

Legislative Assembly of Prince Edward Island



2013 Annual Report

January 1, 2013 - December 31, 2013



Letter from the Speaker

October 14, 2014

To the Members of the
Legislative Assembly of Prince Edward Island
Charlottetown

It is my pleasure to submit the Annual Report of the Legislative Assembly of Prince Edward Island and the Prince Edward Island Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association for the period January 1, 2013 - December 31, 2013.

I wish to acknowledge and thank all staff of the Legislative Assembly for the important work they do in supporting the exercise of parliamentary democracy on Prince Edward Island.

Respectfully,



Hon. Carolyn I. Bertram, MLA
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly



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Clerk's Message

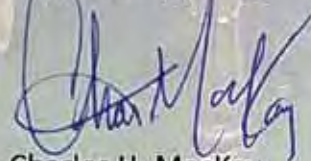
October 10, 2014

Hon. Carolyn Bertram, MLA
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly
Province House, Charlottetown

Dear Madam Speaker:

I have the pleasure of presenting the 2013 Annual Report of the Legislative Assembly of Prince Edward Island, which includes the 2013 report of the Prince Edward Island Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. This report highlights the various activities of the Office of the Legislative Assembly and the Office of the Clerk for the period January 1, 2013 - December 31, 2013.

Respectfully yours,



Charles H. MacKay
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly and
Secretary, PEI Branch of the
Commonwealth Parliamentary Association

Our History



The modern Legislative Assembly of Prince Edward Island was created in 1893 with the amalgamation of the House of Assembly and the Legislative Council, but its history reaches back to the late eighteenth century. Walter Patterson, the first governor of the Island, was appointed by the crown in 1770, and he, in turn, appointed a council of seven to help him administer the colony's affairs. The first election of members to a House of Representatives was on July 4, 1773, with the first meeting taking place in Charlottetown, July 7-17, 1773.

During the early years, the members met in private homes and taverns until, in 1847, the House of Assembly began to meet in Province House, then called the Colonial Building. Just a few years later, and following a ten year campaign, Prince Edward Island achieved responsible government, a major milestone. In 1864, the Charlottetown Conference happened in the Island's capital, and eventually led to the formation of Canada in 1867. Prince Edward Island joined the Canadian Confederation later on July 1, 1873, nearly a hundred years to the day from its first meeting of elected representatives.

In 1893, the House of Assembly and the Legislative Council were merged to form the Legislative Assembly, with fifteen dual-member ridings. This remained largely unchanged for many years, until the creation of 27 single-member constituencies in 1996.

There have been major changes to the Legislative Assembly since its creation, among them the secret ballot for provincial elections and the enfranchisement of women. Technological updates have come to the Legislative Assembly in recent years as well, including the establishment of a Hansard service, televising proceedings, and a presence on the Internet and in social media.

Our Services



The Office of the Legislative Assembly provides nonpartisan procedural, administrative, educational and outreach services to the Members of the Legislative Assembly and the public.

Office of the Speaker

The Speaker is the presiding officer of the Legislative Assembly, and is responsible for

- presiding over the proceedings of the Assembly, maintaining order, and regulating debate in accordance with the rules and practices of the House;
- ensuring all viewpoints have the opportunity of a hearing in debate;
- casting the deciding vote in the event of a tie;
- guarding the privileges of the Assembly and protecting the rights of its Members;
- representing the Legislative Assembly outside of the chamber and embodying the authority and prestige of the House;
- chairing the Standing Committee on Legislative Management.

Office of the Clerk

Members are supported in

their parliamentary functions by services administered by the Clerk, the chief executive officer of the Legislative Assembly. The Clerk has both procedural and managerial responsibilities, and oversees the delivery of nonpartisan services to the Members of the Legislative Assembly. The Clerk's responsibilities include

- the safekeeping of the records and documents of the House;
- maintaining the official record of the House and publishing the Journal of the Legislative Assembly;
- serving as secretary to the Standing Committee on Legislative Management;
- advising the Speaker and Members on parliamentary procedure, traditions and precedents;
- administering the oath of allegiance to all duly elected Members at the beginning of a parliament;
- presiding over the election of a Speaker.

Standing Committee on Legislative Management

The Standing Committee on Legislative Management deals with the administration of the House and the provision of all services and

facilities to Members. Chaired by the Speaker, its mandate and membership are specified in the Rules of the Legislative Assembly.

Independent Offices of the Legislative Assembly

- The Conflict of Interest Commissioner assists Members and Ministers in reconciling their private and public interests to enhance public confidence in the Legislative Assembly.
- Elections PEI administers all elections in Prince Edward Island.
- The Information and Privacy Commissioner accepts appeals from applicants, or third parties, who are not satisfied with the response they receive from public bodies as a result of an access to information request. The Commissioner also investigates privacy complaints.
- The Indemnities and Allowances Commission reviews and recommends salaries and benefits for the Members of the Legislative Assembly.

Sessional Administration

During the sittings of the Legislative Assembly, additional

administrative support is required. The Sessional Administration Office supports the Clerk with regard to the production, dissemination and safekeeping of documents. Its responsibilities include

- archiving a copy of everything tabled in the House;
- producing and distributing physical copies of House proceedings and debates to Clerks, Members, and the media, as well as posting to digital copies to the Legislative Assembly website;
- undertaking daily mailings to various provincial and federal libraries and government offices;

providing training, support, and scheduling to Legislative Pages.

Committees

The standing committees of the Legislative Assembly are groups of up to eight Members of the Legislative Assembly who consider specific matters, either referred to them by the Legislative Assembly or chosen by majority decision of their memberships. There are seven standing committees (excluding the Standing Committee on Legislative Management), each having a sessional mandate with general subject areas set out in the Rules of the Legislative Assembly. The Rules also set out specific responsibilities for two standing committees

- The Standing Committee on Public Accounts is responsible for, among other matters, the review of the public accounts of

the province and the annual report of the Auditor General.

- The Standing Committee on Health, Social Development and Seniors is responsible for, among other matters, recommending to the Legislative Assembly persons to serve on the Prince Edward Island Human Rights Commission.

Hansard

Hansard Services is responsible for transcribing, digitizing, and publishing into print the proceedings of the Legislative Assembly and its committees. Additional responsibilities of Hansard Services include

- creating the Journal of the Legislative Assembly of Prince Edward Island, which is the official record of the proceedings of the Legislative Assembly;
- creating the Index to Committees and indices for the daily debates of the Legislative Assembly;
- writing and editing the biographical information of Members of the Legislative Assembly who served between 1993 and 2011, to be published in *Minding the House: Volume II*.

Security

The objective of Security Services is to provide a safe and secure

environment for Members of the Legislative Assembly, and the visiting public. The Sergeant-at-Arms, who is the head of Security Services, also fills a ceremonial role during the proceedings of the Legislative Assembly. Additional responsibilities of Security Services include

- monitoring and maintenance of electronic surveillance equipment;
- issuing and controlling the card access system;
- training of security personnel;
- liaising with the Charlottetown Police as required;
- creating contingency plans for bomb threats and fire evacuations; and
- serving as contact for assistance with public demonstrations.

Human Resources, Finance and Administration

This office supports the work of the Speaker, Members and Office of the Clerk by assisting with financial, administrative and human resource management services. Responsibilities include

- administering payroll and benefits for staff and Members;
- advising employees with regard to benefits;

- providing information to both the Government House and Opposition Leaders on staffing budgets;
- budget preparation and quarterly forecasting to ensure operations stay within the approved budget;
- administering the day-to-day finances of Legislative Services, the Office of the Conflict of Interest Commissioner, and the Information and Privacy Commissioner;
- responding to information technology, telecommunications, and general maintenance requests;
- participation in the planning and attending of special events;
- conducting the recruitment and orientation process for Legislative Pages; and
- participating in the orientation of Members.

Library and Research

The Legislative Library and Research Service is a nonpartisan and confidential source of information, news, and reference services to Members of the Legislative Assembly, their caucus staff, standing committees, and staff of the Legislature. The Legislative Library and Research Service is also responsible for

- completing research briefs;
- responding to information

requests from other Canadian jurisdictions;

- obtaining information on legislation, regulations, and policies of other jurisdictions for comparison to Prince Edward Island;
- developing interpretive and informational content for distribution to visitors to Province House.

Multimedia Services

Multimedia Services is responsible for producing the television broadcast and webcast of the spring and fall sittings of the legislature. Additional responsibilities of Multimedia Services include

- archiving each session of the Legislature on DVD;
- archiving all streaming sessions of the Legislature on the Legislative Assembly website;
- providing audio and video support to Information Technology Support Services;
- providing technical support for Members of the Legislative Assembly, the media and presenters to the standing committees;
- producing audio recordings of the standing committee and Legislative Assembly proceedings;
- repairing and maintaining all audio and visual equipment at Province House and the Coles Building.

Our Staff

Retirements

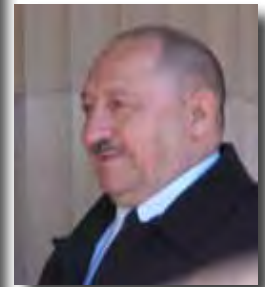
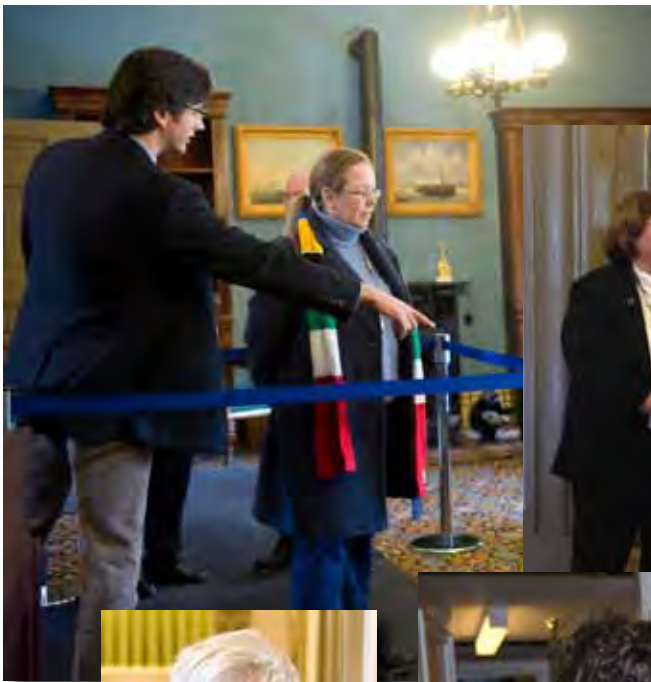
Gail Jenkins, Sessional Administrative Officer, retired in May 2013 after many years of service.

New Staff

The Office of the Clerk welcomed Emily Doiron to the position of Administrative Officer and Committee Clerk. Members will be familiar with Ms. Doiron as she was formerly a legislative page and sessional microphone switcher. She also participated in the co-op program with the University of Prince Edward Island.

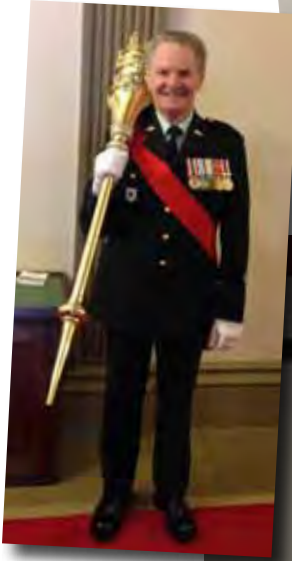


Gail Jenkins with Charles MacKay, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, at her retirement reception.



Staff of the Legislative Assembly at work.





Hon. Carolyn Bertram, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, with Hon, Steven Myers, Leader of the Opposition, and Hon, Robert Ghiz, Premier, at the Speaker's Tartan Tea following the opening of the Fall 2013 session of the legislature.

Community Engagement



Visitor Services

As has been the practice for the past several summers, in 2013, the Assembly hired two post-secondary students to work as Legislative Interpreters. During the busy summer season, Province House receives thousands of visitors, and the Assembly interpreters greet and interact with them and provide tours of the building in both official languages.

Prince Edward Island has a rich political history dating back to the eighteenth century. Interpreters are well versed in that history, and during their tours highlight both significant achievements and colourful stories. The focal point of the tour is the Legislative Assembly Chamber, which forms a backdrop for a discussion of the modern Assembly's role and what it means to participate in democracy. The interpreters are trained according to the principles of interpretation and aim to lead tours that are less lectures and more discussions to which visitors can contribute according to what interests them most. The 2013 interpreters were university students Virginia Arsenault and Zachary Rowswell.

Legislatures across Canada offer public education programming, and the professionals involved participate in the Parliamentary Visitor Services Association. PEI has been a part of this association since 2008 and participated in

the 2013 annual general meeting and conference in Toronto, Ontario. The association members take a creative approach to engaging the public in parliaments and democracy, and the annual conference is a valuable forum for the exchange of ideas and experience.

Legislative Page Program

The Legislative Page Program provides Island high school students with a unique experience, giving them the opportunity to see first-hand the work of the legislature. Pages are responsible for delivering documents in the Chamber itself, as well as throughout the legislative precinct; serving refreshments to members; photocopying; and other general responsibilities as assigned by the Speaker and Clerks.

Legislative pages are Grade 11 & 12 honour students, who have shown an interest in the Legislative Assembly and public affairs. Pages are active members of their schools and communities, participating in different activities, including sports, music, writing, volunteering, 4-H, Rotary Youth Parliament and student council.

In 2013, we had 23 students serving as pages at the Legislative Assembly. They were:

SPRING SITTING:

Michael Gass, Bluefield High School - Sofia (Yuqi) Lin, Charlottetown Rural High School - Lauren McKearney, Colonel Gray Senior High - Robyn Perry, École Pierre-Chiasson - Emma MacLean, Kensington Intermediate Senior High - Laura McCardle, Kinkora Regional High School - Brendan Curran, Montague Regional High School - Morgan McKenna, Morell Regional High School - Julia O'Hanley, Souris Regional High School - Logan MacLean, Three Oaks High School - Jordan MacDonald, Westisle Composite High School



Hon. Carolyn Bertram, Speaker, with the Spring 2013 Legislative Pages



*Hon. Carolyn Bertram, Speaker, with
the Fall 2013 Legislative Pages*

FALL SITTING:

Logan Doyle, Bluefield Senior High School - Michelle McCabe, Charlottetown Rural High School - Ryan Drew, Colonel Grey Senior High - Farha Munshi, École François-Buote - Jacob Ezeard, Grace Christian School - Shannon Pocock, Kensington Intermediate Senior High - Joseph Larsen, Kinkora Regional High School - Morgan King, Montague Regional High School - Hilary Hardwick, Morell Regional High School - Daniel MacIsaac, Souris Regional High School - Noah Richardson, Three Oaks Senior High - Blinera Musliu, Westisle Composite High School

University Co-op Program

The Legislative Assembly Co-op Program is run in conjunction with the Department of Political Studies at the University of Prince Edward Island. Two third- or fourth-year students majoring in History and/or Political Science are selected by their faculty for a co-op placement during a fall or winter semester, one for each semester.

The Co-op Program is designed to promote an understanding of the workings of the Legislative Assembly within the faculties at the university, and to provide students with an opportunity to work in the area of their field of study. It gives students a chance to gain real-world, practical knowledge of the provincial institution that governs the island. Co-op students are also encouraged to pursue projects within their areas of academic interest while they put their political studies knowledge to use in a work environment.

Since its inception in 2008, the program has been well received by both partner institutions, and provided work placement for 11 students. In 2013, Lilla McDonald and Jordan MacPhee worked at the legislature, and both students proved to be valuable additions to the staff during their time.

Events



Province House Renovations

Province House underwent renovations in advance of the 2014 celebrations that will mark the 150th anniversary of the Charlottetown Conference. The work consisted of upgrades to the exterior of Province House that had been identified high priority and necessary to protect the character-defining elements and heritage fabric of the building.

Included in the list of renovations were repairs to the building's foundation, masonry repointing, and maintenance the roof, windows, and doors. The work was the largest renovation project for building since the early 1980s.



as
of
the



Province House
National Historic Site
parcs.canada.gc.ca

Lieu historique national
du Canada Province House
parcs.canada.gc.ca

Province House Open during Renovations

Province House National Historic Site is undergoing renovations in advance of the 2014 celebrations that will mark the 150th anniversary of the Charlottetown Conference. We apologize for any inconvenience. For more information visit parcs.canada.gc.ca/provincehouse.

Province House ouvert pendant la rénovation

Le lieu historique national Province House fait l'objet de rénovations avant la tenue des festivités qui marqueront en 2014 le 150^e anniversaire de la Conférence de Charlottetown. Nous nous excusons des incon vénients et renseignements, consultez le site Web parcs.canada.gc.ca/provincehouse.

Hours of Operation

July 1 to Sept. 2, 2013: Daily 9 am - 5 pm

Sept. 3 to Nov. 30, 2013: Monday to Friday 9 am - 5 pm

Closed Oct. 14 for Thanksgiving and Nov. 11 for Remembrance Day

Heures d'ouverture

Du 1^{er} juillet au 2 sept. 2013 : Ouvert tous les jours de 9 h à 17 h

Du 3 sept. au 30 nov. 2013 : Du lundi au vendredi de 9 h à 17 h

Fermé le 14 oct. (Action de grâce) et le 11 nov. (jour du Souvenir)



Rotary Youth Parliament

The annual Rotary Youth Parliament took place at Province House March 8-9, 2013. Now in its twenty-fifth year, the long-running project is a partnership between the Speaker's and Clerk's offices, the Department of Education, District School Boards, volunteer teacher advisors and Rotary Clubs across Prince Edward Island.

High school students from across the province take on the role of MLAs during the event and have the opportunity to present and debate acts and resolutions in the historic Legislative Chamber.

In preparation for the mock assembly, participants meet with their colleagues to prepare their platform and organize their debate. While it does require a time commitment from participating students, it is a unique opportunity for them to present their ideas for the future of Prince Edward Island, and perhaps influence current members of the Legislative Assembly.



Rotary Youth Parliament 2013

Al McDonald, Sergeant-at-Arms(far left), Paula Biggar, Deputy Speaker (centre left), Hon. Carolyn Bertram, Speaker(centre right), and Fred Fordham, Security Officer (far right), with the 2013 Rotary Youth Parliament participants

Participants in the 2013 Rotary Youth Parliament

GOVERNMENT PARTY:

Jonathan Schut, Premier
Grace Christian School

Cullen Mullally, Minister of Fisheries
Charlottetown Rural High School

Matt Kiley, Minister of Rural Development
Charlottetown Rural High School

Brendan Curran, Minister of Finance &
Municipal Affairs
Montague Regional High School

Ben MacNeil, Government House Leader
Souris Regional High School

Rylee Currie, Deputy Premier & Minister of Agriculture
Bluefield High School

Megan Handrahan, Minister of Community Services,
Seniors & Labour
Westisle Composite High School

Ashley Walker, Minister of Innovation &
Advanced Learning
Bluefield High School

Andrew Kingman, Helper/Aide
Kinkora Regional High School

Noah Richardson, Minister of Education
Three Oaks Senior High School

Colton Profit, Minister of Health & Wellness
Three Oaks Senior High School

Carter Ellsworth, Minister of Transportation &
Infrastructure Renewal
Westisle Composite High School

Liley Klein, Minister of Tourism & Culture
Montague Regional High School

OPPOSITION PARTY:

Jordan MacDonald, Leader of the Official Opposition,
Justice Critic, Premier Critic
Westisle Composite High School

Emily Blue, Community Services Critic
Montague Regional High School

Macayla MacNeil, Education Critic,
Advanced Learning Critic
Morell Regional High School

Julia O'Hanley, Agriculture Critic, Fisheries Critic
Souris Regional High School

Rachel Barry, Environment Critic
Three Oaks Senior High School

Sofia Lin, Finance Critic
Charlottetown Rural High School

Maria Dalton, Innovation Critic, Infrastructure
Renewal Critic, Energy Critic
Three Oaks Senior High School

Hilary Hardwick, Tourism Critic, Culture Critic
Morell Regional High School

Akanksha (Nancy) Drotch, Opposition Whip
Charlottetown Rural High School

Laura McCardle, Opposition House Leader
Kinkora Regional High School

Rebecca Allen, Transport/Clerk
Souris Regional High School

Paxton Caseley, Health Critic
Westisle Composite High School

Kyle Doucette, Agriculture Critic, Forestry Critic
Bluefield High School

Marcus MacInnis, Transport/Clerk
Morell Regional High School

Samuel Ferguson
Colonel Gray Senior High School

Victoire Barbe, Page
Serena Ardinghi, Page

Order of Prince Edward Island

The 2013 recipients of the Order of Prince Edward Island were announced in mid-June by the Chancellor of the Order, the Honourable H. Frank Lewis, Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island; and Mr. Charles Curley, Chair of the Order of Prince Edward Island Advisory Council. The three Islanders selected to receive the honour were Ms. Vera Elizabeth Dewar of Stratford; Honourable Alexander B. Campbell of Stanley Bridge; and Dr. Joyce Madigane of Bideford. These three individuals were selected from a total of 46 Islanders nominated to receive the award in 2013. First conferred in 1996, the honour is awarded as a means of recognizing those Islanders who have shown individual excellence or outstanding leadership in their community and in their chosen occupation or profession. It is the highest honour that can be accorded to a citizen of the Province. It is awarded annually following a public nomination process with not more than three recipients being selected by an independent nine-person Advisory Council each year. Insignia of the Order is presented by the Lieutenant Governor at a special investiture ceremony in October at Government House, Charlottetown.



Hon. Robert Ghiz (L), Premier, and Hon. H. Frank Lewis (R), Lieutenant Governor and Chancellor of the Order of Prince Edward Island, with the 2013 recipients (L to R), Dr. Joyce Madigane, Vera Dewar, and Alex Campbell.

Members of the Order of Prince Edward Island



A

Angèle Arsenault, O.C.
Reverend Éloi Arsenault
Georges Arsenault

B

Leone Bagnall, C.M.
Chief Darlene Bernard
Reverend Dr. F.W.P. Bolger, C.M.
Emily Bryant
Marlene Bryenton
Garnet Rankin Buell

Marie Burge

C

William Callbeck
Dr. Sheldon Cameron
Alexander Bradshaw Campbell
Reverend Charles Cheverie
Sibyl Cutcliffe

D

Eleanor Davies
Donald M. Deacon, O.C., M.C.

Sister Mary Deighan
Dr. George Dewar, C.M.
Vera Elizabeth Dewar
Anna Duffy
Regis Duffy, CM

E

Edith Eldershaw
Dr. Kent Ellis

G

J. Henri Gaudet, C.M.
Allan Graham
Diane Griffin

H

Wilma Hambly
Nancy Ann Hamill
James Hogan
Arthur Hudson

I

Dr. Albert "Bud" Ings

K

Derek Key, Q.C.

L

Frank Ledwell
Dorothy Lewis
Charles Linkletter, C.M.

M

Elmer MacDonald
William MacLean
Helen Stewart MacRae

Dr. Joyce Madigane
Dr. John H. Maloney
Maylea Manning
Shirley McGinn
Barbara McNeill
Ray Murphy

O

Dr. Hubert O'Hanley

P

Ulric Poirier

R

Honourable Marion Reid, C.M.
Antoine Richard, C.M.
Helen Robbins

S

Paul H. Schurman, C.M.
Father Brady Smith

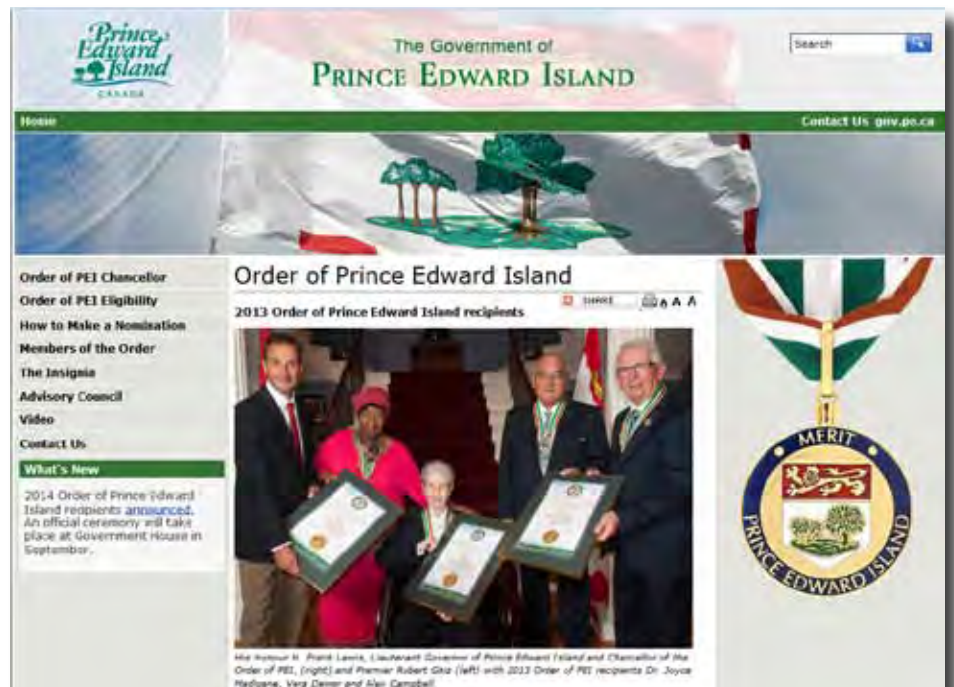
W

Kay Wall
Elmer Williams
Noel Wilson
Dr. David Wong

Z

Frank Zakem

Visit www.gov.pe.ca/opei for full biographies of all recipients of the Order of Prince Edward Island.



Preparations for the 150th Anniversary of the Charlottetown Conference

Preparations for the celebration of the sesquicentennial of the Charlottetown Conference, a pivotal event in Canadian history, began in 2013. The basis for the festivities marking the meetings of September 1864, when twenty-three representatives of the colonies of British North America - Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Canada (present-day Ontario and Québec) - gathered in Charlottetown to discuss the merits of creating a Canadian Confederation.

The original intention of the conference had been to discuss the subject of a proposed union of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island under one government and legislature. The Journal of the House of Assembly of Prince Edward Island of April 18, 1864, records the following motion, "Resolved, that his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor be authorized to appoint Delegates (not to exceed five) to confer with the Delegates who may be appointed by the Governments of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, for the purpose of discussing the expediency of a Union of the three Provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, under one Government and Legislature, - the report of the said Delegates to be laid before the Legislature of this Colony, before any further action shall be taken with regard to the proposed question." The motion was carried 18-9 and the resolution was adopted, paving the way for Island delegates to participate.

The Canadian government took note, and requested it be permitted to send a delegation to the conference to see if the proposed union could be extended to include all the provinces. The request was granted and a delegation of seven Canadians, including John A. Macdonald, came to Charlottetown to join the discussions slated for the first week of September in 1864.



*Province House Ball 1864,
by Dusan Kadlec*

The formal meetings of the delegates took place in the Legislative Council Chamber on the second floor of the Colonial Building, as it was then called. This room, with its soaring ceiling and rich appointments, remains a popular destination for visitors touring the building. Province House, as it is known today, is the only original meeting location of the Fathers of Confederation still remaining from the Charlottetown and subsequent conferences. It is a tangible connection to our past and, as such, an incredibly valuable legacy for all Canadians. In recognition of its unrivaled place in the country's history, Province House was commemorated for its national significance in 1966. It is perhaps one of the most recognized and photographed buildings in Canada, and is a fine example of neo-classical architecture.



Province House has been home to the Legislative Assembly of Prince Edward Island since its opening in January 1847, an event reported by a newspaper of the day, which described the building as "an honor to the Island, and which seems to command a feeling of pride and satisfaction in all who visit it." It was a worthy setting



for the important Charlottetown Conference of some 17 years later, and continues to be the centre of Prince Edward Island's ceremonial and political life.



Over the course of 2013, Province House was readied for the celebrations with restorations completed on the exterior sandstone facade. The work consisted of upgrades to the exterior which had been identified as high priority and necessary to protect the character-defining elements and heritage fabric of the building. Included in the list of renovations were repairs to the building's foundation, masonry repointing and maintenance of the roof, windows and doors. The work was the largest renovation

project for the building since the early 1980s, and the result is that Province House looks much as it did when the conference delegates walked up Great George Street after arriving by ship at Charlottetown's bustling waterfront.

Many of the conversations about the possibilities of a new nation which took place at the Charlottetown Conference happened outside the setting of the Legislative Council Chamber. The Fathers of Confederation had occasion to attend teas, banquets and grand balls, one of which was held in the current Legislative Assembly Chamber and featured not one, but two, orchestras in the public gallery playing music well into the morning hours. Island hospitality and cordiality accompanied the more serious negotiations and possibly strengthened their purpose.

The same spirit of hospitality will be the hallmark of 2014. Province House will be a destination for Islanders and visitors from across Canada and around the world. A busy schedule of events has been planned, including lectures, school tours, recitals and dramatic readings, and art exhibitions.



Technology

Social Media Outreach

An important role of any legislature is ensuring the public is informed about the democratic processes and debates that happen within its walls. The Legislative Assembly maintains accounts on Facebook, Twitter, and Flickr, to provide timely information to the public on legislative process and special events.

In 2013, there was substantial growth in the Assembly's social media presence, with a 72% increase in "Likes" on Facebook, with the most popular post reaching a total audience of over two thousand people. Likewise, the Twitter account also grew, with a 75% increase in the number of people following the legislature's updates.



facebook.com/peileg



twitter.com/peileg

The wider reach of the legislature's social media accounts spurred an increase in comments from the public. A Comments Policy was developed and posted on Facebook, Twitter, and the Assembly's website to inform the public that the social media accounts are moderated, and to provide guidance on acceptable language and content.



[youtube.com
PEI Legislative Assembly
channel](https://youtube.com/PEILegislativeAssemblychannel)

The legislature's social media accounts are most active during sittings of the legislature, keeping the public informed of the daily business of the Assembly. Followers are kept abreast of motions, legislation, and issues as they are called, and provided with a link to the live online video stream should they wish to tune in.

Wireless Service

In early 2013, work began to update Province House and the Hon. George Coles Building to accommodate wireless computer accessibility. The project was completed in March 2013. Members of the Legislative Assembly and staff are now able to access the internet and all of their network resources from any location within the two buildings using laptops. Tablet computers are able to access web-based resources only, including all documents on the government website and the Legislative Assembly website, the insite portal, and email and email attachments using webmail.

Website Redesign

Continuing with the web renewal project that saw the public face of the Legislative Assembly's website redesigned and successfully relaunched last year, 2013 was spent making technical improvements to the editors and applications used by staff to post information and documents to the website:

- committee meetings editor was updated
- domain names for PDF addresses corrected
- field character length increased to allow for native titles on documents





Additional enhancements were also made to the public face of the website. A search function was added to the Journals page to allow users to search present-day and archived journals by sitting. A comprehensive table that includes all documents tabled by command or by leave was also added to the site to provide one-click access to the complete record of tabled documents in the Assembly. Tabled documents are now available online, usually by the end of the daily sitting of the Assembly.

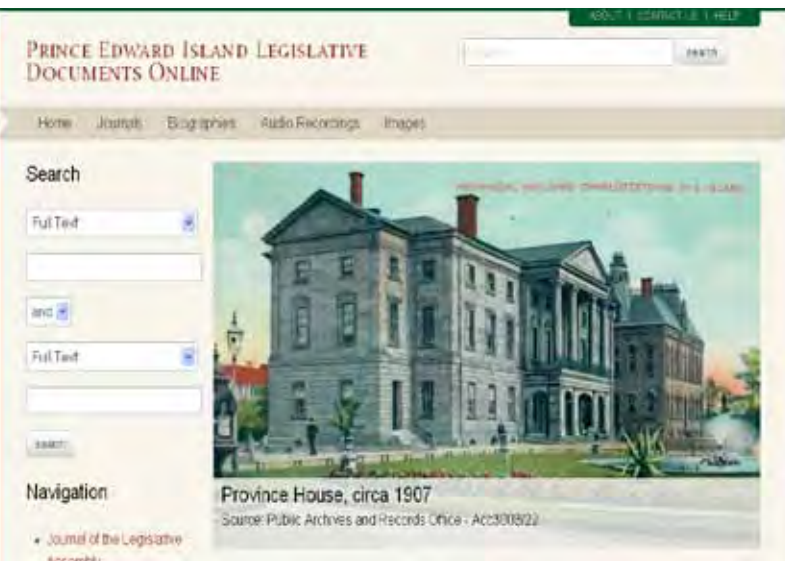
Prince Edward Island Legislative Documents Online (PEILDO)

www.assembly.pe.ca

Prince Edward Island Legislative Documents Online (PEILDO) presents the Journals of the Legislative Assembly (1894-present), the official record of the business of the Legislative Assembly. Free and open to all Islanders, this exciting new site provides access to a rich collection

of material covering almost 120 years of our political, social and economic development. PEILDO is the result of a partnership between the Legislative Assembly of Prince Edward Island, the Public Archives and Records Office, Prince Edward Island Public Library Service, and Robertson Library, University of Prince Edward Island.

Prince Edward Island Legislative Documents Online consists of over 76,000 pages of keyword-searchable scanned journals (1894-2011), including data-rich appendices (1894-1966) containing detailed reports from departments such as health, education, agriculture and public works. Digitized audio recordings of Legislative Assembly proceedings for the years 1968-1973 are also available for streaming. To provide additional context, biographies (1873-1993) and over 170 photographs of MLAs have been included in peildo.ca.



As Hon. Carolyn Bertram, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, observed, “This website is an inclusive resource that brings past members’ contributions to everyone’s fingertips. It’s a fantastic heritage and educational tool for every Islander and Canadian.”

Committees



The Legislative Assembly of Prince Edward Island enjoys the flexibility available through its standing committees to carry out detailed consideration of the annual reports of the Auditor General to the Legislative Assembly, an examination of the public accounts of the province, recruiting for positions on the Prince Edward Island Human Rights Commission, and matters of interest to the people of the province.

Committee work provides topical information to members of the Legislative Assembly on issues of concern and often provokes important public debate. In addition, because committees interact directly with the public, they provide an immediate channel

between elected representatives and Islanders.

In 2013, the standing committees completed a busy and productive schedule of 45 meetings and submitted a total of 15 reports to the Legislative Assembly.

The attached chart details the committee membership, meeting frequency and subject matter of reports.

Summary of Committee Activity Third Session of the Sixty-fourth General Assembly and Fourth Session of the Sixty-fourth General Assembly January 1, 2013-December 31, 2013				
Committee Name	Chair	Committee Members	Dates of Meetings	Reports (Subject and Date Tabled)
Agriculture, Environment, Energy and Forestry (3/64)	Paula Biggar	James Aylward (<i>as of Feb. 21, 2013</i>) Kathleen Casey Bush Dumville Colin LaVie (<i>until Feb. 21, 2013</i>) Pat Murphy Hon. Steven Myers (<i>as of October 8, 2013</i>) Hal Perry Buck Watts	March 5 April 18 June 6 Sept 25 (<i>Oct 16 members invited to FTRD</i>)	April 25 (<i>Committee Activities and Request to Meet Intersessionally</i>)

Committee Name	Chair	Committee Members	Dates of Meetings	Reports (Subject and Date Tabled)
Agriculture, Environment, Energy and Forestry (4/64)		James Aylward Paula Biggar Kathleen Casey Bush Dumville Colin LaVie Pat Murphy Hal Perry Buck Watts	Nov 14 Nov 27	November 26 <i>(Committee Activities)</i>
Community and Intergovernmental Affairs (3/64)	Bush Dumville	James Aylward <i>(until Feb. 21, 2013)</i> Paula Biggar Richard Brown Olive Crane <i>(until October 4, 2013)</i> Sonny Gallant Gerard Greenan Colin LaVie <i>(as of October 8, 2013)</i> Pat Murphy Hon. Steven Myers <i>(as of Feb. 21, 2013)</i>	Sept 10	April 30 <i>(Committee Activities and Request to Meet Intersessionally)</i>
Community and Intergovernmental Affairs (4/64)		Paula Biggar Richard Brown Bush Dumville Sonny Gallant Gerard Greenan Colin LaVie Pat Murphy Hon. Steven Myers	November 27	November 20 <i>(Committee Activities)</i>



Committee Name	Chair	Committee Members	Dates of Meetings	Reports (Subject and Date Tabled)
Education and Innovation (3/64)	Gerard Greenan	James Aylward <i>(until Feb. 21, 2013; and as of October 8, 2013)</i> Kathleen Casey Olive Crane <i>(as of Feb. 21, 2013; and until October 8, 2013)</i> Bush Dumville Charles McGeoghegan Robert Mitchell Pat Murphy Hon. Steven Myers <i>(as of Feb. 21, 2013)</i> Hal Perry <i>(until Feb. 21, 2013)</i>	March 19 June 5 Sept 24 October 18	April 25 <i>(Committee Activities and Request to Meet Intersessionally)</i>
Education and Innovation (4/64)		James Aylward Kathleen Casey Olive Crane Gerard Greenan Charles McGeoghegan Robert Mitchell Pat Murphy Hon. Steven Myers	November 27	November 14 <i>(Committee Activities)</i>
Fisheries, Transportation and Rural Development (3/64)	Sonny Gallant	Paula Biggar Colin LaVie Charles McGeoghegan Pat Murphy Hon. Steven Myers Buck Watts	March 14 April 4 April 19 April 30 June 12 June 25 Oct 16	April 10 <i>(Committee Activities and Request to Meet Intersessionally)</i>

Committee Name	Chair	Committee Members	Dates of Meetings	Reports (Subject and Date Tabled)
Fisheries, Transportation and Rural Development (4/64)		Paula Biggar Sonny Gallant Colin LaVie Charles McGeoghegan Pat Murphy Hon. Steven Myers Hal Perry Buck Watts	Nov. 14 Nov. 27	November 19 <i>(Committee Activities)</i>
Health, Social Development and Seniors (3/64)	Bush Dumville	James Aylward <i>(until Feb. 21, 2013; and as of October 8, 2013)</i> Richard Brown Olive Crane <i>(as of Feb. 21, 2013; until October 4, 2013)</i> Sonny Gallant Gerard Greenan Colin LaVie <i>(as of October 22, 2013)</i> Robert Mitchell Hon. Steven Myers <i>(as of October 8, 2013; until October 22, 2013)</i> Hal Perry	March 12 April 11 May 28 June 4 June 25 x2 Sept 17 Sept 18 Sept 19 Oct. 8 (canceled) October 22	April 24 <i>(Committee Activities and Human Rights Commission)</i>
Health, Social Development and Seniors (4/64)		James Aylward Richard Brown Olive Crane Bush Dumville Sonny Gallant Gerard Greenan Colin LaVie Hal Perry	Nov. 20 Nov. 27	November 22 <i>(Motion 66 - Addictions to Prescription Drugs)</i>

Committee Name	Chair	Committee Members	Dates of Meetings	Reports (Subject and Date Tabled)
Privileges, Rules and Private Bills (3/64)	Kathleen Casey	James Aylward (<i>as of Feb. 21, 2013</i>) Colin LaVie Hon. Ron MacKinley Hon. Alan Mclsaac Hon. Steven Myers (<i>until Feb. 21, 2013</i>) Hon. Janice Sherry Hon. Robert Vessey Hon. George Webster	April 9	April 10 (<i>Private Bill No. 200</i>)
Privileges, Rules and Private Bills (4/64)		James Aylward Kathleen Casey Colin LaVie Hon. Ron MacKinley Hon. Alan Mclsaac Hon. Janice Sherry Hon. Robert Vessey Hon. George Webster	Nov. 22	November 26 (<i>Private Bill 200 and Election of Chair</i>)
Public Accounts (3/64)	Hon. Steven Myers (<i>until March 14, 2013</i>) James Aylward (<i>as of March 14, 2013</i>)	James Aylward (<i>as of Feb. 25, 2013</i>) Paula Biggar Olive Crane (<i>until Feb. 25, 2013</i>) Sonny Gallant Robert Mitchell Hon. Steven Myers (<i>was chair until March 14, 2013</i>) Pat Murphy Buck Watts	March 14 May 22 June 12 June 19 October 2 October 16 October 30 October 31	April 17 (<i>Committee Activities and Request to Meet Intersessionally</i>)
Public Accounts (4/64)		James Aylward Paula Biggar Sonny Gallant Robert Mitchell Pat Murphy Hon. Steven Myers Buck Watts	Nov. 27	November 19 (<i>Report of the Auditor General to the Legislative Assembly, 2013</i>)

Committee Name	Chair	Committee Members	Dates of Meetings	Reports (Subject and Date Tabled)
Committee on Committees	Sonny Gallant	James Aylward Paula Biggar Hon. Steven Myers Hon. Wes Sheridan	Nov. 21	November 22 <i>(Composition of the Standing Committees)</i>

Highlights

The work of the standing committees of the Legislative Assembly provides valuable information to parliamentarians on issues of concern to the community. Because they interact directly with the people of the province, committees can act as a conduit between elected representatives and the general public. During 2013, the consultations undertaken by the Standing Committee on Health, Social Development and Seniors on the issue of addictions to prescription drugs focused on accessibility and public participation.

The committee met eight times on this particular issue, as well as traveling to Cassidy Lake, New Brunswick, to tour the facilities of Portage Atlantic. One of its first decisions when drafting the work plan was that witnesses would be heard in camera if they desired a private meeting, due to the sensitive nature of their testimony. As a result, the committee was privileged to hear testimony from many people who had direct and personal experience with addictions to prescription drugs.



The committee also placed advertisements in the Guardian, Journal Pioneer, Eastern Graphic, West Prince Graphic and, in a French language version, La voix acadienne, advising the public about these consultations on the issue of prescription drug addictions. Supplementing the newspaper

advertisements, additional information was available on the web site of the Legislative Assembly (at www.assembly.pe.ca).

In September 2013, a second series of advertisements appeared in the daily newspapers across the province inviting the general public to share their issues and concerns by attending a meeting, mailing in comments, emailing their contribution, or responding by way of an internet comment form. The same advertisement appeared in the weekly newspapers, including a French language version. In conjunction, three public hearings were scheduled across the province:

September 17, 2013, in Charlottetown;
September 18, 2013, in Summerside; and
September 19, 2013, in Pooles Corner.

These meetings provided a forum for an additional 42 presenters, and another 13 written briefs, letters and comments were received from interested and concerned individuals and organizations. In addition, committee members received numerous telephone calls, emails and had many personal contacts which served to reinforce the importance of this issue to the people of Prince Edward Island.

2013 Statistics



	2012	2013
Number of sitting days	47	40
Government bills brought	69	57
Government bills passed	59	52
Private member's bills brought	0	1
Private member's bills passed	0	0
Private bills brought	3	2
Private bills passed	3	2
Oral question period		
Total number of questions	1408	1281
Longest question asked	2 min., 3 sec.	1 min., 25 sec.
Longest answer given	3 min., 9 sec.	2 min., 46 sec.
Shortest question asked	1 second	4 seconds
Shortest answer given	1 second	1 second
Ministerial statements		
Total number of statements	167	159
Average length of statements	1 min., 45 sec.	2 min., 29 sec.
Longest statement	3 min., 46 sec.	4 min., 58 sec.
Shortest statement	45 sec.	37 seconds
Motions		
Government	42	19
Other than Government	90	59
Introduced jointly	4	4
Passed	33	22
Number of written questions submitted		
Number of written questions submitted	13	121
Number of written answers submitted		
Number of written answers submitted	0	116

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY BUDGET AND EXPENSES

The information below has been taken from the Public Accounts of the Province of Prince Edward Island, Volume II, for the year begun April 1, 2012, and ended March 31, 2013. The Public Accounts provide the most current information comparing actual expenditures (Expenses column) to the budgeted estimates (Estimates column).



	ESTIMATES \$	EXPENSES \$
LEGISLATIVE SERVICES		
Administration	132,200	155,605
Equipment	28,500	14,530
Materials, Supplies & Services	99,400	72,574
Professional & Contract Services	102,000	15,716
Salaries	1,522,800	1,725,716
Travel & Training	36,100	34,342
Grants		
Opposition Members Office	98,300	103,300
Commonwealth Parliamentary Association	16,000	12,615
Government Members Office	110,400	115,400
	<u>2,145,700</u>	<u>2,249,798</u>
Commonwealth Parliamentary Services		
Administration	60,000	31,861
	<u>60,000</u>	<u>31,861</u>
Total Legislative Services	<u>2,205,700</u>	<u>2,281,659</u>
MEMBERS		
Members		
Administration	-	300
Equipment	-	266
Professional & Contract Services	-	235
Salaries	2,136,100	2,039,186
Travel & Training	126,000	141,903
Total Members	<u>2,262,100</u>	<u>2,181,890</u>

	ESTIMATES \$	EXPENSES \$
OFFICE OF THE CONFLICT OF INTEREST COMMISSIONER		
Office of the Conflict of Interest Commissioner		
Salaries	41,800	45,720
Travel & Training	3,200	--
Total Office of the Conflict of Interest Commissioner	<u>45,000</u>	<u>45,720</u>
OFFICE OF THE INFORMATION AND PRIVACY COMMISSIONER		
Office of the Conflict of the Information and Privacy Commissioner		
Administration	4,900	2,319
Materials, Supplies & Services	1,600	59
Professional & Contract Services	1,000	1,650
Salaries	99,800	111,687
Travel & Training	5,000	3,379
Total Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner	<u>112,300</u>	<u>119,094</u>
ELECTIONS P.E.I.		
Elections		
Administration	5,000	6,225
Equipment	1,300	6,939
Materials, Supplies & Services	2,500	7,997
Professional & Contract Services	14,000	7,350
Salaries	208,400	198,273
Travel & Training	4,000	4,256
Total Elections P.E.I	<u>235,200</u>	<u>231,040</u>
TOTAL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY	<u>4,860,300</u>	<u>4,859,403</u>

Assemblée parlementaire francophonie

The Assemblée Parlementaire de la Francophonie brings together parliamentarians from 77 parliaments and inter-parliamentary organizations from 5 continents. Its actions strive principally to promote and defend democracy, the right to development, the respect of human rights, and international development of the French language and cultural diversity. The APF was created in 1967 and is the consultive body to the head of States of the Sommet de la Francophonie.

Prince Edward Island is one of the members of the America's Regional Assembly of the APF. This assembly unites 13 parliaments across America: Alberta, British Columbia, Canada, Haiti, Louisiana, Maine, Manitoba,

New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Prince Edward Island, Quebec and Saskatchewan. The objectives of the Americas Regional Assembly are to highlight French language, as well as defend and promote French culture in Francophone regions in the Americas.

The Provincial Division of the organization is under the direction of Hon. Carolyn Bertram, MLA, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Prince Edward Island.



Commonwealth Parliamentary Association *Prince Edward Island Branch*



PEI delegates to the 51st Annual Canada Region Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Conference in Edmonton AB



The CPA is an Association of Commonwealth Parliamentarians who, irrespective of gender, race, religion or culture, are united by community of interest, respect for the rule of law and individual rights and freedoms, and by pursuit of the positive ideals of parliamentary democracy.

Its purpose is to promote knowledge and understanding of the constitutional, legislative, economic, social and cultural systems within a parliamentary democratic framework. It undertakes this mission with particular reference to the countries of the Commonwealth of Nations and to countries having close historical and parliamentary associations with it.

CPA provides the sole means of regular consultation among Members of Commonwealth Parliaments. It fosters cooperation and understanding among

them and promotes the study of, and respect for, Parliament.

The CPA pursues these objectives by means of

- Annual Commonwealth Parliamentary Conferences, Regional Conferences and other symposiums;
- Interparliamentary visits;
- Parliamentary Seminars and Workshops;
- Publications, notably *The Parliamentarian*, *Canadian Parliamentary Review* and two newsletters on CPA activities and on parliamentary and political events;
- Parliamentary Information and Reference Centre communications.