

NEWSRELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

27 August 2015

Canadian Parliamentarians Meet with Legislators from U.S. Eastern States and Canadian Eastern Provinces

From 16–19 August 2015, Senator David Wells, Vice-Chair led a delegation from the Canadian Section of the Canada–United States Inter-Parliamentary Group to the 2015 Annual Meeting and Regional Policy Forum of the Council of State Governments/Eastern Regional Conference (CSG/ERC). The other delegates were Senator Bob Runciman and Senator David P. Smith. The meeting, which was held in Wilmington, Delaware, had the theme of "Building Resilient State Economies."

"It's always a pleasure to attend conferences where members of the Canada–United States Inter-Parliamentary Group can interact with federal, state and provincial legislators," said Senator Wells. "From my perspective as a Senator representing an Eastern Canadian province, this is perhaps especially true when we attend meetings of the Eastern Regional Conference."

Senator Wells concluded: "As is always the case, a great many of the topics discussed at the ERC meeting were areas where both Canada and the United States face challenges and opportunities, including health, education, and the agriculture, fishing, forestry and energy sectors. Of course, we're always very interested in the discussions at the ERC's Canada/US Committee. This year, the Committee discussed such important bilateral topics as enhanced trade, preclearance arrangements, and enhanced passenger rail in the region."

The ERC is a regional association of state legislators from 18 member legislatures from Canada and the United States (see Appendix). By facilitating cooperation among its member jurisdictions, the ERC promotes multi-state or region-wide solutions to the problems and challenges facing state and provincial legislators. Information on the ERC is available at www.csgeast.org.

The views expressed in this news release are specific to the Canadian Section of the Canada–United States Inter-Parliamentary Group and, as such, may not reflect the views of our United States 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-

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APPENDIX

Member U.S. Jurisdictions of the Eastern Regional Conference

Connecticut

Delaware

Maine

Maryland

Massachusetts

New Hampshire

New Jersey

New York

Pennsylvania

Rhode Island

Vermont

Puerto Rico

U.S. Virgin Islands

Member Canadian Provinces of the Eastern Regional Conference

New Brunswick

Nova Scotia

Ontario

Prince Edward Island

Quebec