

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CANADA-U.S. IPG ATTENDS WINTER MEETING OF U.S. GOVERNORS

From 19–22 February 2016, Senator Janis Johnson, Co-Chair of the Canadian Section of the Canada–United States Inter-Parliamentary Group (IPG), led a delegation to the annual winter meeting of the National Governors Association (NGA) in Washington, D.C. The other members of the delegation were Senator Wilfred Moore, Q.C., Vice-Chair, Mr. John Brassard, M.P. and Mr. Randeep Sarai, M.P.

"The NGA's meeting provided us with an unparalleled opportunity to speak with U.S. governors about a range of issues that are important to Canada and the United States, and – more specifically – to their state. I know that I speak on behalf of my colleagues in saying that we value the relationships with governors that we've been building over time, and always look forward to getting to know new governors," said Senator Johnson.

Senator Johnson concluded: "As is always the case, the governors' plenary and committee sessions involved knowledgeable speakers, and the information that we gained will inform our work as legislators. From a Canadian federal perspective, perhaps the sessions focused on economic growth, jobs, and conservation and resource management were the most informative. Regarding the last of these, the U.S. Department of the Interior's Secretary – Sally Jewell – outlined a number of important considerations that I'm sure will guide my thinking about environmental and similar issues."

Founded more than a century ago when President Theodore Roosevelt gathered state governors in order to discuss the nation's resources, the NGA is the collective voice of U.S. governors from the 50 states, three territories and two commonwealths. It is also a public policy organization that represents the governors on Capitol Hill and before the U.S. Administration on federal issues that affect them, and that develops and implements solutions to public policy challenges.

The theme for the NGA's activities in 2016 – including the winter and summer meetings – is "States: Finding Solutions, Improving Lives." This initiative has been selected by NGA Chair Utah Governor Gary Herbert.

It should be noted that the views expressed in this news release are specific to the Canadian Section of the Canada-United States IPG and, as such, may not reflect the views of U.S. counterparts.

The Canada–United States IPG aims to find points of convergence in respective national policies, to initiate dialogue on points of divergence, to encourage the exchange of information and to promote better understanding among legislators on shared issues of concern. Additional information on the Group can be found at www.parl.gc.ca/iia/us.

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