

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, May 17, 2019

Hon. Bob Nault tables two reports in Parliament on behalf of ParlAmericas' Canadian Section

OTTAWA – Friday, May 17, 2019 – Today, the <u>Honourable Bob Nault</u>, P.C., M.P., Chair of the <u>Canadian Section of ParlAmericas</u>, tabled two reports in the House of Commons. Mr. Nault is also President of ParlAmericas.

The first report is focused on meetings that were held in Mexico City, Mexico from February 10–12, 2019. Mr. Nault led a delegation of Canadian parliamentarians to meetings with Mexican parliamentarians and representatives from the Government of Mexico, the private sector, and civil society organizations to discuss trade, security, transparency, climate change, among other issues. In addition to Mr. Nault, the delegation included the Honourable Rosa Galvez, Senator, the Honourable Kellie Leitch, P.C., M.P., Mr. David Christopherson, M.P., and Mr. Marc Serré, M.P.

"This timely and important visit allowed delegates to establish the foundation for a strong relationship with Mexico's parliamentarians, as well as with the country's newly inaugurated president and administration," stated Mr. Nault. "While in Mexico, ParlAmericas' Canadian Section also participated in the launch of the 75th anniversary of Canada–Mexico diplomatic relations."

The <u>second report</u> summarizes the participation by an all-party delegation from the Canadian Section at ParlAmericas' 4th Gathering of the Open Parliamentary Network which was held in Quito, Ecuador from March 12–14, 2019. Mr. Nault led the delegation, and was accompanied by the <u>Honourable Percy E. Downe</u>, Senator, the <u>Honourable Rosa Galvez</u>, Senator, the <u>Honourable Kellie Leitch</u>, P.C., M.P., Mr. <u>Randy Boissonnault</u>, M.P., Mr. <u>David Christopherson</u>, M.P., and Mrs. <u>Sherry Romanado</u>, M.P.

More than 100 legislators from 27 countries throughout the hemisphere attended the meeting which focused on the importance of post-legislative scrutiny, enhanced openness and public trust in democratic institutions, and stronger parliamentary oversight to counter corruption.

"Sound governance of, and trust in, our democratic institutions is absolutely vital," said Mr. Nault. "Democracies are fragile and – as elected officials – we have an obligation to lead by example. As well, efforts to ensure openness and trust, to counter corruption, and to strengthen parliamentary oversight of the laws and public policies that affect citizens must involve collaboration across nations and with civil society organizations."

Founded in 2001 in Ottawa, <u>ParlAmericas</u> is the only interparliamentary institution with its International Secretariat headquartered in Canada. The <u>Canadian Section of</u> <u>ParlAmericas</u> works closely with the Secretariat to advance parliamentary diplomacy and political dialogue throughout the Americas and the Caribbean.

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