



## **Parliament and the Courts**

The relationship between Parliament and the Courts is important, intricate and evolving. Increasingly, Courts turn to the parliamentary record to inform their decisions, while Parliamentarians cite judicial pronouncements as the reason for action or inaction. When and how does Parliament seek to inform the Courts? What can be said of Courts' understanding of Parliament? What role should each institution play within Canada's constitutional architecture? This relationship in all its many facets – from reference powers to parliamentary involvement with judicial appointments – is the focus of this all-day conference.

## **Expression of Interest**

The Canadian Study of Parliament Group (CSPG) is pleased to welcome expressions of interest for its 2019 conference entitled "*Parliament and the Courts*". This all-day bilingual conference held on 27 September 2019 in Ottawa seeks to bring together parliamentary experts, academics, and public servants for an in-depth discussion of the relationship between these two institutions at the core of Canadian society.

While scholarly consideration has been given to judicial decisions and their associated legislative responses, there are numerous other aspects of this relationship that warrant attention and further study. For example, what role does Parliament play in shaping judicial interpretation of its legislation as well as in shaping the bench? In what circumstances or under what constraints should Parliament address a matter that is before Courts? How do Courts seek to understand legislative intent and the parliamentary process when reviewing legislation passed by Parliament? When and how should Parliament intervene, if at all, in cases involving its legislation?

Interested presenters are invited to submit an expression of interest of no more than 300 words – in English or French – explaining their proposed presentation topic. Your expression of interest can be submitted to this address: [CSPG-GCEP@parl.gc.ca](mailto:CSPG-GCEP@parl.gc.ca). **Deadline: 9 May 2019.**

Travel expenses for selected presenters will be reimbursed by the CSPG.

Founded in 1978, the Canadian Study of Parliament Group (CSPG) is a non-profit, non-partisan organization that brings together parliamentary experts, academics, and public servants with an interest in the role, function and reform of parliamentary institutions. More information is available online: <http://cspg-gcep.ca/about-e.html>