



Editorial: David Warner (Chair), Lily Oddie Munro, Joe Spina and Alexa Huffman



Premier Bill Davis speaking at the ceremony for the donation of the J.C.B. and E.C. Horwood Collection to the Archives of Ontario 1979

We now have more members than ever before. Welcome to the following 16 MPPs who are now members of O.A.F.P.

1. Shirley Collins
2. Aileen Carroll
3. Charles Godfrey
4. Marietta Roberts
5. Robert McKessock
6. Elizabeth Witmer
7. Margaret Birch
8. Don Cousens
9. Sophia Aggelonitis
10. Ernie Parsons
11. Carol Mitchell
12. Steve Mahoney
13. Rick Ferraro
14. Greg Sorbara
15. Alan Eagleson
16. Rev. William Herman Ferrier

A Tribute to Bill Davis and TVO

TVO hosted a special Bill Davis tribute on Wednesday, November 6, 2013. The Gala event was hosted by the *Fermenting Cellar of the Distillery District*.

Bill Davis was the 18th Premier of Ontario, from 1971-1985. Davis was first elected as an MPP in the 1959 provincial election. Under John Robarts, he was the cabinet minister, overseeing the education portfolio.

He succeeded Robarts as premier. After retiring, Davis was made a Companion of the Order of Canada in 1985. He has served on numerous corporate boards and played a role in creating the Conservative Party of Canada.

Please visit [TVO's website](#) for more information.

Gilles Morin

Liberal

1985-1999

Parliamentary Sessions #33, #34, #35, #36

What made you decide to go into politics?

In 1985, I was asked by the Mayor of our City to run as a candidate in the riding of Carleton-East. I felt honoured to be chosen and sincerely believed I could bring in new ideas. I was then employed by the Office of the Ombudsman of Ontario. I took a leave of absence without pay from the Office and immersed myself completely in the campaign. I had never been exposed to politics. It was really a new experience and a challenge that I had never encountered. Knocking on doors, familiarizing myself with the issues affecting my future riding and the Province, debating, raising funds, keeping within budget, campaign signs, meeting as many people as I could. I quickly learnt that it was not an easy task. I enjoyed every minute of the campaign. You never know what will be the outcome of your efforts; you anxiously wait for the results. Happily it turned out in my favour.

What was your most rewarding political experience throughout the years?

To be chosen by the people to represent them at Queen's Park is indeed a privilege, it lasted from 1985 to 1999. During that period I was given the opportunity to debate on many topics, to introduce bills, travel in every corners of my Province, meet hundreds of people from different classes of the society, and deliver speeches to clubs and organizations. Achieved many goals that benefited my riding. During my tenure as an MPP, Montfort Hospital, the only French speaking Hospital in Ontario was to be closed. I say with pride that I was directly involved in its survival. Monfort is now designated as a group A academic teaching Hospital.

What was your most disappointing political experience?

The implicit values we have always taken for granted have been set aside. Civility in public discourse, tolerance for differences of opinion, respect for the law, human rights and institutions, and devotion to the public interest as being just a few of the values that have failed by the way side. My profound disappointment was to observe a lack of respect and civility in the House. Constructive debates, agreeing to disagree whilst respecting your opponents is what democracy is all about; the atmosphere in the House has deteriorated. I have supervised for the past 10 years, until today, a group of 90 students taking part in a mock debate at Queen's Park. They come from all corners of Ontario. Part of their program is to assist at an actual question period. All of them, without exception, were shocked to see the comportment of the members. The citizens have a right to expect exemplary behaviour from the people we elect. Courtesy should not be optional. Politics ought to be a noble profession. It should be steeped in civility. It should be characterized by monumental debates about principals and ideas. It should be where we observe some of the best in humanity. It should be uplifting." How can we expect to entice people to get involved in politics if we do not follow these rules?

Throughout your years in the Ontario Legislature, did you have a favourite role?

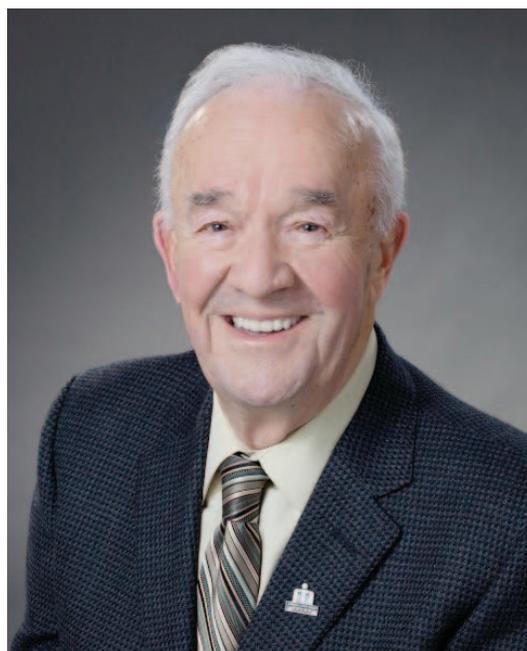
I thoroughly enjoyed all the responsibilities I was assigned. In 1989, I was appointed Minister responsible for seniors. Our Province is so large and varied. Travelling extensively across the Province gave me the opportunity of meeting a great number of seniors of different background, informing them of the programs available from the government, soliciting their help as volunteers and thanking them for their contributions to their community. The experience that I gained as a Minister has proven to be extremely valuable.

You served as a Deputy Speaker. What was that like?

I served as a Deputy Speaker from 1985 to 1987 and 1990 to 1999. The Deputy Speaker has all of the procedural authority of the Speaker when he is acting in his place. To be impartial, to maintain order and decorum, to be familiar with the Standing Orders are all but a few of the prerequisites to gain respect from the members. The clerks sitting at a table in front of you are always at your disposal to help you with the procedures if necessary. I developed a good rapport with the clerks through the years. I am very thankful for their cooperation. There were difficult moments as a presiding officer but they were not insurmountable. It was a great experience to be in the middle of the action.

What have you done after your political life?

I retired from politics after 14 years of service. Shortly after my retirement I was appointed member of the Ontario Highway transportation Board. I remained involved in my community. Became Chair of the Montfort Hospital Board of Trustees. As a Korean War veteran I joined The Perley and Rideau Veteran's Health Centre Foundation to later be appointed as Chair.



Qu'est-ce qui vous a décidé à vous lancer en politique?

En 1985, la mairesse de ma ville me demande de me présenter comme candidat au poste de député dans la circonscription de Carleton-est. Heureux d'être choisi, j'accepte. Je crois sincèrement être en mesure de relever le défi. Je suis à l'emploi du bureau de l'Ombudsman de l'Ontario. J'obtiens un congé sans solde et je me mets à la tâche. N'ayant jamais été exposé à la politique, je fais face à un défi incomparable.

Frapper aux portes, se familiariser avec les questions en jeu de ma future circonscription et celles de la Province, débats oratoires, affiches publicitaires, souscription de fonds, rencontrer une multitude d'électeurs, voilà en quelques mots en quoi consiste une campagne électorale. J'ai vite appris que de se lancer en politique n'était pas une mission facile. Quel sera le dénouement après tout ce travail? Vous attendez les résultats avec impatience. Heureusement tout s'est terminé à mon avantage.

Quelle a été votre expérience politique la plus enrichissante?

Être élu par vos concitoyens en tant que leur représentant à Queen's Park est un privilège exceptionnel. Député de 1985 à 1999, j'ai, en maintes occasions, débattu plusieurs questions courantes, présenté des projets de loi, voyagé à travers la Province, rencontré des centaines de citoyens de toutes les classes, prononcé des discours reliés à mes responsabilités, réalisé plusieurs buts qui bénéficiaient mes électeurs.

Durant mon terme en tant que député, l'Hopital Montfort menaçait d'être fermé. L'Hopital Montfort est un des seuls hopitaux francophones dans toute la Province de l'Ontario. Je suis fier d'avoir participé à sa survie. Montfort a maintenant sa designation Universitaire de groupe A.

Quelle a été votre expérience politique la plus décevante?

Les valeurs implicites que l'on a toujours considérées comme acquises ont été mises de côté. La civilité dans les discours, la tolérance d'opinions différentes, le respect de la loi, les droits humains et des institutions, la dévotion à l'intérêt public sont là des valeurs oubliées. J'ai été profondément déçu du manque de respect et de civilité à la Chambre de notre Parlement. Des débats constructifs, être en accord d'être en désaccord sont là des éléments de la démocratie. L'atmosphère combative qui existe dans la Chambre du Parlement est malsaine et se détériore de jour en jour. Durant les dix dernières années je participe comme observateur à des parlements étudiants. Ces étudiants demeurent dans tous les coins de la Province. Un item de leur agenda leur permet d'assister à la période des questions tenue dans la Chambre. Tous ces étudiants, sans exception, ont été bouleversés par le comportement des députés.

Les citoyens ont le droit de s'attendre à un comportement exemplaire de la part des gens que nous élisons. La courtoisie n'est pas facultative. La politique doit être une noble profession. Elle doit être ancrée dans la civilité. La politique doit être édifiante et caractérisée par des débats sur les principes et les idées. Ressortir ce qu'il y a de mieux dans l'humanité. Comment pourrons nous inciter de nouveaux candidates à défendre la démocratie si ces principes ne sont pas appliqués.

Tout au long de vos années à l'Assemblée législative de l'Ontario, avez-vous eu un rôle préféré?

Je me suis réellement plu dans tous les rôles que j'ai occupés. En 1989, j'ai été élevé au rang de ministre responsable des personnes âgées. Notre Province est tellement vaste et variée. De multiples visites à travers la Province me permettaient de rencontrer des centaines de personnes âgées de différents milieux. J'en profitais pour les informer des programmes offerts par le gouvernement. Je sollicitais leur aide en tant que bénévoles tout en les remerciant de leur contribution à la société. L'expérience que j'ai acquise en tant que ministre s'est avérée extrêmement précieuse.

Vous avez également servi comme vice-président de la Chambre. Comment était-ce?

J'ai occupé le poste de vice-président de la chambre de 1985 à 1987 et de 1990 à 1999.

Le vice-président a l'autonomie procédurale du Président lorsqu'il agit à sa place. Être impartial, maintenir l'ordre et le décorum, une connaissance approfondie des procédures sont, au préalable, des qualités qui invitent le respect des députés. Les greffiers occupent une table face au siège du Président et sont toujours à votre disposition pour vous éclairer sur les procédures si tel est le besoin. Je suis très reconnaissant de leur excellente coopération. Il y a eu des moments difficiles comme vice-président mais toujours avec de bons résultats. Le rôle de vice-président vous permet d'être au milieu de l'action.

Qu'avez-vous fait après votre vie politique?

J'ai quitté la politique après 14 ans de service. Quelque temps après ma retraite je fus nommé membre de la Commission des transports routiers de l'Ontario. Je me suis engagé dans la communauté comme bénévole. Élu président du conseil d'administration de l'Hôpital Montfort. Étant vétéran de la guerre de Corée j'ai offert mes services au centre de santé des anciens combattants Perley et Rideau pour enfin devenir président de leur fondation.

John Parker
Progressive Conservative
1985-1999
Parliamentary Sessions #36
Currently Toronto City Councillor, Ward 26, Don Valley West

Why did you decide to go into politics?

I can't deny that I've always had an interest in the process since my earliest days. I can't remember a time when I was not interested. As a kid, I always found it kind of exciting to keep score of elections, who was in, who was out, who was winning, who was losing, all that sort of thing. I probably would have been quite happy to carry on as a spectator except in the lead up to the 1984 federal election. My former cub master wrote to me in advance to the 1984 federal election in a handwritten letter encouraging me to join the Conservative Party so I could vote in an upcoming nomination meeting in favour of his recommended candidacy. I was so flattered that he would take the time to contact me directly and to write the letter out by hand at some extraordinary length that I felt compelled to pay my 10 dollars, join the party, show up at the meeting and vote for the candidate. I did all those things and his candidacy was nominated. I then stuck around and helped out with the campaign basically at the stuff-envelope and knock-on-door level. Did that happily and the candidate was successful. Then I stuck around and served on his executive and I found myself sucked into the vortex of the political machine and I haven't been able to extricate myself since.

What has been the best part of political life?

I have met some fine people and made some strong friendships that are very rewarding and being part of some valuable policy initiatives is also something I value.



Who have been your favourite people to work with?

Derwyn Shea tops the list. I really enjoy getting to know Derwyn. It was an honour to serve under premier Mike Harris and to be part of his very successful government of change. Dave Johnson became and remains one my heroes in life. Al Palladini is another one. Al Palladini had the unnatural gift of making you feel that when you were in his presence, you were the most important person in the world. The day I met him, he made me feel I made his day complete by the fact that he had the good fortune to bump into me and make my acquaintance. He just had that magical quality to him. I'm just glad he didn't have a car to sell me at the time because I probably wouldn't have been able to resist the urge to buy it.

What were the most challenging parts of serving as a member of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario?

Being elected to the provincial office and looking forward to robust intellectual debate on the great issues of our day and engaging in thrust of the clash of ideas and visions and policy priorities and needs and constraints and so on and finding instead that I had stepped into a world of competing bumper sticker slogans. There was debate and there was policy and there was philosophy but all of that was kept carefully sealed from public view. Everything that took place public was dumbed down to a pretty unsatisfactory level to my observation. I thought more good policy between members of different caucuses took place in airport lounges outside the view of TV cameras and reporters than ever took place on the floor of the legislature or committee.

What have been your most important lessons learned?

Never to tell the press more than they need to know. And don't ever make the mistake in trying to tell them more than they are able to understand.

I'm very pleased with the opportunity I've had and the role I've played both provincially and municipally.

What have you done since leaving provincial politics?

After the voters decided they had better things in mind for me than continued service at Queen's Park, I got to work establishing a law practice and spent several years working at that and in 2006, an opportunity presented itself to run municipally for Toronto City Council and I took it and was elected to council in the fall of 2006.

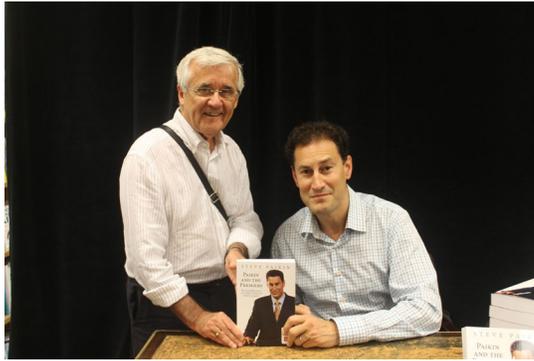
I'm very pleased with the opportunity I've had and the role I've played both provincially and municipally.

I have a family that keeps me busy and a household that has all the usual household projects attached to it. That pretty much consumes most of my waking hours, the usual activities of life and what I do as part of my role as city councillor. I do the odd bit of sailing and kayaking and swimming and skiing and cycling and cross country running but not enough to be interesting.

As for advice for members who are not re-elected or those who retire, join the Ontario Association of Former Parliamentarians and cling to the advice of Dr. Seuss "Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened."

Ontario's Political Leadership

A review of “Paikin and the Premiers, Personal Reflections on a Half-Century of Ontario's Leaders” by Steve Paikin



David Warner

“I enjoy the art of government, which is different from politics.” That quote from Premier John Robarts is indicative of one of the themes which runs through Steve Paikin's excellent and important trip down memory lane with eight former Premiers of Ontario and our current Premier.

The book is a pleasing balance of taped interviews, historical notation and astute observation. Steve asks tough but fair questions. He probes gently and respectfully into personal aspects of these First Minister's lives. And, he is always looking for the political dynamic. There is a detailed exploration of the rise and fall of the Premiers. He examines certain policy choices

A truly treasured part of the book is when Steve is able to assemble four former Premiers (would have been five except one was ill at the time of taping) for a chat. Steve Paikin has earned a high level of trust with politicians, otherwise the grouping would not likely have happened. What transpires gives one assurance that civility and sensibility continue to exist at the highest level in our province.

The mask of an acknowledged honest, objective reporter slips a bit revealing a sincere fondness for Premier Bill Davis. But, then again who wouldn't admire such a remarkable Premier.

There are precious few books written about our rich political history in Ontario. Steve Paikin has created a “must read” book which provides a half-century look at the Leaders who have helped shape our Ontario.

Our website [www.oafp.ca] has a link to Steve Paikin' interviews with former MPPs.

Interview with Steve Paikin

In September 2013, Steve Paikin, the long-serving host of the TVO show, *The Agenda*, released his fifth book, *Paikin and the Premiers: Personal Reflections on a Half Century of Ontario Leaders*. The book offers insight into the political life and decisions of the job that has a huge role in deciding Ontario's fate. The political lives of John Robarts, Bill Davis, Frank Miller, David Peterson, Bob Rae, Mike Harris, Ernie Eves, Dalton McGuinty, and Kathleen Wynne are written from the point of view of one of Canada's most well known journalists, Steve Paikin. David Warner reviewed the book and we also had a chance to talk with Mr. Paikin about the publication.

Why did you decide to write the book?

It needed to be written and I guess I was the guy to do it. There was a former member of parliament named Patrick Boyer, who I've been sort of friends with since he got out of public life many years ago and he and I were chatting one day and he said to me, "Steve, you've interviewed every Premier since Bill Davis right?", and I said "ya," and you wrote a book about John Robarts, who was Davis' predecessor before that? And I said, yep. And then he said, while Robarts got elected 50 years ago so you kind of have a direct connection to the last half century of Ontario premiers. And I said, O I've never even thought of it that way but ok. And he said, Steve, there's a book in there somewhere. And I guess he's right because it's done and I've looked at it and it's written!

Was it important for the book to come out this year?

"Well, there's no doubt I wanted to delay submitting the manuscript as long as possible because I thought it was important that Kathleen Wynne be in the book, given her historic nature as Ontario's first ever female premier. And obviously, we've done that. We made sure that the deadline was put off a little bit so that I can include a chapter about Kathleen Wynne.

But the book is kind of a mix of things. As Patrick reminded me, I had interviewed every premier since Bill Davis, who became premier in 1971. I interviewed all of them on TVO so I had this great treasure trove of interviews in the archives. And going through all of that material, dozens and dozens of hours of interviews, y'know going through all that material and adding my kind of today, 21st century perspective to events of the last half century. That's the book. Essentially that's the book. If you read the transcripts of the interviews, you will get a great first draft of history sense of the big issues that were percolating through Ontario through the last half century and of course the extra parts as well, the extra parts of the chapters, will give you my take and behind the scenes observations of the premiers.

How do you decide what is important to put in the book and what to leave out?

While, that's of course the trick. That is the trick of any book. This is my fifth book and it's the same story with the previous four. You obviously over interview, you over research, you get far more than you need and then you have to start going through everything with a fine toothed comb and thinking, do I really need this or can I let this slide and it was really difficult because there was a lot of stuff that I really wanted to keep in the book but you can't keep everything. You have to make hard decisions about what stays in and what stays out. Obviously, the stuff that I thought had real shelf life, the issues that may have been very hot at the time but in the long scheme of things they're not that important, those are the kind of things I guess I could let go but the stuff that has shelf life, I wanted to keep in there and let people get accustomed to figuring out what's important and what's not.

What's an example of something you thought absolutely had to make it into the book?

Where do you start? There's a chapter on each premier. For every premier, it doesn't really matter if they served for fourteen years as Bill Davis did or for five months as Frank Miller did, there always were key significant issues worth discussing, worth remembering all these years later and to see how we're still affected by them today. One issue I was thinking about since I mentioned those two guys off the top of my head were Mr. Davis, who got up in the legislature to announce full public funding for Catholic schools. In some sense, that was a repudiation of more than 100 years of Ontario education policy. And it did not sit well with a lot of people. When Frank Miller came into office, you could tell he was not completely comfortable with the policy and when he failed to win majority government in 1985, one of the first things he said he was going to do was second guess whether or not to bring that forward. We're still sort of dealing with the whole issue of public funding of religious education all these years later. John Tory fought and lost an election on it in 2007. He wanted to give public funding to all faiths, not just the Catholic faith and the public very firmly rejected that idea and he didn't win. So these issues, they come and they go but there is kind of a constant throughout our history as we see how these things wind their way through.

How important is it to keep an interest in former premiers?

There's no question they're still relevant. When I think of Ontario today and I think of John Robarts and the decisions he made 50 years ago. He won his first election as premier 50 years ago so I've been thinking about Robarts lately because it was the 50th anniversary a couple of days ago of his election and when I think of Ontario today, the decisions he and his government made: a whole new community college system, five new universities, Ontario Place, the Confederation of Tomorrow conference, GO Transit Niagara escarpment commission, nuclear power, our first anti-pollution laws. There's so much about what we enjoy in the province today that you can draw a direct line between where we are on it today and policies he brought in. With Bill Davis, I'd say you can say the same thing. Commitment to public transit. Commitment to both public and Catholic school education. He was the Education, Colleges, and Education Minister back in the Robarts era when the community college system was brought in and on and on. The constitution of the country would not have been ratified if not for Bill Davis. You can pick up an issue every five years that's still key that we're still grappling with in some way, shape or form today and so I think if you want to know where you are going, you got to know where you've been and this book tells us a lot about where we've been.

Out of all the premiers you have interviewed, have you had any that have been the most memorable to interview or the most memorable to write about?

It's a really hard question to answer because I know some of them better than others and I think as we look back on the past 50 years, the one who we can say categorically, I think most people will agree, the guy who was an absolute legend was Bill Davis. He is the guy who was the longest serving premier in the 20th century. He won four elections in a row and I think the last premier who did that was 100 years earlier. If he wanted to run and win a fifth, he easily could have but he decided to retire. Mr. Davis is a living legend, there's no doubt about it and anyone will tell you that.

It's interesting. I found something to like in all of them. You have to remember, in the whole history of Ontario, which goes back to 1867, of the millions and millions and millions of people who have lived in the province, only 25 have got to be premier. So there's something special about these people, whether you like them or whether you didn't, there was something about them that got them to this pinnacle of politics in our province. That makes each of them, in his or her own way, interesting, fascinating, worth studying and that's part of why I wanted to write this book.

In the book, you talk about the premier's personal lives and their political lives. Is it hard to find a balance between what to write about when it comes to each aspect?

I don't find it difficult to find a line on that because my attitude is everyone is entitled to their private life including the premier. There is all sorts of things I learned about all of the premiers that I wouldn't put in the book because I think they're all entitled to a measure of privacy. The old expression is when the private life prevents you from carrying out your public duties then it might be newsworthy but otherwise I think they're entitled to a private life. I have included some aspects of their private life that I think are germane and that they themselves discussed.

Looking toward the future, are there any more books you want to write?

I sure hope not! I say that half in jest because every time I write a book, I say, that's it I'm never writing another one. They are really hard to do. They really take over your life. Every spare minute you have, you basically are writing your books. You don't have lunch with people anymore, you don't go to ball games or hockey games, you don't go out to the movies because all that time you would have spent doing those things, you need to spend researching and writing your book. And the first book I wrote, *The Life*, back in 2000, I used to do a show called Studio 2 and I'd get off the air at 9 o'clock and I'd write until one, two, three in the morning every day and you do that every day for a year and I suspect I will be stupid enough to write another one.

Was there anything that got left out of the book because of space that you wanted to make it in?

You'd always like to put more in. I can't remember a book I wrote where I wished I didn't have another chapter. But you do at some point have to take pity on the reader and say ok that's enough. This isn't going to be the only book people are going to read right now and I feel I only have the right to call on so much of their attention.

The nice thing about the book is if you just want a cursory glance at the last half century of premiers, just read the stuff I wrote, the personal commentary. If you want the real in depth, to dive into history, then read the transcripts as well.

Henry Jacek is a professor of political science at McMaster University and is an expert in the Canadian government and politics, public policy and interest associations. He has served as the director of the Ontario Legislature Internship Programme for the 10 years and recently did an interview with the Ontario Association of Former Parliamentarians to explain the program and his role. Participants of the program have gone on to various careers, including MPPs.

How did you get involved in the program?

I was selected to do this. I didn't even apply but they needed a director. The Canadian Political Science Association approached me. The Canadian Political Science Association appoints the director because that person is supposed to be an academic political scientist. The difficulty is they have to find somebody who works close to Toronto and who is willing to raise money for the program and fundraise for the program. We have to collect every year to keep the program running the way it has been.

All sorts of groups sponsor. They can be associations, corporation, labour unions, professional groups. Those are the typical organizations that will give us the sponsorship.

Can you explain what the Ontario Legislature Internship Programme is?

The first thing to know about this program is it's a registered federal charity. The Canadian Political Science Association together with the Ontario Legislature brought it together 38 years ago. The program is designed to bring in recent graduates of Canadian universities to work at the Ontario Legislative Assembly for ten months. And they work for two members of the Legislative Assembly. They work for a government member and they work for an opposition member. There's two terms.

The interns are recent graduates of Canadian universities so they can be as young as 21 or over the past ten years, they can be old as 28 or 29.

When people apply, they must apply by the end of February. Then we have decision committee, which I chair, which includes two coordinators at Queen's Park. One is a researcher at the library and the other is a committee clerk. There is also our administrative assistant who sits on the judicial committee and we also have political scientist who comes from one of the universities nearby. Then we have an intern from the present year who also sits on the committee.

Out of all the applications, we pick 24 people. We bring them in for face-to-face interviews. After that we pick 10 of them to come in as interns.



The requirements are simple but there is a lot of discretion and nuanced understandings after that. They have to be recent graduates of universities but after that we are looking for 10 people who bring various types of skills because we have 10 committees who help run the program. Interns chair each committee. Some interns can do some types of jobs but are not as good on others so people are balanced to do certain types of jobs. For example, one is a meetings chair and they arrange meetings of all sorts of people. We hold two receptions a year so we have to have somebody who can handle and organize a reception. We've put out two magazines a year so we need somebody who can be an editor. We have a committee that does recruitments for each year. Another handles relations with our alumni. We have a sponsorship committee because the money for our educational activities have come from private sponsors. So we have to raise money for the travel and the education activities of the interns. That's about 120,000 a year so the sponsorship committee is pretty important. We have an advancement committee that tries to get the program as much publicity as possible. And we have a representative who sits on the Churchill Society for the Promotion of Parliamentary Democracy so that's an important group we are linked to.

Why is the program so important?

Besides providing backbench work for the MPPs, it trains these individuals to become public leaders in the future. They get to meet and talk to all sorts of current public leaders and they learn what you have to do to be a public leader in the province and in the country. We're training the leaders of the future in this program.

What are some of the challenges of being an intern?

For the interns, they have to become very disciplined and work very hard because there are days in the legislature that can be very long, 12 hours days, so they have to put a great deal of time into the program.

What are your hopes for the future?

At some point, it would be nice if we could have more than 10 members because one of the challenges is that we may get 40-50 MPPs who want an intern and there are only 20 placements. Each intern does two placements. So that means we can satisfy 20 MPPS but we may get 40-50 MPPs who want an intern and when they don't get them in a certain year, they're very unhappy.

What I'd like to do is have the interns meet with former parliamentarians who have had important service in the Ontario Legislature. Unfortunately many of them are outside the city of the Toronto and they may be too busy or unable to make it in. It may also be nice to have some meetings between interns and former parliamentarians when they have their meetings.

During presentation at the OAFP Annual General Meeting, in June, 2013, current M.P.P.s from all three Parties indicated that they would welcome greater involvement of O.A.F.P. Members in the parliamentary affairs of Ontario.

As a precursor to responding to this kind offer from the three Parties, the Association has sent its members a survey to determine their interest in putting their past political, and other, skills to work in the public sector. These survey results and the individual replies has been sent to each member and caucus offices.

SURVEY SUMMARY SHEET [as of July 23, 2013]

Notes:

Total responses by Political Party P.C. 9 LIB. 9 ND 11 Other 1 (served as Lib./ND/Ind.)
 The numbers below may not total 28 because in some cases the respondent indicated full time and/or part time depending on the project, similarly for the question about being a volunteer. Some people replied that they would be willing to work both in Toronto and in a region. Understandably there were several members with the same area of expertise. I simply noted the subject.

Would you have an interest in greater involvement: YES 28 NO 2

Would your interest be in a full-time or part-time role: FT 3 PT 25
 Depends on project 1

Would you be willing to work in a volunteer capacity: YES 17 NO 7
 Either, based on project 4

Would you be interested in work that involved travel to Toronto or staying in your region:
 TORONTO 25 REGION 16

Do you have a specific area of expertise in which you think you could provide sage counsel:

- cost containment - insurance management - health - energy
- agriculture - justice - finance - pensions
- investment - international trade - tourism - business
- environment - commercial real estate - transportation - Attorney General
- municipal affairs - corporate affairs - education - rural issues
- urban planning - research & innovation - mortgages - MNR
- public relations - workplace health & safety- MPAC - housing
- social planning - social services - family court - public health
- aboriginal issues - property assessment - public transit- north develop.
- resource management- personal presentation skills (speech & dress) - labour

We have also had members express an interest in international election monitoring. Please indicate whether this is something in which you would be willing to participate:

YES 25 NO 4 MAYBE 1

The Premier
of Ontario

Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 1A1

La première ministre
de l'Ontario

Édifice de l'Assemblée législative
Queen's Park
Toronto (Ontario)
M7A 1A1



November 6, 2013

Ms. Mobina Bhimani
Ontario Association of Former Parliamentarians
Room 1612, Whitney Block
99 Wellesley Street West
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 1A2

Dear Ms. Bhimani:

Thank you very much for your letter and for sending me the results of a survey on the interest of former parliamentarians in current parliamentary affairs. I appreciate your sharing this helpful information with me — and your ongoing efforts to keep me informed of the views and ideas of the esteemed members of the association.

It is clear that association members would like to have a more active role, and that they would bring valuable experience and expertise to the task. Be assured that I will keep the survey results in mind.

Thank you once again for sharing this information with me. Please accept my best wishes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Kathleen Wynne'.

Kathleen Wynne
Premier



Obituaries

Howard Sheppard

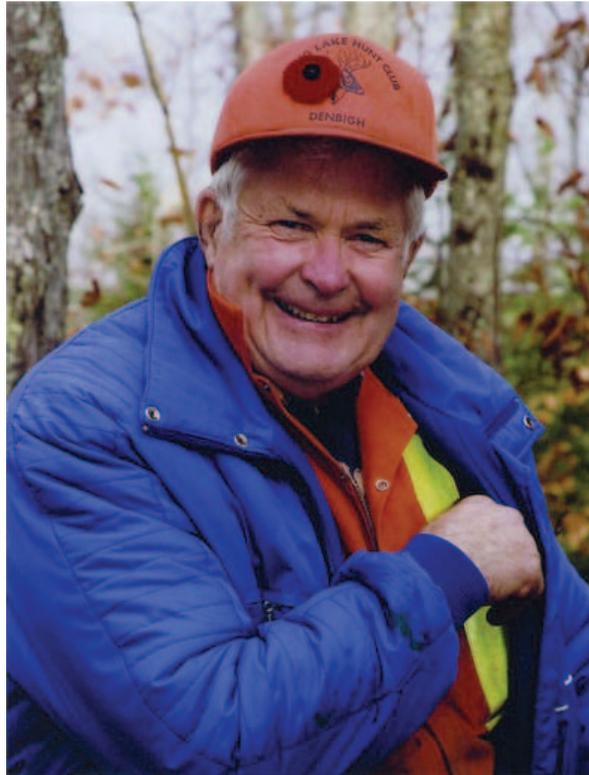
October 6, 1933–September 16, 2013

Served in the 32nd and 33rd Parliaments (March 19, 1981–July 31, 1987) as the Progressive Conservative Party Member for the Riding of Northumberland.

Howard was Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Tourism and Recreation, Vice-Chair, Standing Committee on the Ombudsman and served on five committees (Ombudsman, General Government, Regulations and Private Bills, Procedural Affairs, Social Development and Company Law)

Howard was also politically successful at the municipal level, having been elected to Alnwick Township Council (1978–80), and Reeve of the Township (1994–2000).

Karl Bernhardt, Northumberland Conservative Riding Association, said of Howard: "It seems to me, in my years of dealing with public life in Northumberland, there are very few people who are as genuinely dedicated to service for people in Northumberland as Howard was."



Announcements

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

O. A. F. P. has now honoured two of our former Members with a Distinguished Service Award, Hon. Bill Davis and Bob Nixon. Both occasions were special moments for many former colleagues, families and friends, paying tribute to two people who truly have served our Province and our Country with distinction.

Who should our Association honour next? Send your suggestion to david.warner@sympatico.ca

Explain, in not more than 500 words, why this former Member should receive the Distinguished Service Award. Please also provide a curriculum vitae of the nominee. The deadline for submissions is February 28, 2014.



OAFPP reminds you to come to our 6th Annual Pre-Christmas Social.

Room 1641 (1st Floor), Whitney Block
99 Wellesley St. West. (At University)

Monday, November 25, 2013. Time: 4-7 p.m.



October meeting of Former Members from Ontario, Manitoba and Quebec, held at the Manitoba Legislature.

Contact Information

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Newsletter Committee :

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Lily Oddie Munro
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