



Parliamentary Internship Programme | Programme de stage parlementaire



**2012-13 Parliamentary Interns**

## **2012-13 Annual Report**

85<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference  
Canadian Political Science Association  
Victoria, BC  
June 3-5, 2012

Garth Williams  
Director

## Introduction

The 2012-13 Parliamentary Interns had a role, behind the scenes, in many of the issues that shaped federal politics this year: the Liberal leadership race, victims rights, military justice, international trade, conflict minerals, income inequality and implementation of the federal budget. In addition, they have raised the bar for Programme activities by producing a video about life as an intern during the orientation period, establishing a Facebook page to promote the Programme and share their experience, undertaking the first study tour to Montréal for meetings with academics, alumni and former Prime Minister Paul Martin and by organizing the first Parliamentary study tour in a decade for interns from the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia.

Their exceptional contributions have been matched by those of our new Programme Administrator, Catherine Ngando-Edimo, and her colleagues at the House of Commons as well as our many alumni, friends and sponsors. Their roles have been particularly important, following the retirement of Joanne Cartwright, our long-time Programme Administrator, and the introduction of a new sponsorship structure in July 2012. Catherine and her colleagues ensured that the Programme's high standards were met and, in addition, introduced important and continuing initiatives to improve the management of the recruitment and selection process. Not only did sponsors respond in an overwhelmingly positive fashion to the new sponsorship structure, they have worked closely with our Alumni Association and the House of Commons to enrich our activities with the return of the Alumni Dinner, the restoration of the Valedictory Luncheon and the inauguration of an annual Spring Reception. Alumni have responded in kind, raising funds for the Programme and hosting events in both Toronto and Montréal.

This report reviews Programme activities before turning to the changes in our administration and governance this year. It concludes with a summary of our financial situation and consideration of plans and priorities for the year ahead.

## Programme Activities

At the beginning of the year, the Programme received a record number of applications (74) from Members of Parliament eager to host an intern. Following the orientation period, the interns interviewed them all before selecting "their" MPs.

### Supporting democracy: Helping MPs

Over the past two and a half years, fully half of the MPs who have welcomed interns into their offices have never had an intern before. The MPs hosting interns this year were:

Interns	1 <sup>st</sup> Allocation (October 1, 2012 – January 18, 2013)	2 <sup>nd</sup> Allocation (January 21, 2013 – June 30, 2013)
Melissa Bonga, Alliston, ON BA (Political Science) University of Ottawa	Bev Shipley, MP (CPC), Lambton—Kent—Middlesex, ON	Jack Harris. MP (NDP), St. John's East, NL

Claire Boychuk, Montreal, QC BA (Geography and Chinese) University of North Carolina	Hon. Laurie Hawn, PC, MP (CPC), Edmonton Centre, AB	Peggy Nash, MP (NDP), Parkdale – High Park, ON
Gavin Charles, Halifax, NS MSc (International Relations) London School of Economics and Political Science; BA Honours (Political Science and History) Dalhousie University	Blake Richards, MP (CPC), Wild Rose, AB	Paul Dewar, MP (NDP) Ottawa Centre, ON
Vincent Hardy, Ottawa, ON MPhil (Sociology) University of Cambridge; BA (Sociology and Environmental Studies) University of Ottawa	Robert Sopuck, MP (CPC), Dauphin—Swan River— Marquette, MB	Hon. Wayne Easter, PC, MP (LPC), Malpeque, PEI
Kate Martin, Waterloo, ON MA (History) University of Victoria; BA Honours (History) Queen’s University	Rodger Cuzner, MP (LPC), Cape Breton—Canso, NS	Mark Adler, MP (CPC), York Centre, ON
Melissa Moor, Kenmore, ON BEd (Primary and Junior Divisions) Queen’s University; BSSc (Political Science) University of Ottawa	Jean Crowder, MP (NDP), Nanaimo—Cowichan, BC	Scott Armstrong, MP (CPC), Cumberland—Colchester— Musquodoboit Valley, NS
Iman Mohamed, Ottawa, ON Master’s (International Public Policy), Wilfred Laurier University; Graduate Certificate (Public Management Governance), University of Ottawa; BA Honours (Political Science and History), Carleton University	Nathan Cullen, MP (NDP), Skeena—Bulkley Valley, BC	Wai Young, MP (CPC), Vancouver South, BC
Sean Pierce, Ottawa, ON MA (Political Studies) Queen’s University; BA Honours (Political Studies and French) Queen’s University	Marc Garneau, MP (LPC), Westmount—Ville-Marie, QC	Ed Holder, MP (CPC), London West, ON

Morgan Ring, Toronto, ON MPhil (Early Modern History) University of Cambridge; BA Honours (History) University of Cambridge	Kellie Leitch, MP (CPC), Simcoe—Grey, ON	Hon. Scott Brison, PC, MP (LIB), Kings—Hants, NS
Lauren Walsh-Greene, Montreal, QC BA Honours (Theatre and Contemporary Studies), University of King’s College	Libby Davies, MP (NDP), Vancouver East, BC	James Bezan, MP, (CPC), Selkirk Interlake, MB.

## **An enriching educational experience**

### ***Seminar and Research Papers***

Interns participated in an 11-week seminar in the fall 2012 focused on the interaction of parliamentary institutions, government and Canadian political culture. Discussion was based on a short list of summer readings and a weekly reading list developed by the Director and the intern group. The seminar aims to provide a space for interns to reflect on their experience and the role of Parliament in Canadian society.

In the winter and spring 2013, the academic focus turned to the interns’ research papers.

### ***“Brown Bag Lunch” Seminar Series***

The “Brown Bag Lunch” Seminar Series allows the interns to supplement their educational experience through informal discussions with policy makers and politicians from across Canada. In the past year, the interns have met with the Right Honourable Paul Martin, the Right Honourable Jean Chrétien, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, the Honourable Andrew Scheer, the Honourable Stéphane Dion, Jeffrey Simpson, Chantal Hébert and others.

### ***Study Tours / Exchanges***

Comparative study tours to provincial legislatures and democratic assemblies outside Canada give interns further perspective, and insight, into democratic government and the function of political institutions.

In addition, the Programme added a study tour to Montréal this year focused on intergovernmental relations. Interns had meetings with academics at the École nationale d’administration publique and the Université de Montréal, including alumnus Denis Saint-Martin (Intern 1989-90), and with former Prime Minister Paul Martin. They joined alumni for a reception, organized by the Montréal chapter of the Parliamentary Internship Alumni Association, that evening to celebrate the holiday season.

In all, Interns undertook the following study tours in 2012-13:

- National Assembly of Québec, November 25-29, 2012
- Montréal, December 13, 2012
- European Parliament, January 7-11, 2013
- United Kingdom Parliament, January 12-19, 2013
- Northern Ireland Assembly, January 14-15, 2013
- United States Congress, March 17-22, 2013
- Legislative Assembly of Nunavut, May 12-17, 2013

In addition, PIP receives delegations from other internship programs each year. These are opportunities for PIP interns to learn more about provincial politics and share something of their own experiences with interested colleagues. After consultations with provincial interns, PIP interns organize the study tours. The Programme hosts a breakfast for both groups in the Parliamentary Restaurant.

This year, we had the pleasure of a visit, for the first time in ten years, from the British Columbia Legislative Internship Program. In all, the Programme hosted interns from internship programs in the following legislatures:

- National Assembly of Québec: October 15-18, 2012
- Legislative Assembly of Ontario: December 3-7, 2012
- Legislative Assembly of Manitoba: February 11-15, 2013
- Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan: March 20-24, 2013
- Legislative Assembly of British Columbia, May 25-28, 2013
- United States Congress: May 5-10, 2013

## **Contributing to Public Knowledge of Parliament**

### ***PIP on Facebook***

Led by Sean Pierce and Claire Boychuk, this year's interns have helped us take a major step forward by establishing a Facebook page for the Programme. The Facebook page will help interns share their experience with others, build public knowledge of Parliament and promote the Programme more widely to a key audience: future interns!

Please visit our Facebook page to see interns' pictures and comments on study tours as well as their experience in Ottawa.

### ***PIP Video: Life as an Intern during the Orientation Period***

Led by Lauren Walsh-Greene, this year's interns devoted a great deal of additional time and energy to the production of a new video that will be posted on our Website in the fall. The video, adopting the visual style of the West Wing television series, focuses on the unique experience of the interns, arriving on Parliament Hill for the first time, being thrown together as a group and launched into an intense series of meetings with clerks, public servants, elected officials and Programme sponsors. It brings out some of the thrill – and fun – of the orientation period and should prove to be a lasting contribution to our promotional efforts.

### ***Sharing the intern experience with young Canadians***

This year's interns challenged one hundred secondary school students from across Canada, gathered for "Politics Week" at the "Encounters with Canada" program, to assume the many roles played by Members of Parliament when confronted with an important national issue. They asked them to consult with constituents, deliberate in committee, engage in parliamentary debate and face the media as MPs deciding whether or not to support a fictitious government initiative launching a mission to Mars.

Led by Melissa Moor, the interns organized interactive workshops with the students on "Question Period and Parliamentary Debate," "Media Scrums," "Committee Work," and "A Day in the Constituency" that allowed them to share their knowledge on the work of Members of Parliament.



Melissa Moor with high school students in working group, Encounters with Canada, April 22, 2013

### ***PIP Research: Jean-Pierre-Gaboury Symposium***

In cooperation with the Institute on Governance (IOG) and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), PIP will hold the third annual Jean-Pierre-Gaboury Symposium on June 21, 2013, a unique opportunity to share Interns' research with an academic and professional audience in Ottawa. All interns will present their papers; while the IOG and PIP will invite the Programme's sponsors and friends, alumni and public servants as well as faculty and graduate students from departments of political science in the Ottawa area.

### ***PIP Research: Alfred Hales Prize***

Each year, the Programme awards the Alfred Hales Prize for the best research paper written by an intern during the previous year. The Prize is generously sponsored by the Institute on Governance and selected, from a short list, by a committee composed of representatives from the IOG, House of Commons and the CPSA. Last year's winner will be announced at a luncheon on Parliament Hill, supported by the Canadian Real Estate Association, on June 12, 2013.

## ***PIP Alumni Association***

2012-13 was a remarkable year for the Parliamentary Internship Alumni Association (PIAA). For the first time, both the Toronto and Montréal chapters organized receptions for their members, former parliamentarians and current interns. The reception in Toronto, organized in conjunction with the Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians and Samara Canada, was held on June 7, 2013, while the event in Montréal, organized with the participation of this year's interns, was held on December 13, 2013.

Under the chairmanship of Jeffrey Simpson (Intern, 1972-73), the Association also launched a charitable campaign in October 2012. For many, the campaign was an opportunity to recognize the Programme's contribution to their careers, to give back and help ensure its continued success. Donations were eligible for a tax-deductible receipt from the Canadian Political Science Association. Thanks to the generosity of alumni, the Association was able to make a \$5,000 donation to the Programme this year.

Finally, the Programme in cooperation with the Alumni Association, BMO Financial Group and Bombardier, Inc., held our 43<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary Alumni Dinner in Ottawa on Wednesday, February 27th, 2013. The event, held at the Government Conference Centre, attracted 126 Members of Parliament, alumni, friends and sponsors on a snowy night to hear Derek Burney, former Chief of Staff to Prime Minister Brian Mulroney and Canadian Ambassador to the United States, share his thoughts on the twentieth anniversary of the North American Free Trade Agreement.

## **Administration**

In August 2012, Catherine Ngando Édimo was nominated by the House of Commons to serve as Programme Administrator for PIP. Catherine, who also serves as Principal Administrative Assistant, Journals Branch, is assisted by Micheline Nadeau, Senior Administrative Assistant, Office of the Clerk Assistant; Natalie Desmarais, Training and Administrative Officer, Office of the Clerk Assistant; and Gabriel Plows, Administrative Assistant, Table Research Branch. Overseeing the Programme for the House of Commons is Jean-Philippe Brochu (Intern, 2002-03), Deputy Principal Clerk, Table Research Branch.

Led by Catherine, the team maintained the Programme's high standards in dealing with interns, MPs, sponsors and friends as well as the CPSA and other stakeholders throughout the year. Their involvement and the new team approach to Programme administration has made it possible, and on occasion necessary, to consider new ways to organize and manage Programme activities. These have resulted in a redistribution of work among all Programme staff, occasional delays and additional costs as everyone adjusts to new responsibilities. Most notably, for these and other reasons, the revision of the "back end" of the Programme's website is only now nearing completion. Once installed this will give staff much greater control over the timely management of Website content and coordination with the new Facebook page.

Most importantly, however, this transition has been an opportunity to review administrative practices and introduce innovations. Among these, was a major effort to reduce the number of paper documents used in the selection process. As a first step towards a system of electronic records management, it greatly facilitated the work of the selection committee. It has also inspired the House of Commons, under the leadership of Jean-Philippe, to launch a systematic review of the application process that, we hope, with the needed support, may result in a fully

electronic application system being introduced in the fall for applicants to the 2014-15 Programme.

## **Governance**

The new sponsorship structure was introduced in July 2012 following approval of the CPSA Board. It was developed by the Sponsors Sub-Committee and was unanimously recommended by the Programme's Advisory Board.

In developing and adopting this structure, the Programme's stakeholders reaffirmed their vision of PIP as a première legislative internship and an excellent work-study program. They set out seven principles to define a fair, balanced and transparent sponsorship structure to support that vision and established priorities for the Programme, to ensure that this vision was met, both now and in the years ahead. Most importantly, they recommended that the interns' stipend should be increased and that more should be done to ensure broader and more systematic promotion of the Programme.

The Sub-Committee also defined a structure for Programme events and practices governing their management, sponsorship and the participation of sponsors. It set out principles and practices for Programme communication with sponsors and established a right of first refusal, in the transition to a new structure, for existing sponsors. It was agreed that the Advisory Board would review the implementation of the new structure within the first year.

### ***Implementation***

By October 1, 2012, PIP had received commitments from twenty-four (24) of twenty-six (26) existing sponsors for the 2012-13 Internship Year. BMO Financial Group joined the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council as the Programme's Platinum level sponsors. Five (5) existing sponsors committed to providing Gold level sponsorship, twelve (12) assumed Silver level sponsorship and five (5) opted for Bronze level sponsorship. In all, ten (10) sponsors increased their contribution to the Programme, seven (7) maintained their financial commitment and six (6) reduced their contributions.

In addition, the Programme almost immediately attracted two new Silver level sponsors:

- Canadian Health Food Association
- Insurance Brokers Association of Canada

Late in the fiscal year, Genworth Canada, formerly a Level III sponsor, renewed its sponsorship at the Silver level, bringing the total number of sponsors now supporting the Programme to twenty-seven (27). Please see Annex I for a complete list of Programme sponsors and friends for 2012-13.

### ***Impact and Issues***

As a result, the first consequence of implementing the new sponsorship structure was an increase in the Programme's grants and sponsorship budget from \$311,550 in 2011-12 to \$357,500 in 2012-13.

But the implementation of the new structure also generated three unanticipated issues. The first two stemmed from offers made by Bombardier Inc. and TD Bank Financial Group to increase their existing sponsorships in ways that were unanticipated within the new structure.

The third issue arose out of an interest, held by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), in ensuring that it followed a fair and transparent process in funding the Programme. During the course of the year, attention was given to the possibility of PIP applying for SSHRC support through a funding program for research partnerships. SSHRC has invited PIP to continue discussions, to develop a formal proposal and review process for multi-year funding, recognizing that the Programme's history and its unique funding and delivery model have produced an exceptional vehicle for advanced research training and career development in the social sciences and humanities that delivers proven value to the public and private sectors in Canada.

## **Budget**

Last year (2011-12), the Programme incurred a deficit in its cash budget of \$4,271 as a result of increased costs for the HST on the Director's honorarium (yet to be reimbursed), travel (particularly to Nunavut) and stakeholder relations as well as reduced revenues as a result of a decision by the Co-Operators to bring its contribution into line with other (then) Level II sponsors, a decision to postpone the Alumni dinner and significantly reduced interest on PIP investments. These increased costs, and reduced revenues, were offset by the addition of CropLife Canada / Council for Biotechnology Information Canada as a (then) Level II sponsor. As a result of these adjustments, and the resulting deficit, the reserve fund was reduced to \$144,771 or approximately one third of operating costs at the end of the fiscal year 2011-12.

This year (2012-13), increased revenues generated through the new sponsorship structure have contributed to a cash surplus of \$24,956 as of May 31, 2013, with additional revenues and expenses expected before the end of the Programme's fiscal year (July 1 – June 30). This figure is slightly less than projected in the Semi-Annual Update (when anticipated revenues from the new sponsorship structure were first reported). The Programme benefited from a special donation of \$5,000 from the Alumni Association and reduced expenses, due to delays, for revision of the Website. But this did not completely compensate for lower than expected revenues from the Alumni Dinner and sharply increased costs, in part attributable to the change in administrative responsibilities, for study tours to the United Kingdom and Brussels, Belgium.

Please see Annex II, 2012-13 Budget (May 31, 2013), for details.

## **The Year Ahead**

### **Plans and Priorities**

It will be essential, in the year ahead, to complete the implementation of the new sponsorship structure by addressing the issues arising from its implementation and devoting resources to the priorities identified by all stakeholders, in the renewal process, to enable their vision for the Programme.

In the first instance, it must be recognized that the Programme, and its stakeholders, devoted considerable energy and commitment to the development of a substantive, fair and transparent process for revising the sponsorship structure last year. To date, its implementation has produced a small surplus and there remain opportunities for one Gold and four Silver level sponsors to increase Programme revenues further. While the generosity and commitment of Bombardier Inc. and TD Bank Financial Group are undeniable – and greatly appreciated – in the interests of fairness to all, the new structure should be fully implemented before undertaking a review.

Accepting the invitation of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) to continue discussions, regarding the best way to ensure a fair and transparent funding mechanism for the Programme, will help ensure the continued support of the Programme's longest-standing sponsor. PIP has a proud history of contributing in a meaningful way to Council objectives and looks forward to doing so for many years to come.

In the second instance, it will be essential for the Programme to work closely with current sponsors, friends and alumni, to attract new sponsors in order to complete the new sponsorship structure and, if at all possible, to secure a second dedicated source of support for the study tour to the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut. It will, in addition, work with BMO Financial Group, Bombardier Inc. and the PIAA to further develop the Annual Dinner as a flagship event and an additional source of revenue.

In addition, the Programme must significantly advance measures needed to attract outstanding candidates, offer an excellent experience for interns and MPs alike and build public knowledge of Parliament. In the year ahead, it will adopt a systematic approach to the implementation of these measures by first completing the revision of the Website launched this year, making it easier to manage and refresh content in a timely manner. It will allocate resources to revise all promotional materials, raise the Programme's profile and differentiate PIP interns on Parliament Hill. In conjunction with the House of Commons, PIP will also complete a review of the application process and, if at all possible, introduce an electronic application for the 2014-15 Programme. With these measures firmly in place, it will be possible to expand promotional efforts designed to attract new sponsors, increase the applicant pool and raise the stature of the Alumni Dinner. The expenditures detailed in the 2013-14 budget reflect these priorities.

If it is possible to increase the overall budget, by filling the sponsorship structure, and introduce the measures described above, PIP should also increase the interns' scholarship for the 2014-15 Programme year.

With a recommendation of the PIP Advisory Board, and approval of the CPSA Board, the Programme plans to implement these measures in the year ahead. It promises to be an important year of renewal.

### **2013-14 Parliamentary Interns**

In some ways, that renewal has already begun. PIP received a record number of applications (181) for the 2013-14 Programme and already next year's interns have been chosen with the help of the Selection Committee:

- M. Jean-Philippe Brochu, Deputy Principal Clerk, House of Commons
- Dr. Matthew Kerby, Department of Political Science, University of Ottawa
- Mme Dominique Biron-Bordeleau, Researcher, Credit Union Central of Canada

Committee members wish to thank all applicants and all referees for their participation in the selection process. The Programme is also most grateful to all CPSA members who recommended PIP to their students. We look forward to working with another outstanding group in the fall. They will be:

Adam Casey, Annapolis County, NS

MA (English Literature) University of Ottawa; BA (English Literature and Contemporary Studies) University of King's College

Robyn Gibbard, Ottawa, ON

BA (Public Affairs and Policy Management) Carleton University

Christine Guyot, Winnipeg, MB

BEd University of Ottawa, BSc (Microbiology and Biological Sciences) University of Manitoba

Sarah Hunter, Nepean, ON

MSc (International Relations) London School of Economics and Political Science, BA (Political Studies) Queen's University

Olivier Jacques, Montréal, QC

MA (International Studies) Université de Montréal, BA (Political Science) Université de Montréal

Avalon Jennings, Toronto, ON

MA (Public and International Affairs) York University, BA (International Development) University of Ottawa

Ivan Narvaez, Ottawa, ON

MA (International Affairs) Carleton University, BA (History and Political Science) University of Ottawa

Jonathan Paradis, Québec, QC

BA (International Relations) University of British Columbia

Tim Stiles, Ottawa, ON

MA (International Affairs) Carleton University, BA (Political Science) University of Guelph

Andrea Stuart, St. Lambert, QC

MA (Musicology) University of Toronto, BA (Western Society and Culture) Concordia University, BMusic (Cello and Music History) Wilfrid Laurier University

## **Annex I: PIP Sponsors and Friends, 2012-13**

### **Platinum / Platine**

BMO Financial Group / BMO Groupe Financier  
 Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada /  
 Conseil de recherches en sciences humaines du Canada

### **Gold / Or**

Bombardier Inc.  
 Canadian Bankers' Association / Association des banquiers canadiens  
 Canadian Life and Health Insurance Association /  
 Association canadienne des compagnies d'assurances de personnes  
 Canadian Real Estate Association / Association canadienne de l'immeuble  
 CropLife Canada - Council for Biotechnology Information /  
 CropLife Canada - Conseil de l'information en biotechnologie

### **Silver / Argent**

Business Development Bank of Canada / Banque de développement du Canada  
 Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians / Association canadienne des ex-parlementaires  
 Canadian Automobile Dealers Association / Corporation des associations de détaillants d'automobiles  
 Canadian Health Food Association / Association canadienne des aliments de santé  
 Certified General Accountants Association of Canada /  
 Association des comptables généraux accrédités du Canada  
 CIBC  
 Co-operators Group Limited / Groupe Co-operators limitée  
 Credit Union Central of Canada / Centrale des caisses de crédit du Canada  
 Desjardins Group / Le Mouvement des caisses Desjardins  
 Forest Products Association of Canada / Association des produits forestiers du Canada  
 Genworth Canada  
 Insurance Brokers Association of Canada / Association des courtiers d'assurances du Canada  
 RBC Financial Group / RBC Groupe Financier  
 Canada's Research Based Pharmaceutical Companies /  
 Les compagnies de recherche pharmaceutique du Canada  
 TD Bank Financial Group / Groupe Financier Banque TD

### **Bronze**

Association of Consulting Engineering Companies – Canada / Association des firmes d'ingénieurs-conseils - Canada  
 Estée Lauder Inc.  
 Federation of Canadian Municipalities / Fédération canadienne des municipalités  
 Insurance Bureau of Canada / Bureau d'assurance du Canada  
 Parliamentary Internship Alumni Association / Association des anciens stagiaires parlementaires  
 Scotiabank / Banque Scotia

### **Friends / Amis**

British High Commission Ottawa / Haut-commissariat de Grande-Bretagne à Ottawa  
 Delegation of the European Union to Canada / Délégation de l'Union européenne au Canada  
 Embassy of the United States of America in Ottawa /  
 Ambassade des Etats-Unis d'Amérique à Ottawa  
 First Air  
 Institute on Governance / Institut sur la gouvernance  
 VIA Rail Canada