

## NEWS RELEASE

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 30, 2015

## CANADIAN PARLIAMENTARIANS ATTEND SUMMER MEETING OF U.S. WESTERN GOVERNORS

From 24–26 June 2015, the Canadian Section of the Canada–United States Inter-Parliamentary Group (IPG) was represented at the 2015 summer meeting of the Western Governors' Association (WGA) by Senators Jane Cordy, Percy Downe and Michael L. MacDonald, Vice-Chair. The meeting was held in Lake Tahoe, Nevada.

"Like previous WGA meetings, the 2015 summer meeting provided members of the Canadian Section of the Canada–United States IPG with an excellent opportunity to continue to build our relationships with the United States' western governors. Certainly, Canada's western provinces and the United States' western states share certain similarities and challenges, and it is important that the provinces and states work together as the need arises. Relationships are a critical aspect of working together collaboratively," said Senator MacDonald.

Senator MacDonald concluded: "The summer meeting's roundtable discussions on drought, transportation networks and energy, as well as the comments by Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell and former Secretary of Health and Human Services Michael Leavitt, provided interesting insights, including in areas where Canada and the United States share common cause and should consider working together more closely for the prosperity of both countries."

The WGA includes the governors from 19 western states, as well as from American Samoa, Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands. The Canadian premiers from British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba also participate in the WGA's activities. More information on the WGA can be found at www.westgov.org.

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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