

Queen's Park Insider

OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE ONTARIO LEGISLATURE INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME
SPRING/SUMMER 2013



CONNOR
BAYS



ANTHONY
BOLAND



JOSHUA
BORDEN



ELIZABETH
ELDER



ANDREA
ERNESAKS



GILLIAN
HANSON



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KATZ



HIBAH
SIDAT



LAUREN
TARASUK



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Welcome to the Ontario Legislature Internship Programme. On behalf of this year's Interns, we invite you to explore the spring edition of Queen's Park Insider, our bi-annual publication reviewing our many activities and adventures as OLIP Interns. This year has seen yet another unique beginning to the internship with Premier Dalton McGuinty announcing his resignation and the Legislature proroguing, changing placements as Members were appointed to Cabinet and lots of rumours of a possible election.

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 daily work of the Legislature.

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Introducing the 2013-2014 OLIP Interns

Emily Barrette - Jessica Behnke - Mitchell Davidson

Aaron Denhartog - Vanessa Dupuis - Amanda Garafalo

Taylor Lew - Lauren Millar - Melinda Munding - Douglas Wong

Applications for the 2014-15 OLIP year will begin in December 2013.

The deadline is February 28, 2014



From Queen's Park to the Nation's capital, the great white north and beyond!

Time flies during OLIP as we jet set from Queen's Park to constituencies around the province to Buffalo Airways in Yellowknife (featured in the cover photo) and beyond. In fact, the theme of flight captures many dimensions of our experience over the past few months.

Kathleen Wynne's victory at the Liberal leadership convention brought the prorogation of the Legislature to an end - and not a moment too soon for us to hit the ground running in our second placements. Many of us sought to complement our first placements and round out our education by working with one new and one veteran MPP, one female and one male MPP, or one rural and one urban MPP as we got a taste of both government and opposition life.

Comparative study has been one of our preferred ways to learn, especially the comparative study tours that are part of the internship programme, which take us to Ottawa, Victoria, Yellowknife, and the United Kingdom. In this issue we tell you the highlights of our trips to Ottawa and Yellowknife through travel journal style entries. Then we give you a taste of our upcoming visits to the UK Parliament and to Victoria, British Columbia where we will present our research papers at the annual Canadian Political Science Association Conference.

In this edition, we also take a trip down memory lane as our dear retiring Programme Coordinator Lorraine Luski recounts her experience arriving at Queen's Park in 1983 as an OLIP intern and compares it to the internship programme today. We are sad to lose her invaluable contribution to the programme, but wish her all the best on her retirement.

In addition to Lorraine's unique relationship to OLIP as an intern and a programme coordinator, this issue features the stories of two alumni couples whose OLIP experience played an important role in not only their professional, but also their personal lives. Look out for our alumni feature on legislative liaisons, also known as O-L-I-P L-O-V-E.

As we near the end of our intern year, we too are filled with feelings of love toward the program, our administrative team, and of course the members, staff, alumni, journalists and other professionals who have enriched our time at Queen's Park. Our love is tinged with some worry about what our next steps will be, but we know that participating in OLIP has been one of the best ways we could imagine launching our careers.

Our group's passions and goals are varied. Among us are idealistic intellectuals, highly-motivated novice staffers, budding politicians, and aspiring lawyers. We differ in demeanour, abilities and outlook, but share a belief in the importance of public service and a deep commitment to civic participation and contributing to the public good.

I know that many of you readers share this belief. And so I invite you to read about the experiences that have shaped us over the second half of our internship, as told by the 2012-2013 Ontario Legislative Interns.

Bonne lecture et bon voyage!

Leanna Katz

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

DR. HENRY J. JACEK, PROGRAMME DIRECTOR

QPI PAGE 4

This is my ninth 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.

Sadly I must announce that Lorraine Luski, Programme Coordinator for the last eight years, is leaving us this year. Lorraine is taking a well-deserved retirement from her position as a Research Officer with the Legislative Library and Research Services. Lorraine has made an outstanding contribution to the Programme especially in her role as mentor and proof reader for our magazine. All of us wish Lorraine a very happy retirement and we know we will see her from time-to-time in the future.

I must also note the stellar contribution of Programme Coordinator William (Will) Short in his first year with OLIP. Will has taken to this responsibility with great enthusiasm and both the interns and the other members of the administrative team have benefitted greatly from his advice and initiatives. Most of the time, of course, Will is kept busy as the Committee Clerk for the Standing Committee on Public Accounts which has been especially busy over the past year.

We value our close relationship with the Speaker, Mr. 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 amount of help, especially in making time for personal interviews. We owe a special debt to the MPPs who welcome interns into their offices each year. Each year 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 proceeds, the amount of work increases. The Legislative Assembly is now in the spring session and its activity and demands become more intense, especially once the budget is presented. This year has been very unusual. The interns saw the Parliament prorogued on their first placement day, followed by over five months of legislative and committee inactivity. On Tuesday, February 19, the Legislative Assembly resumed sitting with a brand new premier but with many of the issues that prevailed prior to the autumn prorogation. Also in the late winter, we began to consider applicants for the 2013-2014 intern year. We welcome as many qualified applicants as possible, and I thank my fellow selection committee members for all their hard work sifting through the numerous OLIP applications. Readers may know that the deadline for applications each year 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 everything. Thus, as the legislative year progresses, the interns enrich my experience more and more.

Finally, I am always proud as 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

INTERN PLACEMENTS

CONNOR BAYS AND ANTHONY BOLAND

QPI PAGE 5



Connor Bays' Placement with MPP Laurie Scott

Just in time for all the legislative action, I am excited to be working in the office of MPP Laurie Scott, PC member for Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock. A nurse by profession, Laurie has been in and out of elected life since 2003, making her a fount of legislative lore.

Beyond its mouthful of syllables, Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock is a rural constituency. I expect my experience will provide an interesting contrast to my first placement in urban Ottawa Centre. I am excited to explore Lindsay, Omeeme and a few of the other charming towns that dot this beautiful part of Ontario.

With the Legislature back in session, I look forward to drafting speeches, statements, and general participation in the cut and thrust of a busy chamber. The timing of my switch to the opposition is excellent, as I am moving into the main legislature building just as it becomes the heart of the action.

I am particularly excited to be contributing to Laurie's role as Natural Resources critic. This portfolio has yet to be addressed in the Progressive Conservatives' series of policy White Papers, so I hope to have an opportunity to contribute to this effort. For the next few months, I look forward to working closely with John Spink, Laurie's veteran Executive Assistant. Both John and Laurie have worked hard to make me feel like a fully contributing member of the team, welcoming my contributions to every meeting and discussion. I look forward to a busy and eventful session!

Connor's first placement was with Liberal MPP Yasir Naqvi

Anthony Boland's Placement with MPP Dipika Damerla

I am pleased to have my placement on the government side with MPP Dipika Damerla. First elected in 2011, Ms. Damerla serves as the member for Mississauga East-Cooksville.

Born and raised in India, Dipika earned her chartered accounting designation. Upon immigrating to Canada, she studied at the Rotman School of Management at the University of Toronto, where she completed her Master of Business Administration. She worked in various capacities at the Royal Bank of Canada and the Bank of Nova Scotia, subsequently covering local Mississauga issues for OMNI Television. Prior to being elected as an MPP, she served as Senior Policy Advisor to the Minister of Economic Development and Trade.

Following the election, Dipika was appointed Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Infrastructure by Premier Dalton McGuinty, and more recently, she was appointed Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Community and Social Services by Premier Kathleen Wynne. As indicated in the recent Throne Speech, the latter ministry has been tasked with significant reform to the Ontario Works program.

With the riding experiencing significant growth, I am looking forward to assisting Dipika with various related projects. These include developing a condominium owner's guide, as well as seeking feedback from stakeholders and constituents on the government's comprehensive Condominium Act review through meetings and roundtables. Most of all, I am absolutely thrilled that the Legislature has resumed, and I am enjoying the excitement of the Legislature.

Anthony's first placement was with NDP MPP Rosario Marchese



INTERN PLACEMENTS

JOSHUA BORDEN AND BETH ELDER

QPI PAGE 6

Joshua Borden's Placement with MPP Rod Jackson

My second placement finds me in the office of the Progressive Conservative MPP for the riding of Barrie, Rod Jackson. Rod is currently the Deputy Critic for Accountability, with a specific focus as Critic for the Pan Am Games. The Pan Am file is taking up a significant amount of my time in the office so far. After the first day of meetings with Rod and his Executive Assistant, Jane, they thought I would be a good fit to help with the Pan Am file. I have been thoroughly briefed about how the Games are run, and combined with my own passion for sport, it has been a great file to work on. My duties primarily focus on research, as I keep a sharp eye to ensure that the Pan Am Games are run efficiently and on budget. One of the keys to working in Rod's office is communication. From Rod to Jane to Leah (an amazingly helpful volunteer), to myself, everyone is always communicating what they are doing so nothing is missed.

The office has been very welcoming, but do not be deceived by the jokes or friendly environment - there is no shortage of work to be done! In addition to working on Pan Am accountability, I have had many opportunities to write press releases, members' statements, and speeches for Rod's duties in the House when he rises to speak on a motion or bill. I am grateful to Rod for inviting me to partake in so many tasks - and for that special moment when you get to watch your MPP use the words you have written as he speaks in the House. I have had a great time in my placement since the resumption of the Legislature, and I look forward to the rest of the term.

Joshua's first placement was with Liberal MPP Kevin Flynn



Beth Elder's Placement with MPP Laura Albanese

My government placement is with Laura Albanese, the member for York South-Weston and Parliamentary Assistant to the Ministry of Tourism, Culture, and Sport as well as the Pan Am Games. She was also recently appointed as Parliamentary Assistant to the Premier. Laura and her staff have been very welcoming and I am happy to gain experience in such a unique and diverse riding. Andrew Robertson, Tiffany Gooch and Will Norman have been teaching me the ins and outs of legislative work at this exciting time with the House sitting once again. Laura has a busy schedule this session as she reintroduces her Private Member's Bill, Bill 8, Liquor License Amendment Act (Serving Liquor in Certain Places). Laura also serves as a member of the Standing Committee on Justice and the Government Agencies Committee.

In my last placement with Lisa Thompson, I learned a lot about the issues in a rural riding and Lisa's motto was "Rural Ontario Matters." In Laura's office, I'm working in a diverse urban riding, learning about a very different set of issues, such as transportation and condominiums. Both the Air Rail Link and the Eglinton LRT go through York South - Weston and each of these projects presents opportunities and challenges to the riding. I am grateful to have had the opportunity to attend several consultations and meetings with local agencies. Seeing my member in action is a great way to learn more about the legislative process and how committees work. Thanks to Laura and her office for hosting me!

Beth's first placement was with PC MPP Lisa Thompson

INTERN PLACEMENTS

ANDREA ERNESAKS AND GILL HANSON

QPI PAGE 7



Andrea Ernesaks' Placement with MPP Steven Del Duca

I am pleased to report that for my second placement I am working in the office of Liberal MPP, Steven Del Duca. Elected in September 2012 in the Vaughan by-election, Steven may be one of the Legislature's newest members, but he is certainly not lacking political experience. Before his start as an MPP, Steven served as Greg Sorbara's Executive Assistant and as a Special Assistant to then Leader of the Opposition, Dalton McGuinty. On Steven's team at Queen's Park is his Executive Assistant, Taleen Balian, who also brings a wealth of political experience to the office. So while this duo may seem new at first glance, they are in fact highly qualified and experienced.

Working in this office, I have noticed that Steven cares deeply about his riding and works hard to ensure that his constituents' concerns are heard. He frequently attends events in his constituency while also ensuring that his House and committee duties are met. As an intern, I have been busy assisting with legislative duties. This work involves drafting questions for Question Period and preparing members' statements. I have also been involved in doing research and assisting Taleen where needed. In particular, I have been heavily involved in Steven's private member's bill on prompt payment which sets out various rules and requirements in relation to payments made under construction contracts. Much to my excitement, the bill passed second reading with unanimous support. All I can say is that this office is extremely busy and I could not be more excited to be a part of it!

Andrea's first placement was with NDP MPP Gilles Bisson

Gill Hanson's Placement with MPP Helena Jaczek

In choosing my placements, I wanted to compare the differences between working with a male and female MPP, and between an urban and rural riding. In my first term I worked with Steve Clark, MPP for Leeds - Grenville, and for my second term placement I am now working with Dr. Helena Jaczek, who represents the riding of Oak Ridges-Markham. I am learning about the challenges faced by the GTA/905 compared to those in rural South Eastern Ontario.

With the cabinet and portfolio shuffle, our office has moved from the Ministry of the Environment to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. This busy term has seen me quite busy sitting in on stakeholder meetings, ministry briefings, writing members' statements, research for private member's bills and other legislative tasks. Since the Legislature was prorogued last session, this term will be a crash course in learning how to do all of these tasks. Dr. Jaczek often speaks in the House, so I have many opportunities to write statements. The Member's Executive and Legislative Assistants, Gary and Eric, are helpful and fun to work with. I also get a chance to collaborate with the staff from the constituency office on press releases and op-ed pieces for media outlets in York Region.

Witnessing a government in transition is exciting and something not many people get to see from the backbenches of the governing party. This has been a busy session and I am looking forward to learning as much as I can from this placement.

Gill's first placement was with PC MPP Steve Clark



INTERN PLACEMENTS

LEANNA KATZ AND HIBAH SIDAT

QPI PAGE 8

Leanna Katz's Placement with MPP Christine Elliott

For my second placement, I have the pleasure of working with Christine Elliott, MPP for Whitby-Oshawa, Deputy Leader of the Official Opposition, and Critic for Health and Long-Term Care, Citizenship and Immigration, and Mental Health Reform. Christine is known by MPPs, stakeholders and constituents alike to be thoughtful, intelligent and hard-working, and from day one of my placement I could see why.

I have been involved in the full range of activities that make up Christine's busy schedule, including researching bills in preparation for debates, writing statements and attending evening functions outside of Queen's Park. A highlight for me is participating in stakeholder meetings. An attentive listener who is well-versed in the operation of both government and the legal system, Christine is able to connect with stakeholders and help them achieve their goals.

Christine is particularly committed to making mental healthcare an integral part of the overall health care system, and I firmly believe that someone with her drive, compassion and knowledge of the system can make significant progress in this area.

While I learn about effective representation and advocacy from Christine, her assistant Justin Burrows offers me quite the education on political strategy. Justin's honesty, ambition and political acumen make him a first-rate staffer and an invaluable aid to Christine. I appreciate Christine and Justin's warm welcome to the office and look forward to building on all that I have already learned in my placement.

Leanna's first placement was with Liberal MPP Mike Colle



Hibah Sidat's Placement with MPP Soo Wong

Working with Soo Wong, MPP for Scarborough-Agincourt and Parliamentary Assistant to the Ministry of Training Colleges and Universities has been a real pleasure. From the very first day of my placement, I have been welcomed with open arms by her entire team both at Queen's Park (Kory, Jo-Anne, and Sophia) and in the riding (Abdullah, Natalie, Hilla, and Sam).

I quickly became immersed in a number of projects, including assisting in writing the reply to the Throne Speech, working on a private member's bill, writing pieces for the riding newsletter, teaching young students from the riding about the Legislative Assembly, and responding to constituents' concerns.

Having grown up in the riding for much of my life, including attending high school at Agincourt CI and working with Agincourt Community Services Association, I am happy to return to the riding to assist Ms. Wong at many events, including a hugely successful town hall meeting. I enjoy learning about the political realm of my home riding and gaining a more indepth understanding of the community's needs and priorities.

A highly driven, energetic, and passionate woman, I am impressed by Soo's ability to engage the community and gauge their concerns on pressing issues affecting Scarborough-Agincourt. As a former Toronto District School Board Trustee and one who has worked in health care for 25 years, Soo brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to her role as MPP. I am thankful for this amazing learning opportunity and the chance to work with Soo and her staff.

Hibah's first placement was with PC MPP Bob Bailey

INTERN PLACEMENTS

LAUREN TARASUK AND GOODBYE LORRAINE

QPI PAGE 9



Lauren Tarasuk's Placement with MPP Michael Mantha

From the first day of my opposition placement, MPP Michael Mantha's office has been warm and inviting. Mr. Mantha is a fairly new member having been elected in the 2011 general election. As the critic for Northern Development and Mines and the representative for Algoma-Manitoulin, Michael is working on some interesting issues. He is a great mentor and a passionate advocate for his constituents. I too am from Northern Ontario, so being able to get back in touch with my roots and work on northern issues has been fulfilling. With a familiar territory and welcoming staff I have been able to hit the ground running and work on projects ranging from communications to research. I am excited to have the opportunity to work on interesting files from Great Lakes water levels to northern transportation and infrastructure. This second placement is a great complement to my first, as I will have been exposed to both southern urban and northern rural issues.

I am grateful to Michael's wonderful assistant Claire who has shared her wisdom, guidance and great sense of humour. With the Legislature back in session I am enjoying the opportunity to be involved in legislative work, including writing motions and Member's statements. I am thrilled to be learning more about the communities in the riding of Algoma-Manitoulin and seek the possibility of travelling to the riding to watch Michael in action. I look forward to the remaining weeks and the new learning opportunities this placement will bring both at Queen's Park and in Algoma-Manitoulin!

Lauren's first placement was with Liberal MPP Donna Cansfield

Farewell Lorraine and a Grand Thank You!

What a year it has been with our dear Programme Coordinator, Lorraine Luski. As a current Research Officer at the Legislative Library and Research Service, and a former OLIP intern, Lorraine has brought a wealth of knowledge and sage advice to our weekly meetings. Whether helping us better understand the workings of the Legislature or offering suggestions on how to improve our intern experience, Lorraine has been a wonderful mentor. Her positive attitude, kindness, and genuine interest in our experiences at Queen's Park make our weekly meetings a welcoming and safe space for us to share our input and grow, both personally and professionally. Lorraine's beaming smile and uplifting attitude put us at ease and brighten our weeks.

Lorraine's contributions to OLIP extend well past weekly meetings. Despite her busy work schedule, she is generous with her time and available to us if we require any sort of assistance. With her keen eye for detail, Lorraine offers thorough feedback on our work, whether by proofreading the magazine or the OLIP promotional brochure. She is always ready to work with us through the many unexpected changes that we have faced throughout the year and that often come with working at the Legislative Assembly of Ontario.

A fond memory that we will cherish was Lorraine's warm hospitality in hosting us at her home shortly after our arrival at Queen's Park. As we enjoyed a wide variety of chili dishes and parlour games, Lorraine and her husband Richard Sage made us feel at home. Lorraine has a poise, eloquence, warmth, humility, and preparedness that are rare qualities in a person, never mind a program coordinator. She will be deeply missed. Thank you Lorraine for all your great work and we wish you all the best in the future!



OLIP MEMORY LANE

QUEEN'S PARK 1983 AND 2013 BY LORRAINE LUSKI

QPI PAGE 10

Imagine if you will, eight bright, energetic interns being unleashed upon Queen's Park in the fall of 1983 without mobile devices, the Internet, email, or social media. Personal computers were scarce, and black rotary phones the norm in most Queen's Park offices. The Legislative Library had just acquired its first state-of-the-art online catalogue. Welcome to ye olde OLIP Class of 1983-84. I was one of them.

And now, as someone who is about to retire as OLIP Coordinator, I have been asked to comment on the subject of being an intern then and now—comparing my prehistoric experience with the “hip” well wired interns of today. I suspect that the editor of Queen's Park Insider must be desperate for a bit of humour/pathos in the spring edition.

Back in the last century, OLIP lacked an on-site office or administrative assistant. As a result, every Friday our academic director, Fred Fletcher, would journey from York University to convene our weekly meeting in whatever unoccupied space we could find. There, ably assisted by former intern, Graham White, Fred would attempt to draw from us the political insights to be distilled from observing the week's House and committee proceedings. Graham, who had not yet fled to academia, served as OLIP's on-site mentor in between his stints as a full-time committee clerk.

The highlight of our first week was a good old fashioned “quiz.” We had to seek answers to such diabolical questions as “what is the licence plate on Premier Bill Davis' car?” and “which former Ontario MPPs sat as members of the Labour-Progressive Party (the provincial wing of the Communist Party)?” To our delight (and Graham's annoyance) we collectively nailed most of the answers while also managing to rattle Premier Davis' security detail.

Circa 1983, the OLIP orientation to the Assembly was “basic” compared to today's standards. For example, the Legislative Library's segment consisted of terse instructions that interns' research requests should be focused and allow lots of lead time for deadlines. How different that is from today when September sees the interns warmly welcomed into the Library as valued “clients,” provided with an hour of orientation and plied with Toni Ariganello's delicious treats. And that is just the beginning! Interns receive additional hours

of Library training on everything from searching Hansard to news databases and e-Laws. They even offer suggestions on sources and topics for the dreaded Canadian Political Science Association (CPSA) intern paper.

As for the study tours, in our time we counted ourselves fortunate to have visited the Legislatures in Quebec City and Ottawa as well as Edmonton, Victoria, and Boston in our 10 short months. Graham White had not yet discovered “Westminster in the Arctic,” so visiting the Northwest Territories was not on our radar screen. Nor was the culminating trip to Westminster, the “mother of parliaments” in the United Kingdom. To travel there, as guests of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, was something to which only the Ottawa Parliamentary Intern Programme could aspire in 1983-84.

Lacking today's technologies and the 24/7 news cycle, we nevertheless satisfied our media fix by hanging around the Queen's Park Press Gallery and “bar” (since tucked away within the revamped Press Gallery Lounge). There we picked up tidbits and tips from such journalistic luminaries as Robert Fisher, Paul Rhodes, Rosemary Speirs, and Claire Hoy, among others. They were remarkably tolerant as we pestered them for insights into the various dramas and “scandals” unfolding at Queen's Park.

While the class of 1983-84 lacked the administrative structure of today's OLIP with committees to plan meetings, arrange travel and publish the magazine, we nevertheless threw ourselves into shaping our receptions. Using nothing but those old rotary phones and his rolodex, intern colleague, Bill Acres—who had a wealth of contacts—arranged for a string quartet to play at our fall reception. That event set a new standard for successful OLIP receptions.

That is how I remember my OLIP year. For me, the OLIP programme remains among the most rewarding, exciting, and unforgettable 10 months that a recent university graduate is likely to experience. I shall never forget it, or those with whom I share the memories: Cheryl, Bill, Cathy, Annette, Alex, Peter and Dave.

Lorraine Luski, OLIP Class of 1983-84



Lorraine Luski with the 2012-13 crop of interns

UNCONVENTIONAL CONVENTION

OLIP RINGSIDE AS LIBERALS PICK NEW LEADER

QPI PAGE 11

OLIP was a part of history in January 2013, witnessing the vote that chose Ontario's first female premier. Our consolation for a prorogued fall session was the chance to neutrally observe the Liberal leadership convention, held at the old Maple Leaf Gardens. As soon as the leadership race kicked off in October, we were following the contest closer than most. We were therefore thrilled when, in exchange for some non-partisan volunteer duties, we received ringside seats for the fight that would determine Ontario's new leader.

The first afternoon of the convention was dedicated to bidding farewell to outgoing Premier Dalton McGuinty, and our first duty was to welcome VIP guests. Connor, Leanna and Lauren were delegated the special duty of escorting former Liberal leaders Lyn McLeod, Stuart Smith, and former premier David Peterson. Among the guests in the arena was a who's who of politics, journalism and government relations in the province of Ontario.

Premier McGuinty's tribute was hosted by two of his children, who told heartfelt and amusing stories about Premier Dad. The footage and speeches emphasized his dedication to both public service and to his family.

Friday night was also a night of partying, as each candidate tried to woo potential supporters with the famous "hospitality suite." As serious, academically-minded interns, we felt it our duty to learn more about these suites by checking them out for ourselves. More than once we ran into sponsors and former interns, who were there as either observers, delegates or had snuck in just for fun. Having never before attended a leadership convention, it was instructive for us to see how much organization is needed for these events. Friday's political manoeuvring continued well into the next day's voting.

We happened to be on the convention floor just as party President and MPP Yasir Naqvi announced the results of the first ballot. The atmosphere in the arena became electric as the two front runners were revealed to be a mere two votes apart instead of the expected two percent. Our volunteering duties for the rest of the day allowed us to look down onto the convention floor to keep track of any movements in delegate support.

Watching each side's supporters react with joy or despair as momentum shifted was quite an experience.

OLIP alumnus Craig Ruttan, whom we ran into at the event, said about the convention: "OLIP sparked a desire to stay engaged in the political process and that's why I was so excited to have the opportunity to attend the convention. The hospitality suites left me tired for convention day - but the energy [of] this historic moment kept me going. It was a privilege to be there and help make Kathleen Wynne the new Premier."

The weekend of the Liberal leadership convention was also filled with protests on College St. outside of the Gardens. Demonstrators showed up both days, but on Saturday there were between 15,000 and 25,000 teachers, as well as some individuals protesting wind turbines (including a real bald eagle!). Witnessing different forms of active democracy added to out political education.

Being at one of the last delegated leadership conventions in Canadian history that chose Ontario's first female premier was a memorable experience. With Ms. Wynne's victory, female premiers now govern eighty percent of Canadians. As politically interested individuals, we were excited to have a neutral yet engaged role during the historic weekend. Congratulations and all the best to Premier Wynne. We hope to hear her perspective on the convention as the Legislature resumes.



The crowd at the Liberal Leadership Convention at the old Maple Leaf Gardens from the vantage point of the media.



Two Premiers: one outgoing, one incoming

The Ontario Legislature Internship Programme would like to congratulate Ontario's new Premier Kathleen Wynne. We are looking forward to witnessing the politics of Ontario unfold under your leadership and we wish you all the best in your new role.

THAT OTHER PARLIAMENT

THE INTERNS HIT THE HILL

QPI PAGE 12

OLIP spent the first week of December 2012 with some of the biggest names on Parliament Hill. This trip helped fulfil an important part of OLIP that can get lost while we work away in our offices - thinking about parliamentary democracy in a broader context, and comparing the functioning of the Legislature at Queen's Park with other legislatures across Canada and the world.

Day One: Monday, December 3, 2012

Setting out for Parliament Hill - some of us for the first time - was very exciting for this group of political nerds. The day began with a tour of Rideau Hall, the official residence and workplace of Her Majesty's representative, the Governor General. The rooms were lavish and rich artwork adorned the walls, giving the residence a stately and royal feel. We left the residence thinking about how incredible it would be to one day live there ourselves.

Next we hurried to the Hill to meet Ottawa's Parliamentary Interns (PIPs). There we toured the Centre Block and found ourselves thinking about the giants of Canadian politics who have wandered those same halls over the past 145 years. The tour concluded by looking out from the Peace Tower and appreciating Ottawa's beautiful landscape. After our tour, we met with the Parliamentary Budget Officer, Kevin Page. He spoke passionately about the need for a budget oversight officer, and we were touched by his humble appeal for accountability and integrity.



With Mr. Mulcair, in his classy wood-paneled office

Our day was not over yet, as we proceeded to city hall for a meeting with former Ontario MPP and current Ottawa mayor, Jim Watson. He regaled us with stories of his time at Queen's Park, and the comparisons he drew between municipal and provincial poli-

tics were enlightening. Next, we met with MP Olivia Chow to talk policy and politics. To her delight, many of us currently live in her riding while we work at Queen's Park. After a day filled with discussions ranging from municipal to provincial and federal politics, we knew our Ottawa trip was off to a fine start.

Day Two: Tuesday, December 4, 2012

Our second day began with meeting former Liberal leader Stéphane Dion, who spoke impressively about his time as leader and the future of his party. That meeting was followed by a discussion with interim Liberal party leader and former Ontario Premier, Bob Rae. Mr. Rae openly discussed his political journey-between parties and jurisdictions and offered fascinating insights into Ontario politics.

Continuing the trend of meeting with leaders, that afternoon we visited NDP leader Thomas Mulcair. Mr. Mulcair is very busy, but he graciously took the time to show us his office and speak about the big shoes he has to fill as Jack Layton's successor. Afterward, we observed the parliament at work - first watching the Natural Resources committee and Question Period. It was democracy in action, and the experience provided us with lots of material for comparison with business at Queen's Park.



OLIP, PIP and Former Justice Deschamps



Getting cozy with Mr. Justin Trudeau

Day Three: Wednesday, December 5, 2012

The morning began with a look at some of the more administrative, less political dimensions of public affairs. Between meeting with Deputy Clerk Marc Bosc and Senate Clerk Gary O'Brien, we now fancy ourselves procedural experts thanks to excellent discussions with both of them. From there, we quite literally ran to the Supreme Court of Canada as we did not want to be late for a meeting with Ret. Justice Marie Deschamps, who provided great insight into the workings behind the bench.

In the afternoon, we met Justin Trudeau, then contender for leadership of the Liberal Party of Canada. He spoke about youth engagement in politics, and handled our questions with ease. Our last meeting of the day was with the Government House Leader, Peter Van Loan. As the point person for navigating government bills and other business through the House, he is well versed in the rules. We appreciated his frankness in discussing backbenchers and the opposition, and it was a great end to the day.



Big smiles with Ottawa Mayor Jim Watson

Day Four: Thursday, December 6, 2012

Meeting Andrew Scheer, the youngest Speaker in the history of our country was a great way to start the morning. As Speaker of the House, Mr. Scheer's energy and enthusiasm for the role was infectious. Next we met with Opposition House Leader, Nathan Cullen. He discussed his belief in collegiality and respect in the House, and he left us thinking about the role of the individual MP in each party. We then had the rare opportunity to watch the Senate Question Period, which is not televised, unlike Question Period in Parliament's Lower House and at Queen's Park.

The day ended with meetings with NDP Whip Nycole Turmel, and then with MP Niki Ashton. Ms. Tur-

mel discussed her role in managing caucus and ensuring MPs are in the House for important votes, while Ms. Ashton spoke about northern Manitoba and the role of women in politics. Meeting with these two powerful women was an inspiring end to our second last day in Ottawa.

Day Five: Friday, December 7, 2012

The first meeting of our last day was with Charles Robert, the Principal Clerk of Senate Procedure. He delivered a rousing defence of the Senate and its importance in Canadian politics. Should the Senate suddenly face questions about its role and usefulness, or its future due to scandals or impropriety, there may be no better defender of the upper chamber than Charles Robert. Then we met with two OLIP alumni Christopher Waddell, Dean of Journalism at Carleton, and Jonathan Malloy, Chair of Carleton's Department of Political Science. It was great hearing them reminisce about their OLIP days at the "pink palace" and we appreciated the advice they offered.

Continuing on the alumni theme, we met next with MP Chris Charlton. It was inspiring to see an OLIP alumnus elected to the House of Commons, and prompted us to reflect that we might fulfil such an important role ourselves some day. A reception organized by the Canadian Political Science Association (CPSA) capped off the final day of meetings. We were happy to meet some of the Board members and relax after a memorable week.

This trip granted us incredible insight into the inner workings of our federal Parliamentary system. The experience left us with renewed energy and a more enlightened perspective as we continue our work at Queen's Park- a perspective which will endure as we move forward in our careers.



Interns with intern alumnus and current MP Chris Charlton

POLITICS NORTH OF SIXTY

EXPLORING GOVERNMENT IN THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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In February, we had the good fortune to travel to Yellowknife, Northwest Territories. Learning about the government, people and land that make this territory so unique helped deepen our understanding of our identities as Canadians and left us with a lifetime of memories of our arctic adventure.

Day One: Saturday, February 2, 2013

We headed to the airport bright and early to make our 7 am flight to Yellowknife. Outfitted in our stylish and warm Canada Goose jackets, we were hard to miss. As our plane descended into Yellowknife, we marvelled at the expansive arctic snow, untouched by skyscrapers. Reality hit hard when the pilot announced that the weather was a crisp -38 degrees outside, but we mustered up the courage to explore Old Yellowknife and dine at the famous Bullock's Bistro.

Day Two: Sunday, February 3, 2013

On our second day we channelled our inner arctic explorer and went dog sledding. We got to drive our own dog sleds through untouched trails lined with snow-capped trees, icy air blasting our faces. It was a bitterly cold -40, but we were grateful for the sunshine and clear skies. For the most part, we were expert sledders, minus one collision, but there is no need to name names (ahem, boys).



Our first taste of the -40 weather in Yellowknife – still able to smile thanks to our warm Canada Goose parkas!

Day Three: Monday, February 4, 2013

After our weekend of enjoying the sights of Yellowknife we were ready to get down to business on Monday morning. We were greeted by Gail Bennett, the Principal Clerk for Operations in the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories. We are grateful to Gail for putting together such a wonderful itinerary. The first order of business was a tour of the building, where we learned about the its intricate symbolism. We were impressed by the magnificent

views of the frozen lake from the MLA offices, and learned that it was designed to remind them of the land that they represent. We appreciated the uniqueness of the chamber, complete with seal skin chair and polar bear rug.

We next met with Deputy Clerk Doug Schauerte for an illuminating overview of consensus government. We were interested to learn that the Premier is elected by his 18 peers in the Assembly, and that each member operates as an independent, which means no political parties. This stands in stark contrast to the highly partisan environment at Queen's Park.

In the afternoon we headed to the Deline Land Corporation to visit George Clearly, and learn about land claim issues in the territory. We capped off our day at City Hall, chatting with Mayor Mark Heyck about municipal politics in the NWT.



Interns at the Legislative Assembly

Day Four: Tuesday, February 5, 2013

Tuesday morning we had the pleasure of meeting with Dawn Tremblay of Ecology North, a non-profit organization that promotes sound environmental decision-making. Hearing a perspective from outside government was refreshing and we were enthusiastic to learn about their vibrant organization. We then headed back to the legislature to have lunch with Members of the Legislative Assembly where we shared great food and stories from one legislature to another. Our last meeting of the day was with the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories, George Tuccaro. Mr. Tuccaro gave us an inspiring talk about the personal challenges he has overcome and his desire to see the Northwest Territories grow and flourish.

Day Five: Wednesday, February 6, 2013

We had an early start at the Assembly on to meet with Minister Michael Miltenberger who serves as Minister of Finance, Chairman of the Financial

Management Board, Minister of Environment and Natural Resources, Minister Responsible for the Resources, Minister Responsible for the Northwest Territories Power Corporation, and the Government House Leader. With such a heavy portfolio, we were happy he had time for breakfast! We were fascinated by the issues he has worked on, for instance, passing a law making access to water a human right.

After breakfast we met Premier Bob McLeod to discuss the devolution agreement being negotiated. We appreciated the time that the Premier made for us to discuss the social and political situation in the NWT. The afternoon included meetings with Ben Nind, Constituency Assistant to MP Denis Bevington, the Territory's lone MP. We then met with Regina Pfeiffer to learn about the Local Government Administrators of NWT, an organization of the 33 community governments in the territory.

A final highlight of the afternoon was witnessing the opening of the fourth session of the 17th Legislative Assembly. We enjoyed watching the house in action, replete with the procession, opening address, members' statements, and even the introduction of the Ontario Legislative Interns to the Legislatively Assembly of the NWT.

Day Six: Thursday, February 7, 2013

We began our morning by meeting Yacub Adam, Deputy Chair of the NWT Human Rights Commission. Born in Malawi where he suffered violations of his human rights, Mr. Adam offered us a thoughtful perspective on promoting and enforcing human rights in the NWT. We then visited CanNor to learn about their work in economic development from Matthew Spence. We almost had a few interns refuse to leave CanNor because their work is so fascinating.

If there is one thing an intern loves more than interesting meetings, it is great food. We had a wonderful lunch with a lake view at the Dancing Moose Café followed by a drive on the ice road. We then met with

Andy Bevan, Deputy Minister in the Department of Aboriginal Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations. Aboriginal land claim negotiations in the NWT are complex and date back to the early history of the Territory, so learning about this subject was an important part of our education about the NWT. This was followed by a meeting with the energetic Alan Cash, from whom we learned about socio-economic conditions in the territory.

Our last meeting of the day was with father and son, Patrick and Amos Scott. Patrick is the land claims negotiations coordinator with the Dehcho First Nations who helped us understand some of the weaknesses of the devolution agreement. Amos is a documentary filmmaker who recently produced the series *Dene: A Journey* for the Aboriginal Peoples Television Network, portraying urban Dene youth on a journey to discover their native identities. That night, the Speaker of the Assembly, Jackie Jacobson, treated us to dinner where we enjoyed sharing stories from each of our legislatures and homes.

Day 7: Friday, February 8, 2013

As our final day in Yellowknife dawned, we could not believe that our study tour was coming to an end. Luckily, a lively conversation about electoral reform with Chief Electoral Officer, David Brock, helped ease the pain of our departure.

We then headed to Buffalo Airways to meet the Ice Pilots and tour the hangar. We interns seem to instinctively

know how to be in the right place at the right time, and were lucky to get a tour of a military plane that was in for repairs.

We had a fantastic week in Yellowknife, and would like to thank all the people who made it so memorable. Everyone we met was welcoming, friendly and warm (insert obligatory joke about the contrast to the freezing temperatures). This isn't "goodbye Yellowknife" it's "see you later!"



After our meeting with Premier Bob McLeod



With Speaker Jackie Jacobson

MEETINGS: SPONSORS

UP CLOSE AND NUCLEAR WITH SPONSOR BRUCE POWER

ESTEEMED AND LAUDABLE: MAKING MAKEUP AT ESTÉE LAUDER

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“Bruce Power up, coal electricity down.” That was the simple and compelling equation OLIP interns heard during our tour of the Bruce Power nuclear plant. Head of Corporate Affairs James Scongack explained this point during our discussion of the facility, the energy supply mix in Ontario, and the public’s perception of nuclear power.

Bruce Power believes that nuclear energy represents the most realistic and attractive means for eliminating Ontario’s use of coal-fired power generation. The company has brought 3000 megawatts of power online since 2001 – power that Mr. Scongack says allowed Ontario to drop coal output by 90 percent. Nuclear now makes up around half of our energy mix. Surprisingly, all that power comes from only three facilities, with the Bruce plant alone kicking in between 25 and 30 percent of the electricity for the entire province. Thus the company likes to say every fourth light bulb in Ontario shines thanks to their efforts. The pedantically inclined can find the actual figure displayed in real time on Bruce Power’s website (28.1 percent at time of writing).

OLIP’s tour of the turbine hall revealed the scale and complexity underlying these impressive statistics. Merely entering the building means passing dozens of checkpoints, metal detectors, radiation scanners and armed guards. The well-equipped team that handles security won first place at the World SWAT Challenge, so you do not want to show up uninvited. These checks and scans gave us a sense of the importance of safety and security to the industry. And passing them was worth the wait. Inside the gargantuan turbine room, we heard and felt the awesome rumble of turbines driven by superheated steam and split atoms. It was OLIP meets science fiction.

We would like to thank Bruce Power for their instructive tour. It is not often that OLIP receives both corporate sponsorship and a glimpse of the universe’s fundamental forces.

We interns understand that appearance is important in politics. OLIP’s understated beauty is mostly due to good genetics and impeccable fashion sense. However, another key tool that we and many other politicians use is makeup. In December, Estée Lauder took us inside one of their factories to show us how this essential product is made.

Among OLIP sponsors, Estée Lauder is unusual for its global impact and scope. The company’s Markham facility is only one of many around the world. Matching this global presence is an equally impressive roster of famous brands. MAC, Clinique, Aveda, Smashbox, and Bumble and Bumble are just a few of the 27 in total. We were tempted to imagine a vast Da Vinci Code-style conspiracy as our hosts revealed yet another blockbuster brand to be the work of Estée Lauder. The company’s most exclusive product is “Crème de la Mer” – a seaweed extract formulated by a NASA scientist that retails for \$150 an ounce. With so much value residing in these brands, it was no surprise to learn that the proliferation of cheap knock-offs is one of the company’s major concerns.

MAC lipstick is the name of the game at the Markham plant. Thousands of lipstick “bullets” roll off the assembly line every hour. The factory floor is a hypnotic ballet of robotic machines, each making a single modification as the product zips by. However, not every step in lipstick manufacturing is automated, giving OLIP an opportunity to test our mettle as cosmetics artisans. Our technician-cum-tour guide bravely invited us to try our hand at making a sample batch used to test for colour and consistency. This first involved pouring a molten lipstick wax mixture into metal molds. We then sculpted our creations with an open flame to gloss and shape the final product.

Our tour gave us both a better understanding of a multinational manufacturer and a new addition to our cosmetic arsenals. If you find yourself at Queen’s Park, keep a lookout for interns with matching pink lips!



Immersed in the daily dramas of Queen's Park, it is easy to forget the lessons of past political battles and the leaders who fought them. Fortunately for OLIP, three retired titans of Ontario politics were willing to refresh our memories. Recently, The Honourable Ernie Eves, David Peterson, Mike Harris and Bill Davis shared with us reflections on their lives in office and time at the helm of the province. All four former premiers gamely answered our questions about their triumphs, regrets and the art of taking good advice. On the latter subject, all emphasized the importance of staying true to a core of non-negotiable principles, despite the pressure to compromise inherent to governing. "Know the hills you're willing to die on" was the memorable advice from one of our hosts. Retirement from public office has evidently not diminished their interest in politics, as all three men offered shrewd appraisals of the current political landscape. Each had plenty of insight on the challenges facing the three parties today – wisdom we are sure the current leaders would be well advised to heed.

Pearls of Political Wisdom

OLIP's comprehensive and whirlwind political experience ultimately lasts only ten months. Fortunately, throughout the year we have had the chance to tap into the wisdom of many people for whom politics is both a passion and a profession. Our conversations with veteran politicians lent perspective to our own efforts as budding staffers and gave us a standard to which we can aspire. Included in this category are the diplomats and politicians who helped us see Ontario from a federal or international perspective. The British Consul General, for example, can speculate about the next election in Korean, Russian, or any of the other dozen or so languages in his repertoire. Often our most candid and informative conversations were with OLIP alumni. Many of these folk still stalk the halls of Queen's Park, only now with greater responsibilities and influence.

Thanks to: Mark Adler, MP; Consul General Jonathan Dart and Mathieu Blandford, Office of the British Consul General in Toronto; Eric McGoey of Cliffs Natural Resources; Warren Kinsella, political consultant and commentator; Graham Murray of Inside Queen's Park; former MPPs David Warner, John Tory and Sean Conway; OLIP Alumni Meghan Warby, Karim Bardeesy, Brandy Giannetta, Jason Lagerquist and Dan O'Brien and Professor Graham White.

Extra: OLIP Loves Journos

Perhaps the only people who follow the intrigues of Queen's Park more closely than OLIP are the journalists of the press gallery. The newsmen and women who sat down with us this year represent the cream

of the profession. We learned some useful techniques for prying answers from politicians that will surely help us in our own interviews. Unfortunately, a common refrain was the decline and consolidation of the press gallery, resulting in fewer reporters covering the Legislature than in times past. Similarly, we heard about the changing relationship between the press and politicians, whose relationship has reportedly lost some of its collegiality. The veteran cadre who met with us were also well-placed to speculate on the future of print and TV media in a world of blogs and Twitter (OLIP's own digital offerings providing just one modest example!). Finally, touring the sets of two iconic current affairs TV shows instilled in us an appreciation for the hours of work behind what we watch each night.

Thanks to: Christina Blizzard, Steve Paikin, Greg Crone, Melanie Glanz, Heather Hiscox, Raj Ahluwalia, and Honorary Intern, Robert Fisher.



The illustrious Robert Fisher imparting his wisdom to appreciative interns

Feeding Our Bodies and Minds

Interns are never ones to pass up a free meal. However, thanks to several of our supporters, we were often digesting big ideas along with our free lunches. We would like to thank our sponsors for inviting us to diverse luncheons, speeches and galas over the past few months. It seems that accountants are particularly big thinkers, as several of the most stimulating talks we attended were at the invitation of the Certified General or the Chartered Accountants. The Churchill Society and Economic Club of Canada were also quick to think of interns when inviting guests to their events. As a result of these invitations, OLIP learned how to innovate from Amanda Lang, and discovered the true story behind the film *Argo* with former ambassador Ken Taylor, to cite just two examples. Thank you for keeping us well fed and well informed!

The Wheels of Commerce

OLIP receives far more than financial support from our generous sponsors. Our meetings with them allow us to learn about the key stakeholders contributing to the public policy conversation in Ontario. The diversity of our sponsors mirrors that of Ontario politics more generally. From organized labour to multinational corporations, we heard both sharply contrasting and surprisingly similar perspectives. We are always particularly interested to hear about the career trajectories of the people working in government relations, many of whom learned their trade on the inside as political staff. Making this transition from professional partisan to a job that requires cultivating friendly relationships with all parties is essentially the inverse of the path many interns ultimately follow. The government relations job serves the useful purpose of oiling the transfer of information between government and key stakeholders. We hope that our sponsors benefitted from our insider take on Queen's Park. Hearing their views left us much better informed about the groups involved and interests at play in this province.

Thanks to: Philip Bousquet, Ontario Mining Association; Alan O'Dette, Ontario Chamber of Commerce; Sheena Weir, Law Society of Upper Canada; Matthew Thornton and Yuliya Khraplyva, the Ontario real estate Association (OREA); Chris May, Lesley Daw, Mona Ghiami, Brian Leader, Carolyn Murray, and Paul Farley, Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ontario; Sara Clodman, Jan Dymond, Ralf Hansel and Joanne de Laurentiis, Investment Funds Institute of Canada; Craig Brockwell, Ontario Secondary School Teacher's Federation (OSSTF); Mark Rosenfeld, Graeme Stewart and Erica Rayment, Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations (OCUFA).

Queen's Park Gravy Train: Our spring reception features poutine bar

When interns get the budget to throw a reception, you shouldn't be surprised to find three varieties of poutine (pulled pork, vegetarian and butter chicken), two open bars (one for drinks, the other for ice cream), countless sponsors, alumni, honorary interns, MPPs and staffers of all stripes. Since the fall reception was cancelled due to prorogation, we were particularly excited to host our first and final reception on March 18, 2013. Highlights of the event included a visit from His Honour, David Onley Lieutenant Governor, speeches from our gracious host and patron, Speaker Dave Levac, Programme Director Dr. Henry Jacek and Reception Chair, Gill Hanson. The reception

was a chance to host our sponsors, catch up with the alumni we have gotten to know over the course of the year and meet other alumni for the first time. Given the non-partisan nature of our internship, we were pleased to see politicians and political staffers from diverse political backgrounds come together to eat, drink, network and be merry. Thank you to everyone who attended the reception and helped to make it a success. We look forward to attending future receptions as alumni!



LOOKING FORWARDS

ACROSS THE COUNTRY, ACROSS THE POND

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Fasten your seatbelts – we are ready for take-off. From North America's Pacific coast to Europe across the Atlantic, OLIP is going global! Two major adventures lie ahead so we are busy packing our bags, writing our academic papers, and making lists of must-see destinations and must-eat foods. I cannot think of a more exciting way to conclude our spectacular ten months at Queen's Park.

First stop: Victoria, British Columbia. As the province's capital, this Pacific-coast city is home to the British Columbia Legislative Assembly, rugged shorelines and beaches, and of course, this year's Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences. Every year at this conference the interns present their papers to the Canadian Political Science Association (CPSA). We are lucky that this year's meeting happens to be on the distant west coast.

Congress attendees can look forward to hearing our findings on the following topics:

Connor Bays: Transition teams

Anthony Boland: Institutional evolution of the Environmental Commissioner

Josh Borden: Decorum in the Ontario Legislative Assembly

Beth Elder: Why sponsors give OLIP money

Andrea Ernesaks: Examining the professionalization of the political trade in the Ontario Legislature

Gillian Hanson: Democratic deficits and the creation of an upper house

Leanna Katz: Inclusion of minority groups in the three provincial parties

Hibah Sidat: Accessibility to democracy at Queen's Park

Lauren Tarasuk: Northern representation in minority parliament

We are certainly not the only scholars presenting research at this year's Congress. In fact, the annual event attracts around 70 associations represented by 8,000 to 10,000 delegates and guests. We will hear from and engage with top scholars, policy experts, and researchers. We are particularly looking forward to attending the CPSA reception. Our female interns will also enjoy a special Women's Caucus dinner event. Thankfully, Dr. Jacek has promised that the men of OLIP will find a nice place to eat during Women's Caucus.

Speaking of food, many of us interns have a

passion for good food and sampling new places!. Tourism Victoria advises that this city's "west coast cuisine will feed your soul." Sounds promising!

Next stop: London, England, home to the Spice Girls, fish and chips, and most importantly Westminster parliamentary democracy. Thanks to the help of UK Consul General Jonathan Dart and the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office, we are embarking on our annual comparative study of the UK Parliament. Arriving on the last weekend of June, we will spend more than a week meeting with parliamentarians, legislative staff, and bureaucrats. These meetings will give us insight into what makes the UK unique. Similarities to the Canadian model of government, as well as contemporary challenges in the UK will also be explored.

Previous interns recommend that we meet with the Government Whip, a sitting hereditary Lord, the Northern Ireland office, an anti-terrorism office, and the Commonwealth Secretariat, to name a few. In addition to our parliamentary comparative study, there is much to see and eat! This is our chance to check out London's culinary offerings.

One of the great things about our trip to the UK is that it falls at the end of the internship programme. We are fortunate to have the option of booking a later return date, allowing us to continue our travels in Europe on our own, which many of this year's interns have chosen to do.

From BC to the UK, and beyond, our adventures continue thanks to OLIP, our generous sponsors, and our partners at the CPSA and UK Foreign Commonwealth Office. Bon voyage et bon appétit!



Interns with UK Consul General Jonathan Dart

LEGISLATIVE LIAISONS

TWO COUPLES FIND LOVE THROUGH OLIP

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Many interns have participated in the Ontario Legislature Internship Programme since its inception in 1976, but there is something unique and special about the alumni featured in this edition of the Queen's Park Insider: they're married! In addition to forming professional relationships, these interns were lucky enough to build personal ones as well.

We spoke to Anne and Chris Waddell and to Alison and Jeff Nankivell to hear about their internship experience, their current careers, and how OLIP changed their lives.

The Waddells



The Waddells met at the beginning of their internship year of 1977-78. They were both early risers and spent many mornings drinking coffee in the basement of the Legislature prior to the start of the day. Chris remembers these mornings as the beginning of their relationship and Anne remains thankful to this day that OLIP brought them together. They have also formed many long lasting friendships with other people they met through the program.

Anne and Chris each describe the other as a supportive partner who has allowed them to have a fulfilling and interesting professional life. After moving back and forth between Ottawa and Toronto to accommodate both of their careers, the Waddells settled in Ottawa in 1993 where they raised their two children.

After the internship, Anne completed a Master's degree in International Relations at Carleton University. She went on to work in the Ontario Public Service for over 30 years promoting Ontario as a place to do business. She enjoys contributing and giving back to the province that has given her so much. She left the public service a year ago and joined BioAmber, a private company that makes renewable chemicals from agricultural feedstock. BioAmber is building a

plant in a town in Ontario that will help create jobs in the province.

Chris similarly continued his schooling after the internship, and went on to complete a PhD in Canadian History at York University. Chris is currently director of the School of Journalism and Communication at Carleton University and has been at Carleton since 2001. Prior to that, he worked for CBC Television from 1991 to 2001 with most of that time as Parliamentary Bureau Chief and Executive Producer of news specials. Chris also worked for *The Globe and Mail* from 1984 to 2001 and the *Financial Post* from 1980 to 1984.

Anne has vivid memories from her time as an intern, ranging from seeing the personal sacrifices necessary to be an elected official, to her first exposure to the public service. But her fondest memory of all was a weekend the interns spent at one MPP's cabin near a lake where they were regaled with stories about the member's riding and the characters in all of the small towns. Anne says that what she enjoyed most about OLIP was spending quality time with the interns and members.

Chris also values the personal relationships he built as an intern. He is proud to say that 35 years later he remains good friends with the two members he worked for: Sean Conway and the late Dr. Robert Elgie. In particular, Chris cherishes his memory of working for Sean Conway who was the Liberal health critic at the time. The government of the day brought in a 37.5 percent increase in OHIP premiums, which the opposition parties strongly opposed. Chris invested his efforts in research and learning about the rules of the House, and his research helped his Member convince the government to back down and withdraw the premium increase. Chris describes this as a great example of how minority government can and should work as he reflects happily on the satisfaction he had trying to influence Ontario politics from the inside.

Chris advises interns to get involved in as much as possible because this is truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

The Nankivells

Jeff and Alison met before they participated in OLIP in 1987-88. They knew each other in high school and throughout their post secondary education. They applied to the internship separately while they were graduate students at the London School of Economics and before they were a couple. It was only after they got together that they realized they had applied to the same program. As fate would have it, both were offered the job.

Jeff and Alison were engaged by the time the program began so the internship did not bring them together, but it kept them together. This was the first, but not the last time that Alison and Jeff would work for the same employer, and they became very comfortable working together. Since the internship they have both had fascinating careers focused on international business and development, especially in Asia. They have also raised two children.

Alison has a BA in Commerce and Economics from the University of Toronto and a Masters in Public Policy and Economics from the London School of Economics and Political Science. Alison also has the designation of Chartered Financial Analyst.

Since her internship, Alison has had a fascinating career in the field of Asian business. Fluent in Mandarin, she lived in Hong Kong and Beijing from 1990 to 1995 where she served as the Senior Editor and Writer in the Economist Intelligence Unit. Between 1996 and 1998 she worked as a Project Economist for Chreod Limited. In 1998 she started working with Export Development Canada where she would spend 15 years as a Senior Portfolio Manager for Asia, the Chief Representative for Greater China, and the Principal Head of Funds in Asia. Currently, she works as a Director for the Ontario Teacher's Pension Plan.

Jeff Nankivell studied International Relations at the University of Toronto and Political Sociology at the London School of Economics and Political Science. He completed a Certificate in Chinese Language and Culture from the Chinese University of Hong Kong and is fluent in English, French, German, and Mandarin.

After participating in OLIP, Jeff worked for the Federal Public Service for 20 years focusing largely on international development and trade in the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT). Jeff's career has focused mainly on Asia and he has held positions in the Canadian Embassy in Beijing, in the World Bank Group, and the Strategic Policy Division. Notably, between 2008 and 2011 Jeff served as the Minister and Deputy Head of Mission at the Canadian Embassy in Beijing. Currently, Jeff is the Regional Director General of Asia for CIDA.

Both Alison and Jeff have fond memories of their time spent as interns and found the trips to other legislatures extremely stimulating, particularly to California and Washington. As an intern, Alison was able to build on her background in economic policy by conducting research on provincial pension systems for MPP Brad Nixon. She also provided research for

MPP Mike Harris on sunset legislation (bills with a built in expiry date).

Jeff remembers attending town hall meetings in Lincoln, Ontario with his government MPP Harry Pelissero and hearing about Ontarians' views on free trade. He enjoyed getting a local perspective and a deeper understanding of what people want from their government.

Alison and Jeff both believe that OLIP was valuable for gaining insight into the political process. In Alison's work with private companies and crown corporations, it is vital to understand the intersection between government and business from a private policy perspective to advance the interests of the organization. As Jeff progressed through the public service, he increasingly had contact with elected officials and his OLIP experience helped him learn to how best to interact.

Alison advises current interns to avoid defining our experiences and our skills too narrowly and to be open to different career paths. She did not start her career knowing where she would go, but she was able to leverage her economic and financial knowledge and her career evolved organically. She believes that employers value well-rounded candidates with a variety of skills and experiences and she encourages interns to be open-minded.

Jeff hopes that interns take advantage of their time in OLIP because of the unique opportunities that the programme offers. He also recommends that interns try their hand at different things to get a sense of their skills and interests.

It is inspiring for current interns to see how our alumni have achieved such personal and professional success. Thanks again to the Waddells and the Nankivells. We wish them and their families all the best!



ALUMNI UPDATES & US TRAVEL

RECENT ALUMNI APPOINTMENTS THE INTERNS TRAVEL SOUTH

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Evan Akriotis (2011-2012) Juris Doctor (JD) Candidate at the University of Toronto, Faculty of Law, Toronto.

Emily Bain (1999-2000), Manager, Government Relations, Colleges Ontario, Toronto.

Bryan Bossin (2010-2011), Legislative Assistant, Minister of Rural Affairs, Jeff Leal, Toronto.

Melissa Cernigoy (2010-2011), Resolution Manager, Settlement Agreement Operations Branch (SAO), Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development, Government of Canada, Vancouver.

Julia Deans (1985-1986), Chief Executive Officer, Canadian Youth Business Foundation, Toronto.

Patrick De Rochie (2011-2012), Political Field Coordinator, Service Employees International Union (SEIU), Local 1, Toronto.

Jennifer Harewood (1998-1999), Senior Policy Advisor, Learning Environment Branch, Safe Schools Unit, Ministry of Education, Government of Ontario, Toronto.

Paul Di Ianni (2009-2010), Director, Tour Operations, Office of the Premier Kathleen Wynne, Ontario Government, Toronto.

Brandy Miller Giannetta (1999-2000), Regional Director, Ontario, Canadian Wind Energy Association (CANWEA), Toronto.

Jason Lagerquist (2006-2007), Policy Advisor, Minister of Agriculture and Food, Office of the Premier Kathleen Wynne, Ontario Government, Toronto.

Stephanie Lu (1999-2000), Head, Enterprise Social Media, Royal Bank of Canada (RBC), Toronto.

Kaila Mintz (2004-2005), Foreign Service Officer and Senior Policy Advisor, Development Policy and Institutions Division, Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada, Government of Canada, Ottawa.

Chris Morley (1999-2000), Senior Director, Corporate Affairs, Labatt Breweries of Canada, Toronto.

Kathleen Mulligan (2003-2004), Ph.D. Geography and Earth Sciences, "Dengue and Development: A Critical Political Ecology," McMaster University, Hamilton.

David Myles (2003-2004), Co-Host, East Coast Music Awards, 25th Anniversary Gala, March 10th 2013, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Rob Nicol (1993-1994), Vice-President, Communications, Canadian Tire, Toronto.

Sylvia Pena (2011-2012), Teaching Assistant, Centre international d'études pédagogiques, Academy of Lyon, Lyon, France.

Katherine Preiss (2010-2011), Research Analyst, Natural Resources and the Environment, Global Public Affairs, Ottawa.

Chris Shantz (2003-2004), Senior Policy Advisor, Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, Special Projects Office, Toronto.

Rose Sottile (1995-1996), Marketing and Communications Consultant, Toronto.

Jonathan Trentadue (2009-2010), Associate Manager of Social Responsibility, Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation, Toronto.

Meghan Warby (2005-2006), Lead, Social Media Strategy, The Cabinet Office, Government of Ontario, Toronto.

Lisa Marie Williams (2010-2011), Research Assistant, Wellesley Institute, Toronto.

The interns are absolutely thrilled to be going to Columbus, Ohio, for a comparative study of the State Legislature in June.

We'd like to take this opportunity to thank the U.S. Consulate in Toronto for assisting us in making this initiative a reality.

Over the past year, Consul-General Jim

Dickmeyer has become a very close friend of OLIP. We sincerely appreciate all of his support in making arrangements and his leadership in obtaining generous funding support from the American Embassy. Be sure to check out our blog and tweets for updates as we head south on this exciting adventure!

A WORD FROM OUR SPONSORS

TWO SPONSOR SPOTLIGHTS & LEAD SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT

QPI PAGE 23



IFIC is the voice of Canada's investment funds industry, including fund managers,

distributors and industry service organizations. IFIC brings together 150 organizations to foster a strong, stable investment sector. The organization is proud to have served Canada's mutual fund industry and its investors for more than 50 years.

IFIC proactively influences and advances industry issues within the regulatory framework, members' efficiencies, knowledge and proficiency. IFIC provides a high level of service to enable dealer and manager members to work together in a cooperative forum to enhance the integrity and growth of the industry and strengthen investor confidence.

IFIC's vision is to provide the most innovative and effective trade association services that will support and enhance the investment funds industry in its drive to provide the leading investment vehicle for Canadians.

IFIC is dedicated to enhancing the integrity and growth of the industry. We do this by being the voice of the industry and providing services that improve the regulatory framework, improve Members' knowledge and proficiency, improve efficiencies, enhance investor confidence and facilitate communications among Members. We believe in providing Members with a consistently high level of service in a cooperative forum to allow Members to work together to enhance their industry.



Insurance Bureau of Canada, (IBC) is a supporter of the Ontario Legislative Internship Programme, encouraging youth involvement in public affairs and to aid in developing tomorrow's leaders.

IBC is dedicated to enhanced leadership on key issues that affect Canadians and their communities, as well as the insurance industry. From climate adaptation and accident prevention to financial literacy and earthquake preparation, IBC provides public education, partners with governments and NGOs, conducts and funds research, develops new technologies and methodologies, and sponsors events and programmes.

Insurance Bureau of Canada is the national industry association representing Canada's private home, car and business insurers. Its member companies represent 90% of the property and casualty (P&C) insurance market in Canada.

IBC plays a key role in representing and explaining the industry's interests in the public arena, working with a wide variety of partners who share our vision for helping Canadians live safer lives and secure their futures by managing risks.

Our Lead Sponsors

Vale became one of OLIP's lead sponsors three years ago and we would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their continued generosity.

Vale, the world's second largest mining company, 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 program that aligns with our commitment to enhancing education in the countries in which we operate. Vale looks forward to watching the program grow over the next several years, and we wish each of the 2012-13 interns the best of luck.



Queen's Park Insider

OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE ONTARIO LEGISLATURE INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME

SPRING/SUMMER 2013

The Insurance Brokers Association of Ontario became OLIP's first Lead Sponsor in 2010, we would like to thank them for their continued support over the years.

Since 1996, the Insurance Brokers Association of Ontario (IBAO) has been a proud sponsor of OLIP. And 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.

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



Brought to you by the Insurance Brokers Association of Ontario

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Our Lead Sponsors

Ontario Real Estate Association became OLIP's Lead Sponsor in the spring of 2012; we thank them for their continued support over the years.

The Ontario Real Estate Association (OREA) has developed a unique working relationship with OLIP interns over the past 20 years as one of their major sponsors. As of spring 2012, OREA has happily expanded its support as one of the programme's lead sponsors.

OREA is one of Ontario's most respected professional associations. Founded in 1922 by a handful of real estate professionals, today OREA represents 53,000 REALTORS® and 41 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 higher industry standards, protecting the general public and preserving private property rights. OREA is the only authorized provider of real estate licensing courses in the province.

Committed to education and professionalism, OREA takes a special pride in helping nurture young people's interest in politics and create tomorrow's leaders of Ontario and Canada.

OREA's special connection with the programme became even stronger when two former OLIPers joined its Government Relations Department.

