

Canada - United States
Inter-Parliamentary Group
Canadian Section



Groupe interparlementaire
Canada - États-Unis
Section canadienne

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

15 December 2015

MEMBERS OF THE CANADA–U.S. IPG ATTEND MEETING WITH U.S. STATE LEGISLATORS

From 10–13 December 2015, two Vice-Chairs from the Canadian Section of the Canada–United States Inter-Parliamentary Group – Senator Michael L. MacDonald and Senator Wilfred Moore, Q.C. – led a delegation to the annual national conference of the Council of State Governments (CSG) in Nashville, Tennessee. The other members of the delegation were Senator Jane Cordy and Senator Dan Lang.

“A great many of the sessions at the CSG’s annual conference were very interesting and have relevance for both Canada and the United States,” said Senator Moore. “The cybersecurity presentations were most timely. I believe there’s an immediate need for state and provincial governments, as well as our federal governments, to take actions to protect data. They should have plans to detect any security breaches and to address any data losses. Of course, these efforts require properly qualified staff and adequate budgets. It’s my hope that governments in Canada and the United States can work together in addressing cybersecurity issues.”

Senator MacDonald concluded: “I would add that the presentations on the topic of economic development were also instructive, and both Canada and the United States share goals in this area. The discussion of ‘the triple helix’ – the notion that governments, academia and the private sector must work together regarding job creation – was especially notable. Certainly, it is the private sector that creates jobs, governments that develop regulations and implement policies that support job creation, and academia that can help to identify a city’s or region’s competitive advantage and thereby highlight the areas in which job creation might be most fruitful.”

The CSG serves all three branches of state government and provides regional fora – the western, midwestern, southern and eastern regional conferences – through which ideas and insights are exchanged with a view to shaping public policy. Additional information on the CSG can be found at: www.csg.org.

The views expressed in this news release are specific to the Canadian Section of the Canada–United States Inter-Parliamentary Group. As such, they may not reflect the views of U. S. counterparts.

The Canada–United States Inter-Parliamentary Group 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.

-30-

For further information:

Hon. Janis Johnson, Senator, Co-Chair

Canada–U.S. Inter-Parliamentary Group - 613-943-1430

Mr. Gord Brown, M.P., Co-Chair

Canada–U.S. Inter-Parliamentary Group - 613-992-8756

Ms. Miriam Burke, Association Secretary

Canada–U.S. Inter-Parliamentary Group - 613-944-4238