didn't begin "in earnest" until 2017.

"My observation about the delay concerns the fact that the government was slow to launch the process," he said via email.

Paul Duchesne, a spokesperson for the Privy Council Office, which manages the appointments process for senior positions in federal departments, Crown corporations, and agencies, said the initial notice about the opening for the commissioner's position was posted on Nov. 2, 2016, with a deadline of Dec. 2, 2016.

The deadline, however, was pushed back to Jan. 9, 2017 to allow "more Canadians to apply," he said.

NDP MP and party ethics critic Nathan Cullen (Skeena-Bulkley Valley, B.C.) called the entire ordeal involving the languages commissioner post a "manufactured crisis," saying it was unthinkable that given a year's notice, the government still couldn't line up a replacement for Mr. Fraser.

"In any workplace if you gave your boss a year's notice and they still hadn't posted your job a year later, it's incompetence at this point," he told *The Hill Times*.

Shortly after assuming office, Mr. Trudeau introduced an overhauled appointment scheme that he said would ensure nominations were based on merit and made following an open and transparent selection process.

The new process applies to the majority of non-judicial appointments and made hundreds

of part-time positions subject to a formal selection process for the first time, according to the prime minister's office. The posts range from parliamentary officers to positions on commissions, boards, Crown corporations, agencies, and tribunals.

Andrée-Lyne Hallé, a press secretary for the prime minister's office, said the goal of the new process is to identify "high-quality candidates" who will "help to achieve gender parity and truly reflect Canada's diversity."

So far, she said there have been 170 appointments made under the new system, nearly 70 per cent of which have been women. More than 12 per cent were visible minorities, while more than 10 per cent were indigenous, according to Ms. Hallé.

Mr. Duchesne said there are more than 120 selection processes underway to fill appointments under the purview of the PCO.

Since the new process launched last year, he said the government has received more than 14,000 applications, suggesting "significant interest" in the reformed appointment set-up.

Most glaringly, Ethics Commissioner Mary Dawson and Lobbying Commissioner Karen Shepherd recently had their terms extended for another six months, the third such extension since the expiration of their original tenures, reported the Canadian Press.

Ms. Dawson and Ms. Shepherd have both announced they will step down at the end of their respective terms.

Since assuming office, Mr. Trudeau has been provided the opportunity to choose replacements for five of the eight officers of Parliament, though has yet to

"We are now into nearly two years to this government, it seems odd to me that there is this recurring problem."

—Penny Collette, former PMO appointments director under Jean Chrétien

fill any of those vacancies.

Information Commissioner Suzanne Legault was due to step aside at the end of the month but has had her term extended to the end of the year.

Chief electoral officer Marc Mayrand retired in December. The appointment of the chief electoral officer is made through a resolution by the House.



Former languages commissioner Graham Fraser suggested that the government was slow to begin the process to find a replacement for him, saying it was his 'understanding' the search for a full-time replacement didn't begin 'in earnest' until 2017. *The Hill Times* photograph by Jake Wright

PMO appointments director left in February, replacement came last month

Amid the backlog, the prime minister's office lost its appointments director when Mary Ng (Markham-Thornhill, Ont.) took a leave of absence in February to successfully seek the Liberal Party nomination for a Toronto-area seat left vacant by John McCallum's resignation to become the new ambassador to China. She handily won the byelection for the riding in April.

Hilary Leftick succeeded her as appointments director, starting work in the role early last month, according to Ms. Hallé.

Ms. Ng did not return calls seeking comment.

Penny Collette, an adjunct professor at the University of Ottawa's law school and former appointments director under Liberal prime minister Jean Chrétien from 1993 to 1997, said that while she understands the reformed appointment system and push for greater diversity would require more time, there is no excuse for continued delays after nearly two years of Liberal rule.

"It's always a good idea to open it up and get people from different sectors and communities. It's just if that's the problem, then we've got a second problem, a second challenge with the efficiency," she said.

"We are now into nearly two years to this government, it seems odd to me that there is this recurring problem."

She warned that delays in rendering new appointments could cause another recruitment crunch in the coming years because the government wouldn't have time to conduct proper succession planning to replace retiring appointees and allow for generational change in these senior positions.

Under her watch, Ms. Collette said appointments were far more efficient with prospective candidates approved or rejected "very quickly," even though the

Chrétien government opened up the appointment process by publicly advertising for positions for the first time, in the wake of high-profile scandals over patronage appointments made by prime ministers Brian Mulroney and Pierre Elliott Trudeau.

Mr. Fraser also said his experience applying for the languages commissioner position 11 years ago under the former Conservative government was "quite different" than what is unfolding under the Liberals.

The opening for the position, he said, was posted on June 23, 2006, with a two-week deadline given for applications. It was the first time the position was publicly advertised.

Mr. Fraser said he was interviewed for the job on the week after Labour Day, and his nomination was announced shortly after on Sept. 13. His mandate began on Oct. 17, 2006.

He said his only interview for the job was with then-prime minister Stephen Harper.

"It has become a much more elaborate, formal process since then," he said, acknowledging that the prospective pool of candidates with the expertise and experience necessary to fulfill any of the eight parliamentary officers posts will be fairly small.

In hopes of improving the appointments process, the NDP announced Monday that it would put forward a motion this week to amend the standing orders to mandate co-operation with opposition parties on appointing

officers of Parliament.

Under the plan, the government would be required to put forward a proposed nominee to a new appointments committee made up of one member of each recognized party. The committee would then have 30 days to consider supporting or rejecting the nominee. Only a majority, not a consensus, would be required to win support.

If rejected, the nomination would be withdrawn. If supported, the nomination would be put to a vote in the House.

Currently, the prime minister is required to consult with the other party leaders in the House on the appointment of parliamentary officers, but the NDP and Conservatives say the only consultation they had with the Liberals on the appointment of Ms. Meilleur was a letter announcing her pending nomination.

Conservative Leader Andrew Scheer (Regina-Qu'Appelle, Sask.) and NDP Leader Thomas Mulcair (Outremont, Que.) also recently penned a joint letter to the prime minister asking for improved consultation on appointments.

Asked about the reasons for the delays, Mr. Duchesne said the selection and appointment processes vary depending on the position, available candidates, and "particular assessment tools" being used to evaluate applicants.

He added that the government's



Prime Minister Justin Trudeau is feeling pressure from critics to improve the overhauled appointments process he introduced last year, as delays in finding new candidates have seen his government fail to successfully replace any of the five officers of Parliament who have left or announced they're leaving since he took office. *The Hill Times* photograph by Jake Wright

"more rigorous" approach to conducting selection processes represents a "significant volume of work."

However, Ms. Collette warned lingering difficulties in filling vacancies could slow government operations by delaying important decisions.

"Appointments are not just for show and they're not just plums. They are the actual work of government. And without efficiency in the process, you can have quorum problems on boards, you can have decisions that are not being made, and it holds up the process of government," she added.

"It is important. It's actually the machinery of government. So it's an issue for them."

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Parliament should rewrite voting law to regulate foreign money, says elections commissioner

Comedian John Oliver made it a punchline. Now, Yves Côté says an overly broad clause barring foreign inducements should be replaced with one restricting the amount of foreign money allowed in the electoral process.

Continued from page 1

Mr. Côté cited the incurring of expenses to pay for employees working in a call centre or organizing door-to-door canvassing during campaigns as examples of the sorts of behaviours that could be captured under a prospective new law.

Under the Canada Elections Act, foreigners are currently prohibited from inducing Canadians to vote or to refrain from voting for particular candidates. The maximum penalty is a six-month jail term and a \$5,000 fine.

The clause became an international punchline in the days leading up to the 2015 election after British comedian John Oliver satirized the prohibition on his popular HBO show in a fiery monologue that urged Canadians not to back then-prime minister Stephen Harper.

In his comedic rant on his show *Last Week Tonight*, Mr. Oliver mocked the idea of spending time in a Canadian prison and gleefully offered up the \$5,000 fine.

Elections Canada was quick to comment that the prohibition didn't apply to the simple expression of political views or the voicing of support for particular candidates or parties, as reported by *The National Post*. The key word, said Elections Canada spokesperson John Enright, was induce. "To induce there must be a tangible thing offered. A personal view is not inducement," he told *The Post*.

In his report on the last election, then-chief electoral officer Marc Mayrand recommended that this provision, Section 331, be repealed, arguing the overly broad wording "diminishes public trust in how well the rules can be enforced" and leads to criticism that Elections Canada and the commissioner's office are not "properly enforcing" the law.

Mr. Côté told the committee last week his office received "a number of complaints" about political endorsements by non-Canadians in the run-up to the 2015 vote that relied on what he termed as overly literal readings of the legislation.

Many of these complaints, he said, pointed to the publication of editorials and opinion pieces about the election in foreign media or in Canadian outlets that were produced by non-Canadians or Canadians residing out of the country.

"Many believed that anyone who is not Canadian and not residing in Canada is prohibited from expressing support for a party and candidate," he explained.

"Although the very literal reading of the provision could lead to that conclusion, it's hard to imagine that in this day and age, in 2017, that Parliament would want to make illegal the expression of an opinion by a foreigner."

Mr. Côté said his office received 14 complaints in the last election about foreigners inducing voters, a number of which were "quickly" dismissed.

He noted that several complaints made reference to a major political party contacting someone living abroad for campaigning advice, in reference to the federal Conservatives employing the services of controversial Australian political strategist Lynton Crosby.

He said his office ruled that this activity wasn't captured by the section.

Dismissed complaints aside, Mr. Côté said the breadth of the existing law "creates a number of enforcement challenges" and called on lawmakers to clarify and tighten the prohibition to end lingering confusion about the intent of the legislation.

But instead of addressing cases of so-called inducements, he said the focus should be on regulating the flow of foreign

money into the election process, singling out the impunity currently enjoyed by third parties.

As it stands, third parties, such as political action groups or advocacy bodies, only face restrictions on election advertising but may incur "limitless" amount of expenses funding other election endeavours, such as polling, voter contact services, and promotional events, he said.

Third parties, he noted, are also able to draw upon any sort of funding available, including money from foreign sources, to finance their activities, save for election advertising.

Mr. Côté urged lawmakers to "re-examine" the existing regulatory regime for third parties involved in the electoral process to ensure a level playing field for participants.

"The time has come for you Members of Parliament and for Parliament to think about if we really have in mind to maintain a level playing field, should more be done in view to addressing the role third parties have played and, I would assume, [be] likely to play in the next general election," he said, noting that in the 2015 vote, his office received "way more" complaints than the last election about the activities of third parties. *The Toronto Star* reported last month that the number jumped from 12 complaints filed about the 2011 election campaign to 105 about the next one in 2015.

The number of third parties registered during the 2015 general election soared to 114, up from about 54 in the 2011 vote.

Opposition MP, Senators call for 'modernization' of law

Conservative MP Scott Reid (Lanark-Frontenac-Kingston, Ont.), who sits on the Procedure and House Affairs Committee, said he believes lawmakers should look into Mr. Côté's recommendations, though doesn't believe there are "any magic bullets" when it comes to overhauling this sort of legislation.

But he agrees that third parties should be a concern.

In the run-up to the last election, Mr. Reid said there were a large number of third parties active on the campaign trail working to defeat Conservative Party candidates. The groups, he said, participated by canvassing, operating phone banks, and through other initiatives.

Progressive outfit Leadnow, among the most prominent third-

party groups in the last election, had a campaign to encourage voters to defeat Conservative candidates in 29 key swing ridings.

In hopes of avoiding vote-splitting, the group supported a non-Conservative candidate in each of the swing ridings who it believed stood the best chance of winning.

A recently filed complaint by Canada Decides, a registered society that lists former Conservative MP Joan Crockatt as a director, alleged that several third parties co-operated in the last election and may have bypassed election spending limits.

It also alleged that foreign money, namely from the U.S. non-profit Tides Foundation, was used to fund efforts to defeat the Tories, *The Calgary Herald* reported.

Ms. Crockatt, who represented a central Calgary riding, was targeted by Leadnow in the last election and lost.

The *Herald* report said Tides Foundation and Leadnow representatives did not respond to requests for comment about the Canada Decides allegations. They also did not respond to *Hill Times* requests for comment before deadline on June 13.

Mr. Reid said it's easy for foreign funds to flow to third parties in Canada, with recipients only required to report contributions if they occur within six months of election day, which is now known years in advance thanks to fixed-date election legislation passed by the former Harper government.

He suggested random auditing of third parties could be used to help ensure compliance with a prospective new law restricting foreign funding.

All in all, Mr. Reid said he believes Mr. Côté is calling on Parliamentarians to renew election legislation to keep pace with technological advancements that have permitted even greater influence by foreign sources.

It's a viewpoint echoed in the latest report by the Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee, which urged the federal government to "modernize" the Canada Elections Act to prohibit foreign interference in the electoral process and improve regulation of third parties.

The report, released last week, recommended the tightening of voting legislation to ensure foreign funding plays no role in the electoral process, cleaning up the inducement clause to strictly prohibit interference by foreign entities, and improved regulation



Elections commissioner Yves Côté told the Procedure and House Affairs Committee last week his office received 'a number of complaints' about political endorsements by non-Canadians in the run-up to the 2015 election that relied on what he termed as overly literal readings of the legislation on foreign inducements. Screenshot courtesy of Par/Vu/House of Commons

of third parties, namely their on-line and social media advertising.

It also called for the elimination of the six-month limitation on contribution reporting and called for random auditing of third-party advertising expenses and any contributions they receive.

"Fixed election dates, along with the vagueness of the current legislation, have opened the door to foreign influence in our elections, either directly or through third parties," Conservative Senator and committee chair Bob Runciman (Thousand Islands and Rideau Lakes, Ont.) said in a statement.

"It's time to modernize Canada's election law."

Conservative Senator Linda Frum (Ontario) has introduced a bill in the Senate, Bill S-239, to clarify what "induce" means and to make it an offence for a third party to accept a foreign contribution for any reasons related to an election.

When reached by *The Hill Times*, the office of Democratic Institutions Minister Karina Gould (Burlington, Ont.) said the minister was unavailable for an interview.

In a provided statement, Ms. Gould pledged to closely examine election spending limits for third parties and promised to create "reasonable measures" to apply in the period between elections.

"We want to prevent foreign interference in our elections that could undermine trust in our democracy," she said.

"Our democracy belongs to Canadians."

NDP MP Kennedy Stewart (Burnaby South, B.C.), who sat in for party colleague David Christopherson (Hamilton Centre, Ont.) at the committee meeting on June 8, did not return a call seeking comment.

In his presentation to the committee, Mr. Côté also noted that Mr. Mayrand recommended in his report lawmakers clarify that induce or inducement as mentioned in the Canada Elections Act refers to attempts to influence electors.

The use of induce in the English-language version of the act, he said, causes "confusion" because it implies for the offence to have been committed, it had to be successful, amounting to a "near impossible" burden of proof for prosecutors.

He also noted that it's "extremely difficult" to enforce the legislation in cases in which an alleged offender doesn't operate in Canada or have a subsidiary in the country.

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DIPLOMATIC CIRCLES

by Shruti Shekar

Ex-PM Joe Clark and foreign service class of '82 turn out to help union fête remarkable diplomats

For a lot of people, texting at work could earn you a reprimand from your boss. For **Tara Bickis**, management consular officer at the Canadian Embassy in Ecuador, it earned her an award from her peers.

On April 16, 2016 an earthquake with a 7.8 magnitude hit coastal Ecuador, killing 676 people and injuring more than 16,000. Without the help of social media, Ms. Bickis wouldn't have been able to quickly reach out to other embassies to help co-ordinate the Canadian embassy's response—actions that helped make her one of four winners at the 2017 Professional Association of Foreign Service Officers awards on June 8.

"In Latin America, WhatsApp is everything. If you're not on WhatsApp then you don't know what's going on," Ms. Bickis told *The Hill Times* after winning the award Thursday evening. "Previous to the earthquake, we had groups [on the messaging app]; we had an embassy group, a building security group, we had different groups, and all of our contacts were on WhatsApp. Often email wouldn't work, phones wouldn't work, but WhatsApp did."

Speaking to an audience of about 175 in the Trillium ballroom at Shaw Centre in downtown Ottawa, Ms. Bickis noted she was able to link people effectively and efficiently through the texting app during the crisis.

"We were sharing information with our contacts. The Americans were going to certain small cities, we were going to others and we were sharing information to each other," she said, noting during the speech that other countries, including Canada need to improve and modernize resources available for foreign service officers.

She was also commended for her forward planning in the job, which she'd been in since 2013, having trained embassy staff and dependants, and readied emergency supplies and equipment in case of an earthquake or other disaster.

The annual awards night hosted by the diplomats' union, which represents 1,544 working and retired foreign service employees, recognizes the outstanding contributions of foreign service officers who work at Canadian missions abroad on trade, immigration, and other issues. **Michael Kologie**, president of PAFSO, said in an interview that "it's also a great opportunity to show others that perhaps aren't in the foreign service community, what we actually do and how our contribution... serves Canadians."

The other three PAFSO award recipients included **Andie Daponte**, refugee unit manager, **Mary Pierre-Wade**, lead to Canada's Women, Peace, and Security Agenda at Canada's NATO mission in Belgium, and **David Weiner**, senior trade commissioner at the Consulate General of Canada in Dallas, Texas.

Mr. Daponte received his award for resettling Syrian, Yazidi, and Turkish refugees after developing "a nimble, paperless, processing model to reach the scattered refugees," a press release from PAFSO indicated. He helped co-ordinate the work

of four offices to help meet the Canadian government's commitment to bring in 25,000 government assisted refugees by December 2016, sometimes in difficult settings including Erbil, Iraq. The judging panel, made up of former ambassadors and others, commended his "expert knowledge of Turkish procedures and excellent relations with officials" at times when refugee processing rules were tightening.

Ms. Pierre-Wade received her award for her work to get the North Atlantic Council to review NATO's "implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 Action Plan, identifying progress and deficiencies in NATO's gender literacy and the presence of women in leadership," the release said.

Mr. Weiner won for "significantly advancing Canada's commercial interests" by forming the Canada-Texas Chamber of Commerce, giving new energy to the Canada U.S. Business Association, and successfully establishing more cross-border trade.

In the crowd, past president of PAFSO **Timothy Hodges**, now a professor at McGill University, was at the event, along with former prime minister Joe Clark and his wife **Maureen McTeer**.

Other notable guests included **Margaret Huber** who was the former chief of protocol of Canada, as well as the current chief **Roy Norton**. Ms. Huber spoke to *The Hill Times* about her time as chief and her current role as president of the Canadian International Council's National Capital Branch.

Guests also included **Pamela Goldsmith-Jones**, parliamentary secretary to International Trade Minister **François-Philippe Champagne**, **Matt DeCoursey**, parliamentary secretary to Foreign Affairs Minister **Chrystia Freeland**, **Omar Alhabra**, parliamentary secretary to Ms. Freeland on consular affairs, and **Daniel Jean**, national security adviser to Prime Minister **Justin Trudeau** and a former deputy minister of foreign affairs.

Mr. Weiner gave a heartfelt speech about the sacrifices his wife has made over the years, calling spouses, children, and parents "the other super heroes" of the foreign service life.

"We drag our families with us to the ends of the earth, expose them to all kinds of hazards and stress, the likes of which they would never experience in Canada. We ask them to sacrifice their careers, to leave behind their loved ones in Canada. There are long breaks between visits, missed holidays, and birthdays. It's a huge sacrifice that no rational person would ever make, it's the kind of thing they do for one reason and one reason only: they do it for love," Mr. Weiner said, eliciting loud claps, and some tears.

The event was also special as it was the 35th anniversary for those who joined the foreign service in 1982, the year Canada had the largest intake in the foreign ministry's history, Mr. Kologie noted during his speech. Some guests even flew in from Italy for the event.

sshsekar@lobbysmonitor.ca
The Hill Times



Judge Yves Brodeur, PAFSO award winners Mary Pierre-Wade and David Weiner, former prime minister Joe Clark, winners Andie Daponte and Tara Bickis, and judges Anne Arnott and Roland Paris.



Former prime minister Joe Clark, left, with Canadian International Council National Capital Branch president Margaret Huber and Munk School of Global Affairs senior fellow Deanna Horton.



Former prime minister Joe Clark's wife Maureen McTeer, left, with Canada's chief of protocol Roy Norton and Ms. Huber.



Former PAFSO president and current McGill University professor Tim Hodges, right, with his wife Kathryn Davis.



The three amigos, current chief of protocol Mr. Norton, left, with former chiefs of protocol Ms. Huber and Robert Peck.



Pamela Goldsmith-Jones, left, parliamentary secretary to the trade minister, has a laugh with Matt DeCoursey, parliamentary secretary to the foreign minister.



Omar Alhabra, left, parliamentary secretary for consular affairs, with his colleagues Ms. Goldsmith-Jones and Mr. DeCoursey.



Serge April, left, chair of PAFSO's panel of judges, with 2017 award recipient Tara Bickis and Roland Paris, PAFSO awards judge.



Morgan McCullough, left, parliamentary assistant to Ms. Goldsmith-Jones, with Ms. Goldsmith-Jones, Mr. DeCoursey and Allison Chick, assistant to Mr. DeCoursey as parliamentary secretary.

The Hill Times photographs by Sam Garcia

Feature Events



Former prime minister Brian Mulroney is set to speak on the state of Canada-U.S. relationship at the Canada 2020 Conference on June 16 at the Shaw Centre in Ottawa. *The Hill Times* photograph by Jake Wright

PARLIAMENTARY CALENDAR



The Hill Times' All Politics shindig is June 14

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14

Post-Conservative Party of Canada Leadership Race Panel—What does the outcome of the race mean for the Conservative Party in the lead-up to the 2019 election? Join the Public Affairs Association of Canada on Wednesday, June 14 for a special panel of those close to the leadership campaigns. Confirmed speakers include Andrew Scheer campaign manager Hamish Marshall, Maxime Bernier campaign membership chair Alex Nuttall, Kellie Leitch campaign senior adviser Richard Ciano, and Michael Chong campaign manager Bram Sepers. 8-8:30 a.m. breakfast, 8:30-10 a.m. panel discussion and Q&A, 10 a.m. adjournment and networking. Borden Ladner Gervais (BLG) LLP, Bay Adelaide Centre, East Tower, 22 Adelaide St. W., Suite 3400, Toronto, Ont. \$55 for members; \$85 non-members; \$25 students. Space is limited so register as soon as possible. Panel is off the record. qpbriefing.com/event/post-conservative-party-of-canada-leadership-race-panel.

Liberal Caucus Meeting—The Liberals will meet in Room 237-C Centre Block on Parliament Hill. For more information, please call Liberal Party media relations at media@liberal.ca or 613-627-2384.

Conservative Caucus Meeting—The Conservatives will meet for their national caucus meeting. For more information, contact Cory Hann, director of communications with the Conservative Party of Canada at coryhann@conservative.ca.

NDP Caucus Meeting—The NDP caucus will meet from 9:15-11 a.m. in Room 112-N Centre Block, on Wednesday. For more information, please call the NDP Media Centre at 613-222-2351 or ndpcom@parl.gc.ca.

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Bloc Québécois Caucus Meeting—The Bloc Québécois caucus will meet from 9:30 a.m. in the Francophonie room (263-S) in Centre Block, on Wednesday. For more information, call press attaché Julie Groleau, 514-792-2529.

Belgian Prime Minister Visits—Prime Minister Justin Trudeau will welcome Charles Michel, prime minister of Belgium, to Canada from June 14 to 16, 2017. The two leaders will meet in Ottawa on June 16.

The Hill Times' All Politics All-Fun Shindig—*The Hill Times* is throwing a party on the Hill on June 14, 6-9 p.m. in the East Block Courtyard.

Conference of Montreal: International Economic Forum of the Americas—This annual conference has the theme A New World: Managing Change. Speakers include: Prince Albert II of Monaco, Power Corporation chair Paul Desmarais Jr., Transport Minister Marc Garneau, International Organisation of the Francophonie secretary general Michaëlle Jean, and more. June 12-15. Hotel Bonaventure Montreal, 900 de la Gauchetière W. <http://forum-americas.org/montreal/2017>.

Canada 2020 Conference—Kick-off reception, Château Laurier terrace, 1 Rideau St., Ottawa at 6 p.m.

THURSDAY, JUNE 15

Canada 2020 Conference—June 15-June 16, Shaw Centre, Ottawa. Conference starts at 8:30 a.m. *The Atlantic* magazine's David Frum will be the keynote speaker and will discuss Truth in the Age of Autocracy. At 9:05 a.m., there will be a session, Journalism & Future of News, including *The New York Times*' Anand Giridharadas, Vox Media's Liz Plank, UBC's Taylor Owen, *iPolitics*' Susan Delacourt, Mr. Frum, and CTV News' Evan Solomon. There will also be a session on Open Government & the Data Explosion, a lunch townhall with Finance Minister Bill Morneau, and interview with the University of Montreal's Yoshua Bengio and Google's Tim Hwang about Canada's AI Future. The day will also include a fireside chat with Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne on Building a Fair & Innovative Economy, a presentation by Softbank Research's Angelica Lim about 'The Human Side of AI,' a presentation by the University of Waterloo's Paul Salvini on Disruptive Technology & Canada's Future Economy, a keynote speech by IBM's Bernie Meyerson on Global Innovation Ecosystems, a session on Automation & the Future of Work, and AI & the Future of Professions. On June 16, former prime minister Brian Mulroney will discuss the state of Canada-U.S. relationship with IBM Canada's Regan Watts on stage at 8:45 a.m. There will also be a session on Creating Open and Inclusive Societies, Empowering Women Entrepreneurs, Building Smarter Cities, and Defence Minister Harjit Sajjan will host the lunch at 12:30 p.m. to discuss Global Peacemaking.

FRIDAY, JUNE 16

Slovak Art Exhibition—The embassy of the Slovak Republic presents an art show by Leo Symon (Slovakia/U.K.). The exhibition is open to the public from June 9 until July 6 and will be available for viewing on weekdays from 8:30 a.m. until 4 p.m. The phone number to call and book your visit is 613-749-4442, ext. 135. The Slovak Embassy is located at 50 Rideau Terrace, Ottawa.

Ottawa Development Drinks—Join the Ontario Council for International Cooperation and the Manyatta Network this networking event for international development professionals. Manyatta has built a strong community of professionals within the African diaspora and beyond. Friday, June 16, 2017, 5-9 p.m. Three Brewers, 240 Sparks St. Free admission. Food and drinks will be available for purchase at the bar. This venue is wheelchair accessible. Register via <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/drinksmanyatta-ottawa-june-2017-tickets-34021657694?aff=es2>.

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PARLIAMENTARY
CALENDAR



Germany
to host G20
July 7-8 in
Hamburg

Continued from page 22

MONDAY, JUNE 19

House Sitting—The House sits on Monday, June 19, and will sit every weekday until June 23, but it could adjourn earlier.

Liberal Party Laurier Club Summer Reception and Garden Party—Laurier Club donors are invited to the Liberal Party of Canada’s annual Laurier Club Garden Party with Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau. Canadian War Museum, 1 Vimy Pl., Ottawa. Monday, June 19. 6 p.m. Pre-registration is required and will close on June 16. Media coverage is being facilitated for this event and the names of guests in attendance will be listed online within 45 days. events.liberal.ca.

TUESDAY, JUNE 20

Cabinet Meeting—Prime Minister Justin Trudeau is expected to hold a cabinet meeting on June 20. For more information, members of the media may call the PMO Press Office at 613-957-5555.

Indigenous-Led Social Innovation—This event by the Institute of Public Administration of Canada’s National Capital Region branch will feature Mike DeGagne (Nipissing University), Michael Hudson (associate assistant deputy minister, Department of Justice), and Erin Corston (National Association of Friendship Centres) in a discussion on new approaches and real-world examples of how indigenous communities are turning challenges into opportunities. Rideau Club, 99 Bank St., 15th floor, Ottawa. Tuesday, June 20, 4:30-7 p.m. For more details and to purchase tickets, visit innovation-si.eventbrite.ca.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21

Liberal Caucus Meeting—The Liberals will meet in Room 237-C Centre Block on Parliament Hill. For more information, please call Liberal Party media relations at media@liberal.ca or 613-627-2384.

Conservative Caucus Meeting—The Conservatives will meet for their national caucus meeting. For more information, contact Cory Hann, director of communications with the Conservative Party of Canada at coryhann@conservative.ca.

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Bloc Québécois Caucus Meeting—The Bloc Québécois caucus will meet from 9:30 a.m. in the Francophonie room (263-S) in Centre Bock, on Wednesday. For more information, call press attaché Julie Groleau, 514-792-2529.

GRIC Summer Send-Off—As the parliamentary session draws to a close, raise a glass to another year of legislative fun gone by. Join Government Relations Institute of Canada colleagues on a patio to celebrate the season in style. The ticket price per person is \$30 for members and \$52.50 for guests plus 13 per cent HST. Includes a drink ticket and snacks. Wednesday, June 21, 5-7 p.m. Métropolitain Brasserie, 700 Sussex Dr. Register online via gric-irgc.ca/june-2017-registration.

THURSDAY, JUNE 22

NDP Leadership Debate—The United Steelworkers will host a labour-focused

debate between the NDP leadership candidates in Toronto on Thursday, June 22. All of the leadership candidates have been invited and have confirmed their participation in the Toronto Leadership Debate: Labour, Justice, and Our Future. Members of affiliated labour organizations will be encouraged to attend and submit questions. A limited number of additional tickets will be free to the general public online through TOLeadershipDebate.ca. Thursday, June 22, 7-9 p.m. (doors open at 6:30 p.m.). Isabel Bader Theatre, 93 Charles St. W. (east of Museum subway stop at Avenue Rd.)

An Evening with Justin Trudeau in Mississauga—The Liberal Party of Canada presents an evening with the Justin Trudeau. Versailles Convention Centre, 6721 Edwards Blvd., Mississauga, Ont. Thursday, June 22. 7-9 p.m. Media coverage is being facilitated for this event and the names of guests in attendance will be listed online within 45 days. Tickets: \$1,500 regular price; \$250 youth under 25. events.liberal.ca.

MONDAY, JUNE 26

150 voices to Canada 150—To celebrate Canada’s 150th anniversary, Hungarian Ambassador Bálint Ódor is inviting guests to a concert by the Szentegyháza Children’s Philharmonia (Fili), in the presence of Zsolt Németh, chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee, Hungarian National Assembly. Monday, June 26. 7-8 p.m. Centrepointheatre, 101 Centrepointhe Dr., Nepean, Ont. To reserve free seats, please visit centrepointheatres.com/promo and enter the promo code: FILI2017.

FRIDAY, JULY 7

G20 Leaders’ Summit in Germany—Germany holds the G20 presidency in 2017 and will host the Leaders’ Summit in Hamburg on July 7 and 8. Prime Minister Justin Trudeau is likely to attend.

TUESDAY, JULY 11

NDP Leadership Debate—The party will hold a debate in Saskatoon, Sask. 6-8 p.m. TCU Place, 35 - 22nd St. E. In order to vote for the leader, you need to become a member of the NDP no later than Aug. 17. Online voting begins Sept. 18 and a leader will be announced no later than Oct. 29. ndp.ca/event-rsvp/4jwsk.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 12

Bank of Canada Release—The bank is expected to make its latest interest rate announcement as well as publish its quarterly Monetary Policy Report. 10 a.m.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 2

NDP Leadership Debate—The party will hold a debate in Victoria, B.C. 6-8 p.m. Victoria Conference Centre, 720 Douglas St. In order to vote for the leader, you need to become a member of the NDP no later than Aug. 17. Online voting begins Sept. 18 and a leader will be announced no later than Oct. 29. ndp.ca/event-rsvp/4jwm4.

SUNDAY, AUG. 27

NDP Leadership Debate—The party will hold a debate in Montreal, Que. 1:30-3 p.m. Club Soda, 1225 St. Laurent Blvd. In order to vote for the leader, you need to become a member of the NDP no later than Aug. 17. Online voting begins Sept. 18 and a leader will be announced no later than Oct. 29. ndp.ca/event-rsvp/4jws8.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 6

Bank of Canada Release—The bank is expected to make its latest interest rate announcement. 10 a.m.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 10

NDP Leadership Debate—The party will hold a debate in Vancouver. 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. The York Theatre, 639 Commercial Dr. In order to vote for the leader, you need to become a member of the NDP no later than Aug. 17. Online voting begins Sept. 18 and a leader will be announced no later than Oct. 29. ndp.ca/event-rsvp/4jws2.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 16

Canadian Press/CBC Golf Tournament—The second annual Parliament Hill Open is taking place Saturday, Sept. 16. Mont Cascades Golf Club, Cantley, Que. (30 minutes from Ottawa). Tee times start around 11 a.m.; best-ball format, with a bevy of prizes, and an auction raising money for the Tom Hanson Photojournalism Award, a six-week CP internship for an aspiring photographer that hon-

ours the memory of one of its most celebrated and popular press gallery members. Sign up as a complete foursome or as a single or pair. \$95, includes green fee, power cart, and steak dinner. Email CP Ottawa’s James McCarten (james.mccarten@thecanadianpress.com) or the CBC’s Paul MacInnis (paul.macinnis@cbc.ca) for more information or to hold your space.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 17

NDP Leadership Candidate Showcase—Leadership candidates will have one last chance to pitch to voters before voting begins tomorrow. Toronto, Ont.

MONDAY, SEPT. 18

Online Voting Begins in NDP Leadership Race—The first ballot results announcement will take place Oct. 1, and subsequent ballot results each following week until a winner is determined. A new leader will be selected no later than Oct. 29.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 25

Bank of Canada Release—The bank is expected to make its latest interest rate announcement as well as publish its quarterly Monetary Policy Report. 10 a.m.

SUNDAY, OCT. 29

The NDP Leadership—The race officially began on July 2, 2016, and a new leader will be selected no later than Oct. 29, 2017.

TUESDAY, NOV. 14

2017 UN Peacekeeping Defence Ministerial Conference—Canada will host this conference. Nov. 14-15, 2017. Vancouver, B.C. canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/campaigns/peacekeeping-defence-ministerial.html.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 6

Bank of Canada Release—The bank is expected to make its latest interest rate announcement. 10 a.m.

THURSDAY APRIL 19, 2018

Liberal Party National Convention—The Liberals will hold a national convention April 19-21, 2018 in Halifax, N.S.

THURSDAY, AUG. 23, 2018

Conservative Party National Convention—To be held in Halifax, N.S. Until Aug. 25, 2018.

The Parliamentary Calendar is a free events listing. Send in your political, cultural, diplomatic, or governmental event in a paragraph with all the relevant details under the subject line ‘Parliamentary Calendar’ to news@hilltimes.com by Wednesday at noon before the Monday paper or by Friday at noon for the Wednesday paper. We can’t guarantee inclusion of every event, but we will definitely do our best. Events can be updated daily online too.

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PHOENIX
PAY SYSTEM**

Thousands of dedicated public service workers show up to work every day.

And they do it not knowing if or when they will get paid because the Phoenix pay system is broken.

It's time to fix Phoenix once and for all. Public service workers help take care of our families. They should be able to take care of theirs.

psacunion.ca



Alliance de la Fonction publique du Canada
Public Service Alliance of Canada

