

Queen's Park Insider

OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE ONTARIO LEGISLATURE INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME
SPRING 2014



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MELINDA
MUNDING



DOUGLAS
WONG



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INTERN COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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EMILY BARRETTE
MAGAZINE

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TRAVEL

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LAUREN MILLAR
SPONSORSHIP

MELINDA MUNDING
RECEPTIONS

DOUGLAS WONG
ALUMNI

~ ~ ~

CONTACT OLIP

Welcome to the Ontario Legislature Internship Programme. On behalf of this year's Interns, we invite you to explore the spring edition of the Queen's Park Insider, our bi-annual publication reviewing our many activities and adventures as OLIP Interns. This year has been an interesting one for the interns ending with interns being placed in mini-placements during the election. The interns travelled to Ottawa, Yellowknife, presented their academic papers at Congress at Brock University and are looking forward to learning more while visiting the Houses of Parliament in London, England.

The Ontario Legislature Internship Programme was established in November 1975. The Programme is administered by the Canadian Political Science Association and is supported by a substantial grant from the Ontario Legislative Assembly. The Programme is not associated with the Government of Ontario or with any political party. The Programme is designed to provide backbench Members of the Legislative Assembly with highly qualified assistants, while at the same time giving Interns academic and practical experience in the day-to-day work of the Legislature.

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MAJOR SPONSORS



SEE ALL SPONSORS ON PAGE 26

This is my tenth year as Director of OLIP. Every year it seems as if the Programme adds more activities and meetings with important public figures. To the Programme Assistant, Eithne Whaley, I owe a great deal. It is hard for me to imagine how the Programme could function without her.

I note the stellar contributions of the Programme Coordinators William Short in his second year with OLIP and Rick Sage in his first year. Will is the Committee Clerk for the Standing Committee on Public Accounts, while Rick is a Research Librarian with the Legislative Library and Research Services.

We greatly value our close relationship with the Speaker, the Honourable Dave Levac and all the members of the Ontario parliament, from backbenchers to party leaders and cabinet ministers. All of them treat the interns with a great deal of respect and give the interns a considerable deal of help, especially in making time for personal interviews. We owe a special debt to the MPPs who welcome interns into their office each year. Normally there are more MPPs wanting to host an intern than can be accommodated with the interns available and we regret having to disappoint some members.

As the ten month intern year usually proceeds, the amount of work increases. However, this year the activity and demands on the interns ended abruptly on Friday, May 2nd, 2014 when the Premier asked the Lieutenant Governor to dissolve the Legislature after the leader of the third party declared that the NDP Party would vote against the government's 2014-2015 budget. So the interns' second placement was for a

truncated term beginning on Tuesday, February 18th, 2014. We thank the Independent Officers and sponsors who have hosted intern placements during the election. Also in the late winter, we began to consider applicants for the 2014-2015 intern year. We welcome as many qualified applicants as possible, and I thank my fellow selection committee members for their work sifting through the numerous OLIP applications. Readers may know that the deadline for applications is the last day of February and application forms are available on our website.



Every year it gives me great pleasure to watch the interns grow in knowledge and understanding over the ten months. I like to observe that in September many interns know virtually nothing about the real workings of the Ontario Legislature, yet by the end of June, they seem to know all the Queen's Park secrets. Thus, as the legislative year progresses, the interns enrich my knowledge more and more.

Finally, I am always proud as the interns go on to various rewarding careers, some on to law or graduate school, others to positions in the Ontario Public Service, in government relations firms, in labour unions and non-profit service organizations. From the foundation of the Ontario Legislature Internship Programme with its unique opportunities and experiences, interns make important contributions to public life. Their ten month stay at Queen's Park enriches us all.

Dr Henry J. Jacek

SECOND TERM PLACEMENTS

THE INTERNS CROSS THE FLOOR

QPI PAGE 4

Emily's Placement with MPP Phil McNeely



My second placement was with Phil McNeely, MPP for Ottawa-Orléans and Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of the Environment. I've enjoyed working for Phil, one of the few bilingual MPPs in the legislature, and have had many chances to write Member's Statements in French. It has also been inspiring to work for a member that is both dedicated to his community of Orleans and passionate about his portfolio. Even though Phil had decided not to run in the next election, his energy, enthusiasm, and dedication to his community never ceased to amaze me. I also had a chance to spend a week in the constituency and on many occasions got to learn about issues of vital importance to Orleans from Phil. Phil and his Queen's Park staff Clare and Moji have been a pleasure to work with, and it was also great to get to work with his constituency staff, Annick, Nathalie, and Shawn.

Emily's first placement was with PC MPP Norm Miller

Jessica's Placement with MPP Christine Elliott

My second placement was with Christine Elliott, the MPP for Whitby-Oshawa. She is the Deputy Leader of the Official Opposition and the PC Health Critic. Working in Christine's office has been an amazing experience, and I've had an incredible opportunity to learn from her years of involvement at Queen's Park. Christine is very knowledgeable about the health file, and meeting with stakeholders, attending Ministry briefings, and writing speaking notes and bill summaries on health-related legislation has familiarized me with the health policy landscape in Ontario. Moreover, it's been a privilege to learn from Christine's willingness and ability to work across party lines, for example her work with the Select Committee on Developmental Services. Thank you Christine, Laurel and Paula for being so welcoming and supportive, it's been a pleasure doing my second placement with you!

Jessica's first placement was with Liberal MPP Mitzie Hunter



SECOND TERM PLACEMENTS

THE INTERNS CROSS THE FLOOR

QPI PAGE 5

Mitchell's Placement with MPP Mike Colle



For the second half of OLIP, I moved over to work for the government via Mike Colle, Liberal MPP for Eglinton-Lawrence. The placement was off to a flying start with a constituency visit in my first week. Being an MPP in Toronto, Mike is able to attend many events with ease and hosts lots of interactive town halls.

It is quite enjoyable and remarkable to see how well the people of Eglinton-Lawrence and Mike know one another. The placement has been a sharp contrast to the riding of Oxford, a necessary move for a person like me with a rural upbringing. Many of the issues that arise in the Eglinton-Lawrence riding simply would not happen in my hometown or in other parts of the province such as transit or a lack of public park space.

The placement so far has been quite enjoyable with Mike and his staff, Dustin and Ashley. I look forward to the rest of the placement and working with Mike for the remainder of the term.

*Mitch's first placement was with PC
MPP Ernie Hardeman*

Aaron's Placement with MPP Paul Miller

After my spending my first term in government, I was excited to experience working in opposition. My second placement was with Paul Miller, the NDP MPP for Hamilton East-Stoney Creek. A mechanic-welder-fitter by trade, Miller spent over 30 years working for Stelco, now U.S. Steel, before entering politics. MPP Miller is known as a straight shooter and for his oratory prowess, resulting in him being nicknamed "the Hammer" by those who enjoy his theatrics in Question Period. As a Deputy Speaker and NDP critic for the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport and for the Pan/Parapan Am Games, MPP Miller has a busy workload. I have been kept busy writing speeches, preparing questions for committee and researching various aspects of the upcoming TO 2015 games. I would like to thank Mr. Miller and his staff for the memorable and enjoyable placement.

*Aaron's first placement was with Liberal
MPP John Fraser*



SECOND TERM PLACEMENTS

THE INTERNS CROSS THE FLOOR

QPI PAGE 6

Vanessa's Placement with MPP Laurie Scott



I transitioned from a suburban riding to a rural riding for my second placement with MPP Laurie Scott, who represents Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock. With such a wealth of political experience and knowledge, and a frequent host of OLIP interns, I was sure to be in for an amazing placement with Laurie!

My placement started out better than I could have hoped—writing questions about wind turbines for question period, member's statements, and ministerial responses. As the Critic for Tourism and Culture, Laurie also had a large portfolio to maintain. One of the many perks of being placed with Laurie was visiting her beautiful riding! Aside from great meetings, I couldn't leave without trying Kawartha Dairy ice cream, visiting the murals of NHL players from Haliburton, and shoe shopping with Laurie at Bigley's in Bobcaygeon! My placement with Laurie was incredible. Thank you to Laurie and her amazing EA Carley, with whom I worked so closely and created a friendship.

*Vanessa's first placement was with Liberal
MPP Bas Balkissoon*

Amanda's Placement with MPP Donna Cansfield

For my second placement, I couldn't be happier to be placed with Donna Cansfield, the Liberal MPP for Etobicoke Centre. Having served as the former Minister of Energy, Transportation and Natural Resources, as well as a school board trustee, MPP Cansfield's policy knowledge and expertise is unparalleled. As Donna represents the riding with Canada's largest proportion of senior citizens, it has been inspiring to see her work tirelessly to defend the issues that matter to seniors, and to all her constituents.

Donna firmly believes that learning also takes place outside the walls of Queen's Park, so my placement has been jam-packed with incredible field trips, including the aquarium, the zoo and a trip to the theatre, just to name a few. A special thanks to Donna's Queen's Park staff, Clara and Tihana, as well as the fantastic "ladies of Etobicoke" (Anne, Charlotte and Jesse) for making this placement so fantastic!

*Amanda's first placement was with PC
MPP Lisa Thompson*



SECOND TERM PLACEMENTS

THE INTERNS CROSS THE FLOOR

QPI PAGE 7

Taylor's Placement with MPP Soo Wong



I've had a fantastic time working for MPP Wong! She is the Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Training, Colleges, and Universities and the Vice-Chair of the Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs. MPP Wong is very committed to her riding of Scarborough-Agincourt. I had the opportunity to help with the Leading Women/Leading Girls Building Communities Awards ceremony at L'Amoreaux Collegiate Institute, where Ms. Jennifer Evans, Chief of the Peel Regional Police, was the keynote speaker. At Queen's Park, my work has been equally rewarding. It's been fun working on Member's Statements, briefings for meetings, policy strategy, and letters to constituents and ministries. A great team of people keep this busy office running at such a productive pace. I've had a great time working closely with MPP Wong's staff Kory and Jo-Anne, as well as Fiona, Hilla, Natalie, and Sam at the constituency office.

*Taylor's first placement was with NDP
MPP France Gelinas*

Lauren's Placement with MPP Vic Fedeli

"Never a dull moment" is my go-to response to anyone asking how my placement was in Vic Fedeli's office. This line, as many people around Queen's Park can already gather, is a complete understatement. Having the opportunity to work in the office of the PC Finance Critic during budget season has been a fascinating learning experience. I am convinced that MPP Fedeli is one of the hardest working politicians at Queen's Park and a passionate champion for his constituents in the North, as well as for citizens across Ontario.

I am grateful to the entire Fedeli Team, both at Queen's Park and in the beautiful riding of Nipissing (which I fortunately had the opportunity to visit), for so quickly welcoming me into the office and immediately including me in meaningful discussions and projects. Thank you for a wonderful term-I won't ever look at a yellow tie the same way again!

*Lauren's first placement was with Liberal
MPP Steven Del Duca*



SECOND TERM PLACEMENTS

THE INTERNS CROSS THE FLOOR

QPI PAGE 8

Melinda's Placement with MPP Catherine Fife



There was no awkward settling in once in Catherine Fife's office - straight away I began to work on exciting policy projects, helping with speaking notes, drafting letters, sitting in on stakeholder meetings, creating briefing notes and producing news summaries of salient events. I visited Catherine's riding of Kitchener-Waterloo (or "Canada's Silicon Valley") where I met with local businesses at the Accelerator Centre and toured Brick Brewery.

I have learned a great deal about very specific issues such as tax credits for beer samples, the complexities of legislating and the coexistence of groups with different interests within one society. Appreciative does not adequately describe how I feel about the opportunity to learn so much from Catherine and her always helpful and supportive EA, Grant.

Melinda's first placement was with Liberal MPP Dipika Damerla

Douglas' Placement with MPP Kevin Flynn...and MPP Bob Delaney!

The last few months have taught me that any time you spend in that amazing building should be appreciated because it changes-or disappears-in an instant. My second placement was with Kevin Flynn, who started the placement as the Chief Government Whip and ended it as the month-long Minister of Labour after eleven years on the backbenches. My time with Kevin was an education in loyalty and compassion and I learned that you can affect governmental changes outside of Cabinet with his work on mental health.

My third placement- caused by Minister Flynn's Cabinet appointment-was with Bob Delaney, the incoming Whip. My time with Bob was an education in brevity, in strategy, and in making every action, decision, and word count. Bob is a political tactician and it was a pleasure learning about effective communication and political management from him. Both placements ended abruptly, but I am grateful for every day I spent with Kevin and Bob.

Doug's first placement was with NDP MPP Michael Prue



Emily at the Environmental Commissioner of Ontario



It's been interesting transitioning to the office Ontario's "environmental watchdog" after the partisan atmosphere at Queen's Park, but the warm welcome I received at the office of the Environmental Commissioner of Ontario has made it an easy one. The Commissioner, Gord Miller, and the Deputy Commissioner, Ellen Schwartzel, have been extremely welcoming, and there has been no shortage of things for me to do. From blogs on biodiversity, to work on the annual energy conservation report, my placement in the Environmental Commissioner's office has been an immersive experience in environmental policy in Ontario.

Vanessa at the Auditor General of Ontario

I can attest to the fact that the Office of the Auditor General (OAG) of Ontario is a busy place. I hit the ground running in my first week doing audit research in the area of health. I was briefed by one of the Audit Managers, Naomi, and subsequently received a number of research assignments. It has been an amazing learning experience, understanding an area of policy where I previously had very little knowledge, but now find to be very interesting and complex. I am very happy with the vigorous pace, and have received a warm welcome from all of the staff, including the Auditor General Bonnie Lysyk and the Deputy Auditor General Gary Peall. The next few weeks will be busy, but I am really looking forward to the opportunity!



Amanda at the British Consulate



While I was sad to leave Queen's Park, I was thrilled to have the opportunity to work at the British Consulate General in Toronto. Not knowing much about consular functions, I was happy to have the opportunity to learn about the British Consulate General in Toronto and the role they play in developing partnerships between the United Kingdom and Canada. I am looking forward to helping with some of their various partnerships and initiatives, including the UK Trade and Investment and their Science and Innovation Network. A big thank you to the British Consul General Jonathan Dart and Deputy Consul General Fern Horine, and Mathieu Blandford for welcoming me to the Consulate!

Jessica and Doug at Ipsos Reid



For our election placement, we were lucky enough to be placed with Ipsos Reid, immersed in the world of election polling and entrenched in the mission of determining whether the types of narratives we used to write have any effect on the people of Ontario. In our placement, we have the great fortune to work with John Wright, Senior VP of Public Affairs at Ipsos and an OLIP alumnus (1980-81). John and his team have wholly welcomed us to the firm, ensuring that we are involved in what occurs behind the scenes with the polling data from the ongoing election campaign, as well as other projects being undertaken by Ipsos touching on fields of market research and research communications.

As the only paired intern election placement, Ipsos has exceeded expectations and caters directly to our two interests. For Doug, the opportunity to deal with political polling and the delivery of Ipsos' research to its media partner, CTV News, is an incredible opportunity to merge two of the things he is most interested in: politics and the media. For Jessica, her background in research methods and keen interest in electoral behavior has paid dividends and the chance to participate in the inner workings of polling research has been an incredible experience.

Taylor at the Chartered Professional Accountants Ontario

For my mini-placement I have the privilege of working with Chris May and the public affairs team at Chartered Professional Accountants – Ontario (CPA). It's an exciting time to be at the CPA, in the midst of the amalgamation of the accounting designations. At this point, CPA has already entered into a unification agreement with Certified Management Accountants Ontario (CMA) and is in the process of joining with Certified General Accountants Ontario (CGA).

I'm looking forward to attending the town halls that the CPA and CMA are hosting across the province to educate members about the amalgamation process. It's also been a pleasure sharing an office with Chris. I have my computer and a name plate set up on the other side of his desk and we often take time during the day to talk politics. Overall, it's been a great experience and a nice way to end the OLIP year before our London trip!



Aaron at the Law Society of Upper Canada



After the initial disappointment of an election, and knowing that my second term placement was over, I was relieved to find out that I would be spending the remainder of my OLIP time at the Law Society of Upper Canada. Situated in downtown Toronto at the beautiful and historic Osgoode Hall, the Law Society is the governing body which regulates lawyers and paralegals in Toronto.

While my time at the Law Society will be short lived, I will be spending my remaining month working on an access to justice project alongside Sheena Weir, the Director of Public Affairs, and former OLIP intern Grant Wedge, the Executive Director of Policy, Equity and Public Affairs. This project is a collaboration among many different stakeholders being spearheaded by the Law Society in order to facilitate better access and equity in the legal system.

Lauren at RBC

I was fortunate to complete both of my placements with MPPs who have finance portfolios, which helped to bolster my interest in financial policy. Once the election was called I was thrilled to learn that I would be working at the Royal Bank of Canada.

RBC has been an avid supporter of the programme through both sponsorship and frequently inviting the interns to events. My first week in the Regulatory and Government Affairs division of the bank has been wonderful. I am extremely appreciative of how welcoming everyone has been. I am excited about the interesting research assignments I was quickly assigned and the great events they have invited me to. I look forward to learning more about financial policy and the inner workings of government affairs at a bank. Thank you RBC, especially Paul Yeung, for welcoming me into your office and for your continued support of OLIP.



Melinda at Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations



My placement during the election campaign at the Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations has been an extraordinary opportunity to put into practice what I learned during my first two placements outside of the legislature.

Erica, Mark, Graeme and the OCUFA team were welcoming and ensured that I was fully immersed in office proceedings and the election time work. Erica, an OLIP alumna, had a list of tasks ready to go!

The election added to the usual research and advocacy work that OCUFA does; we are also communicating with the members about the significance of platforms and policies for the faculty and higher education sector more broadly. In the office I have helped with a variety of writing tasks including short responses for party statements, creating riding profiles with candidate information for the members to stay up to date; and editing and updating past information packages among other exciting work. I feel fortunate to have had a bonus placement this year- especially at OCUFA.

Mitch at Ontario Real Estate Association

With the election upon us, all interns have had the opportunity to work with sponsors of the program or Independent Offices of the Legislature for our final months. I was no exception as I was placed with the Ontario Real Estate Association in their government relations department. Not only is this a great chance to experience how stakeholders engage with Queen's Park, it's also an opportunity to learn about a new industry. With a family background in real estate, I am quite interested in the inner workings of OREA. So far, the placement has been excellent with lots of opportunities to contribute, various responsibilities already delegated to me, and even a road-trip to Kitchener-Waterloo in my first week.

In addition, I have the pleasure of working alongside Sylvia Pena and Matthew Thornton, who comprise the government relations team, and are both former OLIP interns. This unique perspective allows us to relate at a much closer level and to talk about everything from Ontario politics to moving to the "big city". In fact, Matthew and I are even from the same hometown of Oro-Medonte. All in all, having two interns as colleagues has been an added bonus to a so far great placement. I look forward to working with Matt and Sylvia for the duration of my internship!



OH THE PEOPLE YOU'LL MEET...

PREMIERS, FORMER SPEAKER & LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

QPI PAGE 13

The OLIP tradition of attempting to meet every living former Premier of Ontario continues! We have been fortunate to have almost completed this task. David Peterson was very candid, and shared advice about getting out of politics to gain insight and experience prior to returning. He also discussed the impact that he has had in both the public and private sectors since leaving his post of Premier. Mike Harris was our next meeting. He provided his perspective on the current government, and potential big issues in the impending election.



Meeting David Peterson

The last meeting that we can reflect on is Ernie Eves. He covered his 24 years of experience, and everything from partisanship and camaraderie in the legislature to third party advertising. Mr. Eves described how he fell into politics, and has hardly been able to leave it since – even mentioning that he will be involved in supporting candidates throughout the current election.



Meeting Ernie Eves

Finally, while we have not met them yet, I am sure that our meetings with Bill Davis and Bob Rae will prove to be just as intriguing as the meetings that we have had with the other former Premiers! (Especially since we now know that Bob Rae golfs with both Mike Harris and Ernie Eves, and each former Premier has mentioned something about the other throughout our conversation with them.)



Meeting Mike Harris

Steve Peters was on our list of former legislative staff to meet with considering he had a great reputation as the Speaker from 2007-2010. He shared stories with us from his position in Cabinet, and the politics that occurs...in politics. We also had the opportunity to meet with the Honourable David Onley, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario. Mr. Onley described his role as LG, building a legacy of creating awareness about accessibility, and we ended our visit with a tour of the 'About Face' portrait exhibition in his suite.



With Lieutenant Governor David Onley

SPONSORSHIP

MEETING OUR SPONSORS

QPI PAGE 14

The Ontario Legislature Internship Programme is extremely fortunate to have an incredible group of sponsors who are not only willing to support our programme financially, but spend some quality time with us too! We were thrilled to hold meetings, take tours, and enjoy meals (and sometimes even a drink or two) with them over this past term, allowing us to learn more about these different companies, associations, and unions. Without them, our constituency trips, comparative study tours of Ottawa, Yellowknife, and the United Kingdom, as well as our attendance at the Canadian Political Science Association, would not be possible.

Since our last magazine, we have been fortunate enough to meet with the following sponsors: Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations, Investment Funds Institute of Canada, Insurance Bureau of Canada, Labatt, the Chartered Professional Accountants Ontario, Shoppers Drug Mart, Ontario Real Estate Association, Law Society of Upper Canada, Estee Lauder and the Public Affairs Association of Canada. Thank you again to all of our current sponsors, those who have increased their sponsorship level, and our new sponsors! We greatly appreciate everything you do for us.



Interns at Estee Lauder



Meeting the Chartered Professional Accountants of Ontario



OLIP meets with Professional Engineers Ontario



*UK Consul General Jonathan Dart and
Deputy Consul General Fern Horine*

MORE MEETINGS!

CITY HALL, CBC, TMX, NUCLEAR PLANTS, AND MORE

QPI PAGE 15

One of the many benefits of being an OLIP intern is the far reaching access to people and places that most would only dream of. This year, the interns were fortunate to meet with two of the country's most well-known and respected media figures in Peter Mansbridge and Steve Paikin. Both visits incorporated tours of their studios, CBC and TVO respectively, and included open discussions on a wide range of topics.



On the set of the Agenda with Steve Paikin

While the OLIP programme is centered around Queen's Park, the interns had the opportunity to dip their feet into municipal politics as well. With a visit to Toronto City Hall, the interns met with current Deputy Mayor Norm Kelly. The interns were also fortunate enough to meet with former City of Toronto Mayor David Miller and current candidate John Tory.



Meeting John Tory



Meeting Alison Loat of Samara

The interns were also able to meet with Alison Loat, the co-Founder and Executive Director of Samara, whose organization works to improve political participation in Canada. Ms. Loat discussed her new book and the extensive research her organization undertook to study the way that politics works in Canada.



Touring the TMX

Outside of meeting with politicians and the people who cover them, the interns were lucky to tour many places not related to politics. In February the interns traveled to the Pickering nuclear power plant where they were shown everything from the cooling towers to the nuclear reactors. In April the interns got a tour of the TMX where they toured the trading floor and received a lesson on how mining companies are bought and sold in the Toronto market.

SPECIAL EVENTS

QPI PAGE 16

Throughout the internship, we occasionally get the opportunity to attend special events thanks to the generosity of our sponsors and supporters. A highly anticipated tradition is the Annual Churchill Society Dinner, a truly grand affair! The event was held at the Fairmont Royal York Hotel and the purpose is to celebrate an individual who advances the cause of parliamentary democracy. This year's honoured award winner was the Honourable Jean Charest.



At the Churchill Society annual dinner with the Hon. Jean Charest

We also had the opportunity to attend the Certified General Accountants of Ontario's annual conference held at the Westin Harbour Castle in Toronto. It was an opportunity for us to learn about the challenges and possibilities for the revitalization of Canada Post through a keynote speech from the organization's President and CEO (and accountant) Deepak Chopra.

Jim Dickmeyer, the U.S. Consul General to Toronto kindly organized a Christmas party at his residence as a networking opportunity for OLIP, as well as the interns at the consulate and the Atlantic Council of Canada.



At the CGA annual conference with Deepak Chopra, CEO of Canada Post

With support from Beth Elder, a former intern who now works at the University of Toronto's School of Public Policy and Governance, we got the chance to attend the Cadario Lecture, featuring Robert Putnam entitled, "The Widening Opportunity Gap: Growing up rich and growing up poor in America today." Another fascinating talk many interns attended was hosted by the Churchill Society and featured a debate on the future of the Senate, with MPs Stephane Dion, Craig Scott, and Erin O'Toole as discussants, and Steve Paikin as the moderator.

Another highlight was the chance for the interns to attend the party fundraising dinners. The Law Society of Upper Canada provided tickets to the PC Leader's Dinner and the NDP's Premier Event, and SEIU Healthcare provided a ticket to the Liberal Heritage Dinner. This offered many of us our first glimpse of the scale of major party fundraisers—from the non-partisan sidelines of course!

We thank all of our valued sponsors and supporters for enriching our experience in OLIP this year by extending invitations to many events throughout the year!

HONOURARY INTERN

INTRODUCING THE NEWEST MEMBER OF THE EXTENDED OLIP FAMILY

QPI PAGE 17

When someone has a record of going above and beyond for interns, OLIP has a tradition of recognizing them as an honorary intern. This year we are happy to bestow this title to Gail Bennett. Gail is the Principal Clerk at the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories, and has organized **seven** intern study tours to Yellowknife! Originally from northern Ontario, Gail and her husband set out for the true north once their children had grown and left home. Organizing the intern visit to NWT gives Gail a chance to share her love of the north, as well as their unique consensus-style government. She also emphasizes it's a wonderful opportunity for the interns, since so many people in Canada do not get a chance to experience life north of 60. We can attest that the trip to NWT is a highlight for interns, and this is largely a result of Gail's hard work putting together our schedule of interesting, engaging and thought-provoking meetings. We are happy to welcome Gail to our long list of OLIP honourees!



*The interns with newest Honourary Intern
Gail Bennett!*

And Introducing the 2014-2015 OLIP Interns...

Clare Devereux	(Vancouver, BC) BA Political Science & Economics, MA Political Science, McGill University
Christine Eamer	(Brockville, ON) iBA Political Science (Bilingual Certificate in Public Administration & Public Policy, Glendon College, York University
Emily Hewitt	(Langley, BC) BA International Relations, University of British Columbia
Justin Khorana-Medeiros	(Toronto, ON) BA Political Science & Philosophy, MA European Politics, University of Toronto
Kristy May	(East Gwillimbury, ON) BES International Development, University of Waterloo, MA Political Science, University of Guelph
Kristen Neagle	(Etobicoke, ON) BA Political Science, MA Political Science, McMaster University
Patrick Sackville	(London, ON) BA Political Science, MA Political Science, The University of Western Ontario
Jakub Sikora	(Whitby, ON) BA Political Science & Philosophy, MA Political Science, York University
Matthew Stanton	(Beamsville, ON) BA Political Science & Criminology, The University of Western Ontario
Aaron Van Tassel	(Mississauga, ON) BA History, University of Guelph, MA History, The University of Western Ontario

OLIP GOES TO OTTAWA

QPI PAGE 18

In early December, the OLIP group headed out on our annual comparative study trip to Ottawa. Our first trek outside of the hallowed halls of the Pink Palace had us quite excited, especially as many had studied federal politics in university.



The Co-Operators sponsored the visit to Ottawa

We were greeted by our federal counterparts, the Parliamentary Interns, and enjoyed both their help in navigating the nation's capital and getting to know a group of ten like-minded individuals. We were all truly excited for the week ahead and the many, many, meetings we would soon undertake.



Meeting the Honorable Jason Kenney

We were privileged to meet many current politicians including Green Party Leader Elizabeth May, former Liberal Party Leader and current MP Stéphane Dion, Senator Grant Mitchell, former OLIP Intern and current MP Chris Charlton, Mayor of Ottawa Jim Watson, Bloc Québécois leader Daniel Paille, MP Niki Ashton, MP and son of a current Ontario MPP, Erin O'Toole, and Cabinet Ministers Tony Clement and Jason Kenney.



Meeting the Honourable Stéphane Dion



Meeting NDP MP Niki Ashton

Each of these meetings was unique and lent a powerful insight into the workings of both the House of Commons and the Senate. There was a common theme however with the interns taking the opportunity to ask these members tough questions about everything from Quebec separatism to current policies to levels of partisanship in the House. We appreciated the honest answers and learned greatly from these experiences.



With the Honorable Justice Rosalie Abella



The interns meet Mayor Jim Watson

The final group of meetings we had centered around the inner workings of political parties. This included a few members from the Prime Minister's Office where interesting insights about the life of a Prime Minister were discussed.

In addition to politicians, we had the opportunity to meet with many of the people who hold non-partisan positions and help make Ottawa run. We met with the Clerk of the House of Commons, Audrey O'Brien; the Speaker of the House, the Honourable Andrew Scheer; the Clerk of the Senate, Charles Robert; the Lobbying Commissioner Karen Sheppard; the former Parliamentary Budget Officer, Kevin Page; reporter, Jeffrey Simpson; and many others. These meetings featured lively discussion about topics like the future of the Senate, the role of the Prime Minister's Office, and the importance and limit of the roles of independent officers.



Meeting Speaker Andrew Scheer

We were truly grateful to every one of the people that we had the privilege of meeting. Ottawa, without a doubt, was an incredibly memorable trip and one that will be looked upon fondly by our group of interns for years to come!

Multum in Parvo: Our Trip to Yellowknife

Our intern house stood divided. Important decisions were not only being made in the legislature but within our OLIP office walls - whether to go North or South for our annual intern tour of another legislature in North America. We used the tactics we picked up from working on the sidelines with our members (and maybe House of Cards) to attempt to sway the other interns. Our top two choices were Nashville and Yellowknife, with Yellowknife side taking the victory in the end. We are happy to say that even the interns who feared the cold and isolation had a wonderful time in Canada's North.



Gail Bennett, Principal Clerk of the NWT Legislature, once again created a schedule which matched our individual interests and ensured that we learned as much as possible about the territory in the week we spent there. None of us had been this far North before so we were unsure of what to expect other than what we had heard from past interns. It was more diverse, exciting and beautiful than we imagined.

During our visit we met with the Yellowknife version of us, intern Don, who gave us a detailed tour of the picturesque legislative building-we especially enjoyed the descriptions of the artwork.



*Meeting the Commissioner of the NWT
Honourable George Tuccaro*

We met with various other employees of the legislature including Ms. Langlois, Acting Clerk, who described the consensus style of government employed in the Legislature which is a reflection of the indigenous culture. Research analysts Mr. Selleck and Ms. Tumchewics graciously accompanied us for lunch at the Dancing Moose Café - the conversation and food was fantastic (yes, the quinoa salad trend has reached here!). We observed a session of the assembly and met with the Speaker of the Legislature who was incredibly warm and welcoming to us. Mr. Jacobson personally took us dog sledding over frozen lakes and tundra in the middle of the night. It was like something out of a Narnia novel and felt very surreal.



At Buffalo Airways



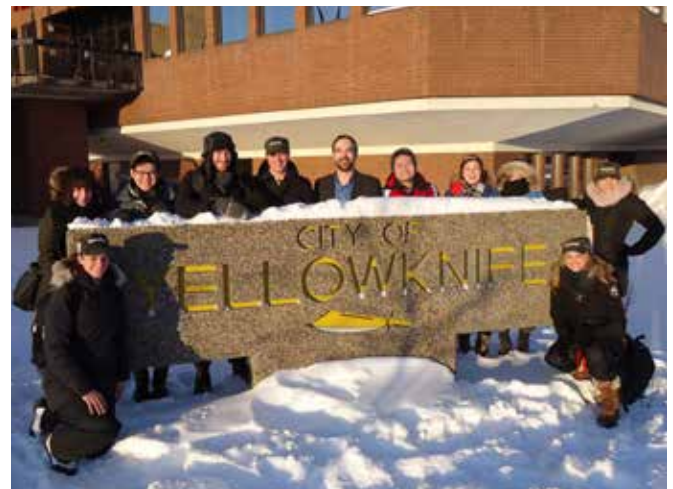
With Premier Bob McLeod and Minister Miltenberger

We also had a chance to meet with the Standing Committee on Priorities and Planning, the Minister of Health and Social Programs, Mr. Rossouw from the Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment who spoke to us about fur marketing (and even brought samples), the Sergeant-at-Arms, the Deputy Minister of the Department of Aboriginal Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations, the Minister of Finance Michael Miltenberger and the Honourable Robert McLeod, the Premier of Northwest territories. Secretary to Cabinet, Mr. Cash, gave us an extensive presentation on politics and government in the North. We spoke with Ms. Catholique the newly appointed Languages Commissioner for the NWT and the Honourable George Tuccaro, the Commissioner of the NWT who had wise words of advice for us.



With Dechinta founder Erin Ballantyne

Outside of the Assembly, we met with Yellowknife's dedicated Mayor Heyck who treated us to donuts from Canada's busiest Tim Hortons location, Mr. Paradis from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, Ms. Tremblay from Ecology North, Mr. Spence of the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency and Mr. Purka from the Department of Transportation who told us about the new highway which will cross vertically across the territory. We also had two exciting tours of the Joint Task Force North Headquarters with Major Buehl and Major Schubert and the Buffalo Airways Ltd. Hangar (which you may be familiar with from the shows Arctic Air and Ice Pilots). Further highlights included learning about devolution and the Deline Land Negotiations from Mr. Gaudet and the Dechinta land-based learning centre from founder Erin Ballantyne.



Outside of City Hall with Yellowknife Mayor Mark Heyck

Like the city Yellowknife's motto in our title suggests, there was an extraordinary amount of things to learn about in small place and for many of us, not enough time. By the end of the trip it was not the cold that had crept into our bones, but the warmth of the people, the beauty of the wilderness around us and cultures we experienced.

ALUMNI UPDATES

RECENT ALUMNI UPDATES

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Emily Bain (1999-2000) Director, Government & Community Relations, Colleges Ontario, Toronto

Connor Bays (2012-2013) Manager, Development & Alumni Relations, Canadian Merit Scholarship Foundation, Toronto

Anthony Boland (2012-2013) Economist, Municipal Infrastructure Policy and Planning Division, Ministry of Infrastructure, Toronto (effective September 2014)

Bryan Bossin (2010-2011) Press Secretary and Communications Assistant, Minister of Rural Affairs, Toronto

Meghan Buckham (2008-2009) First Nations Relations Advisor, Province of British Columbia, Fort Saint John

Roderick Cumming (1993-1994) Director, Corporate Affairs, Toronto 2015 Pan/ParaPan American Games Organizing Committee

Ann Wales DeRabbie (1994-1995) Director, Leadership and Mergers & Acquisitions, Canadian Banking Human Resources, Scotiabank, Toronto

Paul Di Ianni (2009-2010) External Relations Officer, Ontario College of Teachers, Toronto

David Donovan (2008-2009) Government Relations Advisor, Enbridge Gas Distribution, Toronto

Christiana Fizet (2009-2010) Program Coordinator, Society for Educational Visits and Exchanges in Canada (SEVEC), Ottawa

Ted Flett (2000-2001) University of New Brunswick Faculty of Law, Class of 2016, Fredericton, New Brunswick

Gillian Hanson (2012-2013) Communications and Outreach Coordinator, Manitoba Institute for Policy Research, Winnipeg

Jennifer Harewood (1998-1999) Senior Policy Advisor, Safe Schools and Student Well-Being Branch, Healthy Schools Unit, Ministry of Education, Government of Ontario, Toronto

Nicola Hepburn (2004-2005) Manager, Policy and Research, Department of Government Communications, Scotiabank, Toronto

Kim Hokan (2008-2009) Senior Policy Advisor, Leadership Development Branch and School Board Governance Branch, Ministry of Education, Government of Ontario, Toronto

Tristan E. Landry (1997-1998) Counsellor and Head of Political and Trade Section, Embassy of Canada, Port-au-Prince, Haiti

Lauri Young Leduc (1997-1998) Legislative Coordinator, Clerk's Office, City of Hamilton, Ontario

Kevin Machida (1999-2000) Senior Communications Advisor, Industry Canada, Ottawa

Sine MacKinnon (1986-1987) Director of Communications and External Relations, The Change Foundation, Toronto

Adam McDonald (2004-2005) Research and Communications Director, Ontario Professional Fire Fighters Association

David Michon (2007-2008) Managing Editor, Winkreative, London, England

Alison Nankivell (1987-1988) Vice-President, Venture Capital Action Plan, Business Development Bank of Canada, Ottawa.

Vonbrun Palmer (1990-1991) Chief Government and Public Affairs Officers and Chief Primary Officer, Toronto Real Estate Board

Matthew Thornton (2007-2008) Director, Government Relations, Ontario Real Estate Association, Toronto

Jennifer Harrington (1999-2000) Director for British Columbia and the Yukon, The Children's Wish Foundation of Canada, Burnaby, British Columbia

Mike Smith (2010-2011) Senior Advisor/Team Lead, Ontario Ministry of Energy, Government of Ontario

Lauren Starr (2006-2007) Career Services Officer and Industry Specialist, Faculty of Science, Western University, London, Ontario

Aamir Tayieb (2007-2008) Analyst, Imagine Education in Canada, Council of Ministers of Education, Toronto

Eleni Tsoutsias (2006-2007) Economic Specialist, Ministry of Finance, Government of Ontario, Toronto

Natalie Tutunzis (2009-2010) Communications Coordinator, Strategic Communications, Metrolinx, Toronto

Grant Wedge (1977-1978) Executive Director, Strategic Policy, Communications and Corporate Relations, Law Society of Upper Canada, Toronto

Gordon Wong (1991-1992) Manager, Public & Government Affairs Africa, ExxonMobil, Houston, Texas



OLIP does not generate politicians with frequency. You can count, on one hand, the number of successfully elected politicians who have graduated from OLIP and there are even fewer who have served in a cabinet. Bob Speller (81-82) served as the 30th Minister of Agriculture in Paul Martin's first cabinet from 2003 to 2004 and is the only OLIP alumni to have served in the

Executive Council at the provincial or federal levels.

As an intern, Bob was placed with Bob Runciman, a future provincial cabinet minister and currently a Conservative Senator, and Sheila Copps, with whom Bob would later serve as an MP in Ottawa.

Bob was first elected to Parliament in the 1988 election—the only Liberal to unseat a Tory in the Mulroney landslide—using unconventional, yet completely sensible techniques. The former riding of Haldiman-Norfolk-Brant was large and spread out. Rural areas of the riding had never experienced canvassing by a politician given the lack of return compared to the urban areas. Speller took advantage of this, campaigning from farm to farm, beginning a 16-year career in Ottawa. Only 32 at the time, Speller quickly rose through the ranks and received the fourth most questions of the Liberal opposition caucus, in spite of being a backbencher.

Bob quickly became one of Prime Minister Martin's trusted advisors for agricultural issues. During his tenure, Minister Speller dealt with outbreaks in Mad Cow as well as Avian Flu, issues which shook the entirety of the national agricultural sector.

From OLIP, Bob gained a sense of confidence which was formed from witnessing the MPPs during his year as an intern. The experiences he gained from the program helped spark a career as a political staffer, Member of Parliament, and as a Minister of the Crown.

The Committee For 94

The lack of gender balance in the Ontario Legislative Assembly endures, as an increasingly demographically dynamic electorate is represented, still, by elected representatives who are predominantly older, white males. In 1984, a group of individuals met claims of “incredible progress” with a definitive “not good enough.”

The ‘Committee for ‘94’ worked towards the goal of gender parity in the House of Commons by 1994. For three years, the Board of Internal Economy sponsored a mature female, coming out of university, to become involved in the legislative process at Queen's Park. The Committee reached out to then-OLIP director, Fred Fletcher, and the Committee's first intern, Yvonne Lavalee (87-88), was folded into the program as the de facto ninth intern.

The Committee looked to other fields when making their selection in an era where most of the interns had a background in political science or the humanities. The second Committee intern, Karen Jones (88-89), came into the program having worked as a nurse while pursuing her B.A. in Ethics and Biology at the University of Toronto. Karen had also worked with Aboriginal groups in British Columbia and the United States and her breadth of experience undoubtedly brought with it a unique perspective to the internship.

The Committee's relationship with OLIP only lasted two years, after which the Committee intern became an independent program. Gender parity in the legislature was never realized but the Committee for '94 made important contributions in pushing for greater female participation in the legislative process. It echoes into the present, reminding us that—twenty years after the Committee's goal and thirty years after the Committee's inception—gender parity in the legislature remains on the distant horizon.

LOOKING AHEAD...

ACROSS THE LAKE, ACROSS THE POND

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Canadian Political Science Association

The interns headed to Brock University in St. Catharines, Ontario from May 27-29th this year to attend the annual Canadian Political Science Association conference.

At this conference the interns each presented a paper that is the culmination of a year's hard work, research and interviews with various MPPs and experts from across the legislature.

Annual Trip to London

The interns are also eagerly anticipating the final trip of the year, the parliamentary study tour in London, England. While this trip means the culmination of the OLIP year, the interns are excited for this fantastic learning opportunity. The interns are looking forward to seeing the British Parliament and meet with various legislative and political figures in the United Kingdom. A special thanks to all the staff at the British Consulate for all their help in planning the trip and ensuring it is a success.

This year's paper topics are:

Emily Barrette	In Her Own Words: Women and Politics in the Ontario Legislature
Jessica Behnke	Expanding the Centre? Examining the Role of Backbench MPPs on Cabinet Committees in Ontario
Mitchell Davidson	The Evolution of Question Period in the Ontario Legislative Assembly: Uniqueness and Utilities
Aaron Denhartog	The Development of Ontario Mineral Resources: The Involvement and Impact of Legislator Participation in the Ring of Fire Proposal
Vanessa Dupuis	Ontario's New Financial Accountability Office: A Precedent-Setting Initiative or a Political Diversion?
Amanda Garofalo	Specialized Knowledge: A Comparison of the Public Service, Ministerial Political Staff and Legislators
Taylor Lew	Stakeholder Participation in the Annual Budget Planning Cycle
Lauren Millar	Interest Association Advertising and Ontario Politics
Melinda Munding	The Representation of Children's Interests in the Ontario Parliament: Looking at the Mandate of the Provincial Advocate for Children and Youth
Douglas Wong	Mitigating Hyper-Partisanship

LOOKING BACK...

AROUND THE RIDING

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An essential part of the internship experience is developing a greater understanding of the vastness and diversity of Ontario. As part of our MPP placements, interns got to visit their members' ridings and experience first hand the issues that matter most to Ontarians. This year, the interns got to visit ridings across the province including: Nickel Belt, Nipissing, Parry Sound-Muskoka, Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock, Ottawa-Orleans, Huron-Bruce, Ottawa-South, Whitby-Oshawa, Hamilton-Stoney Creek-Mountain, Scarborough-Rouge River, Etobicoke Centre, Oakville, Scarborough-Guildwood, Mississauga East-Cooksville, Kitchener-Waterloo, Eglinton-Lawrence, Vaughan, Mississauga-Streetsville, Scarborough-Agincourt, and Beaches-East York.



Lauren at Stack Brewery in Sudbury



Amanda in Huron-Bruce



Vanessa visiting Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock



The beautiful scenery of Parry Sound-Muskoka



Taylor at the Whitefish Lake First Nation Band Office

OUR SPONSORS

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MAJOR SPONSORS



OTHER SPONSORS



Among our new sponsors this year, OLIP welcomed two new major sponsors.



The Public Affairs Association of Canada (PAAC) is a national, not-for-profit organization founded in 1984. Our principal objective is to help public affairs professionals succeed in their work by providing them with forums for professional development, the exchange of new ideas and networking. PAAC's growing membership represents a cross-section of the many disciplines involved in public affairs including policy development, government relations, lobbying, communications, opinion research and public relations. Our members come from both the private and public sectors, in areas such as industrial and financial companies, crown corporations, consulting firms, small business, ministries and municipalities, PR organizations, trade associations, educational institutions, law and accounting firms. The events we offer range from full professional development conferences to tools and techniques sessions and high-profile speakers. We also publish a comprehensive newsletter featuring the latest PAAC and industry news, as well as online job postings from across the country.

Canada's Research-Based
Pharmaceutical Companies



Rx&D Canada's Research-Based Pharmaceutical Companies is the association of leading research-based pharmaceutical companies dedicated to improving the health of Canadians through the discovery and development of new medicines and vaccines. Our community represents the men and women working for more than 50 member companies which invest more than \$1 billion in research and development each year to fuel Canada's knowledge-based economy, contributing over \$3 billion to the Canadian economy. Guided by our Code of Ethical Practices, our membership is committed to working in partnership with governments, private payers, healthcare professionals and stakeholders in a highly ethical manner.

LEAD SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT

The Ontario Real Estate Association (OREA) has developed a unique working relationship with the OLIP interns over the past 20 years, most recently, becoming a lead sponsor in 2012.

OREA is one of Ontario's most respected professional associations. Founded in 1922 by a handful of real estate professionals, today, OREA represents over 58000 REALTORS® and 40 local real estate boards and associations. It serves its members through a variety of publications, educational programs and brings a united voice to the

Ontario Legislature on behalf of REALTORS®. The association is committed to promoting high industry standards, protecting consumers and promoting home ownership. OREA is the only authorized provider of real estate licensing courses in the province. Committed to education and professionalism, OREA takes special pride in helping nurture young people's interest in politics and create tomorrow's leaders. OREA is a proud sponsor of the Ontario Legislature Internship Programme, and boasts two former interns as part of their government relations staff.



Queen's Park Insider

OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE ONTARIO LEGISLATURE INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME

SPRING 2014

Home, car or small business... Your best insurance is an **INSURANCE BROKER**

You have the right to **Choose**. You have the right to **Personal Attention**. You have the right to **Perfect Fit Coverage**. You have the right to **Local Support**. You have the right to **Expert Advice** you can Trust.

As an Ontario insurance consumer, you have rights and under the Insurance Act, related laws and regulations, your rights include:

- You have the right to be treated fairly by your insurance company.
- You have the right to change or cancel your insurance policy at any time.
- You have the right to prompt and fair handling of claims.
- You have the right to dispute your insurance company's refusal to pay benefits.
- You have the right to register a complaint about your insurance company.

If you have questions about your insurance rights or responsibilities, contact the Financial Services Commission of Ontario (FSCO), the government's regulator of auto insurance at: www.fSCO.gov.on.ca or 1-800-668-0128.

To find a Broker near you, visit



www.MyInsuranceShopper.ca



Since 1996, the Insurance Brokers Association of Ontario (IBAO) has been a proud sponsor of OLIP. In 2010 the association took on the role of lead sponsor.

The Insurance Brokers Association of Ontario is a voluntary membership organization that serves over 11,500 independent insurance brokers across the province. The organization is a politically active group that represents their members at the Ontario Legislature, regulatory bodies, as well as industry commissions and associations.

The Insurance Brokers Association of Ontario member brokers play an active role in their communities with strong vested interest in serving consumers across the province. They volunteer at many local events and participate in many career fairs at high schools, colleges and universities, supporting and encouraging young Ontarians to build solid futures in this province.

LEAD SPONSORS

Vale, one of the world's largest mining companies, prides itself on transforming base elements into useful ingredients that improve our everyday lives while employing sustainable mining practices whenever possible. The minerals Vale mines, for example, are used to build and create essential items like batteries, cars, medical equipment, and computers.

Vale's history in the Canadian mining sector is rich, and its presence in Ontario spans over 100 years. We are proud to be a longtime contributor to both the country's and the province's economies and communities, and we look forward to a bright and prosperous future in Canada.

The Ontario Legislature Internship Programme is providing first-class experiences to Ontario's best and brightest emerging civic leaders, and Vale is proud to support such a high-quality programme that aligns with our commitment to enhancing education in the countries in which we operate.



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