

Canada - United States
Inter-Parliamentary Group
Canadian Section



Groupe interparlementaire
Canada - États-Unis
Section canadienne

**REPORT ON THE PARTICIPATION OF
SENATOR JERRY GRAFSTEIN,
CO-CHAIR OF THE CANADA-UNITED STATES INTER-
PARLIAMENTARY GROUP
AT
GREAT LAKES DAY
HELD IN UNITED STATES CONGRESS
WASHINGTON, D.C.
MARCH 16, 2006**

Great Lakes Day, Washington, D.C.

16 March 2006

On 16 March 2006, Senator Jerry Grafstein, Co-Chair of the Canada-United States Inter-Parliamentary Group, attended Great Lakes Day in Washington, D.C. Details of the event are available at:

<http://www.glc.org/greatlakesday/>.

Report

Senator Grafstein attended hearings of the U.S. Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works on the topic of the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration's Strategy to Restore and Protect the Great Lakes. A transcript of the hearings is available at: http://epw.senate.gov/hearing_statements.cfm?id=252789. He heard the testimony of Governor Bob Taft of Ohio, as well as of U.S. Senators Voinovich (Ohio), DeWine (Ohio), Levin (Michigan), Stabenow (Michigan), Jeffords (Vermont), Clinton (New York), Obama (Illinois), Inhofe (Oklahoma), Thune (South Dakota) and Carper (Delaware), a number of whom attend the Annual Meeting of the Canada-United States Inter-Parliamentary Group.

In addition to discussions with a number of the aforementioned senators on Great Lakes issues, Senator Grafstein also met with U.S. Representatives Slaughter (New York), Oberstar (Minnesota) and Ehlers (Michigan) as well as with Representative Huntley of the State of Minnesota House of Representatives. At these discussions, Senator Grafstein suggested that a similar Great Lakes event should be held in Ottawa and that a Great Lakes Virtual Institute should be created.

Moreover, Senator Grafstein also met with the following Great Lakes stakeholders:

- Mr. David Naftzger, Executive Director, Council of Great Lakes Governors
- Mr. David Ullrich, Director, Great Lakes Cities Initiative
- Mr. John Nevin, Strategic Policy Advisor, International Joint Commission
- Mr. George Kuper, President, Council of Great Lakes Industries
- Mr. Richard Munson, Executive Director, Northeast Midwest Institute
- Dr. Jon MacDonagh-Dumler, Program Manager of Regional Coordination, Great Lakes Commission
- Mr. Jim Lynch, Consul, Chicago Consulate, Government of Canada.

Finally, Senator Grafstein also discussed, with his Congressional counterparts, the economic impact of the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative along both sides of the border and ideas for reviving a ferry service between Rochester and Toronto.

Respectfully submitted,

Hon. Jerahmiel Grafstein, Senator
Co-Chair, Canadian Section
Canada-United States
Inter-Parliamentary Group

Travel Costs

NAME OF ASSOCIATION	Canada-United States Inter-Parliamentary Group
ACTIVITY	GREAT LAKES DAY
DESTINATION	Washington, D.C.
DATES	16 March 2006
NAMES OF SENATORS	Hon. Jerahmiel Grafstein, Senator
NAMES OF MEMBERS	
NAMES OF STAFF	
TRANSPORTATION	AIR TRANSPORTATION \$1,796.06 GROUND TRANSPORTATION \$120.97
ACCOMMODATION	\$434.73
HOSPITALITY	\$0
PER DIEMS	\$0
OFFICIAL GIFTS	\$0
MISCELLANEOUS/REGISTRATION FEES	\$0
TOTAL	\$2,351.76