



0626REPORT/CAN14

CPA UK BRANCH DELEGATION TO CANADA 5-13 APRIL 2014 OTTAWA, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES, NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR



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1. BACKGROUND.

1.01. A delegation of six UK Parliamentarians led by Rt Hon. Anne McGuire MP visited Canada over the period 5-13 April 2014. Programmes organised by the legislatures in Ottawa, Newfoundland and Labrador and the Northwest Territories (NWT) were designed to meet the aim and objectives outlined in Section 2 below.

1.02. The timing of the visit coincided with interesting provincial and territorial developments, such as the Quebec elections on 7 April and devolution coming into effect in the NWT on 1 April.

1.03. As part of its ongoing parliamentary diplomacy programme with the Canadian Parliament, CPA UK hosted a number of recent inward visits to Westminster including: a series of programmes exploring devolution; and a visit to explore the Canadian-Caribbean Parliamentary Partnership Initiative.

2. AIM & OBJECTIVES.

2.01. **Aim.** The aim of the visit was to enable Westminster Parliamentarians to understand better the issues and challenges faced by their Canadian colleagues.

2.02. **Objectives.** A set of overarching and supporting objectives designed to enable the delegation:

Objective 1. In Ottawa, to understand better the workings of the Parliament of Canada through exchanges with Canadian colleagues on:

- 1.01. The relationship between the House of Commons and the Senate; Senate reform.
- 1.02. Political parties in Parliament.
- 1.03. The relationships between Federal and Provincial Government/Legislatures.
- 1.04. Parliament and the media.
- 1.05. Parliamentarians and Civil Society.
- 1.06. The representation of women in politics.

Objective 2. In Ottawa, to learn more about domestic/political challenges faced by Canada (and any lessons for UK):

- 2.01. The Economic Action Plan and job creation.
- 2.02. Energy and environmental issues.
- 2.03. Immigration and ethnic diversity.

- 2.04. Drugs policy.
- 2.05. Separatism and referenda.
- 2.06. Minority governance.
- 2.07. Electoral reform.

Objective 3. In Ottawa, to gain a greater insight to Canada's international relations:

- 3.01. The Commonwealth.
- 3.02. Arctic sovereignty.
- 3.03. MENA, and Iran.
- 3.04. International development:
 - MDGs and the Post-2015 process
 - Canada's G8 Muskoka Initiative

Objective 4. In Ottawa, to explore the Canada / UK strategic partnership in the context of the Joint Declaration 2011:

- 4.01. Political and diplomatic/consular relations.
- 4.02. Commercial and economic relations; CETA; bilateral Joint Innovation Statement.
- 4.03. Defence and security collaboration, including the MOU on Defence Material Cooperation.
- 4.04. Academic links.

Objective 5. In the Northwest Territories, to gain an insight to:

- 5.01. The formation of the Northwest Territories and Territorial / Federal relations.
- 5.02. The role and remit of the Legislative Assembly.
- 5.03. Aboriginal affairs.
- 5.04. Energy and natural resources.
- 5.05. Climate change issues.
- 5.06. The Arctic Council/policy.

Objective 6. In Newfoundland, to gain an insight to:

- 6.01. Provincial / Federal relations.
- 6.02. The role and remit of the House of Assembly.
- 6.03. Natural resources: fisheries; oil, energy, mining.
- 6.04. Healthcare.
- 6.05. Migration.
- 6.06. The impact of the Centenary of the start of World War 1.
- 6.07. Territorial collectivity; ceremonial territory

3. DELEGATION.

Leader:	Rt Hon. Anne McGuire MP (Lab)
Members:	Annette Brooke MP (Lib Dem)
	Lord Faulkner of Worcester (Lab)
	Baroness Hooper CMG (Con)
	David Morris MP (Con)
	Andrew Percy MP (Con)
Accompanying Secretary:	Kirsty Jackson

4. SUMMARY.

- 4.01. The busy, varied and extremely informative visit fully met its overall aim of gaining greater insight to Canada's domestic and international priorities and challenges.
- 4.02. An intensive two day programme in Ottawa enabled the delegation to obtain a thorough overview of Canada's political and parliamentary scene, as well as witness firsthand reaction to the Quebec elections. The topical, controversial issues of Senate and electoral reform featured high on the agenda.
- 4.03. The delegation split into two groups for the remainder of the week, visiting Newfoundland and Labrador (NFLD) and the Northwest Territories (NWT). Delegates to the NWT acquired a fascinating insight into "the North" with its unique environment, challenges and opportunities. They explored how the North - at the forefront of climate change - is undergoing rapid change, experiencing significant impacts on livelihoods and infrastructure. At the same time, a week following devolution, delegates witnessed the considerable optimism now that the territory was in charge of its own vast resource development.

5. DETAILS.

OBJECTIVE 1 - PARLIAMENT OF CANADA

5.01. Canada is a constitutional monarchy, with HM The Queen as Head of State, represented by a Governor-General who is appointed on the recommendation of the Prime Minister. Amendments to the constitution require the consent of the federal parliament and 7 Provinces representing at least half of the population.

COMMONS AND SENATE: SENATE REFORM

5.02. The Canadian Parliament is based on the Westminster bicameral model. The Senate currently has 105 Members and the House of Commons 308. However, in line with the Fair Representation Act 2011, seats in the Commons will increase to 330. Both Chambers can initiate legislation; but the Senate may not introduce bills providing for the expenditure of public money or imposing taxes. Whilst Commons' Members are elected in a "first past the post" system, Senators are appointed by the Governor-General on the recommendation of the Prime Minister.

5.03. The debate on Senate reform has been going on for 150 years. Whilst the Upper House had been intended originally as a gentle counterweight to the Lower, it was claimed that had never transpired. A number of factors contribute to the Senate's apparent lack of legitimacy. First, there is an imbalance in regional representation: for instance British Columbia with a population of approximately 4 million has 6 Senators, whereas Nova Scotia with a population of less than 1 million has 10 Senators. Secondly, the Senate has been criticised for its partisan approach. Delegates were informed that 9 Prime Ministers appointed more than a majority of their own Senators during their term; and there is a strong expectation of Senators that they will be loyal to the Prime Minister who appointed them. An example was given of Prime Minister Chretien who, not convinced that enough of his own caucus would support the Clarity Act, appointed several Senators to ensure he had the necessary numbers. Of 7 amendments, 6 were apparently proposed by Senators appointed just to pass this bill. Thirdly, the recent expenses scandals have further damaged the Senate's reputation. Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau expelled all Liberal senators from his caucus in January 2014, a move which Liberal Commons Members informed the delegation was the first step toward real reform and legitimacy of the Senate.

5.04. The current Government proposed changes including term limits and (provincially) elected senatorial candidates being appointed by the Prime Minister. After Provinces rejected possible attempts to reform the Senate, Prime Minister Harper asked the Supreme Court to consider whether the Government could reform or abolish the Senate without the consent of Canada's provinces. On 25 April the Court ruled against the proposal and Harper stated that reform was now "off the table".

POLITICAL PARTIES

5.05. Having ruled as a minority government since 2006, the Conservative Party won the election in May 2011 with a majority. This was a huge achievement for Harper; it was his fourth election as Conservative leader. In the Commons the seats were as follows: Conservatives 166 (up from 143); NDP a record 103 (up from 36); Liberals 34 (down from 77); Bloc Quebecois 4 (down from 47); Greens 1.

5.06. The surge in NDP votes took people by surprise, pushing the Liberal Party back to third place. Thomas Mulcair has established his credentials as an effective Leader of the Opposition. The NDP's policies

focus on the economy, environment, social justice, human rights and democracy.

5.07. The Liberal Party lost over 40 seats in May 2011, their vote collapsing to just 20%. This was their worst ever performance in terms of both votes and seats; and it was the first time they had not finished in the top two in an election. Having lost his own seat, the day after the election Michael Ignatieff resigned as party leader and was succeeded by Justin Trudeau, son of former Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau. Under Trudeau the party appears to be growing in popularity – this could pose a threat to both the Conservatives and the NDP in the 2015 elections.

RESTORATION OF THE PARLIAMENTARY ESTATE

5.08. Delegates were briefed on the Long Term Vision and Plan (LTVP) to restore the parliamentary estate, undertaken by Public Works and Government Services Canada. Officials explained the historical significance of the location which was first an aboriginal and then a military site. In the 1990s it became clear that much had changed since the Parliament was constructed in the 1860s and that a new response was needed.

5.09. The LTVP anticipates a 25-30 year timeframe. A key objective is to sustain parliamentary operations in the implementation phase. It recognises that the end result needs to represent both a modern workplace and national symbol. There will be 5 heritage buildings on site. Whilst preserving the natural environment, as well as maintaining provision for public demonstrations, there will nevertheless be a clear physical identity and security fence. Vacated in 2010, the West Block will become the interim chamber in 2018, whilst the Senate will decamp to the old train station, until completion of all the works in 2028. The new site will incorporate an underground visitor centre and circulation system.

WOMEN IN PARLIAMENT

5.10. A briefing from Susan Truppe MP (Parliamentary Secretary for the Status of Women) and Niki Ashton MP (Official Opposition Critic for the Status of Women) highlighted how the 2011 election had brought a record number of women to Parliament – 76. Women make up approximately 40% of the NDP caucus and 17% of the Conservative and Liberal caucuses. Barriers to women being involved in leadership were outlined, such as violence, lack of access to childcare and affordable housing. Niki Ashton emphasised that there was considerable work to be done to engage indigenous women. She also raised the extremely worrying ‘epidemic’ of missing and murdered indigenous women – over 800 over the past 2 decades; there have been calls for a national inquiry.¹

¹ Since that meeting RCMP Commissioner Bob Paulson has reported to Parliament that the numbers are much higher - nearly 1200 cases of murdered or missing Aboriginal women over the past 30 years.

OBJECTIVE 2 – DOMESTIC / POLITICAL CHALLENGES FACED BY CANADA

THE ECONOMY

5.11. The main focus of the Harper Government has been on sustaining economic recovery in terms of jobs, growth and prosperity, through the Economic Action Plan (EAP) and action to eliminate the deficit by 2015. In a briefing prior to the delegation's departure, HE Gordon Campbell, Canadian High Commissioner to London, affirmed how effective the EAP had been, creating thousands of projects and construction jobs throughout the country. Little criticism of the plan has come from opposition parties as it was so successful in placing people back into work.

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

5.12. Canada is an increasingly important global energy producer. It is the world's 3rd largest producer of natural gas and has the world's 3rd largest proven crude oil reserves. The cornerstone of Canada's economic strength is the resource sector, its energy sector providing 7% of Canada's GDP. The current Government has worked hard at opening Canada's energy market, focusing on exporting gas and crude oil from the West and East Coasts to Asian and European markets. However, progress has been slowed by provincial politics, environmental opposition and disputes with First Nations. There has been disagreement with the EU over the Fuel Quality Directive which is designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions; the oil sands would be placed in the top category but Canada has strongly opposed the proposal, claiming its methodology is unscientific.

SEPARATISM AND REFERENDUMS

5.13. With the start of the programme coinciding with provincial elections in Quebec – and the Scottish referendum due this autumn – interest in referenda and separatism was high on both sides. When the Parti Quebecois (PQ) Premier, Pauline Marois, called the election, she anticipated securing a majority. Instead, she led the party to its worst defeat since 1970, with only 26% of the vote. Post-election analysis showed that many young people rejected the separatist agenda. It appeared that the campaign was misguided in focusing on the charter of values, whereas voters were more preoccupied with jobs, the economy, health-care, debt – ie “les vraies affaires” according to the Liberal slogan. The image of Pierre Karl Peladeau's punching the air for an independent Quebec raised the spectre of a 3rd referendum and could be seen as a further self-inflicted blow. English Canadians were weary of the ‘neverendum’.

IMMIGRATION

5.14. Whilst recognising the historical injustices towards aboriginal peoples, the overall impression is that Canada has assimilated its immigrant populations in more recent times rather well. More than 200,000 immigrants arrive each year from more than 150 countries. Honourable Jason Kenney PC MP (Minister for Multiculturalism, Employment and Social Development) depicted a generous Canadian attitude towards pluralism from early on, with the exception of Quebec which he described as being less relaxed about multiculturalism than the rest of the country. He stated that the Muslim immigrants had integrated well

overall, although Quebec proved the exception again – the unemployment rate there for Muslims is 25%, compared to 5% in Calgary.

ELECTORAL REFORM

5.15. The delegation witnessed the extreme controversy surrounding the government’s proposed Fair Elections Act, the focus of which was the new requirement to produce ID for voting. Delegates observed the heated debate in the Chamber over the push to remove the office of Elections Commissioner from Elections Canada and place it within the office of the Director of Public Prosecutions. Other concerns relate to: vouching; and the limits to the Chief Electoral Officer’s powers to provide information to the public. Democratic Reform Minister Pierre Poilievre claims that the Bill would give the office of the Elections Commissioner “sharper teeth”, a “longer reach” and a “freer hand”; but academics and advocacy groups have raised strong concerns with the reform legislation.

OBJECTIVE 3 - CANADA’S INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

OVERVIEW

5.16. Ottawa has shown a clear determination to become tough and pragmatic abroad, seeking to base its foreign policy on Canada’s national interest and values. Foreign Minister Baird made clear that Canada is no longer content to “go along just to get along”. Whereas 20 years ago Canadians may have been perceived as peacekeepers, innovators in a multilateral world, the world had changed and Canada was repositioning. The current government has focused attention on the economic growth of a country. International aid is 0.3% of GDP and falling; aid has been frozen in the past few years. The opposition and press complain that: aid has been abandoned; the approach is too confrontative; there is too much emphasis on key ridings (ie those with Ukrainian, Iranian or Sri Lankan populations).

COMMONWEALTH

5.17. Canada’s strong stance on the Commonwealth can be seen in the wider context of its foreign policy rethink. Canada has been reviewing its membership of international bodies across the board, indicating that it doesn’t want to participate in organisations that aren’t effective or delivering. Its tough stance on Sri Lanka and Commonwealth funding, its withdrawal from certain UN conventions and its concerns about the IPU can all be seen in this light. In terms of the Commonwealth specifically, the views expressed were consistent – the Commonwealth needs to find its *raison d’etre*; reform is essential but it will take a huge amount of energy to get it back to where it should be.

ARCTIC SOVEREIGNTY

5.18. There are new openings and opportunities in the Arctic, driven by global forces such as climate change and resource development. As outlined by the Government in its Statement on Arctic Foreign Policy, “the

geopolitical significance of the region and the implications for Canada have never been greater”.² Prime Minister Harper has been described as “the most Arctic minded Prime Minister”. Dennis Bevington MP for the Western Arctic riding drew the delegation’s attention to US Geological Survey estimates that areas north of the Arctic Circle have 90 billion barrels of undiscovered oil (and 44 billion barrels of natural gas liquids), representing 13% of the undiscovered oil in the world.

5.19. However the impression of a ‘race for resources’ is misleading, the region being generally characterised by international cooperation rather than conflict. Mr Bevington referred to the international legal framework governing the Arctic (UNCLOS 1994) which defines the maritime zones of Arctic coastal states – territorial sea, exclusive economic zones, continental shelves and high seas. Most of the Arctic’s exploitable resources are within national jurisdictions. Whilst there are some legal disputes in the Canadian Arctic (Hans Island, the Lincoln Sea, the Beaufort Sea), and some disagreement over the North West Passage, the perception is that these are well managed and do not amount to a sovereignty crisis.

UKRAINE

5.20. As Canada has the largest Ukrainian diaspora in the world (1.2 million), it was not surprising that the Ukraine featured highly in various discussions. Debate was lively – some Members perceived that the sanctions were not heavy enough to deter Putin, that the approach was too weak and didn’t match the threat; others advocated a diplomatic approach, working through organisations such as the OSCE and Council of Europe. The dangers of isolating Russia, backing her into a corner, were raised.

MENA & IRAN

5.21. Canada’s policy towards the Middle East is predicated on a strongly held belief in the Israel’s right to exist and the Jewish’s people’s right to live safely in their homeland. Canadian support for Israel was highlighted in PM Harper’s speech to the Knesset, January 2014. Again, the theme of shared values comes strongly into play. Iran is a key concern in terms of nuclear capability; whilst Canada appreciates international diplomatic efforts it distrusts Iran and believes actions need to follow words, therefore sanctions remain in place.

MDGs

5.22. Senator Andreychuk emphasised that post 2015 it was important to maintain the markers. In her view, some countries had done very well, such as Ghana. She had just returned from Mozambique, where she was pleased to report there was, for a change, talk of consensus. On the other hand, Mali, the Central African Republic and Congo were of great concern. She stated that Canada’s Muskoka Initiative was an excellent one; the World Health Organisation and World Bank estimated that over 5 years it would prevent the deaths of 64,000 mothers and 1.3 million children under 5 years.

² Government of Canada, Statement on Canada’s Arctic Foreign Policy: Exercising Sovereignty and Promoting Canada’s Northern Strategy Abroad, 2010, p2

OBJECTIVE 4 - CANADA/UK STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

5.23. It would appear that Canada-UK relations are stronger than ever. The Prime Ministers and Foreign Ministers have particularly strong links and this permeates down. Canada is one of the UK's most significant trading and investment partners; investment in each other's countries is approximately £77b. The 2013 EU-Canada Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) promises even greater potential - the boost to the UK's GDP is estimated at £1.3b and to Canada's approx £7.2b. Delegates noted that the UK is uniquely positioned to benefit from this agreement and are keen to know what the UK Government's strategy is in this regard.

5.24. The framework for this strong partnership is the Joint Declaration of 2011. A number of agreements have ensued, for instance Enhancing Mutual Support at Missions Abroad, the Joint Innovation Statement, a Defence Declaration of Intent. BHC Ottawa stated that its focus now was ensuring that the partnership remains dynamic.

OBJECTIVE 5 - NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

5.25. The visit to the Northwest Territories (NWT) afforded delegates a fascinating insight to the unique characteristics, challenges and opportunities of "the North". With a population of 43,000 spread over 33 official communities - 16 of which don't have road access – NWT's vast distances, severe climate and scattered population present significant challenges.³ At the same time, there is enormous potential for development, particularly in terms of natural resources.

FORMATION OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES; TERRITORIAL/FEDERAL RELATIONS

5.26. *Historical context:* The name "Northwest Territories" was originally applied when Rupert's Land and the North-Western Territory were acquired in 1870. For the first half of the 20th century the NWT Government comprised an appointed Commissioner and council of senior civil servants based in Ottawa. Although the Commissioner remained the Head of Government, appointed by the Government of Canada, until 1980, the decades following the Second World War nevertheless saw responsibilities gradually transferred from the federal to territorial authorities. In 1967 the seat of territorial government was moved to Yellowknife and the Commissioner relocated there. By 1981 the Executive comprised 7 elected Members, the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner. In 1988 the territorial government assumed full control of health services.

5.27. *Federal/Territorial relations:* Officials pointed out that the Territories do not enjoy the same constitutional status as the Provinces. The constitution of the NWT is the Northwest Territories Act, a federal statute which only the Parliament of Canada can amend, whereas the Constitution Act of 1982 gave the Provinces the power to amend their constitutions, subject to certain limitations. However the Territories

³ Only approx 44% of the population live in Yellowknife, whereas over approx 75% of Yukon's population live in Whitehorse

benefit from considerable federal transfers. For instance in 2012-13, 73% of the territorial government's revenue came from federal transfers, second only to Nunavut at 82% and similar to Yukon at 72%. By comparison, in the same year the province most reliant on federal transfers (PEI) received 34% of its revenue from the federal government.

5.28. *Devolution:* The delegation visited at a particularly interesting time in NWT's development - the week following devolution which came into effect on 1 April 2014. The Northwest Territories Lands and Resources Devolution Agreement, signed June 2013, transfers the administration and management of public lands, water resources, mineral resources and oil and gas management from the federal to the territorial government. Earlier this year Premier Bob McLeod described devolution as "a game changer for the people and Government of the Northwest Territories". Martin Goldney (Deputy Minister at the Department of Aboriginal Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations) outlined to delegates what an important step forward this was for the territory, crucial for the management of the economy. There was general optimism that the people of the NWT would see more direct benefit as a result, with a more local, accessible and responsive government. The strategy was to "devolve then evolve", with mirrored legislation initially to facilitate a smooth transition.

5.29. The delegation was also briefed on another layer of devolution – Aboriginal self-government. Land claims in NWT began with the Inuvialuit Final Agreement, signed in 1984, the second oldest claim in the country. NWT was divided in 1999 to create Nunavut, giving the predominantly Inuit population self-rule. Some Aboriginal groups have shown leadership and vision, such as the Tlicho who have their own government (Tlicho Agreement, implemented in 2005). Not many laws have been enacted; instead the focus has been on building revenue.

ROLE & REMIT OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

5.30. The NWT is one of only two jurisdictions in Canada with Consensus Government. It has been described as a mixture of Westminster-style parliamentary democracy and the traditional aboriginal decision making style. Key features of the system include: no political parties, party discipline or whips; all votes are 'free'; no 'official' opposition.

5.31. The Legislative Assembly comprises 19 Members, all elected as independents; the average riding has 2,300 residents. Shortly after the election, before choosing the Speaker and Cabinet, all Members meet as Caucus (ie as equals) to strategise and set the priorities for the Assembly. The Premier and Ministers are chosen by secret ballot. Since the creation of Nunavut in 1999, the breakdown of the Cabinet has been: 1 Premier; 2 Ministers each from northern, southern and Yellowknife constituencies, thus providing a geographical balance. The 11 Members who are not in the Cabinet are referred to as Regular Members and become the 'unofficial' opposition; the system has been described as a perpetual minority government, as these Regular Members hold the balance of power. Whilst the Commissioner still opens sessions and gives

assent to bills, as the federal government's representative in NWT, the role is now mostly ceremonial.

5.32. Critics claim that this system prevents strong leadership and good governance. It can be extremely difficult to make hard decisions and a lot of time is spent on dialogue. Advocates point out that Parliaments are intended to provide a forum for the free exchange of opinions on public policy and that Consensus Government gets closer to that ideal than most jurisdictions. Counter to what "consensus" implies, votes occur on the house floor quite regularly and also occasionally when the caucus, which consists of all Members, meets in private session. Although delegates suggested that the current system could potentially place considerable power in the hands of officials, the overall message received was - on balance, the system works. It appears that there are currently no coordinated efforts to move towards party politics; an attempt was made by the NDP 16 years ago but it failed.

ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS

5.33. The Legislative Assembly building itself reflects the rich cultural heritage of the NWT, as evident in the spherical shapes reminiscent of igloos and drums, or the inscription in 10 languages of "one land many voices" on the mace. Approximately half of the population is Aboriginal – 61% Dene, 20% Inuvialuit/Inuit and 17% Metis. There are 11 official languages in the NWT.

5.34. *Gains:* Since the 1970s, important strides have been made in re-establishing autonomy over traditional lands and resources through the land claims agreements. These have radically reconfigured the political landscape of the North, enabling Aboriginal peoples to benefit economically. Mr Kevin Todd of the Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment (DITI), briefed the delegation on Impact Benefit Agreements (usually involving annual cash payments from the mines to communities, annual scholarship funds, preferential hiring for Aboriginal peoples and environmental protection measures) and Social Economic Agreements with the Government of the NWT. The median annual income for Aboriginal people is higher in NWT than in any other territory or province, at \$25,078.

5.35. *Challenges:* However, significant challenges remain. Over the past century, the Aboriginal peoples across the North of Canada have experienced the socially disruptive effects of federal relocation programmes and centralization; and they are now facing a time of huge potential change due to resource development and climate change. Some of the current challenges faced by Aboriginal communities in particular were highlighted in the delegation's first meeting with Speaker Jacobson and colleagues, including: food security; education; unemployment; alcohol and drug addictions. Historically, residential schools caused considerable suffering which many are still coming to terms with. One MLA gave a personal account of the damage of residential schools on his own family.

5.36. *Programmes:* Delegates were briefed on a variety of programmes designed to address the particular challenges faced by Aboriginal peoples. Joint Task Force North Deputy Commander Derek Moss cited the

Junior Canadian Ranger Program which is aimed at tackling boredom amongst the young populations of the north.⁴ This addresses life skills such as hunting, trapping, hygiene, respect for women and elders; it also provides alcohol and drugs counselling. Francois Roussouw of the DITI outlined Government of the NWT support for the Aboriginal traditional economy such as the GMV Fur Programme which guarantees trappers a minimum price for fur; other support includes Take a Kid Trapping and various harvest programmes. The point was made that traditional harvesting and trapping was done in a sustainable, licensed, well regulated manner.

5.37. In short, the experience of Aboriginal peoples in recent decades has been mixed. There have been gains in terms of schooling, housing and access to medical facilities; however family breakup and violence, self-destructive behaviour, addictions and mental health problems point to a different picture of social disintegration. The challenge for the future will be to ensure that all peoples of the NWT benefit from devolution and the potential gains from the Territory's vast and valuable resources. Thriving northern communities will be key to unlocking the huge economic opportunities of the North.

ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

5.38. The NWT stands at a critical juncture as, for the first time, it is in control of its resource development. PM Harper himself stated that "The North's time has come... our government is committed to ensuring that Northerners benefit from the tremendous natural resource reserves that are found in their region".

5.39. Primary resource extraction has taken over from furs as the foundation of the NWT economy. Since 1932 mining has generated \$60b; and it accounted for 28% of NWT's GDP in 2012. The total value of mineral production in NWT increased by almost 200% from 2000-2010, from about \$6.8 m to over \$2b. NWT has the highest per capita GDP in N America.

5.40. Over time the focus of mining has moved from base and precious metals (eg uranium, gold, lead, zinc) to primarily diamonds. NWT is the 3rd largest diamond producer in the world by value, generating \$1.5-2b per annum. There are 3 diamond mines currently operating in NWT: Ekati was Canada's first diamond mine and is an anchor in the NWT's economy – with approximately 1400 workers it accounts for 10% of its GDP; Diavik is the largest producer of diamonds; and Snap Lake is the first all underground diamond mine. Over \$34 million of diamond royalties have been shared with Aboriginal groups since 2001. A 4th mine at Can Tung is the Western world's largest producer of tungsten concentrate.

5.41. In addition, the delegation was briefed on the vast untapped oil and gas and mineral potential. Likely new mining projects include: Selwyn, Prairie Creek, NICO, Nechalacho, Gahcho Kue. Pioneering work has already begun at the latter, with 770 truckloads having been taken over ice-roads; the first production is on schedule for 2016.

⁴ Whereas the mean age in Canada is 40 years, in Nunavut it is 23 years

5.42. However unique challenges hinder economic development in the North, including: limited infrastructure; high transportation, energy and living costs; small, scattered populations often with limited formal education and industrial skills. Members and officials expressed concern at the 0% population growth rate. In order to develop more projects and capture the benefits, the Executive Director of the NWT and Nunavut Chamber of Mines emphasised the importance of: reducing investment uncertainty (eg unsettled land claims); reducing costs to northern industry and residents; and increasing northern resident labour capacity.

5.43. Nevertheless, whilst recognising that both the challenges and opportunities needed to be managed well, the overall sense was one of optimism and that the future was bright.

CLIMATE CHANGE

5.44. Just as resource development is increasingly defining the North, so too is another global trend – climate change. It seems clear that the region is being disproportionately impacted, with northern Aboriginal peoples most affected as their livelihoods and food security are threatened.

5.45. *Impacts across the Canadian North:* MP for the Western Arctic, Dennis Bevington, pointed out that research in the Yukon has shown that the zone of continuous permafrost may have moved 100 km poleward since 1899. It is thought that permafrost thawing could exacerbate global warming by releasing methanes and other hydrocarbons (greenhouse gases). A study produced in Nature Geoscience predicts that thawing permafrost will release 68-508 billion tonnes of carbon into the atmosphere by 2100. Thawing permafrost affects the integrity of buildings, roads and infrastructure, increasing maintenance costs drastically; an estimate of \$250-420 m for buildings alone was cited. In Inuvik and other areas thermosyphon technology is being used to help prevent permafrost degradation. Other concerns include: changing sea ice patterns affecting marine ecosystems and traditional food harvesting; changes in freeze-up and break-up patterns affecting transportation; rising sea levels causing coastal erosion and storm surges; rising temperatures; melting glaciers leading to flooding; extreme weather.

5.46. *Impacts in the NWT:* Mr Doug Ritchie of Ecology North testified that all across the NWT there is evidence of a rapidly changing environment, describing it as a “tidal wave of change”. He stated that the Mackenzie Delta was warming twice as fast as the rest of the world. Evidence can be seen in Tuktoyaktuk, where coastal erosion has led to several buildings being moved inland, including the school and police station. In 2005-6 the Tibbitt to Contwoyto winter road was only open 50 days instead of the usual 70; as a result only 6841 loads out of the planned 9000 made it by truck into the Diavik Diamond Mine. The Mine spent tens of millions of dollars flying in 13000 tonnes of dry cargo and 11000 tonnes of fuel.

5.47. *Response:* Steps are being taken to adapt and mitigate; and a recognition of the need for a coordinated approach is evident in the Pan-Territorial Adaptation Strategy, 2009. MLA for Weledeh, Mr Bob Bromley,

indicated that the record was fairly positive on the residential side, with EGH 80 (Energy Guide for Houses) and small subsidies for pellet boilers and insulation; but a policy was needed for industry, the biggest challenge. Overall there was a sense that not enough was being done at either the territorial or federal level. It was commented that the Government needed to think outside the box to help people reduce energy, in particular those of lower income.

5.48. Delegates to Newfoundland and Labrador also noted the impact of climate change there; it had been an unusually harsh and long winter.

ARCTIC COUNCIL AND POLICY

5.49. Whilst climate change clearly poses many threats, it also creates new opportunities which the Arctic Council is uniquely positioned to manage. If managed effectively, the global processes opening up the Arctic region could contribute to increased prosperity for northern Canadians.

5.50. The Arctic Council was established in 1996. It comprises 8 Arctic nations and 6 indigenous peoples' organisations (Permanent Participants). Originally it focused on the protection of the environment but has since expanded to include issues such as sustainable development and emergency response. There are 6 working groups in addition to task forces focusing on specific initiatives. 2011 saw a new level of cooperation with the Search and Rescue (SAR) Agreement, its first legally binding instrument.

5.51. Canada's overarching theme for its 2013-15 chairmanship of the Council is "development for the people of the north". Three sub-themes will address: responsible Arctic resource development; responsible and safe Arctic shipping; sustainable circumpolar communities. These priorities highlight the linkages between Canada's foreign and domestic policies, as is also evident in the Government's 2009 Northern Strategy and 2010 Statement on Canada's Arctic Foreign Policy.

5.52. Canada's chairmanship could be an opportunity to strengthen further cooperation in a number of areas. More could be done to allow Permanent Participants to participate more meaningfully. The increasing interest of non-Arctic states such as China, Japan and Korea is of interest; and the question of potential observers such as China and the EU is a matter to be addressed. As sea ice diminishes, the possibility of commercial fishing in the High Seas emerges, raising questions of management and the possible need for a regional fisheries organisation. Much work is being done on an international instrument on Arctic marine oil pollution preparedness.

OBJECTIVE 6 – NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR

PROVINCIAL / FEDERAL RELATIONS

5.53. A former Colony and Dominion of the United Kingdom, Newfoundland became the tenth province of

Canada on March 31, 1949.

5.54. When Newfoundland decided not to join Canadian Confederation in 1867, it had made a purposeful decision to pursue its own independence within the British Empire. Whether Newfoundland and Labrador should remain as an independent political entity, or join the federation of the other British North American colonies, was an issue from 1864 to 1949. In 1864, Newfoundland delegates attended the Quebec Conference and signed the resolutions which became the foundation of the 1867 British North America Act. Newfoundland and Canada began negotiations for unity in 1895 but with no agreement. Newfoundland was very much a member of the British Empire and contributed heavily to the war efforts in both the First and Second World Wars. Moreover, in 1934 under tremendous economic pressure from the conditions of the Great Depression, the Newfoundland economy suffered terribly and looked to Great Britain for relief and help.

5.55. By 1945, Both Great Britain and Canada realized that incorporating Newfoundland into confederation made sense. The two referenda held in 1948 demonstrated that a majority of Newfoundlanders now agreed as well. However, the vote had been preceded by a long, tense and divisive debate, and was followed by a difficult period of transition. Finally, on 31 March 1949, Newfoundlanders became Canadian citizens.

5.56. The Terms of Union between Canada and Newfoundland followed the general lines of the British North America Act of 1867. They set out which areas of government fell under federal, and which under provincial jurisdiction. Areas of responsibility such as fisheries, criminal law and banking became federal responsibilities. The province retained control over areas that did not have a direct effect upon other provinces, such as health care, social services and education.

5.57. There have been periodic tensions between the two levels of government over questions of jurisdiction. The collapse of the cod fishery in the 1990s convinced many Newfoundlanders that the provincial government should have had jurisdiction over offshore resources. As divisive as some of these issues were, the principal flaw in the confederation terms has in the eyes of Newfoundlanders been the financial arrangements. Before Confederation, the Newfoundland government had depended on customs duties as the principal source of revenue. After 1949 this became a federal tax area, as did income taxes. Yet three of the most expensive fields of responsibility - health care, social services and education - were left to the province. The problem was exacerbated by the new province's relatively small tax base - that is, its limited ability to generate enough government income.

5.58. When negotiating the Terms of Union, both sides recognized this dilemma, and attempted to rectify the situation in two ways. There would be a special transitional grant to the new province for the first eight years, while it made its taxable capacity similar to that in the Maritime Provinces. This grant would then be subject to review by a Royal Commission, under the clause known as Term 29. Second, the Province of Newfoundland would receive transfer payments from the federal government according to the formula that

applied across the country.

ROLE AND REMIT OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

5.59. The House of Assembly is the unicameral provincial legislature. It is situated in the Confederation Building, located in the capital city of St. John's. The Newfoundland and Labrador House of Assembly is unique because the government sits to the left of the Speaker in Parliament rather than the right, which is the norm in the Westminster system. The legislature has 48 seats, each seat representing one geographical district in the province. Elections must be held every four years in October under a fixed-date elections law brought in by the current Progressive Conservative government.

5.60. Under the present 47th General Assembly, the Government, the Progressive Conservatives hold 33 seats, while the Liberals, the Official Opposition hold 11 seats, and the third party, the New Democratic Party hold 3 seats. Each session has two sittings, in Spring, from early to mid-March to late May or early June with the budget typically introduced during the 3rd week of March. In the Fall, the General Assembly tends to meet from mid-November to mid-December.

5.61. The Assembly subscribes to a rigorous accountability and integrity regime as set out in the *House of Assembly Accountability, Integrity and Administration Act*. The Act, as governed by the House of Assembly Management Commission is responsible for the administrative and financial policies of the House including legislated rules for members' entitlements, the publication of members' salaries and expenses, as well as any audit requirements and a review of internal spending controls. The Commission is composed of the Speaker, the Clerk (a non-voting member), and six MHA's, including the two main parties, House leaders and a member of the third political party.

NATURAL RESOURCES: FISHERIES; OIL; ENERGY; MINING

Fisheries

5.62. In recent years, the Newfoundland and Labrador fishing industry has shifted from an industry driven primarily by traditional groundfish stock to one dominated by shellfish production. This transformation is the result of two key factors: first, the decline and subsequent fishing restrictions placed on key groundfish stocks and secondly, the growth and availability of snow crab, shrimp and other shellfish such as lobster. The shellfish factor comprises 62.7 % of total landings and generates 79.9% of total land value. Groundfish accounts for 13.2% of the total capture of fish landings in 2013 and 16.3% of total landed value. Such fish include flounder, redfish and turbot. Pelagics, such as mackerel, herring and capelin account for 24.1% of total capture and 3.35 of total landed value.

5.63. Global demand for seafood products has remained strong in 2013, with the majority of the province's seafood products being exported to over 40 countries including the United States and China.

5.64. It should be noted that restrictions on the sale of seal products continues to challenge the seal fishery. Access to markets remains a significant barrier, particularly in China and the European Union.

Oil

5.65. Newfoundland and Labrador's offshore oil industry has made significant contributions to the provincial economy in recent decades. It creates jobs, adds to provincial revenues, helps to curb outmigration, stimulates consumer spending, and indirectly benefits other sectors of the economy, including real estate, education and research, manufacturing, and retail. As of 2008, three oilfields are producing crude oil in provincial offshore areas - Hibernia, Terra Nova, and White Rose. A fourth field, Hebron, is set to produce first oil in 2017. Exploratory drilling indicates additional oil deposits exist in Newfoundland and Labrador offshore waters that may also hold commercial potential.

5.66. Oil workers discovered Newfoundland and Labrador's first commercial oilfield in 1979 after about 13 years of exploratory drilling in offshore waters. Known as Hibernia, the oilfield is located on the Grand Banks in the Jeanne d'Arc Basin, about 315 km east of St. John's. Construction of the Hibernia platform and other oil-extraction structures began in 1990 and the development produced its first barrel of oil in 1997. Industry and government officials estimate the oilfield holds about 884 million barrels of retrievable oil, making it the province's largest producing field to date.

5.67. Although the oil and gas industry has not existed in Newfoundland and Labrador for very long, it is a key component of the provincial economy. From 1997 through 2007, Hibernia, Terra Nova, and White Rose produced 867 million barrels of crude oil, worth about \$46 billion. The industry accounted for 35 per cent of the provincial GDP in 2007, up from 13 per cent in 1999 and 24.3 per cent in 2004. According to Statistics Canada, Newfoundland and Labrador experienced greater economic growth in 2007 than any other Canadian province, largely due to its oil and mining industries.

Energy

5.68. Hydro-electricity has played an important role in the industrial development of Newfoundland and Labrador. It is essential to economic development, and has allowed for the expansion of industry. Hydro-electric power has been crucial to the development of secondary manufacturing, particularly in pulp and paper, and mining. Without abundant electricity, many of Newfoundland's resources could not be manufactured locally, nor transported cheaply.

5.69. The lower Churchill Falls project is the most attractive undeveloped hydroelectric project in North America. Its two installations at Gull Island and Muskrat Falls will have a combined capacity of over 3000 MW and can provide 16.7 TWh of electricity per year. The projects could displace over 16 megatonnes of carbon dioxide emissions every year from thermal, coal and fossil fuel power generation – equivalent to the annual greenhouse gas emissions from 3.2 million automobiles. This clean, stable, renewable energy

provides the opportunity for Newfoundland and Labrador to meet its own domestic and industrial needs in an environmentally sustainable way, with enough power remaining to export to other jurisdictions where the demand for clean energy continues to grow.

Mining

5.70. Mining is one of Newfoundland and Labrador's largest and oldest industries, and a major contributor to the economy of the province, especially in rural areas. A total of fourteen mineral commodities are produced or mined in the province. Seven metal mines currently produce iron ore, nickel, copper, zinc, cobalt and gold. Other operations mine pyrophyllite, limestone and dolomite, amongst other commodities.

5.71. Mineral exploration and development activity in Newfoundland and Labrador enjoyed a strong recovery in the past year, with major capital investments in new and expanding projects, and a reinvigorated exploration sector. Spending on exploration and deposit appraisal rose to about \$155 million in 2011. Iron ore, copper and gold are the major commodities of interest, reflecting strong demand and prices for these metals. There is also significant new interest in rare earth elements and rare metals in the province, with several companies evaluating new and historic showings. The significant producing mines in Labrador include the Iron Ore Company of Canada, Labrador Mines Ltd., Vale Newfoundland and Labrador Ltd., and Tata Steel Minerals Canada Ltd. Significant producing mines in Newfoundland include Anaconda Mining Inc., Rambles metals and Mining Canada Ltd., Teck Duck Pond Operations, Hi Point Industries Ltd., Trinity Resources Ltd., and Atlantic Minerals Ltd.

Healthcare

5.72. It is the Department of Health and Community Services that is responsible for the delivery of healthcare throughout Newfoundland and Labrador and delivered through a publically funded health care system, which is mostly free at the point of use and has most services provided by private entities. The government assures the quality of care through federal standards.

Migration

5.73. The impact of demographic change has been felt across a wide spectrum of Newfoundland and Labrador society. Larger population losses in rural areas of the province have resulted in an increased concentration of the population in urban areas. Further shifts in the regional distribution of the province's population are expected as youth out-migration from rural areas continues, especially as the youth leave the province in search of higher paying jobs, such as in the oil sector in Alberta. While historically the impact of out-migration on population growth has been offset by a high level of natural population growth, the continual decline in births has resulted in a decrease in population over the medium term.

IMPACT OF THE CENTENARY OF THE START OF WW1

5.74. The *Honour 100* initiative is categorized into five pillars - Anniversaries, Legacy, Education, Provincial Outreach, and Research and Development.

5.75. During *Honour 100* commemorations, a number of events will focus on important wartime milestones such as the re-formation of the Regiment, march of the First Five Hundred to the Florizel and the arrival home of the soldiers in 1919. A priority for the Provincial Government for the commemorative years is identifying existing opportunities to integrate the theme of remembrance into existing student curriculum outcomes. The Provincial Government has been working closely with the Royal Canadian Legion to enhance its First World War programs and assist communities as they honour, recognize and support local veterans and their families.

5.76. From the time the first 107 Newfoundland Royal Naval Reservists left St. John's, on September 6, to the end of the war in November 1918, nearly 12,000 Newfoundlanders and Labradorians enlisted in the Newfoundland Royal Naval Reserve, Newfoundland Regiment, Newfoundland Forestry Corps, the Royal Flying Corps, as well as the Canadian Expeditionary Force. With a population of less than 250,000, this represented 35.6 percent of men between the ages of 19 and 35. Another 505 were known to have served in the Newfoundland Mercantile Marine.

5.77. The Newfoundland Regiment in particular has been recognized for its efforts at a number of major First World War battles:

- *Battle of the Somme (Beaumont-Hamel, 1916)*: Out of 780 men, only about 110 survived unscathed, of whom only 68 were available for roll call the following day. The unit as a whole suffered a casualty rate of approximately 80%.
- *Gueudecourt (Battle of Le Transloy, 1916)*: The soldiers played a decisive role in the capture of a German strong point near Gueudecourt.
- *Monchy-le-Preux (Battle of Arras, 1917)*: After losing 485 men in one day, the 9 of the remaining soldiers, along with one British soldier, held off more than 200 Germans for ten hours.
- *Masnières (Battle of Cambrai, 1917)*: The soldiers were successful in seizing and holding a strategic bridgehead at Masnières.
- *Battle of Courtrai (Kortrijk, 1918)*: In one day the Regiment captured 500 German prisoners and 94 machine guns. It was also where 17-year-old Private Thomas Ricketts of Middle Arm, White Bay became the youngest soldier in the British Army to receive the Victoria Cross.

OVERVIEW

5.78. The folklore and traditional culture of Newfoundland and Labrador is historically based in the traditional cultures of the peoples who settled the Province, but it also reflects the evolution of life in all its complexities over the centuries. It is largely similar in many ways to folklore found in the parts of Ireland and England from where settlers emigrated over the past two or three centuries.

5.79. Newfoundland and Labrador is home to some of the country's finest artists, with St. John's becoming the cultural capital of Canada with one of the highest concentrations of writers, musicians, actors, and comedians on a per capita basis.

6. OUTCOMES

- 6.01. The overall aim and objectives of the programme were met thanks to the excellent work of the federal, provincial and territorial legislatures and the support of the British High Commission Ottawa. The delegation covered vast areas geographically and in terms of subject matter.
- 6.02. UK Members gained a greater understanding of Canada's political system (at the federal, provincial and territorial level), its domestic challenges and international relations.
- 6.03. The visit further strengthened the links between the UK and Canadian Parliaments. Clearly there is a mutual desire to continue to build on these already close relations.
- 6.04. The timing of the visit heightened the relevance of the discussions on separatism and referendums. The Canadians expressed a desire to visit the UK in January 2015, following the Scottish referendum this autumn.
- 6.05. Delegates considered it would be helpful to invite representatives from the Home Office to meet both the IPU and CPA UK at Westminster to discuss concerns about student visas.

7. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 7.01. CPA UK acknowledges with thanks the extremely warm welcome the delegation received in Canada. The Canadian Parliament's assistance in organising the three programmes was greatly appreciated.
- 7.02. CPA UK is most grateful to the British High Commission Ottawa for all its assistance and to HE Gordon Campbell and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office for their briefings prior to departure.
- 7.03. Delegates also wish to thank the efforts of the CPA UK team who were involved in facilitating the programme. Particular thanks to Kirsty Jackson who accompanied the delegates on the visit and who ensured that the visit went without a hitch.

ANNEX A – PROGRAMME

OTTAWA

SUNDAY 6 APRIL	<i>Objectives</i>
Working dinner hosted by the Chair of the Canada-UK Inter-Parliamentary Association: the Canada-UK Strategic Partnership; domestic and political challenges faced by Canada	2 & 4
MONDAY 7 APRIL	
Briefing by representatives from the British High Commission Ottawa	1-4
Senate and the House of Commons: Senate reform Blair Armitage (Principal Clerk Communications Directorate) and Marc Bosc (Deputy Clerk of the House of Commons)	1.01
Political parties in Parliament The Honourable Peter Van Loan PC MP (Leader of the Government, House of Commons)	1.02
Working lunch: Electoral reform	2.07
Observe Question Period, House of Commons Chamber	1, 2
Relationship between Parliament and the Media Honourable Jim Munson (Senator); Chris Hall (Canadian Broadcasting Corporation)	1.04
Relationship between Parliament and Civil Society Honourable John McKay PC MP; Jinny Jogindera Sims MP	1.05
Dinner hosted by the Honourable Andrew Scheer (Speaker of House of Commons)	1-4
TUESDAY 8 APRIL	
Domestic and political challenges faced by Canada (and lessons for the UK) Honourable Jason Kenney PC MP (Minister for Multiculturalism, Minister of Employment and Social Development)	2
Meeting with the Honourable Noel A Kinsella (Speaker of the Senate)	1-4
Representation of women in politics Susan Truppe MP (Parliamentary Secretary for Status of Women and Federal Representative for the Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians, Canadian Branch); Niki Ashton MP (Official Opposition Critic for the Status of Women)	1.06
Observe Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs: Electoral reform	2.07
Working lunch, hosted by the Chair and Members of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Development	3
Observe Senators' Statements, Senate Chamber	1
Parliamentary Restoration Lisette Comeau (Senior Architecture, Heritage and Program Planner); Sophie Bolduc (Major Crown Project Program Architecture and LTVP Program Management) (or Parliamentary Tour)	1

Arctic Council Dennis Bevington MP (MP for the Western Arctic and Vice-Chair of the Standing Committee of the Conference of Parliamentarians of the Arctic Region)	3.02, 5.06
Canada's International Relations Honourable Raynell Andreychuk (Senator, Chair of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade)	3
Working dinner, hosted by Corin Robertson (Deputy High Commissioner of the UK to Canada)	2, 4

NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR: Lord Faulkner of Worcester; Baroness Hooper; Annette Brooke MP

WEDNESDAY 9 APRIL	
Dinner hosted by Peter Stoffer MP	6
THURSDAY 10 APRIL	
Commemoration of the Centenary of WW1 Rachelle Cochrane (Deputy Minister) and Mark Jones (Assistant Deputy Minister) - Department of Tourism, Culture and Recreation	6.06
Migration Alton Hollett (Assistant Deputy Minister, Department of Finance)	6.05
Observe Question Period, House of Assembly	6.02
Federal and Provincial Relations Sean Dutton (Deputy Minister, Department of Municipal and Intergovernmental Affairs)	6.01
Fisheries David Lewis (Deputy Minister) and Krista Quinlan (Assistant Deputy Minister) – Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture	6.03
FRIDAY 11 APRIL	
Oil, Energy and Mining Charles Bown (Deputy Minister), Tracy English (Associate Deputy Minister), Dave Liverman (Assistant Deputy Minister) and Wes Foote (Assistant Deputy Minister) – Department of Natural Resources	6.03
Role and Remit of the House of Assembly Sandra Barnes (Clerk of the House of Assembly)	6.02
Working lunch hosted by the Honourable Ross Wiseman (Speaker of the House of Assembly of Newfoundland and Labrador)	6
Meeting with their Honours The Honourable Frank Fagan CM ONL MBA Lieutenant Governor of Newfoundland and Labrador and Mrs Patricia Fagan	6
Wreath Laying Ceremony, National War Memorial	6.06

Historical overview of St John's	6
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NORTHWEST TERRITORIES (NWT): Rt Hon. Anne Mc Guire MP; David Morris MP; Andrew Percy MP

WEDNESDAY 9 APRIL	
Working dinner hosted by the Honourable Jackie Jacobson (Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of the NWT)	5
THURSDAY 10 APRIL	
Tour of the Legislative Assembly Danielle Mager (Public Affairs and Communications Advisor)	5.02
Consensus Government in the NWT Doug Schauerte (Deputy Clerk of the Legislative Assembly)	5.01, 5.02
Climate change issues in the North Doug Ritchie and Christine Wenman (Ecology North); Bob Bromley (MLA for Weledeh)	5.05
Working lunch: energy and natural resources in the NWT Kevin Todd (Director of Investment and Economic Analysis) and Francois Rossouw (Fur Marketing/Traditional Economy Investment and Economic Analysis) - Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment	5.04
Northern sovereignty in a whole of Government context Major Conrad Schubert (Joint Task Force North, National Defence)	5.06
FRIDAY 11 APRIL	
Introduction to devolution Martin Goldney (Deputy Minister, Department of Aboriginal Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations)	5.01, 5.03, 5.04
Aboriginal affairs, energy and natural resources, climate change issues Tom Hoefer (Executive Director NWT and Nunavut Chamber of Mines)	5.04, 5.03, 5.05
Aboriginal culture Joe Bailey (North Star Adventures)	5.03
Working dinner hosted by His Worship Mark Heyck (Mayor of Yellowknife)	5