

PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATIONS' ACTIVITIES AND EXPENDITURES

FROM APRIL 1, 2020 TO MARCH 31, 2021

JOINT INTERPARLIAMENTARY COUNCIL REPORT

Co-Chairs

Hon. Donald Neil Plett, Senator Bruce Stanton, M.P.

43rd Parliament, Second Session

June 2021

JOINT INTERPARLIAMENTARY COUNCIL

CO-CHAIRS

Hon. Donald Neil Plett, Senator Bruce Stanton, M.P.

MEMBERS

Hon. Percy E. Downe, Senator Hon. Ratna Omidvar, Senator Hon. Wayne Easter, P.C., M.P. Marilène Gill, M.P. Lindsay Mathyssen, M.P. Hon. David J. McGuinty, P.C., M.P. Hon. Ginette Petitpas Taylor, P.C., M.P. Alex Ruff, M.P.

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Jeremy LeBlanc

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Section I: Introduction

The Parliament of Canada's international and interparliamentary relations are carried out, in part, through parliamentary associations.

As of March 31, 2021, there are 12 parliamentary associations that receive funding from the Parliament of Canada and fall under the administrative authority of the Joint Interparliamentary Council. Those associations also receive full administrative assistance from the International and Interparliamentary Affairs Directorate.

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of the parliamentary associations that fall under the Council, as well as their activities and expenditures for the 2020-2021 fiscal year. This section of the report provides information about parliamentary associations, their governance and the support they receive. Section II provides a general overview of the associations' activities and expenditures for the 2020-2021 fiscal year whereas Section III provides information and data for each association for that same period.

We hope this report will provide helpful information on the activities of parliamentary associations and provide a better understanding of the work of parliamentarians at the international level. For any additional information about this report or parliamentary associations, please contact the Joint Interparliamentary Council, at JIC-CIM@parl.gc.ca.

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Parliamentary Associations and Interparliamentary Groups

As mentioned on the previous page, <u>parliamentary associations</u>¹ receive funding from the Parliament of Canada, fall under the administrative authority of the Joint Interparliamentary Council and receive full administrative assistance from the International and Interparliamentary Affairs Directorate. Though their activities and objectives may vary, the associations share similar characteristics:

- they promote Canada's interests abroad on an ongoing basis;
- they operate on multilateral and bilateral levels;
- they are composed of members of the Senate and of the House of Commons;
- they meet at annual general meetings where they elect their executive committees, as well as at other
 meetings to coordinate and direct activities with their bilateral counterparts or with the international
 secretariats of the multilateral organizations to which they belong.

As of March 31, 2021, there are 12 associations, plus the Canadian Delegation to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly which falls under the Canada-Europe Parliamentary Association. These multilateral or bilateral associations, which can be found in **Table 1** on the next page, may be grouped in five regions: global, Europe, Americas, Asia-Pacific and Africa.

There are also four <u>interparliamentary groups</u>², which can also be found in **Table 1** on the next page, which have been recognized by the Parliament of Canada and which also help promote bilateral relations with the specific country to which they are related. These groups receive no funding from Parliament and minimal administrative assistance. This assistance is generally limited to administrative and procedural support for annual general meetings, maintaining the group's constitution and collecting related membership fees. The interparliamentary groups promote cooperation and understanding amongst nations and, like parliamentary associations, strengthen the relations between Canadian parliamentarians and their counterparts in other Parliaments. Membership fees from individual parliamentarians support the activities of these groups. Given the nature of these groups, this report does not provide information about their activities and expenditures.

In addition to the parliamentary associations and the four recognized interparliamentary groups, there are a number of other groups, often referred to as "friendship groups" that do not receive administrative or financial support from the Parliament of Canada. These groups are not required to register their activities or membership with the Council, but they are encouraged to advise the International and Interparliamentary Affairs Directorate in order to assist those who might wish to contact them. For more information about these groups, please consult the Parliamentary Diplomacy Canada Website.

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¹Although the summary of information about the activities of the associations can be found in Section III of this report, a detailed description of the structure, activities and objectives of each association is available at http://www.parl.ca/diplomacy.

²For a detailed description of the structure, activities and objectives of each group, please visit the website at https://www.parl.ca/diplomacy/en/groups

TABLE 1 – LIST OF PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATIONS AND RECOGNIZED INTERPARLIAMENTARY GROUPS

Parliamentary associations (12)	Region				
Multilateral associations (7)					
Canada-Africa Parliamentary Association (CAAF)	Africa				
Canada-Europe Parliamentary Association (CAEU)	Europe				
Canadian Delegation to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly (SECO)	Lutope				
Canadian Branch of the Assemblée parlementaire de la Francophonie (CAPF)	Global				
Canadian Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CCOM)	Global				
Canadian Group of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (UIPU)	Global				
Canadian NATO Parliamentary Association (CANA)	Global				
Canadian Section of ParlAmericas (CPAM)	Americas				
Bilateral associations (5)					
Canada-China Legislative Association (CACN)	Asia-Pacific				
Canada-France Interparliamentary Association (CAFR)	Europe				
Canada-Japan Inter-Parliamentary Group (CAJP)	Asia-Pacific				
Canada-United Kingdom Inter-Parliamentary Association (RUUK)	Europe				
Canada-United States Inter-Parliamentary Group (CEUS)	Americas				
Interparliamentary groups (4)					
Canada-Germany Interparliamentary Group (CADE)					
Canada-Ireland Interparliamentary Group (CAIE)					
Canada-Israel Interparliamentary Group (CAIL)					
Canada-Italy Interparliamentary Group (CAIT)					

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Joint Interparliamentary Council

The <u>Joint Interparliamentary Council</u> (JIC), whose members are listed below, is responsible for determining all budgetary and administrative matters relating to parliamentary associations. Specifically, the Council determines the level of funding to be distributed to each association within the limits of the total allotments approved by the Senate Standing Committee on Internal Economy, Budgets and Administration and the House of Commons Board of Internal Economy. In addition, the Council is also responsible for setting the overall general policy direction for parliamentary associations as well as for coordinating related activities and operating policies to ensure effective, efficient, consistent and coherent support for international and interparliamentary activities while also promoting the best interests of the Parliament of Canada in its relations with other Parliaments.

During this fiscal year, the JIC met to discuss ongoing public health measures in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic and their impact on the work of parliamentary associations. Consequently, on five occasions the Council extended the moratorium on all International and Interparliamentary Affairs supported international travel and incoming delegations, either during virtual meetings of the Council or via electronic vote. On several occasions, the Council discussed the level of support provided for virtual meetings of parliamentary associations with a view to enabling them to continue to engage in the important work of parliamentary diplomacy, despite their inability to travel. The Council also agreed to relieve associations of their respective constitutional obligations to hold annual general meetings (AGMs) given the impracticality of holding these during the pandemic and extended the terms of their executives by one year. It also provided a mechanism by which executive committees could prepare budgets and fill vacancies in the absence of AGMs. At the July 15, 2020, meeting the Council also approved of the request that the Canadian Branch of the Assemblée parlementaire de la Francophonie (APF) organize the 47th Annual Session of the APF in Montreal, in July 2022 and, at a later meeting, agreed to expand the scope of the conference to include the Parlement francophone des jeunes.

Members of the Joint Interparliamentary Council (on March 31, 2021)

	Senate	House of Commons
Co-Chairs:	Hon. Donald Neil Plett	Bruce Stanton
Members:	Hon. Percy E. Downe	Hon. Wayne Easter, P.C.
	Hon. Ratna Omidvar	Marilène Gill
		Lindsay Mathyssen
		Hon. David J. McGuinty, P.C.
		Hon. Ginette Petitpas Taylor, P.C
		Alex Ruff

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Supporting Parliamentary Associations

The <u>International and Interparliamentary Affairs Directorate</u> (IIA) is a joint Senate-House of Commons directorate offering a single parliamentary team to coordinate the Parliament of Canada's international and interparliamentary relations and activities. The Parliamentary Associations staff are responsible for the ongoing administrative, logistical and procedural support for each association.

The Library of Parliament offers direct support through analysts who provide research and analysis services to associations. Finally, the Parliamentary Affairs Unit, Global Affairs Canada, is a close partner that provides support for official travel by parliamentarians, parliamentary associations and interparliamentary groups and friendship groups through documents, information sessions and coordination efforts with Canadian missions abroad.

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Section II: 2020-2021 Activities and Expenditures – Overview

This section includes tables that present and illustrate data related to the activities and expenditures of all parliamentary associations for the 2020-2021 fiscal year. Normally, it is important to distinguish between association activities and travel. However, the COVID-19 pandemic, which has had a profound impact on the entire world, resulted in a year without travel, greatly altering the work and operations of parliamentary associations.

Instead of traveling overseas or hosting delegations in Ottawa, the work of parliamentary associations shifted to the virtual realm. Webinars, online workshops, virtual conferences and assemblies, and videoconference calls became the norm.

This transition offered both opportunities and challenges. Many multilateral parliamentary associations were able to benefit from the resources of their international counterparts, and in some cases became busier as a result, as operating budgets were less of a limiting factor to participating in activities. However, most bilateral associations struggled to access the resources necessary to meet on a regular basis.

Indeed, all associations had to contend with resource constraints, as there were only so many virtual meetings that could be held at one time within the Parliamentary Precinct. Nevertheless, associations organized and coordinated various events and activities with international colleagues, ambassadors, and other relevant stakeholders throughout the year, furthering the important work of international parliamentary diplomacy.

Table 1 below provides an overview of the activities of parliamentary associations for the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

TABLE 1 – 2020-2021 STATISTICS

	2019-2020	2020-2021
Senators who were members of parliamentary associations	67	50
Members of the House of Commons who were members of parliamentary associations	234	146
Executive committee meetings	17	19¹
Annual general meetings	14	0
Outgoing delegations	52	0
Countries visited	32	0
Incoming delegations	19	0
Virtual Meetings	0	183
Webinars, Virtual Special Event or Virtual Workshops	0	56

¹ All executive committee meetings in 2020-2021 were held virtually.

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Table 2 below shows a summary of the expenditures of all parliamentary associations for the past five years. For the 2020-2021 fiscal year, parliamentary associations had a budget of \$4,300,496 which reflects the same amount as the 2019-2020 fiscal year. The contribution expenditures of \$1,510,020 show an increase of \$85,362 over the previous fiscal year. As many invoices are received in foreign currency, expenditures for contributions can vary based on fluctuating exchange rates. The membership fees assessed to Canada for multilateral associations have generally remained the same as the previous fiscal year. Total expenditures by parliamentary associations decreased by 53% in comparison to the previous fiscal year mainly due to an important reduction in expenditures for activities as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Total expenditures for parliamentary associations represent 35% of the available funding resulting in a balance of \$2,805,789 at the end of the year.

TABLE 2 - EXPENDITURES OF PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATIONS OVER FIVE YEARS

	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020 ^E	2020-2021
Main Estimates	3,563,537	4,563,537	4,300,496	4,300,496	4,300,496
Expenditures					
Activities					
Transportation	1,295,309	1,729,726	1,657,762	1,179,116	6,862
Accommodation	448,002	551,400	501,622	372,123	732
Per Diems	186,016	232,779	224,582	145,010	1,313
Hospitality and Working Meals	143,401	124,048	124,727	103,198	2,640
Miscellaneous	48,959	63,592	65,784	47,558	1,846
Registration Fees	57,479	74,293	32,436	53,301	1,480
Revenues	(29,675)	(30,735)	(132,497)	(155,691)	$(30,127)^1$
Total Expenditures for Activities	2,149,491	2,745,103	2,474,416	1,744,615	(15,253)
Contributions ²	1,332,390	1,394,338	1,423,587	1,424,658	1,510,020
Total Expenditures	3,481,881	4,139,441	3,898,003	3,169,273	1,494,767
Budget Balance	81,656	424,096	402,493	1,131,223	2,805,729
Utilization Rate	98%	91%	91%	74%	35%
Expenditures for Conferences				232,763	28,533 ³
Total Budget Balance	81,656	424,096	402,493	898,459	2,777,196

^E Election year: the level of activity by associations is usually lower before and after an election due to the election campaign and the time required for Parliament to resume.

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¹ These revenues come mainly from membership fees paid during the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

² The membership fees assessed to Canada for multilateral associations are shown in Canadian dollars.

³ The surplus under parliamentary associations was utilized to fund the planning phase of the 47th Annual Session of the "Assemblée parlementaire de la Francophonie" (APF).

TABLE 3 – TOTAL MEMBERSHIPS AND CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE 2020-2021 FISCAL YEAR

	Parliamentary Associations	No. of Members	Contributions
CAAF	Canada-Africa Parliamentary Association	78	
CAEU	Canada-Europe Parliamentary Association	126	
SECO	Canadian Delegation to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly	126	284,629
CAPF	Canadian Branch of the Assemblée parlementaire de la Francophonie	65	131,799
ССОМ	Canadian Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association	122	176,512
UIPU	Canadian Group of the Inter-Parliamentary Union	93	468,027
CANA	Canadian NATO Parliamentary Association	121	424,061
CPAM	Canadian Section of ParlAmericas	95	24,993
CACN	Canada-China Legislative Association	69	
CAFR	Canada-France Interparliamentary Association	80	
CAJP	Canada-Japan Inter-Parliamentary Group	82	
RUUK	Canada-United Kingdom Inter-Parliamentary Association	109	
CEUS	Canada-United States Inter-Parliamentary Group	123	
	Total ¹	1289	1,510,020

 $^{^{1}\}mathrm{A}$ discrepancy in the total can be explained by rounding.

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Section III: Activities and Expenditures by Parliamentary Association



Canada-Africa Parliamentary Association (CAAF)

Objectives

The purpose of the Canada-Africa Parliamentary Association (CAAF) is to encourage exchanges between African and Canadian parliamentarians, to enhance Canadian parliamentarians' understanding of important issues and serious challenges facing the African continent, to propose initiatives to increase the understanding of bilateral and multilateral issues, and to foster cooperation in all areas of undertaking.

Members of the Executive Committee (on March 31, 2021)

	Senate	House of Commons
Co-Chairs:	Hon. Jim Munson	Sven Spengemann
Vice-Chairs:	Hon. Salma Ataullahjan	Terry Duguid
	Hon. René Cormier	Greg Fergus
		Heather McPherson
		Robert Oliphant
		Gabriel Ste-Marie
Directors:	Hon. Mohamed-Iqbal Ravalia, C.M.	Michael Cooper
	Hon. Scott Tannas	Cheryl Gallant
		Yasmin Ratansi
		Jamie Schmale

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Circumstances made travel to Africa impossible in 2020–2021. A delegation visit to eSwatini and Angola in March 2020 was cancelled due to health restrictions. Executive committee members met virtually in October 2020 and February 2021 for briefings by Global Affairs Canada and meetings with non-governmental organizations, ambassadors, and members of the diaspora. Updates covered a wide range of topics, such as the health situation in Africa, the socio-economic context, recent political developments, peace and security issues, human rights, and Canadian cooperation projects in Africa. Several countries were discussed, including Ethiopia, Tanzania, Nigeria, Ghana, Mali, Mauritania, Algeria and South Africa.

Activities	Transportation	Accommodation	Per Diems	Hospitality and Working Meals	Miscellaneous	Registration Fees	Total
Gross Expenditures ¹	62				311		373
Revenue (membership fees) ²					(1,975)		(1,975)
Total ³	62				(1,664)		(1,603)

¹Expenditures incurred in 2020-2021 for an activity held in 2019-2020 but cancelled due to Covid-19.

A Five-Year Summary

Fiscal Year	No. of Members	Contributions
2016-2017	72	
2017-2018	82	
2018-2019	76	N/A
2019-2020	77	
2020-2021	78	

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²One membership fee paid in 2020-2021 was for a membership in 2019-2020.

³A discrepancy in the total can be explained by rounding.



Canada-Europe Parliamentary Association (CAEU)

Objectives

The aim of the Canada-Europe Parliamentary Association (CAEU) is to provide a structured forum for the exchange of information and ideas between Canadian parliamentarians and parliamentarians from the European Parliament, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, the Western European Union Assembly, similar European parliamentary organizations such as the Parliamentary Assembly of the OSCE and the Conference of Parliamentarians of the Arctic Region. The Association also seeks to strengthen ties between the Parliament of Canada and the individual Parliaments of all countries of Europe.

Members of the Executive Committee (on March 31, 2021)

	Senate	House of Commons
President:		Scott Simms
Vice-Presidents:	Hon. Percy E. Downe	James Maloney
Director, OSCE PA:		Hon. Hedy Fry, P.C.
Members:	Hon. Peter M. Boehm Hon. Pierrette Ringuette Hon. David M. Wells	Hon. Larry Bagnell, P.C. Stéphane Bergeron Luc Berthold Hon. Steven Blaney, P.C. Don Davies Yvonne Jones Jamie Schmale

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The 2020-2021 fiscal year was certainly different than previous years for the Canada-Europe Parliamentary Association (CAEU) in that the association was unable to travel due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Nonetheless, the Association remained active as it continued most of its activities virtually.

CAEU members have been participating as observers in the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) since 2004. In the 2020-2021 fiscal year, PACE held a hybrid meeting in January 2021 to which three Canadian parliamentarians participated in a virtual manner. Amongst the various topics discussed, the Assembly debated the ethical and practical considerations of COVID-19 vaccine passports

The Standing Committee of the Conference of Parliamentarians of the Arctic Region met virtually three times over the same period to discuss matters pertaining to the Arctic and to prepare for the bi-annual Conference to be held in April 2021. The Hon. Larry Bagnell, M.P., and Larry Maguire, M.P., represented the Parliament of Canada on this committee, which in total is composed of members of nine countries of the Arctic region.

Finally, the pandemic allowed for more frequent meetings between CAEU Executive members and the European Parliament's Delegation responsible for Relations with Canada. A total of eight virtual meetings were held in the period of twelve months and allowed for theme-based discussions between the two parties.

Activities	Transportation	Accommodation	Per Diems	Hospitality and Working Meals	Miscellaneous	Registration Fees	Total
Gross Expenditures ¹	(193)	725	483				1,015
Revenue (membership fees) ^{2&3}					(3,175)		(3,175)
Total	(193)	725	483		(3,175)		(2,160)

¹Expenditures incurred in 2020-2021 for an activity held in 2019-2020.

A Five-Year Summary

Fiscal Year	No. of Members	Contributions
2016-2017	122	
2017-2018	134	
2018-2019	147	N/A
2019-2020	154	
2020-2021	126	

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²One membership fee paid in 2020-2021 was for a membership in 2019-2020.

³Membership fees for CAEU and SECO.



Canadian Delegation to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly (SECO)

Objectives

The Canadian Delegation to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly (SECO) exists within the rubric of the Canada-Europe Parliamentary Association, sharing the same membership and addressing the same objective of providing a forum for the exchange of information and ideas between Canadian parliamentarians and the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly (OSCE PA), as well as providing opportunities to identify mutual goals and issues of common concern, and striving for their attainment and solution. The primary purpose of the OSCE PA, the parliamentary arm of the OSCE, is to facilitate interparliamentary dialogue and to issue recommendations to the OSCE concerning its three dimensions of action: the politico-military dimension, the economic and environmental dimension, and the human dimension.

Director of the Canadian Delegation to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly (on March 31, 2021)

	Senate	House of Commons
Director		Hon. Hedy Fry, P.C.

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During the 2020-2021 fiscal year, the regular in-person activities of the members of the Canadian Delegation to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe Parliamentary Assembly (OSCE PA) were halted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic did not, however, stop the members of the OSCE PA from being active. They participated in more than 30 activities organized by the International Secretariat. Of note, a series of web dialogues on topics of importance to the assembly was developed to replace regular meetings, which could not be held in 2020. Topics included the economic fallout of the pandemic, respecting human rights during states of emergency, and the impact of the pandemic on the environment.

As active members of the PA, the Canadian delegation shared their perspectives on a range of issues and shared best practices with parliamentarians from the Organization's other 56 participating states. In addition to the multiple webinars discussed above, members of the Canadian Delegation were able to participate in the 2021 virtual Winter Session, as well attend other regular meetings such as those of the Ad Hoc Committee on Migration and of the expanded Bureau of the OSCE PA.

A Five-Year Summary

Fiscal Year	No. of Members	Contributions
2016-2017	122	257,558
2017-2018	134	269,893
2018-2019	147	291,631
2019-2020	154	293,919
2020-2021	126	284,629

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Canadian Branch of the Assemblée parlementaire de la Francophonie (CAPF)

Objectives

The Parliament of Canada is a founding member and plays an important role within the *Assemblée* parlementaire de la Francophonie (APF). The objectives of the Canadian Branch of the *Assemblée parlementaire* de la Francophonie (CAPF) are: to encourage initiatives which promote the spread of the French language; to encourage the study of cultural, economic and social matters of common interest in order to bring about close cooperation among parliamentarians who are members of the APF and to help establish genuine intercultural dialogue. Finally, the CAPF seeks to encourage activities and events likely to lead to exchanges among federal and provincial parliamentarians and their counterparts in other French-speaking countries.

Members of the Executive Committee (on March 31, 2021)

	Senate	House of Commons
President:		Francis Drouin
Vice-Presidents:		Alexis Brunelle-Duceppe Chris d'Entremont
Members:	Hon. Jean-Guy Dagenais	Hon. Steven Blaney, P.C.
	Hon. Dennis Dawson	Joël Godin
	Hon. Éric Forest	Marie-France Lalonde
		Darrell Samson

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After its activities were suspended temporarily due to COVID-19, CAPF was able to participate in virtual meetings for the remainder of the year, starting with a special meeting of its permanent delegation and a crisis committee meeting in April 2020. In May, activities resumed and CAPF participated in the Bureau meetings of the Parliamentary Affairs Committee, the Young Parliamentarians Network and the Political Committee, as well as two APF crisis committee meetings.

A number of activities were also held in June 2020, with CAPF delegations participating virtually in a Network of Women Parliamentarians meeting, the Cooperation and Development Committee's Bureau meeting, and a debate in collaboration with the Young Parliamentarians Network. CAPF also actively participated in meetings of the Cooperation and Development Committee, the Parliamentary Affairs Committee and the Political Committee in June.

In July, despite the fact that the annual session was postponed, a virtual CAPF delegation was able to participate in the APF Bureau Meeting and a meeting of the Education, Communication and Cultural Affairs Committee. In October, CAPF participated the Conference of Branch Chairs of the Americas Region and a meeting of the Political Committee.

In November, CAPF continued its activities, participating virtually in a meeting of the Parliamentary Network on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, the Ministerial Conference of La Francophonie, and a meeting of the Permanent Delegation to the APF. To wrap up 2020, CAPF participated in a December meeting of the Network of Women Parliamentarians' working group on harassment.

In January 2021, CAPF participated virtually in the Bureau Meeting and the 46th Annual Session of the APF. That same month, CAPF participated in the 11th meeting of the Francophonie Orientations and Governance Focus Group. In March, CAPF participated in the Conference of Branch Chairs of the Americas Region and a meeting of the Network of Women Parliamentarians' working group on harassment.

Activities	Transportation	Accommodation	Per Diems	Hospitality and Working Meals	Miscellaneous	Registration Fees	Total
Gross Expenditures ¹				2,640	60		2,700
Revenue (membership fees) ²					(1,650)		(1,650)
Total				2,640	(1,590)		1,050

¹Mainly purchase of the Ordre de la Pléaide's medals.

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²One membership fee paid in 2020-2021 was for a membership in 2019-2020.

A Five-Year Summary

Fiscal Year	No. of Members	Contributions
2016-2017	44	119,495
2017-2018	51	147,899
2018-2019	53	124,639
2019-2020	63	127,107
2020-2021	65	131,799

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Canadian Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CCOM)



Objectives

The Canadian Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CCOM) provides the primary means for the Parliament of Canada to hold regular consultation with members of the Commonwealth Parliaments. As the parliamentary wing of the Commonwealth, the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association seeks to foster the study of and respect for parliamentary institutions. It pursues these objectives by means of annual Commonwealth parliamentary conferences and regional conferences; the interchange of delegations; seminars; and publications, notably *The Parliamentarian* (the Journal of Commonwealth Parliaments) and a wide range of resources on the CPA website www.cpahq.org.

Members of the Executive Committee (on March 31, 2021)

	Senate	House of Commons
President:		Yasmin Ratansi
Vice-Presidents:	Hon. Terry M. Mercer	Terry Duguid
Members:	Hon. Stephen Greene	Sean Casey
	Hon. Michael L. MacDonald	Kerry Diotte
	Hon. Marilou McPhedran	Marie-Hélène Gaudreau
	Hon. Rosemary Moodie	Jasraj Singh Hallan
	Hon. Yuen Pau Woo	Gord Johns
		Robert Kitchen
		Jamie Schmale
		Brenda Shanahan
		Salma Zahid

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CCOM had to change its program of activities over the last fiscal year due to the global COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, some activities were held virtually, and others, like the Canadian regional conference, had to be cancelled. The international conference that was supposed to be held in Halifax in January 2021 was further postponed to August 2022. Nevertheless, CCOM remained active. The CPA Secretariat offered five webinars on topics that had not been selected for the conference. CCOM was actively involved in several of these webinars, with CCOM members appearing on expert panels where the primary topic was climate change and international humanitarian law. The CPA Secretariat also asked members of the Canadian Branch to speak at virtual post-election seminars for various Caribbean countries, including Anguilla, Dominica, Bermuda, and Trinidad and Tobago. Lastly, CCOM took part in several virtual activities hosted by the United Kingdom Branch of the CPA, including a two-day webinar entitled "Assisting and Protecting Survivors of Modern Slavery, Human Trafficking and Forced Labour," a three-day forum on climate change, and a three-day seminar on parliamentary practice in the Westminster system, which was held virtually for the first time.

Activities	Transportation	Accommodation	Per Diems	Hospitality and Working Meals	Miscellaneous	Revenue	Registration Fees	Total
Gross Expenditures ¹	1,480				183	(777)		886
Revenue (membership fees) ²					(3,100)			(3,100)
Total	1,480				(2,917)	(777)		(2,214)

¹Expenditures incurred in 2020-2021 for an activity cancelled due to Covid-19. Revenue contributed by CPA Canadian Region.

A Five-Year Summary

Fiscal Year	No. of Members	Contributions
2016-2017	110	162,234
2017-2018	127	167,726
2018-2019	139	167,111
2019-2020	118	171,447
2020-2021	122	176,512

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²Two membership fees paid in 2020-2021 were for memberships in 2019-2020.



Canadian Group of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (UIPU)

Objectives

The Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) is the international organization of Parliaments of sovereign states. The IPU works for peace and cooperation among peoples and for the firm establishment of representative institutions. To that end, it: fosters contacts, coordination, and the exchange of experience among Parliaments and parliamentarians of all countries; considers questions of international interest and concern and expresses its views on such issues in order to bring about action by Parliaments and parliamentarians; contributes to the defence and promotion of human rights; and, contributes to better knowledge of the working of representative institutions and to the strengthening and development of their means of action. The activities of the IPU provide important opportunities for exchanges. The objectives of the delegations of the Canadian Group of the Inter-Parliamentary Union are to represent the values, interests and points of view of Canada in this forum.

Members of the Executive Committee (on March 31, 2021)

	Senate	House of Commons
President:		Hon. David J. McGuinty, P.C.
Vice-President:	Hon. Salma Ataullahjan	
Past-President:		Nathaniel Erskine-Smith
Members:	Hon. Robert Black	Hon. Steven Blaney, P.C.
	Hon. Mohamed-Iqbal Ravalia, C.M.	Greg Fergus
	Hon. Raymonde Saint-Germain	Marilène Gill
		Lindsay Mathyssen
		Hon. Michelle Rempel Garner, P.C.
		Jamie Schmale
		Brenda Shanahan
		Sven Spengemann

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The Canadian Group of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (CG-IPU) has never been more active than it has been during this fiscal year.

Prior to the pandemic, the group's executive committee had to carefully select which activities the group would attend. The allocated budget and the parliamentary sitting schedule restricted the group's ability to participate in many IPU activities. However, when the international secretariat of the IPU adapted to the pandemic-imposed restrictions on travel by moving to online meetings, the barriers to participation eased.

Though no IPU assemblies were held in 2020, a delegation of the CG-IPU attended the online extraordinary session of the IPU Governing Council in November. The group members also continued to attend meetings of the IPU's institutional bodies. Of note, the IPU's International Executive Committee was extremely active during this fiscal year. In addition to attending a meeting of the Committee on Middle East Questions, CG-IPU delegates attended several virtual meetings of the 12+ and the Asia-Pacific geopolitical groups.

In addition to the traditional core events, CG-IPU members were invited to attend an unprecedented number of online events ranging from webinars and information sessions to roundtables and panel discussions. The CG-IPU took advantage of many of these opportunities to discuss matters of global concern such as the COVID-19 pandemic, gender equality, sustainable development, as well as peacebuilding, and encouraged delegates to share information and best practices with other member states.

Activities	Transportation	Accommodation	Per Diems	Hospitality and Working Meals	Miscellaneous	Registration Fees	Total
Gross Expenditures					294		294
Revenue (membership fees) ¹					(2,350)		(2,350)
Total					(2,056)		(2,056)

¹One membership fee paid in 2020-2021 was for a membership in 2019-2020.

A Five-Year Summary

Fiscal Year	No. of Members	Contributions
2016-2017	79	419,697
2017-2018	90	419,526
2018-2019	83	433,422
2019-2020	82	436,542
2020-2021	93	468,027

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Canadian NATO Parliamentary Association (CANA)

Objectives

The aim of the Canadian NATO Parliamentary Association (CANA) is to increase knowledge of the concerns of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly among parliamentarians. The Assembly has its headquarters in Brussels but is completely independent of the official NATO structure. It provides a forum for parliamentarians from the NATO member countries to study and discuss matters of common concern during its Spring and Autumn Sessions. The Assembly's work deals with social, cultural, political and economic questions, as well as military matters, all of which are of vital concern to NATO member countries. Parliamentarians participate in meetings and information exchanges with colleagues throughout Europe and North America but also in Asia and Africa, as well as in the regular Assembly Sessions.

Members of the Executive Committee (on March 31, 2021)

	Senate	House of Commons
Chair:		Karen McCrimmon
Vice-Chairs:		Julie Dzerowicz
		Cheryl Gallant
Counsellors:	Hon. Pierre-Hugues Boisvenu	Michel Boudrias
	Hon. Pierre J. Dalphond	Darren Fisher
	Hon. Mohamed-Iqbal Ravalia, C.M.	Jack Harris
	Hon. Vernon White	Hon. John McKay, P.C.
		Pierre Paul-Hus
		Jamie Schmale
		Brenda Shanahan

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Due to COVID-19 health restrictions, all NATO Parliamentary Assembly events took place virtually. In May and June 2020, there were three virtual meetings on the new reality brought about by the health crisis, its impact on the military activities of the Alliance countries, and their response to the crisis. In July, the committees resumed meeting to study reports. The Economics and Security, Science and Technology, Defense and Security, and Political committees each met at least once during July and August. The Secretariat also organized thematic webinars during the year. In September, a webinar was held on the political upheaval in Belarus. Three more were held in October and November on the ongoing military hostilities in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict zone, the 20th anniversary of Resolution 1325, and the challenges with integration of the Balkans. Furthermore, in the fall, a number of committee meetings were held in the lead-up to the 66th annual session in late November. This event continued for several days from November 18 to 23. The committees resumed meetings early in the new year. In February and March 2021, there was also the Transatlantic Forum, which was held in two virtual sessions, since it was impossible to travel to Washington, D.C. In March, there was also a webinar on the lessons learned from the Arab uprising a decade earlier.

Activities	Transportation	Accommodation	Per Diems	Hospitality and Working Meals	Miscellaneous	Registration Fees	Total
Gross Expenditures							
Revenue (membership fees) ¹					(3,075)		(3,075)
Total					(3,075)		(3,075)

¹Two membership fees paid in 2020-2021 were for memberships in 2019-2020.

A Five-Year Summary

Fiscal Year	No. of Members	Contributions
2016-2017	99	353,693
2017-2018	112	370,404
2018-2019	286	381,126
2019-2020	175	369,783
2020-2021	121	424,061

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Canadian Section of ParlAmericas (CPAM)



Objectives

Recognizing that strengthening democracy, creating prosperity and realizing human potential are the hemisphere's most pressing priorities, the objectives of the Canadian Section of ParlAmericas (CPAM) are: to promote parliamentary participation in the inter-American system and to contribute to interparliamentary dialogue; to maintain contact with parliamentary representatives of member states of the Organization of American States (OAS); and, to seek to meet periodically with all such representatives, for joint public discussions of common problems and objectives.

Members of the Executive Committee (on March 31, 2021)

	Senate	House of Commons
Chair:		Marc G. Serré
Vice-Chairs:	Hon. Rosa Galvez	Julie Dzerowicz
Counsellors:	Hon. Stephen Greene	Hon. Steven Blaney, P.C.
	Hon. Michael L. MacDonald	Richard Cannings
		Stephanie Kusie
		Soraya Martinez Ferrada
		Simon-Pierre Savard-Tremblay
		Jamie Schmale

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In this fiscal year, CPAM went virtual due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Between March and August 2020, the Association's members participated in several online discussions with their counterparts from the Americas. These meetings informed members about a variety of issues relevant to the pandemic, including virtual parliamentary sittings, violence against women, disaster resilience, and environmentally sustainable economic recovery. In September 2020, a delegation participated virtually in the 12th Gathering of the Parliamentary Network for Gender Equality, which focused on sharing sound legislative practices to encourage youth participation in parliamentary efforts toward gender equality. In October, a virtual event was held with diplomats from Latin America to celebrate Latin American Heritage Month and the community's contributions to Canada. In mid-November, a delegation attended the 17th ParlAmericas Plenary Assembly and held a videoconference discussion about the various sustainability and equity measures that parliaments will implement to rebuild economies in the wake of COVID-19. Lastly, in June and November 2020, CPAM members held virtual briefings with Global Affairs Canada officials on the political and public health situations in various South American, Central American and Caribbean countries.

The year 2021 marked the 20th anniversary of the creation of ParlAmericas. CPAM members marked this by modifying the section's logo for the occasion and participating in a video campaign organized by the International Secretariat. In March 2021, a delegation attended the 5th Gathering of the Open Parliament Network, which was cancelled in April 2020 due to the pandemic. The Parliament of Canada hosted this virtual meeting where parliamentarians discussed legislative proposals and open parliament initiatives to combat disinformation. Senator René Cormier was elected Vice-President of the Network. In addition, the Board of Directors held five meetings in 2020–2021 to discuss the organization's governance and finances, as well as strategies and activities for the current year.

Activities	Transportation	Accommodation	Per Diems	Hospitality and Working Meals	Miscellaneous	Registration Fees	Total
Gross Expenditures					983		983
Revenue (membership fees) ¹					(2,400)		(2,400)
Total					(1,417)		(1,417)

¹One membership fee paid in 2020-2021 was for a membership in 2019-2020.

A Five-Year Summary

Fiscal Year	No. of Members	Contributions
2016-2017	98	19,713
2017-2018	112	18,891
2018-2019	109	25,658
2019-2020	102	25,861
2020-2021	95	24,993

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Canada-China Legislative Association (CACN)



Objectives

The Canada-China Legislative Association (CACN) provides a forum for the discussion of bilateral and multilateral challenges and opportunities facing the two countries. It promotes the exchange of information between Canadian parliamentarians and representatives of the National Peoples' Congress of the Peoples' Republic of China in order to encourage better understanding and closer ties between the two countries. A key component of the Association's activities consists of annual bilateral meetings between Canadian federal parliamentarians and their counterparts from the National People's Congress.

Members of the Executive Committee (on March 31, 2021)

	Senate	House of Commons
Co-Chairs:	Hon. Paul J. Massicotte	Han Dong
Vice-Chairs:	Hon. Yonah Martin	Shaun Chen
	Hon. Scott Tannas	Michael Cooper
		Don Davies
		Majid Jowhari
		Yves Perron
		Hon. Alice Wong, P.C.

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Members of the Association were able to attend a virtual rendition of the 41st General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) as well as an AIPA Webinar on Enhancing Implementation of the Women, Peace & Security, UN Programme of Action and 2030 Agendas. Other regular events of the association such as the 29th Annual Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF) were postponed or cancelled due to the global pandemic. The Co-Chairs continued to liaise with the Chinese Embassy and attended virtual and phone meetings with the Ambassador, His Excellency Cong Peiwu.

Activities	Transportation	Accommodation	Per Diems	Hospitality and Working Meals	Miscellaneous	Registration Fees	Total
Gross Expenditures							
Revenue (membership fees)					(1,725)		(1,725)
Total					(1,725)		(1,725)

A Five-Year Summary

Fiscal Year	No. of Members	Contributions
2016-2017	74	
2017-2018	88	
2018-2019	72	N/A
2019-2020	94	
2020-2021	69	

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Canada-France Interparliamentary Association (CAFR)

Objectives

The Canada-France Interparliamentary Association (CAFR) serves as a forum in which Canadian and French parliamentarians can exchange information and ideas. The Association normally meets once a year for their Annual Meeting, alternating meeting sites between Canada and France. The Association also organizes smaller gatherings on specific issues. An objective of the Association is to put forward to the governments and Parliaments of the two countries initiatives with the potential to foster a better understanding of internal or bilateral issues, as well to promote bilateral cooperation in political, economic, social, cultural and parliamentary spheres.

Members of the Executive Committee (on March 31, 2021)

Senate	House of Commons
	Marie-France Lalonde
Hon. René Cormier	Jacques Gourde
Hon. Claude Carignan, P.C. Hon. Jean-Guy Dagenais Hon. Pierre J. Dalphond	Luc Berthold Hon. Steven Blaney, P.C Caroline Desbiens Darrell Samson
	Hon. René Cormier Hon. Claude Carignan, P.C. Hon. Jean-Guy Dagenais

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The Association was scheduled to welcome a delegation of French parliamentarians in Alberta in 2020 and to visit Paris in Winter 2021. These events were postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In February 2021, CAFR members met virtually with the French Ambassador to Canada and were briefed on the public health situation in France. During the meeting, they also discussed other topics of interest to both countries, such as economic and technological recovery, France's tax on digital companies, the 2022 presidential elections, domestic and international terrorism, relations with China, protectionism, and regional co-operation opportunities.

Activities	Transportation	Accommodation	Per Diems	Hospitality and Working Meals	Miscellaneous	Registration Fees	Total
Gross Expenditures							
Revenue (membership fees)					(2,000)		(2,000)
Total					(2,000)		(2,000)

A Five-Year Summary

Fiscal Year	No. of Members	Contributions
2016-2017	55	
2017-2018	64	
2018-2019	66	N/A
2019-2020	72	
2020-2021	80	

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Canada-Japan Inter-Parliamentary Group (CAJP)

Objectives

The Canada-Japan Inter-Parliamentary Group (CAJP) promotes exchanges between Japanese and Canadian parliamentarians, proposes initiatives likely to lead to a better mutual understanding of bilateral and multilateral matters and works to develop cooperation between the two countries. A key component of the Inter-Parliamentary Group's activities consists of annual bilateral meetings between Canadian federal parliamentarians and their counterparts from the Diet of Japan.

Members of the Executive Committee (on March 31, 2021)

	Senate	House of Commons
Co-Chairs:	Hon. Jim Munson	Terry Sheehan
Vice-Chairs:	Hon. Victor Oh	Angelo Iacono
Members:	Hon. Rosa Galvez	Colin Carrie
		Gord Johns
		Monique Pauzé
		Yasmin Ratansi
		Jamie Schmale

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CAJP hosted a virtual bilateral meeting with counterparts from the Diet Friendship League and attended virtual activities organized by the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) including its 41st General Assembly and a webinar entitled "Enhancing Implementation of the Women, Peace & Security, UN PoA and 2030 Agendas". The Co-Chairs also attended virtual and phone meetings with His Excellency Kawamura Yasuhisa, Ambassador of Japan to Canada and, along with other members of the association, participated in virtual celebrations of the Emperor's Birthday that were organized by the Embassy. Many of the association's regular activities, however, such as the 29th Annual Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF), were postponed or cancelled due to the global pandemic.

Activities	Transportation	Accommodation	Per Diems	Hospitality and Working Meals	Miscellaneous	Registration Fees	Total
Gross Expenditures ¹	5,434						5,434
Revenue (membership fees)					(2,050)		(2,050)
Total	5,434				(2,050)		3,384

¹28th Annual Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum (joint activity with CACN), cancelled due to Australian wildfires.

A Five-Year Summary

Fiscal Year	No. of Members	Contributions
2016-2017	61	
2017-2018	67	
2018-2019	72	N/A
2019-2020	74	
2020-2021	82	

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Canada-United Kingdom Inter-Parliamentary Association (RUUK)

Objectives

The Canada-United Kingdom Inter-Parliamentary Association (RUUK) aims to broaden the traditional bilateral ties between these two countries through a modern and dynamic relationship. Its objectives include developing greater understanding of the differences in the operation of the Parliaments of the two countries and increasing cooperation between parliamentarians on matters of mutual concern in international bodies on domestic issues.

Members of the Executive Committee (on March 31, 2021)

	Senate	House of Commons
Chair:		Hon. John McKay, P.C.
Vice-Chairs:	Hon. Terry M. Mercer	Francesco Sorbara
Members:	Hon. Douglas John Black, Q.C.	John Barlow
	Hon. Tony Dean	Daniel Blaikie
	Hon. Leo Housakos	Greg Fergus
		Matt Jeneroux
		Marie-France Lalonde
		James Maloney
		Christine Normandin
		Jamie Schmale

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The executive committee met in September 2020 to plan three major virtual activities for the remainder of the fiscal year. The first was an information session provided by the High Commissioner for Canada in the United Kingdom on October 26, 2020. She gave a presentation on recent developments in Canada—United Kingdom relations associated with the United Kingdom's departure from the European Union. Next, on January 21, 2021, the High Commissioner of the United Kingdom to Canada met with the executive committee to provide a similar update on the situation in the United Kingdom and how it affects relations with the European Union and Canada. Lastly, a bilateral meeting was held on March 16, 2021, between the executive committee and approximately 20 British Members of the House of Lords and MPs. They discussed Brexit and its political and economic impact within the United Kingdom and with Ireland and continental Europe; trade and commerce between the United Kingdom, the European Union, Canada and other regions of the world where the United Kingdom would like to increase its trade activities; and the new role of the United Kingdom on the international stage.

Activities	Transportation	Accommodation	Per Diems	Hospitality and Working Meals	Miscellaneous	Registration Fees	Total
Gross Expenditures							
Revenue (membership fees) ¹					(2,750)		(2,750)
Total					(2,750)		(2,750)

¹One membership fee paid in 2020-2021 was for a membership in 2019-2020.

A Five-Year Summary

Fiscal Year	No. of Members	Contributions
2016-2017	108	
2017-2018	117	
2018-2019	109	N/A
2019-2020	103	
2020-2021	109	

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Canada-United States Inter-Parliamentary Group (CEUS)

Objectives

The aim of the Canada-United States Inter-Parliamentary Group (CEUS) is to find points of convergence in the respective national policies of both countries, initiate dialogue on points of divergence, encourage exchanges of information, and promote better understanding between Canadian and American parliamentarians on shared issues of concern including economic and trade issues, environmental, energy and shared resource issues, and defence, security and humanitarian issues, among others. To achieve its goals, CEUS normally undertakes a wide variety of activities including its annual meeting, bilateral meetings on specific topics of mutual concern, Congressional visits, and attendance at national and regional conferences.

Members of the Executive Committee (on March 31, 2021)

	Senate	House of Commons
Co-Chairs:	Hon. Michael L. MacDonald	Hon. Wayne Easter, P.C.
Vice-Chairs:	Hon. Jane Cordy	Vance Badawey
	Hon. Diane Griffin	Colin Carrie
	Hon. Paul J. Massicotte	James Cumming
	Hon. Yuen Pau Woo	Marc Dalton
		Kerry Diotte
		Yvonne Jones
		Brian Masse
		Hon. David J. McGuinty, P.C.
		Hon. John McKay, P.C.
		Mario Simard
		Francesco Sorbara

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The Canada-United States Inter-Parliamentary Group (CEUS) held a virtual version of its regular meetings in Washington with Senators and Congressional Representatives in March 2021. The Canadian delegation met with approximately 25 U.S. Senators and members of Congress and their staff to exchange on shared issues of interest. CEUS delegations also attended various webinars and virtual conferences hosted by the Pacific Northwest Economic Region, the Western and Eastern regions of the Council of State Governments, the National Governors Association, and the National Conference of State Legislators.

In August 2020, CEUS also created a sub-group for a one-year trial period to focus on the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River. The group held meetings with membership, met with U.S. counterparts, and participated in Great Lakes Week.

Activities	Transportation	Accommodation	Per Diems	Hospitality and Working Meals	Miscellaneous	Registration Fees	Total
Gross Expenditures ¹	79	7	830		15	1,480	2,413
Revenue (membership fees) ²					(3,100)		(3,100)
Total ³	79	7	830		(3,085)	1,480	(687)

¹ Expenditures for transportation, accommodation and per diem were incurred in 2020-2021 for an activity held in 2019-2020.

A Five-Year Summary

Fiscal Year	No. of Members	Contributions
2016-2017	152	
2017-2018	182	
2018-2019	147	N/A
2019-2020	148	
2020-2021	123	

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 $^{^{2}}$ One membership fee paid in 2020-2021 was for a membership in 2019-2020.

³ Differences in totals are due to rounding.