

Canadian NATO
Parliamentary Association



Association parlementaire
canadienne de l'OTAN

**Report of the Canadian Parliamentary Delegation
to the Visit of the Science and Technology Committee
Canadian NATO Parliamentary Association (NATO PA)
Boston, Monterey and Livermore, USA
July 6-10, 2009**

Report

The Canadian NATO Parliamentary Association has the honour to present its report on the *Visit to the USA by the Science and Technology Committee*, July 6-10, 2009. The Canadian delegation was represented by Senator Pierre Claude Nolin and Mrs. Cheryl Gallant, M.P.

OVERVIEW

Nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, energy security, as well as the security implications of new technologies were major themes of the visit of the NATO parliamentary delegation to Boston, Livermore and Monterey on 6-10 July. Seventeen members of the Science and Technology Committee (STC), led by STC Vice-Chairman Senator Pierre Claude Nolin (Canada), were briefed by and had discussions with eminent American experts and scholars, and visited leading R&D institutions in the field of defence technology, including Raytheon, Sandia National Laboratories and the MIT Institute for Soldier Nanotechnologies.

During the discussions, it was emphasised that President Obama's pro-engagement foreign policy approach should help reinvigorate the global nuclear non-proliferation regime. Experts of the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies called for a comprehensive discussion within NATO on the future of nuclear deterrent capability. They strongly supported the nuclear-free world vision embraced by the new US administration and argued that nuclear weapons are becoming increasingly obsolete.

Another theme which featured strongly in briefings and discussions was energy and environmental security. The Assembly delegation was briefed on a number of technological innovations that could help address the challenge of developing our economies in an environmentally sustainable fashion. It was stressed that nuclear energy should be an important part of the energy mix.

NATO legislators were impressed by the achievements of the US defence technology sector. All the participants agreed that more should be done, however, to enhance technological and scientific cooperation between the United States and its Allies.

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. Leon Benoit, M.P.
Chair

Canadian NATO Parliamentary Association (NATO PA)

TRAVEL COSTS

ASSOCIATION	Canadian NATO Parliamentary Association (NATO PA)
ACTIVITY	Visit to the USA by the Science and Technology Committee
DESTINATION	Boston, Monterey and Livermore, USA
DATES	July 6-10, 2009
DELEGATION	
SENATE	Senator Pierre Claude Nolin
HOUSE OF COMMONS	Mrs. Cheryl Gallant, M.P.
STAFF	
TRANSPORTATION	\$11,198.75
ACCOMMODATION	\$3,127.68
HOSPITALITY	\$0.00
PER DIEMS	\$1,089.12
OFFICIAL GIFTS	\$0.00
MISCELLANEOUS / REGISTRATION FEES	\$0.00
TOTAL	\$15,415.55