



AN INCLUSIVE PARLIAMENT?

Friday, April 25, 2025

9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

[Sir John A. Macdonald Building](#) – 144 Wellington Street, Ottawa, Ontario

Public and private institutions alike have been grappling with questions of equity, diversity, inclusion and access, and Canadian legislatures are no exception. This seminar explores themes of inclusion within legislative spaces - from the experiences of legislators themselves to public engagement and staff participation behind the scenes.

OPENING REMARKS

9:00 a.m. to 9:15 a.m.

- Manon Tremblay, Professor Emeritus, School of Political Studies, University of Ottawa

THE ROAD TO PARLIAMENT

9:15 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.

Moderator: Alexie Labelle, board member, CSPG

- Hon. Donna Dasko, Senator, Independent Senators Group, Senate
- Valérie Lapointe, Associate Director, Centre of Excellence on the Canadian Federation, Institute for Research on Public Policy
- Erin Tolley, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, Carleton University
- Angelia Wagner, Assistant Lecturer, Department of Political Science, University of Alberta

PARLIAMENT AND PARENTHOOD

10:20 a.m. to 11:20 a.m.

Moderator: Jean-Philippe Duguay, board member, CSPG

- David De Burgh Graham, Former MP (Liberal Party of Canada)
- Michelle Friesen, Former City Councillor, Whitehorse City Council
- Amanda McLaren, Chief of Staff, Independent Senators Group, Senate
- Melanee Thomas, Full Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Calgary

COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE: DISABILITY AND REPRESENTATION

11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Moderator: Guillaume LaPerrière-Marcoux, Director, Accessibility Program and Strategy, House of Commons and Mélanie Provost, Senior Project Coordinator, Accessibility, Library of Parliament

- Elizabeth Evans, Professor, Department of Politics and International Relations, University of Southampton
- Laurence Parent, Borough Councillor, Projet Montréal, City of Montreal

LUNCH BREAK

12:30 p.m. to 1:15 p.m.

INCLUSIVE INSTITUTIONS?

1:15 p.m. to 2:15 p.m.

Moderator: Élise Hurtubise-Loranger, board member, CSPG

- Shaila Anwar, Clerk, Senate
- Carolyne Evangelidis, Chief Human Resources Officer, House of Commons
- Toni Francis, Chief Human Resources Officer, Senate
- Eric Janse, Clerk, House of Commons
- Rick Yarish, Clerk, Legislative Assembly of Manitoba

GENDER AND REPRESENTATION: FROM RESEARCH TO PRACTICE

2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Moderator: Valérie Lapointe, Associate Director, Centre of Excellence on the Canadian Federation, Institute for Research on Public Policy

- Janis Irwin, M.L.A. (Edmonton—Highlands—Norwood), Alberta New Democratic Party
- Hon. Kim Pate, Senator, Independent Senators Group, Senate
- Kahsennenhawe Sky-Deer, former Grand Chief, Kahnawà:ke

This program contains 5 EDI Professionalism Hour(s).

REGISTRATION

To register for this event, click [here](#). The deadline is Tuesday, April 22, 2025.

FEES*

- General admission: 175\$
- Students, retirees and university professors: 35\$ (please contact us for a discount code)
- A group rate is available upon request for groups of 10 or more.

OTHER INFORMATION

Hybrid event with online participation available

Bilingual event with simultaneous interpretation available in English and French

Coffee and lunch offered to in-person participants

If you have any questions about the accessibility of our events, please contact us.

* Registration is transferable but not refundable. You must advise the CSPG by the registration deadline (Tuesday, April 22, 2025) of any changes to your registration.

THE CANADIAN STUDY OF PARLIAMENT GROUP (CSPG) is dedicated to enhancing the understanding of parliamentary government and institutions by promoting research and dialogue on legislative systems in Canada. To that end, we are pleased to offer a series of non-partisan seminars on parliamentary and legislative topics with presentations from experts in the field. The seminars are bilingual – simultaneous interpretation is provided – and open to all.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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