

Canada - Europe
Parliamentary Association



Association parlementaire
Canada - Europe

**Report of the Canadian Parliamentary Delegation of the
Canada-Europe Parliamentary Association to
the Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly (PACE)**

to

**the Parliamentary Mission to the Country that will next hold
the European Union Presidency**

**Berlin, Germany
September 27–29, 2006**

and

**Fourth Part of the 2006 Ordinary Session
of
the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe**

**Strasbourg, France
October 2–6, 2006**

A delegation of three parliamentarians from the Canada-Europe Parliamentary Association travelled to Berlin, Germany, for high-level meetings with members of the Bundestag, the German parliament's lower house, government officials and experts in preparation for the upcoming German Presidency of the European Union (EU). The delegation was led by Association president the Hon. Lorna Milne, Senator, and included from the Senate the Hon. Mac Harb and from the House of Commons Mr. David Tilson.

Report

I

Parliamentary Mission to the Country that will next hold the European Union Presidency

**Berlin, Germany
September 27–29, 2006**

A. Introduction and overview

A delegation of three parliamentarians from the Canada-Europe Parliamentary Association travelled to Berlin, Germany, for high-level meetings with members of the Bundestag, the German parliament's lower house, government officials and experts in preparation for the upcoming German Presidency of the European Union (EU). The delegation was led by Association president the Hon. Lorna Milne, Senator, and included from the Senate the Hon. Mac Harb and from the House of Commons Mr. David Tilson. The delegation was accompanied by association secretary Philippe Méla and advisor Marcus Pistor.

In addition to meetings on Germany's upcoming EU presidency, the Canadian delegation had the opportunity to discuss political, economic, cultural and academic relations between Germany and Canada with officials, academics and representatives of the cultural community.

B. Program

1. Briefing Sessions with Embassy Officials on German-Canadian Relations and Germany's Relevance to Canada.

In the first of two sessions, officials from the Political, Consular and Economic / Trade Sections of the Canadian Embassy briefed the delegation on the current political situation in Germany, Germany's foreign policy and international role, bilateral economic and political relations between Canada and Germany, and the German government's plans for its presidency of the European Union's Council (January to June 2007). Officials highlighted Germany's central role in global politics, including as a key member of organizations such as the G8 and the EU, as one of the world's largest exporters and a key trade partner of major economies around the world, and as one of the largest donors of development assistance. Noting that Germany is prepared to act internationally and that it shares Canada's commitment to strengthening multilateral institutions and international law and to democracy and human rights, they argued that Germany is second only to the United States in terms of partnership potential for Canada.

With regard to Germany's preparations for the EU presidency, officials highlighted the country's commitment to renewing the constitutional process following the failure of the Constitutional Treaty to be ratified by all EU members, Germany's efforts to decrease bureaucracy at the EU level and to making Europe more competitive globally, as well as, among other issues, the goal of developing a common energy policy for the EU.

2. Meeting with Dr. Uwe Corsepius, Head of European Policy Branch, Federal Chancellery, and Senior European Policy Advisor to Chancellor Angela Merkel

Dr. Corsepius provided the delegation with an overview of his government's EU policy and preparations for the EU presidency. He told delegates that Chancellor Merkel has set a clear agenda with a limited number of priorities and explained that the presidency will be divided into two parts: The first will focus on competitiveness and social affairs (developing better regulations, ensuring respect for the subsidiarity principle, implementing of the EU's Lisbon Agenda, and achieving a 25% reduction in bureaucratic costs to companies and citizens) and on energy policy (development of an EU energy plan, including the diversification of energy sources and the creation of an EU energy market). The latter would also include efforts to begin a new phase of global negotiations on climate change. According to Dr. Corsepius, the second part of the German EU presidency will focus on the constitutional process with Germany likely proposing a road map for a renewed effort that would not only seek to address the need for institutional reform, including a clearer division of powers between the EU and national levels of government, but that would also address the need to have the EU reflect more clearly the shared values of Europeans, specifically the commitment to human rights and the balance between the social, economic and environmental dimensions of the EU.

3. Roundtable with Experts of the German Institute for International and Security Affairs (Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik, SWP)

The delegation met with researchers and policy advisors of the German Institute for International and Security Affairs, one of Germany's leading foreign policy think tanks. Dr. Andreas Maurer, Head of Research Unit European Integration, and researchers Prof. Peter Schmidt, Dr. Annegret Bendiek, Dr. Stormy Mildner, Frank Kupferschmidt, and Anthony Seaboyer offered their insights on a range of issues, including the priorities of the German EU presidency, the stalled EU constitutional treaty, the future of transatlantic relations in general and Canada's relations with a changing Europe in particular (specifically with regard to the impact of an evolving European Security and Defence Policy on NATO), the NATO mission in Afghanistan, and the future of the Council of Europe. The meeting offered valuable insights from a non-government perspective.

4. Meeting with the Parliamentary Committee for Affairs of the European Union in the German Bundestag

At an informal meeting with senior members of the Bundestag's Committee on the Affairs of the European Union, German parliamentarians expressed a strong interest in deepening relations between Canada and Germany, especially in areas such as

immigration and integration policy and federalism. Discussion then turned to Germany's EU presidency. According to the German parliamentarians, the following areas will require particular attention from the German government: the need for a renewed constitutional process, the importance of moving forward on EU-Russian relations (especially with respect to energy), ways of strengthening the EU's Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP), and the possibility of using synergies from Germany simultaneous presidency of the EU and the G8.

5. Meeting with Michael Clauss, Deputy Head of Europe Branch, Federal Foreign Office

At the German Foreign office, the delegation received a briefing from Michael Clauss, deputy head of the Europe Branch. In a remarkably frank exchange of views, Mr. Claus highlighted the many challenges facing the EU and the German presidency, including the low level of public support for the EU and the prospect of political change and instability in key member countries. According to Mr. Clauss, these will make it difficult for the EU to address the many challenges it faces both internally (such as the apparent failure of the constitutional treaty and the need for institutional reform, the need for economic reform, and the growing threat of terrorism) and internationally (including the emergence of India and China as new global powers, and the need to address security and development issues in the Mediterranean region). To be able to effectively address these challenges, he argued, the EU needs to strengthen cooperation among its members but also with key partners. In addition to developments in the European Union, the EU's international role, and cooperation between Canada and the EU in areas such as internal security, immigration, integration of migrants, and energy, the situation in the Middle East and the ability of Germany and of the EU to act as honest brokers in the conflicts there were discussed.

6. Public Diplomacy, Academic Relations, Canadian Culture in Berlin and Germany: Briefing Session with Embassy Officials and Related Program Items

In addition to attending a second briefing session with embassy officials, which focused on the embassy's extensive activities in the areas of public affairs and public diplomacy, promoting Canadian art and culture, academic relations (including exchanges and supporting Canadian studies programs in Germany), and youth exchanges, the Canadian delegation had the opportunity to meet with selected guests from Berlin's cultural and academic community at a lunch co-hosted offered by senior Embassy officials. The delegation also visited the Hamburger Bahnhof, a museum of modern art, to see new Art Exhibition featuring Canadian and international artists: Beyond Cinema. The Art of Projection. These program elements highlighted the importance of the active role played by the Canadian embassy in helping Canadian artists, authors and musicians establish a presence in Germany and Europe, but also of the embassy's role in shaping Canada's public image in Germany, where too often perceptions are either outdated or based on single issues such as the seal hunt.

7. Other Program Elements

The Canadian delegation was welcomed to the German parliament at a dinner hosted by Klaus-Peter Flosbach, Chair of the German-Canadian Parliamentary Association, and attended by several Members of the Bundestag. This gave parliamentarians from both countries the opportunity to discuss a wide range of issues, including bilateral relations and Canada's presence in Berlin, preparations for Germany's EU presidency, the NATO mission in Afghanistan, as well as Germany's electoral system. The Canadian delegation also attended a plenary session of the Bundestag. This was followed by a special guided tour of the Reichstag building that houses the Bundestag.

In addition to meeting with German parliamentarians, officials, experts, and others, Canadian delegates benefited from several other program elements: They attended a session of a conference held at the Canadian Embassy on "Education in an Immigration Society - What can communities/local authorities do?", which was co-hosted by the Canadian Embassy, the Freudenberg Foundation, the Berlin Office of Lower Saxony and the Federal Association of Regional Centres for Education, Integration and Democracy. This was followed by informal meetings with conference participants.

Finally, the delegation was honoured with a reception hosted by Ambassador Paul Dubois at the Canadian Embassy with selected guests from the Embassy's political and economic networks in Germany. Guests included academics, parliamentarians and a former federal minister. Delegates also were given a guided tour of the prestigious and highly acclaimed new Embassy and of the Marshall McLuhan Multimedia Centre, the Embassy's multimedia information centre where visitors have the opportunity to discover Canadian culture, geography, politics and technologies through the use of "state-of-the-art technical equipment."⁽¹⁾

The delegation was highly impressed by the activities carried out by our embassy, and particularly by the exceptional educational opportunities offered by the Marshall McLuhan Multimedia Centre

II

Fourth Part of the 2006 Ordinary Session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

Strasbourg, France October 2–6, 2006

A delegation of four parliamentarians from the Canada-Europe Parliamentary Association travelled to Strasbourg to participate in the fall session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE), in which Canada enjoys observer status along with Israel and Mexico. The delegation was led by Association president the Hon. Lorna Milne, Senator, and included from the Senate the Hon. Mac Harb, and from the House of Commons Mr. David Tilson and Mr. Scott Simms. The delegation was accompanied by association secretary Philippe Méla and advisor Marcus Pistor, and was joined in Strasbourg by Francois LaRoche, Deputy Permanent Observer of Canada to the Council of Europe.

A. Overview

The fall session featured a full order of business⁽²⁾ with a wide range of topics being debated in committees,⁽³⁾ political groups,⁽⁴⁾ and in the Assembly.⁽⁵⁾ The Assembly held regular debates on the following topics:

- Progress report of the Bureau of the Assembly;
- Observation of the parliamentary and presidential elections in Mexico (2 July 2006);
- Observation of the parliamentary elections in "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" (5 July 2006);
- Observation of the parliamentary elections in the Republic of Montenegro (10 September 2006);
- The institutional balance at the Council of Europe;
- Implementation of judgments of the European Court of Human Rights;
- Debate on general policy on the situation in the Balkans;
- Ratification of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities by the member states of the Council of Europe;
- The OECD and the world economy;

- The cultural situation of the Kurds;
- Establishment of a European remembrance centre for victims of forced population movements and ethnic cleansing;
- The image of asylum-seekers, migrants and refugees in the media;
- The need to reconcile work and family life;
- Europe's interest in the continued economic development of Russia; and
- The promotion of local self-government along Council of Europe borders.

The Assembly convened two debates under urgent procedure, the first on recent developments in Lebanon in the context of the situation in the Middle East, and the second on mass arrival of irregular migrants on Europe's Southern shores, as well as a current affairs debate on the Council of Europe budget for 2007. Finally, the Assembly heard from several political leaders and senior officials, some of whom participated in the relevant debates:

- Mr. René van der Linden, President of the Parliamentary Assembly;
- Address by Mr. Ivo Sanader, Prime Minister of Croatia;
- Address by Mr. Sali Berisha, Prime Minister of Albania;
- Address by Mr. Adnan Terzic, Chairperson of the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- Mr. Terry Davis, Secretary General of the Council of Europe;
- Mr. Sergey Lavrov, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, Chairperson of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe;
- Statement by Mr. Angel Gurría, Secretary-General of the OECD; and
- Statement by Mrs. Dalia Itzik, Speaker of the Knesset.

Transcripts and summaries of the debates, the reports discussed, and the resolutions and recommendations adopted are available on the Parliamentary Assembly's Web site <http://assembly.coe.int/>.

B. Canadian activities during the session

Canadian delegates participated actively in meetings of committees – Political Affairs; Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs; and Economic Affairs and Development – and political groups. The delegation met with Angel Gurría, the new Secretary-General of the OECD, and with François LaRoche, Canada's Deputy Permanent Observer to the Council of Europe. It also held its first meeting with the newly reconstituted Mexican observer delegation. Finally, Canadian delegates used the opportunity to meet with delegates from other countries and Council of Europe staff to discuss a range of issues of common interest.

1. Enlarged Committee Meeting and Assembly Debate on the OECD and the World Economy

Each fall, the Assembly holds a debate on a report on the OECD and the state of the world economy, prepared by the Committee on Economic Affairs and Development. Preparatory meetings are held at the OECD in Paris in June.⁽⁶⁾ This annual debate is unusual in that it allows delegations from non-member OECD countries, such as Canada, Japan, Mexico, and the Republic of Korea,⁽⁷⁾ full participation and voting rights – hence “enlarged” debate. It is, therefore, an important opportunity for Canadian parliamentarians to participate in international discussions of global economic affairs and to contribute to the parliamentary oversight of the OECD. The debate is preceded by an ‘enlarged’ meeting of the Committee on Economic Affairs and Development, which finalizes the report. During this session, the Canadian delegation also met twice with the delegations from the other non-European observer countries, Japan, Mexico, and the Republic of Korea.

In advance of the fall session, the Canadian delegation submitted two amendments, one to reflect the recent collapse of the Doha Round of global trade talks, and a second to highlight the importance of investing in trade related infrastructure in developing countries. Both amendments were accepted and incorporated into the report. During the committee meeting in Strasbourg, Senator Harb proposed an additional amendment that was unanimously adopted as paragraph 15 of the draft resolution:

The Enlarged Assembly believes that the OECD is uniquely positioned to serve as the hub for global economic policy coordination, bringing together its expertise and experience across the spectrum of economic policy. The Enlarged Assembly therefore calls on the OECD to facilitate discussion among key member countries, the European Union, leading non-OECD economies, and developing countries with the goal of reaching agreement on the core elements of a new global economic agenda. This agenda would be based on the OECD's mandate, namely the promotion of sustainable economic growth, trade liberalisation and development.⁽⁸⁾

The delegation had a working meeting with Mr. Angel Gurría, who took up the post of Secretary-General of the OECD in June 2006. Mr. Gurría expressed his appreciation of what he called the “Canadian amendment”, noting that it spelled out the new mandate defined by the OECD ministerial meeting in May. He proceeded to outline the key challenges and opportunities his organization faces, including budgetary constraints and the relationship with other international organizations. Other issues discussed in this meeting were the state of world trade negotiations and prospects for an increasing ‘bilateralization’ of trade liberalization and the protection of cultural diversity.

In his speech to the Enlarged Assembly, the OECD Secretary-General again made specific reference to paragraph 15 of the draft resolution:

The OECD Council is now hard at work in identifying countries for potential accession and for enhanced engagement with the OECD. Ministers also asked me to develop new ideas and to be more proactive in approaching new members with a view to making the OECD a permanent hub for dialogue on global economic issues for member and non-member economies. Therefore, I welcome the Canadian amendment which sees the OECD as the hub of the globalisation process.⁽⁹⁾

Canadian delegates made two interventions in the debate on the OECD and the world economy. Senator Milne’s remarks focused on the “need for greater and more effective international co-operation” as “perhaps the single most important prerequisite for finding ways of addressing the key challenges facing the global economy.” Noting the need for greater parliamentary involvement in this process and “the growing global importance of the OECD”, she argued that “ways of strengthening the relationship between parliamentarians and the OECD” must be found.

In his intervention, Mr. Tilson expressed strong support for the rapporteur’s emphasis “on trade liberalisation as the most effective measure for stimulating growth and development.” He stressed in particular the need for “trade liberalisation in agriculture both because it would benefit our agriculture producers and processors and because it is urgently needed to improve the prospects for developing countries.” Mr. Tilson also drew attention to Canada’s economic performance and prospects and pointed out “that, in Canada, we have managed the difficult balancing act of consolidating our fiscal situation while maintaining a commitment to public programmes in education, health care and other areas.”

In his response to the speakers, OECD Secretary-General Gurría made specific references to the Canadian interventions. Citing Senator Milne’s call for greater international co-operation, he noted that this was “very good shorthand for the discussions that have taken place” and emphasized that closer multilateral cooperation is crucial in efforts to address challenges ranging from trade liberalization to HIV/AIDS. With regard to Mr. Tilson’s reference to Canada’s economic performance, Mr. Gurría noted that “there are some very important success stories” and argued: “The fact is that Canada has a surplus and can still

nurture the safety net, and it can still nurture flexibility, rather than having a strong system for creating jobs.”⁽¹⁰⁾

The complete transcript of this debate, including the text of the Canadian interventions, is available at: <http://assembly.coe.int/>.

2. Meeting of the Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs – Vote on Amendments to the Draft Recommendation on Seal Hunting

At a meeting of the Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs, members voted on proposed amendments to the Draft Recommendation on Seal Hunting which was adopted by the committee in June.⁽¹¹⁾ The committee defeated all seven amendments tabled by PACE members. Six of these were tabled by a group of parliamentarians led by Mr. Azzolini (Italy), the author of the original motion for recommendation on seal hunting,⁽¹²⁾ which led to the committee’s study and this draft recommendation. The amendments claimed that “the cruelty of seal hunting has been documented by videos from several authoritative TV channels as well as by personal observations of many members of national/European parliaments, scientists, celebrities and NGOs”, that “Canada currently lacks a general legal framework for the protection of animals”, and that “the current Canadian objectives is to reduce the size of the seal population”. They called for a ban on the use of guns in the seal hunt – in addition to the ban on hakapiks and clubs which was already called for in the draft recommendation – and the development “of the seal watching industry as a viable alternative to seal hunting”. And they supported a “initiatives aimed at prohibiting the import and marketing of seal-derived products, following the United States and Mexico precedents.” The seventh amendment, proposed by the rapporteur, Mr. Nessa, and other PACE members stated that “the Assembly welcomes the declaration of 15 September 2006 by the European Parliament on banning seal products in the European Union requesting ‘the Commission to immediately draft a regulation to ban the import, export and sale of all harp and hooded seal products’”.

Unfortunately, the PACE Standing Committee adopted the draft recommendation together with all seven amendments at its meeting in San Marino on November 17th, 2006, even though the Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs opposed the amendments.⁽¹³⁾

3. OECD High-level Parliamentary Seminar on Growth and Jobs

On Thursday, October 5th, Senator Harb travelled to Paris for a one-day High-level Parliamentary Seminar on Growth and Jobs, organized by the OECD. The seminar featured presentations by senior OECD officials and experts on the following topics:

Going for Growth - Alain de Serres, Senior Economist, Structural Policy Analysis Division II, OECD;

Boosting Jobs and Incomes: Policy Lessons from Reassessing the OECD Jobs Strategy. - Raymond Torres, Head of the Employment Analysis and Policy Division, OECD; and

Implementing reforms for growth and jobs -- how to gather public support for reform? - Romain Duval, Senior Economist, Chief Economist's Office, OECD.

Respectfully submitted,

Hon. Lorna Milne, Senator

Canada-Europe Parliamentary Association

C. Background: the council of Europe

The Council of Europe is an intergovernmental organisation which aims:

- to protect human rights, pluralist democracy and the rule of law;
- to promote awareness and encourage the development of Europe's cultural identity and diversity;
- to seek solutions to problems facing European society (discrimination against minorities, xenophobia, intolerance, environmental protection, human cloning, AIDS, drugs, organised crime, etc.); and
- to help consolidate democratic stability in Europe by backing political, legislative and constitutional reform.⁽¹⁴⁾

Founded in 1949, the Council of Europe has now reached a membership of 46 countries from the Azores to Azerbaijan, and from Iceland to Cyprus. The Council's main objective is to promote democratic development and human rights, and to hold member governments accountable for their performance in these areas. However, it is also very active in fostering international cooperation and policy coordination in a number of other areas, including legal cooperation, education, culture, heritage, environmental protection, health care, and social cohesion. The Council of Europe is responsible for the development of over 190 legally binding European treaties or conventions, many of which are open to non-member states, in policy areas such as human rights, the fight against organised crime, the prevention of torture, data protection, and cultural co-operation. The Council's main institutions are the Committee of Ministers (the CoE's decision-making body, composed of member states' foreign ministers or their deputies), the Parliamentary Assembly, the Commissioner for Human Rights, the European Human Rights Court, and the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities.

The Parliamentary Assembly consists of 315 members and 315 substitutes, who are elected or appointed by the national parliaments of the 46 Council of Europe member states from among their members. The Assembly elects the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, the judges of the European Court of Human Rights and the Council's Commissioner for Human Rights. It is consulted on all new international treaties drafted by the Council, holds the Council and member governments accountable, engages in studies of a range of issues of common interest to Europeans, and provides a forum for debate for national parliamentarians. The Assembly has played an important role in the process of democratization in Central and Eastern Europe and actively monitors developments in member countries, including national elections. It meets four times a year in Strasbourg, with committee meetings taking place more frequently. Council and Assembly decisions and debates are often reported widely in the European media.⁽¹⁵⁾

The Council of Europe and its Parliamentary Assembly bring together policy – and decision-makers from a range of politically, culturally, and geographically diverse countries. Together, the Council and Assembly provide the primary forum for the formation of a trans-European political community committed to democracy and human

rights. The Parliamentary Assembly also provides parliamentary oversight functions for several key international organizations, including the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM). This wide-ranging role in international policy-making and in the promotion and protection of democracy and human rights makes the Council and Assembly an important venue for pursuing and advancing Canada's multilateral and bilateral engagement in Europe.

Canada is an observer to both the Committee of Ministers, where it has participated actively in a number of policy areas (the other observers are the Holy See, Japan, Mexico, and the United States), and the Parliamentary Assembly (where the other observers are Israel and Mexico).⁽¹⁶⁾

End notes

- (1) http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/canadaeuropa/germany/embassy_mcluhan-en.asp.
- (2) The Order of Business is available at:
http://assembly.coe.int/Sessions/2006/Agenda/ECALSES2006_4.PDF.
- (3) There are 10 committees dealing with substantive matters: the Political Affairs Committee; the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights; the Committee on Economic Affairs and Development; the Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee; the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Demography; the Committee on Culture, Science and Education; the Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs; the Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men; the Committee on Rules of Procedure and Immunities; and the Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe.
- (4) A political group is the equivalent of a parliamentary party or caucus. There are five political groups in PACE: the Socialist Group (SOC), the Group of the European People's Party (EPP/CD), the European Democratic Group (EDG), the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE), and the Group of the Unified European Left (UEL).
- (5) Regular Assembly debates focus on a draft resolution (a decision or statement by the Assembly) and/or recommendation (a proposal addressed to the Committee of Ministers), as well as an explanatory memorandum, which are prepared by a rapporteur for the relevant standing committee. The committee adopts – and usually amends – the resolution prior to the Assembly debate. Assembly debates open with a statement from the rapporteur(s), followed by statements from representatives of the five political groups, after which the debate is opened to other speakers. Speakers have to register in advance. Speakers unable to participate in the debate due to time constraints can submit their intervention in writing, so it becomes part of the official record.
“Recommendations contain proposals addressed to the Committee of Ministers, the implementation of which is within the competence of governments.”

“Resolutions embody decisions by the Assembly on questions, which it is empowered to put into effect or expressions of view, for which it alone is responsible,” http://assembly.coe.int/ASP/Doc/DocumentGuide_E.asp.

- (6) The report on the OECD and the World Economy is available at <http://assembly.coe.int/Documents/WorkingDocs/Doc06/EDOC11012.htm>.
- (7) Of the OECD countries that are not members of the Council of Europe, these are the four that send delegations to the enlarged debate on a regular basis. Legislators from the United States do not normally attend.
- (8) The report – or explanatory memorandum – and the draft resolution on the OECD and the World Economy is available at <http://assembly.coe.int/Documents/WorkingDocs/Doc06/EDOC11012.htm>. The final text of the resolution, as adopted by the Enlarged Assembly, is available at <http://assembly.coe.int/Documents/AdoptedText/ta06/ERES1518.htm>.
- (9) The transcript of his speech and of the debate on the OECD and the World Economy is available at <http://assembly.coe.int/Main.asp?link=/Documents/Records/2006/E/0610041500E.htm>
- (10) Ibid.
- (11) The draft recommendation is available on the PACE website at <http://assembly.coe.int/main.asp?Link=/documents/workingdocs/doc06/edoc11008.htm>.
- (12) <http://assembly.coe.int/documents/workingdocs/doc04/edoc10156.htm>.
- (13) The recommendation is available on the PACE website at <http://assembly.coe.int/Documents/AdoptedText/ta06/EREC1776.htm>.
- (14) Council of Europe Web site, http://www.coe.int/T/E/Com/About_COE/. For a detailed discussion of the Council’s history and role, see The Council of Europe, 800 million Europeans, available on that Web site.
- (15) “The Assembly in brief,” <http://assembly.coe.int/Communication/Brochure/Bro01-e.pdf>.
- (16) Canadian officials from several federal government departments and agencies and from one provincial government participate in more than 20 meetings annually of committees, expert groups, and steering committees of the Council of Europe. Canadian parliamentarians attend all four parts of the annual session of the Parliamentary Assembly, as well as parliamentary committee meetings at the EBRD in London and the OECD in Paris.

Travel Costs

ASSOCIATION	Canada-Europe Parliamentary Association
ACTIVITY	Parliamentary Mission to the Country that will next hold the European Union Presidency and Fourth Part of the 2006 Ordinary Session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe
DESTINATION	Berlin, Germany and Strasbourg, France
DATES	September 27-29, 2006 and October 2-6, 2006
SENATORS	Hon. Lorna Milne, Senator Hon. Mac Harb, Senator
MEMBERS	Mr. David Tilson, MP Mr. Scott Simms, MP
STAFF	Mr. Philippe Méla, Association Secretary Dr. Marcus Pistor, Advisor
TRANSPORTATION	AIR \$ 27,903.02 GROUND \$ 1,059.20
ACCOMMODATION	\$ 10,725.59
HOSPITALITY	\$ 861.63
PER DIEMS	\$ 3,676.65
OFFICIAL GIFTS	\$ 272.01
MISCELLANEOUS/REGISTRATION FEES	\$ 196.22
TOTAL	\$ 44,694.32