

Queen's Park Spring 2016 Insider

Official Magazine of the Ontario Legislature Internship Programme



Queen's Park Insider

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The Ontario Legislature Internship Programme was established in 1975. The programme is administered by the Canadian Political Science Association and is supported by a substantial grant from the Ontario Legislative Assembly. The Programme is not associated with the Government of Ontario or with any political party. OLIP is designed to provide backbench members of the Legislative Assembly with highly qualified assistants, while at the same time giving interns academic and practical experience in the day-to-day work of the Legislature.



OLIP is made possible by the generous support of our sponsors. Our full list of sponsors is available on the back cover. More about their role in the programme is available on pages 35-40.

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A word from our editors

As we (hopefully) welcome warmer weather to Queen's Park, we also welcome the Spring 2016 issue of the Queen's Park Insider. It has been a busy few months since we last updated you on all that the interns have been doing. As you peruse this new edition, you will learn about the interns' second placements, the many trips they have been on, and all the hard work that they have done, both academically and legislatively.

Please take a gander through these pages and learn about the trip to the Northwest Territories, where we learned about the history of the North and its unique consensus-style government. This trip is definitely a classic for the Programme, and for good reason.

Closer to home, the interns spent some time in the Capitals of our neighbouring province to the East and our country as a whole. Both Québec City and Ottawa were beautiful and politically interesting cities for our cohort. And not only did we visit these cities together, the interns also spread out across the province to visit their members' constituencies.

They learned about local issues for each of their members and took some great photos along the way.

Back at Queen's Park, the interns made the transition from one office to another in February, quickly learning to adjust to the

about a system that is quite different from our own Westminster style. It was especially interesting for us to gain such an education in a state whose Governor is running for President.

Please also enjoy various pages on our experiences out and about, meeting lovely and intriguing individuals, learning more than we could imagine, and having fun. Be sure to also check out our new Honourary Intern this year. It's a genuine pleasure for us to bestow this honour on a very deserving individual.

Finally, you may have realized that this edition is longer than usual (thanks for noticing, by the way!). As it is the 40th year of the programme, we have added a few different sections highlighting the accomplishments of interns over the years and the development of the programme. After 40 years of OLIP, a lot has changed. Some of the key parts of the programme, however, have remained the same, like the travel or meetings, while still evolving with the times.

Please consider this edition our ode to OLIP at 40, and hopefully 40 more years to come.



new worlds of government and opposition. We had especially interesting timing as the 2016 Budget was tabled just before our switch, so each of us had a whole set of new files to catch up on.

Aiming south of the border, interns crossed the border and enjoyed some warm weather in Columbus, Ohio. We learned

Director's Report

Happy 40th birthday, OLIP!

In August I joined as the eighth director of the programme, and this year has been great fun. As I reflect on my first year, and the 40 years that OLIP has been in existence, I think about all the key elements necessary for a successful internship.

For starters, OLIP is based on a unique partnership between the Canadian Political Science Association and the Ontario Legislative Assembly. These wonderful patrons provide much needed support – both moral and financial. I would like to specifically thank Dr. William Cross, President of the Canadian Political Science Association, the Honourable Dave Levac, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, and Deborah Deller, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, for their unwavering support and commitment.

Building on this is the operational and day-to-day commitment of the administrative team, Valerie Quioc Lim, Susan Viets, and Rick Sage. Each brings something unique to the role. Sadly, Rick Sage has announced his retirement for this spring but luckily he will continue to volunteer with OLIP. Many of the interns have him to thank for good advice and “sage” counsel.

I would also like to thank Kimberley Judd for her tireless work as Programme Assistant. Kimberley joined the same time I did, and has taken responsibility for all aspects of programme administration. Not only does she keep the administrative team out of trouble, but she is always available for the interns.

The Members of the Legislative Assembly who agree to host interns have been wonderful mentors and

teachers. This is experiential education at its finest, and all interns, past and present, look back on their time in the Members' offices as being very memorable.

Our sponsors are a crucial part of the success of OLIP. Not only do they provide much needed financial support, they also invest time. When I asked an alumnus what made OLIP special, she said “we learn from our sponsors, about policy issues, advocacy, and civil society.” Indeed, our study tour component that adds so much to what the interns learn and experience could not happen without them. This year OLIP has a new sponsor: Toronto company Mammoth Outerwear equipped the interns with new coats to help them brave the temperatures of Yellowknife when visiting the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories. Thank you to all our sponsors – we cannot do it without you!

Successful organizations do not just happen, they are the product of so many that have come before. With this in mind, I would like to thank all those who have supported the programme in so many different ways over the years and offered advice. Our present is strong and our future is bright because of you.

And success in an internship programme could not be success without amazing interns. It seems OLIP has developed a winning formula! Each year, from hundreds of qualified applicants, come ten lucky finalists. When I asked a former Programme Director why OLIP was so successful he said “it's simple. It's the interns.” I have enjoyed working with this group of interns – they are smart and hard working. You will not



find a more determined and passionate group anywhere. They make us proud every day, and will go on to do great things. We just finished the competition for next year and it seems the future is bright.

So success, it seems, is made of many things. As you reflect on the last 40 years of OLIP, take a moment to appreciate where we have come from and the great strides we have made. And let's be sure to look to the future and think about ways we can continue to improve and grow.

Dr. Peter P. Constantinou

Dr. Constantinou assumed the directorship of the Programme in August 2015. Read more about him on our website.

MPP Placements

Alison is placed with Lisa Thompson (PC)

I am thrilled to be learning about the Official Opposition at Queen's Park from Lisa Thompson, MPP for Huron-Bruce and PC Critic for the Environment and Cap-and-Trade. Lisa's office has been a hive of activity from day one, as Lisa balances her busy critic portfolio with her constituent and legislative responsibilities. As an urban girl who has been woefully ignorant of life outside the city, I've found it inspiring to learn about life in rural Ontario from someone who is so passionate about her community. I'd like to thank Lisa, and her staffers Jess, and Shane for their warm welcome to the office, and for their excellent company and inspired mentorship. I'm confident that my final months around the Legislature will fly by thanks to our office's exciting activities and active schedule!

Alison's first placement was with Liberal MPP John Fraser (Ottawa South).



Matt is placed with Peter Milczyn (Liberal)

I've been having an amazing time with Peter Milczyn, MPP for Etobicoke-Lakeshore and his Executive Assistant Andrew. Their office has been a perfect fit for a self-proclaimed transit nerd with a growing interest in urban and municipal policy. I've been lucky enough to participate in meetings with Metrolinx and the Ministry of Transportation to learn more about the province's plans for the Greater Toronto Area's transit network - a dream come true! Throughout my time here, MPP Milczyn and Andrew have also shared insights from their time in municipal and provincial politics that have served to deepen my understanding of Toronto and the city's place in Ontario. I can't wait to see what the next few months have in store!

Matt's first placement was with NDP MPP Cheri DiNovo (Parkdale-High Park).

MPP Placements



Brittany is placed with Indira Naidoo-Harris (Liberal)

I am excited to start my new placement with Indira Naidoo-Harris, MPP for Halton. MPP Naidoo-Harris may be new as an MPP, but she is well-versed in the world of politics. She has spent much of her life covering politics and other current events through broadcast journalism. As the Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, MPP Naidoo-Harris' mandate involves developing a dementia and Alzheimer's strategy in Ontario. In addition, she is the Chair of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Private Bills, which is especially interesting to me, as I am currently researching Ontario's regulatory process. Indira and her staffers Sam and Jess have been great, and I look forward to spending the next few months with them!

Brittany's first placement was with PC MPP Laurie Scott (Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock).

Eric is placed with John Yakabuski (PC)

My second term placement is with John Yakabuski, MPP for Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke, Chief Opposition Whip, and PC Energy Critic. I received a warm welcome from John and his Legislative Assistant Patrick on my first day, and his busy office has provided me a great opportunity to learn more about energy policy and parliamentary procedure. Along with interesting work, the office is filled with cheer, good times, and even singing now and then. I am looking forward to visiting the riding of Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke in May and seeing the beauty of the Ottawa Valley in springtime. I am excited to find out what the next few months in MPP Yakabuski's office will have in store for me!

Eric's first placement was with Liberal MPP Kathryn McGarry (Cambridge).



MPP Placements

Isa is placed with Mike Colle (Liberal)

Mike Colle, MPP for Eglinton–Lawrence, has been in politics for many years. I have a tremendous amount to learn from him from his previous experience as a Cabinet Minister and in his current role as Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Labour. It was wonderful to see, early on in our OLIP placements, many MPPs determined to be the voices of their constituents at Queen’s Park. Working with a Member who has taken up local issues as his *raison d’être* at the Legislature will truly be rewarding. My weeks so far have been quite interesting and exciting, especially seeing how a local “tomato issue” has grabbed the attention of the media and has turned into a story of local strength and determination.

Isa’s first placement was with PC MPP Vic Fedeli (Nipissing).



Sara is placed with Cindy Forster (NDP)

This term I am delighted to have been placed with Cindy Forster, MPP for Welland. Cindy is a Registered Nurse and has held a number of positions in public office including Niagara Regional Councillor and Mayor of Welland. Despite being in public office for some time, Cindy continues to have a nurse’s instinct and is always concerned about the wellbeing of those around her. Cindy has a busy portfolio as Labour Critic, and I am particularly excited to support her in this role. So far, I have helped plan a press conference and rally for labour stakeholders. Cindy and her Executive Assistant Eiman have created a hospitable office environment and have welcomed me with open arms. I am excited to be a part of Cindy’s team and I’m looking forward to visiting the wonderful riding of Welland!

Sara’s first placement was with Liberal MPP Han Dong (Trinity–Spadina).



MPP Placements

Justyna is placed with Sophie Kiwala (Liberal)

My second term placement is with Sophie Kiwala, MPP for Kingston and the Islands and Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport. While a first-time MPP, MPP Kiwala is not new to the world of politics, having worked as a constituency staffer for both the Hon. Peter Milliken and his successor MP Ted Hsu. I have been quickly incorporated into the office and have worked closely with her Executive Assistant Raly on a variety of projects. MPP Kiwala's passion for her community has been contagious and I am looking forward to learning more about urban issues outside the GTA. I can't wait to see what exciting opportunities lie ahead in the office in the coming months as I become OLIP's inadvertent expert in Eastern Ontario!

Justyna's first placement was with PC MPP Todd Smith (Prince Edward-Hastings).



Julia is placed with Catherine Fife (NDP)



For my Opposition placement I have the pleasure of working with Catherine Fife, MPP for Kitchener-Waterloo. Catherine takes her role as NDP Finance Critic very seriously, which became clear to me when I started my placement immediately after the 2016 Budget was tabled. Given that I have no background in finance, nor had I ever been to Kitchener-Waterloo, I've certainly had a lot to learn, and I'm so grateful for the support from Catherine and especially her Executive Assistant Grant as I get up to speed. I've enjoyed immersing myself in new portfolios through lots of research and writing, along with stakeholder meetings and constituency work. I have no doubt I'm in for a busy and fulfilling few months ahead.

Julia's first placement was with Liberal MPP Marie-France Lalonde (Ottawa-Orléans).

MPP Placements

Olivia is placed with Yvan Baker (Liberal)

For my second term placement I am thrilled to be working for Yvan Baker, MPP for Etobicoke Centre. MPP Baker is newly elected, but as a former management consultant in the private sector he brings a wealth of experience with him to Queen's Park. Since I am passionate about financial economics, I am fortunate to be working for him given his role as Parliamentary Assistant to the President of the Treasury Board. Mr. Baker and his Executive Assistant, Sinéad, as well as his Legislative Assistant, Aashish, run a very fast-paced and efficient office. They welcomed me into their office and I feel privileged to be a part of it. The passion of MPP Baker and his staff is certainly contagious and I look forward to working with this dynamic team!

Olivia's first placement was with NDP MPP France Gélinas (Nickel Belt).



Sydney is placed with Michael Harris (PC)

I am absolutely thrilled to be placed with MPP Michael Harris (Kitchener-Conestoga), PC Critic for Transportation and Research & Innovation. Instantly, the team dynamics were obvious between MPP Harris, and his staffers Jacqueline, and Rob. They welcomed me with open arms and we truly hit the ground running. In my first week, MPP Harris presented his Private Members' Motion to #TreatRareDisease and since then, I have written questions for Question Period and statements in the House, created his constituency newsletter, travelled the constituency, engaged with stakeholders, and everything in between! I even toured the Innovation Sector of the region with MPP Harris and PC Leader Patrick Brown. I am forever grateful for the opportunities I have been given and cannot wait to see what comes next.

Sydney's first placement was with Liberal MPP Eleanor McMahon (Burlington).

Constituency travel

Working at Queen's Park every day provides an excellent way to learn about the province we all live in. But the interns were grateful for the chances to get out and see what MPPs do outside of the legislature. From Waterloo to Welland, Nickel Belt to North Bay, OLIP interns have had a wonderful time getting better acquainted with Ontario. Here are some of the highlights of the many visits made to ridings across the province.



Olivia ventured up to Northern Ontario to visit the riding of Nickel Belt in November. She and MPP France Gélinas attended a Remembrance Day Ceremony together in the riding.

In her Opposition placement, Sydney had the opportunity to learn about the innovation economy in the riding of Kitchener-Conestoga with MPP Michael Harris and PC Leader Patrick Brown.



Sara made the long trek on the TTC to Trinity-Spadina several times over the course of her government placement (it's one of the closest ridings to the Legislature). Here, Sara and MPP Han Dong's executive assistant Shawn help out at MPP Han Dong and MP Adam Vaughan's New Year Levee.



Edwina captured her first MPP Report show, MPP Report

Constituency travel

far from Queen's Park in visiting
ay in the riding of Nipissing
ary. Working in MPP
eli's constituency of-
the week, he was
y how different
ns are in North-
ario as com-
o the south.



Brittany enjoyed visiting
the town of Lindsay in
Haliburton-Kawartha
Lakes-Brock. She
and MPP Laurie
Scott visited a goat
farm and learned
about cutting edge
goat farming tech-
nologies. They met
this lovely prize-win-
ning goat while another
goat tried to eat Brittany's
coat.



As a proud Ottawan and champi-
on of her hometown, Alison was
thrilled to spend so much time
in Ottawa South with MPP John
Fraser during her government
placement. In November, she
attended he Remembrance
Day Ceremony at the Perley
and Rideau Veterans' Health
Centre, where her grandfather
lives.



Julia was very curious to
get to know a new part
of Ottawa by visiting
the eastern suburb of
Orléans. Immersed in
French for the week,
she accompanied MPP
Marie-France Lalonde
to the groundbreaking of
a new elementary school
in the riding.

Justyna became something of a local celebrity
(so she thinks) during her whirlwind tour of Prince
Edward-Hastings with MPP Todd Smith. She's pic-
d here being interviewed by Todd for his local TV
report: *Straight Talk with Todd Smith*.

La belle province

OLIP is a special programme for many reasons, but one thing that makes it especially memorable is the travel. During our time with the Programme, we have the opportunity to travel to legislatures both in Canada and abroad. This past December, the interns traveled to both Québec City and Ottawa.

We were excited to be visiting Québec City while l'Assemblée nationale was sitting. Our counterparts at l'Assemblée, the Fondation Jean-Charles-Bonenfant interns, were wonderful hosts and organized meetings with everyone from the Secrétaire général to the Lieutenant-gouverneur du Québec.

We received a fascinating orientation in Québec politics, which we quickly discovered had a very different dynamic from what we're used to in Ontario.



Above: OLIP joined the Fondation Jean-Charles-Bonenfant interns for breakfast with Deputy Speaker of l'Assemblée nationale, Maryse Goudreault.



Below: The interns were delighted to meet the Lieutenant-gouverneur du Québec, who we chatted with about history and his career in law.

On our first full day we all attended Question Period, only to find several interns stuck in the middle of a protest in the galleries, which hardly seemed to faze the Members.

To get the most comprehensive impression of Québec's provincial politics, we met with representatives from every political party. The perspectives varied widely between the governing Liberals, the Coalition Avenir Québec, the Parti Québécois, and Québec Solidaire, so we left with a far greater understanding of what happens in our neighbouring province.



A “capital” visit

After leaving the beautiful city of Québec, we ventured to Ottawa to make it in time for the taping of CBC’s *Power and Politics*.

Our first full day was packed with great meetings that helped us get acquainted with our nation’s capital and learn more about how Ontario fits into federal politics. We were grateful for the company of the Parliamentary Interns, our federal counterparts, who accompanied us during our visit. Since the House was only just returning after the election, we ended up with a unique trip to Ottawa where we met with not only politicians, but representatives of the private, academic, and public sectors too.



Left: The interns ventured away from the Hill to the University of Ottawa’s Faculty of Social Sciences to visit with former Parliamentary Budget Officer Kevin Page.



Above: We loved having the opportunity to chat with a veteran of Queen’s Park in Ottawa. Mayor Jim Watson sat down with us to talk politics at a municipal level, and about the unique challenges the capital city faces.

However, our timing could not have been more ideal since our trip coincided with the Speech from the Throne. Being in Ottawa for the pomp and circumstance of the opening of Parliament was exciting for all of us, and we enjoyed watching the speech in the beautiful Sir John A. Macdonald building in the heart of the city.

Below: Parliamentary procedure put a smile on the faces of the OLIP interns as we watched the Speech from the Throne.



In addition to our daytime activities, we had a chance to catch up with OLIP alumni in the city, some very recently gone from the Legislature, and others with years of different experiences to share.

We were also graciously invited to attend a social event at the British High Commissioner’s Residence, which also happens to be the home of Canada’s first Prime Minister. The interns could get used to this kind of life!



Above: If there’s no OLIP group picture, did it really happen? The interns say goodbye to Parliament at the end of a whirlwind visit to the nation’s capital. Thanks, Ottawa!

Yellowknife

It had become OLIP custom to travel to Yellowknife, Northwest Territories and visit a place we would mostly likely not see otherwise. The trip was much more than we expected. Meeting people from a variety of sectors and hearing different stories from many individuals made Yellowknife an unforgettable trip.

We were introduced to the NWT by Gail Bennett, the Principal Clerk of Corporate and Interparliamentary Affairs at the NWT Legislature, and were intrigued by how different the political setting was in the territory. Learning about the consensus style government gave us a fresh perspective on how things could be run when the partisanship we're used to is set aside, and it sparked a tremendous interest for us to find out more.

Getting a tour of the Legislature, discussing NWT politics with the Speaker, and having the chance to share meals with a number of different MLAs while speaking about a wide array of topics not only solidified our knowledge



Above: The interns enjoyed breakfast with the Cabinet in the members' lounge overlooking Yellowknife's Frame Lake (arguably with a better view than from Queen's Park).



Above: It was truly a stunning visit to Yellowknife. The interns took advantage of the relatively "mild" weather and explored the city, including climbing up to the Pilot's Monument in Old Town.



Yellowknife

of the NWT, but also helped us to dig deeper into the culture, the society, and the inner workings of what make this territory so different.

One interesting aspect of the Northwest Territories is the intersection of politics and Aboriginal culture. The NWT government has been in the process of negotiating treaties with different Aboriginal communities, and it became

clear to all of us that Aboriginal communities lie at the centre of many things in this territory.

It was amazing to see how much progress has been made on recognizing Aboriginal rights. The inclusive approach of the NWT government plays a critical role in this progress. Though it is not easy, it is a key part of the economic and political dynamics of the NWT.

The story of success found in communities in the NWT is embodied by its Commissioner, Mr. George Tuccaro, who welcomed us into his office with open arms. He gave us a very personal and touching account of the culture, identity and community in the territory.

Yellowknife left a lasting impression on all of us. The warm stories we found amongst the cold climate drew us in to this fascinating place. Whether it was learning about an alternative and refreshing form of government, or hearing about what makes the NWT culture, society, and community so different, it was a trip of a lifetime.



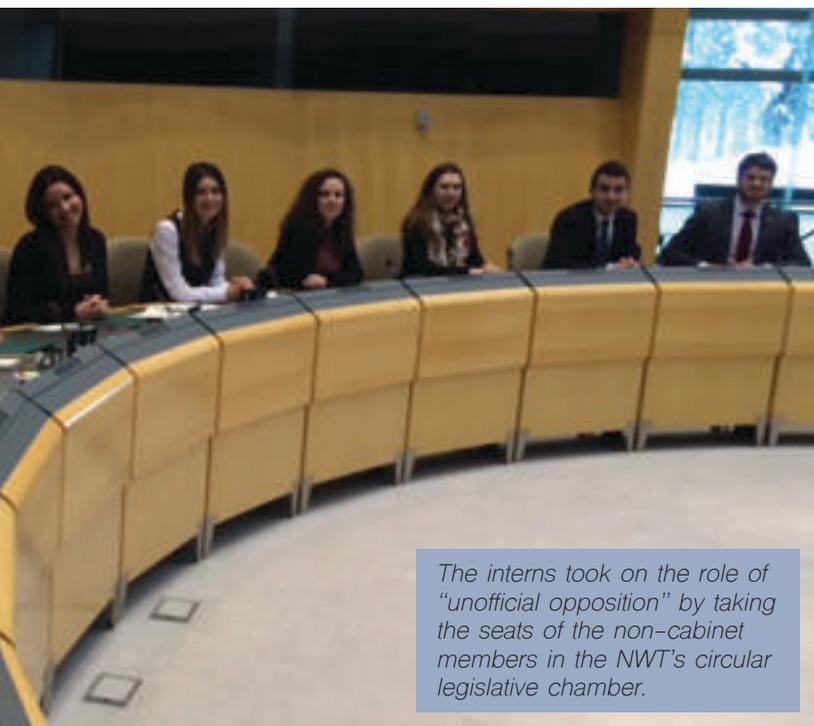
Above: We were completely captivated by the stories of NWT Commissioner George Tuccaro. Thanks for a warm welcome!

With special thanks to Gail Bennett

Our trip to Yellowknife would not have been possible without Gail Bennett's organizational prowess, warmth, and generosity. Gail has acted as OLIP's champion in the North for a little under a decade, and we cannot thank her enough for her continued support of the programme.



She scheduled an incredible week for us and checked in regularly to ensure that we were enjoying ourselves. Without exception, the interns commented on the richness of their experience and the North's phenomenal hospitality. Gail - that was because of you. We can't thank you enough. We wish you all the best during the final months of your career, and a relaxing transition from work to retirement!



The interns took on the role of "unofficial opposition" by taking the seats of the non-cabinet members in the NWT's circular legislative chamber.

Ohio

Thanks to the continued support of Dickinson Wright and the Ohio Legislative Service Commission, the interns were able to repeat a trip down south and visit Columbus, Ohio!

In preparation for our visit, we began our introduction to American politics by meeting with U.S. Consul General Juan Alsace. A seasoned Foreign Service Officer with 29 years of service, Mr. Alsace was recently appointed to the post in Toronto and was very



The interns meet US Consul-General Juan Alsace in Toronto.

curious to learn about Ontario politics from our perspective. As a native Buffalonian, Mr. Alsace is no stranger to the unique Canadian-American relationship and was able to offer us his insights into what to expect from our tour.

Packed with information and an all-American playlist we were ready to take on the US! Arriving in Columbus to 27 degree weather in April, we quickly came to realize how dramatically different things would



We loved talking to Rep. Robert Cupp (R) of Lima, OH.

actually be from home.

On our first day we were greeted by Mark Flanders, Director of the Ohio Legislative Service Commission (LSC) and Tynita White, LSC Fellowship Coordinator. A non-partisan agency, the LSC provides support to the Ohio General Assembly through research, bill drafting, fiscal analysis amongst many other services. The introductory session proved especially useful as we were on a steep learning curve to learn the basics of Ohio politics.

Armed with rapid-fire questions we were fascinated by the dissimilitude. Ohioans are able to propose their own bills and even introduce changes to the Ohio Constitution! One of the most recent citizen-initiated amendments included setting term limits for Senators, (two 4 year terms) and Representatives (four 2 year terms). Meeting with our intern counterparts, the Ohio LSC Fellows, we were able to continue the conversation contrasting public policy discussions occurring in Ohio and Ontario.

Our first glimpse into the Statehouse was thanks to a personal tour by the House Clerk, Brad



Thanks to great hosts and sponsors, it's safe to say

Young. Mr. Young explained to us how Representatives are able to vote 'electronically' simply by pressing a yes or no button at their desks. We were also able to envision ourselves as elected officials by taking a seat at the desks of several Representatives!

Our education in Ohio politics continued the next day with several political meetings and observing both House and Senate sessions. Meeting with the Speaker of the House,





say Columbus got our seal of approval!

Cliff Rosenberger, was a fantastic experience that further highlighted the uniqueness of American politics. Unlike our own Speaker at Queen's Park, Mr. Rosenberger's role is highly partisan and places him in the upper tier of Republican leadership. Mr. Rosenberger sets the House calendar, directs policy discussion as is even able to set the seating chart in the House. As one of the youngest legislators at only 35, our conversa-



We got the chance to try a new perspective in the Ohio House of Representatives.

tion with Mr. Rosenberger touched on youth engagement in politics and as elected officials.

Complimenting this meeting we also had the opportunity to meet with Democrat Representative, Fred Strahorn who is also House Minority Leader. Representative Strahorn shared with us the obstacles that he and his party faces in a House that is controlled by a Republican 'supermajority' and the importance of inter-party relationships.

Finally we met with Republican Representative Robert Cupp. As a seasoned legislator Representative Cupp was able to offer his personal insights on the effects of term limits as well as the ongoing Republican Presidential nomination.

Before heading back to frigid Toronto we met with the most instrumental contributors to our trip,

our sponsor Dickinson Wright LLP, who hosted us for an evening with the Canada-Ohio Business Council. Dickinson Wright has been a mainstay in Toronto since 2008. Their office is home to over 40 attorneys who practice in a range of legal areas including automotive, bankruptcy



Minority Leader Fred Strahorn had some great insights from his long career in Ohio politics.

& insolvency, corporate, cross-border transactions, gaming, real estate, and more. Their attorneys are recognized as leaders in their field by

Best Lawyers in Canada, Chambers USA, and Lexpert.

A special thanks goes out to Daniel Ujcz, of Counsel, without whom the trip would not have been possible. Dan is an international trade and customs lawyer who specializes in Canada-United

DICKINSON WRIGHT LLP

States matters. He regularly assists businesses that are entering and navigating cross-border markets, and provides public policy counsel to government officials and industry. A US-trained lawyer, Dan previously served as an officer in the Canadian government where he was responsible for coordinating a network of government departments and Canada-US industry associations toward improving North America's

borders and ports-of-entry. Dan also served as a liaison between government officials in Canada and the US, and assisted companies in dealings with Canada-US regulatory agencies.

We look forward to extending the relationship and hosting the Ohio Fellows at Queen's Park!



We were honoured to meet with Speaker Rosenberger.

Party leaders

After months of speculation and informal sightings, the interns were very excited to meet with the masterminds who are shaping Ontario's political landscape. These meetings helped cement our understanding of Ontario's political parties and shed light on each leader's vision for the future of Ontario. We were impressed by the thoughtfulness and candidness of NDP Leader Andrea Horwath, PC Leader Patrick Brown, and the Premier, the Honourable Kathleen Wynne and by their interest in our roles in the Legislature.

We touched on a broad range of subjects during our meeting with **NDP Leader Andrea Horwath**, including Ms. Horwath's transition from City Councillor to provincial MPP, her thoughts on women in politics, and the challenges she faced during her leadership bid in 2009. As an added bonus, Ms. Horwath showcased a knack for making the interns laugh with her witty anecdotes and pointed commentary.



A few months later, we sat down with **PC Leader Patrick Brown**. Given his dynamic entry into provincial politics, the interns were particularly intrigued to meet the new PC Leader. Mr. Brown was curious to learn about the programme and expressed his enthusiasm for helping young Ontarians contribute to Ontario's political process. We, in turn, were eager to learn more about Mr. Brown's vision for the future of conservatism in Ontario.



A few weeks later, we experienced firsthand the energy and vibrancy that **Premier Kathleen Wynne** brings to every room she enters. Premier Wynne immediately engaged us in conversation, encouraging each of us to ask her a question. Our Manitoban counterparts joined us in this meeting, raising important concerns about interprovincial relations that brought a unique perspective to the meeting.



We would like to thank each leader for meeting with us and for their continued support of the programme. Each of these meetings thrilled our inner political enthusiasts and will be imprinted in our memories as some of the more special moments of our internship.

The fourth estate

Before we met with the Legislature's press gallery journalists, it was difficult to imagine anyone who appreciated the gossip and intrigue around Queen's Park more than us interns. Accordingly, we were fascinated to learn about Ontario politics and journalism from some of the legends who have shaped the profession.

Amongst many important topics, we learned useful techniques for prying answers from reluctant politicians and which questions to avoid if we wanted to maintain cordial relationships with them.



Above: Veteran political journalist Jane Taber of the Globe and Mail shared her thoughts on politics in Ottawa, Toronto, and even Halifax.

The journalists also articulated their motivations for pursuing their chosen career and reflected on the evolving nature of journalism in Ontario. Although we were encouraged by their passion for communicating information to the public, it was clear from these conversations that the rise of alternative news sources and the concurrent funding cuts to traditional media outlets have impacted how journalism works in our province.



Above: We had a chance to sit down with longtime political commentator and columnist Andrew Coyne of Postmedia.

Even so, these journalists often framed these challenges with pointed commentary and hilarious anecdotes – yet again demonstrating their prowess for communicating with people around them. Given their unique storytelling abilities, journalists would clearly make for excellent partners in crime or simply good dinner party company.



Above: Rosie Barton gave us a crash course in Power and Politics at the CBC in Ottawa in December.

Below: Olivia tries her hand at broadcasting while running lines with Steve Paikin of TVO's The Agenda.



Our foray into journalism was not limited to the printed word. We also had the opportunity to tour the sets and meet the personalities behind two iconic Canadian TV shows. We were thrilled to witness first hand the process that goes into making Canadian political commentary so great!

We left these meetings with marked admiration for the individuals who have shaped this profession. We would like to extend a special thanks to Robert Benzie, Christina Blizzard, Andrew Coyne, Steve Paikin, Rosemary Barton, Steve Paikin, and Jane Taber for their insights into the world of media and Ontario politics!

Past Premiers

During our time in OLIP, we've had the great pleasure of hearing from some of the key players who have shaped Ontario's history. We've met with several of the province's former Premiers, who have been wonderfully candid and given us a great opportunity to understand how Queen's Park works and what its future might hold.



We were lucky to have the chance to sit down with Ontario's last Premier, Dalton McGuinty. Given his 23 years in politics, it was no surprise that he had a wealth of insights into politics and public service. He explained the importance of maintaining idealism as a leader through the tough challenges the job can involve. We were particularly intrigued to learn more about how Mr. McGuinty led his government, and managed to implement major policy changes in the province.



Former Premier Bill Davis certainly has the wisdom of years on his side, which made our conversation with him all the more interesting. He shared stories about his collaboration with other leaders from other political parties, who he described as great but "philosophically misguided." The impact Mr. Davis had on Canadian history in helping to patriate the Constitution was something all the interns appreciated.

Our time with Fomer Premier the Honourable Bob Rae was fascinating, not only because his NDP government of 1990-1995 remains one of the most controversial in Ontario history. We were keen to hear about his transition from provincial to federal politics, as well as from NDP to Liberal. Mr. Rae also offered some very thoughtful comments on indigenous affairs in Canada and Ontario, which gave us all a lot to think about.



Former Premier David Peterson was happy to tell us about the unique moment in Ontario's political history when he became Premier, ending 42 years of Tory governments and preceding the first NDP government. Aside from his political insights, he emphasized the role of the public service and its ongoing importance in shaping the province.



Six Nations

In January, the interns visited the Six Nations of the Grand River in Ontario to learn more about indigenous affairs and governance.

Our first stop upon arriving was to visit a community activist at her soon-to-be home.

Kahnessinyo Williams is a wife, mother, spoken word artist and community leader in Six Nations. She very graciously allowed us into the home, an “earthship” she is currently building with her family and community, which is a house made of both natural and recycled materials that will primarily run off the grid. It uses available natural resources, such as the sun and rain water, in the place of standard utility systems.

We were all so impressed by the breathtaking design as well as what it will mean for her community. The downstairs is designed to be an open space for those seeking refuge in times of need, for youth struggling with issues such as addiction, hard home lives, poverty and bullying. The eventual garden spaces will provide those in the community with the skills they need to live healthy lives, both physically and spiritually.

In many First Nations communities across Canada, housing is in a crisis state, which made it inspiring to see this home as a beacon of hope for change in the current situation.

Next, staff from the administration arm of Six Nations Elected Council took us through how the governance works, from its role as an employer in the community, to the work being done to advocate for greater land rights around the Grand River.

We were treated to a traditional Haudenosaunee lunch courtesy of Traditional Roots. All of the food was harvested locally and would have been food eaten “pre-contact” by local First Nations.

This was not only a history lesson mixed with sustenance, but a segue into a much deeper conversation revolving around the daily work of Six Nations Health Services, the largest department under Six Nations Elect-



Above: The building of Kahnessinyo Williams' sustainable home has brought people together, and she hopes to continue to have it help support the community when finished.

ed Council. We were met by Lori Davis Hill, Director of Health, and some of her management team, who deal with everything from mental health initiatives to midwifery.

During the final portion of OLIP's trip to Six Nations, we were joined by Speaker Dave Levac, MPP for Brant, for a tour of the Woodland Cultural Centre. The centre was formerly a residential school, the Mohawk Indian Residential Institute, known to survivors as “the Mush Hole” for the poor quality of food given to the children who attended.

On our heart-wrenching visit our tour guides shared stories of this one site that they described as part of a system of cultural genocide. The stories had been recounted to them by survivors.

The Mush Hole stands today as a representation of an important and largely forgotten part of Canadian history. Unfortunately, it is in a state of disrepair, but the centre has created a fundraising campaign to be able to continue to provide learning opportunities for the public.

We would encourage all who can to visit and learn this powerful history for themselves. This is certainly not a day we will soon forget.

We are immensely grateful for the warm welcome from community members and for having the opportunity to learn more about indigenous affairs so close to home.

Meetings

We are extremely lucky as interns to meet with a wide range of people. Each one offers different insights, whether about Ontario politics, the public service, academia, or even just advice for our own careers. These are some of our OLIP highlights. Thanks to all who were willing to make time to share their experiences with us.



The interns were thrilled to meet Mr. Steve Orsini (left), Secretary of Cabinet in Ontario. As the head of Canada's largest provincial public service, Mr. Orsini had a wealth of information to share with us, and we had a valuable conversation about policymaking and the role of public servants.

As if the role of Lieutenant Governor (right) wasn't impressive enough in its own right, we were astounded by the incredible career of the Honourable Elizabeth Dowd-eweswell before her time as viceroyn, which included impressive roles in academia and in the public sphere, especially in science policy. We were intrigued to hear about her approach to coming up with a theme for her tenure, in that she chose to hear from Ontarians first before charting a course. Her grace and insight in our meeting made us admire her even more.



Michael Bryant (below) charmed us from the moment he walked in the door (in a very sharp suit). As the youngest Attorney General in the province's history, he had great advice on how to start a political career.



Dwight Duncan (above) graciously made time to talk about finance and politics. His story of the financial crisis hitting during his time as Finance Minister was fascinating, and we took away many lessons about politics along the way.



The Hon. Chris Alexander (above) brought both an international and domestic perspective thanks to a career in diplomacy and then in federal politics. We were nearly all convinced to enter the foreign service during our hour-long meeting.

Meetings



We had undoubtedly all heard of Doug Ford before meeting him, so we had a lot of questions for the former mayoral candidate and Toronto city councillor. Mr. Ford was incredibly warm and personable, and we appreciate his openness and candidness in speaking of his career and his family life.



The Torontonians among us were rather starstruck to meet the 6ix Dad himself, Norm Kelly, the Twitter-famous municipal councillor and former Deputy Mayor of Toronto. He told us stories of his long career in politics, and we learned a bit more what it means to engage with citizens (and fans) the way he does.



We felt right at home with Samara, not only because of their non-partisan interest in politics and policy, but also because their director Jane Hilderman is a former PIP intern herself. We chatted about everything from heckling to electoral reform to social media, and everything in between.



York University's Mamdouh Shoukri was an inspiring speaker. Clearly passionate about education, he led us in a discussion about quality of education, university-government relations, and diversity and freedom of expression on campuses. Thanks for a great visit!



Nathan Wright, Chief Operating Officer of the Chiefs of Ontario provided us with a crash course in indigenous affairs in the province, which prepared us for our later trip to Six Nations. We learned especially about the structure of First Nations governance in Ontario.



Visiting Pearson Airport with the CBSA gave us a look at the behind-the-scenes happenings at this major transportation hub. The seemingly simple process of flying in and out was expanded for us, and we were amazed by how much legislation affects airport operations.

OLIP around town



(From left to right) Interns meet PEI Premier Wade Maclachlan and Minister of Science Kirsty Duncan; Eric shows off his networking skills; meeting Tom Mulcair and Catherine Pinhas at the Broadbent Gala; meeting the Hon. Rona Ambrose; chatting with the Hon. Jason Kenney at a reception in Ottawa; meeting Nova Scotia Premier Stephen McNeil; volunteering at former Premier Dalton McGuinty's book launch; the view at the annual Public Policy Forum Dinner.



Honourary intern

Every year, OLIP has the chance to recognize individuals who have made significant and lasting contributions to the programme. This year, the programme's 40th anniversary, the interns have chosen to recognize one of our outgoing coordinators, **Rick Sage**. His ongoing commitment to the programme during his many years with the Legislative Library has made a difference to so many intern cohorts.

Rick always enjoys telling others that he married into the programme, as he does happen to be married to former Intern and former OLIP Coordinator Lorraine Luski. Suffice it to say that Lorraine has always been, and will indeed continue to be, a great supporter, advocate, and graduate of the programme.

Rick's long and valuable love story with the programme all started with the now annual chilli lunches at Rick and Lorraine's house during the orientation portion of the internship. After Rick got to know Intern cohort after Intern cohort, and after Lorraine's retirement from her Coordinator position, Rick joined the programme's Administrative team.

Ever since, Rick has been an invaluable part of OLIP. Any former or current Intern would be able to tell you of Rick's great dedication to the programme. There are few people like Rick and fewer still that would spend



as much time as he does ensuring that young Interns like ourselves are looked after. I know that all of us will remember the hard work that Rick put into the programme including his helpful emails, advice, and delicious chilli.

Rick is truly a very deserving honorary intern and the programme is better because of the effort that he puts in to ensure that the programme's reputation

is upheld from year to year. His contributions to the programme will never be forgotten, and we are all confident that Rick will continue to be a resource for interns to come.

Alumni spotlight

Karli Farrow (1998–1999)

Karli Farrow is evidence that you never know where OLIP will take you. Prior to OLIP, Karli graduated with a degree in Political Science and History from the University of Guelph. Now, she is Vice President of Strategy, People and Corporate Governance at Trillium Health Partners. The path that led Karli to where she is today began with her internship.



Her two placements were with Members who are familiar names in politics—the Honourable John Baird and Mr. Dwight Duncan. The opportunity to work with individuals who are, in Karli's words, interesting, creative, and highly energetic, opened her eyes to a universe of work that she might not have known otherwise. Always interested in democratic studies, Karli joined OLIP, and through the programme she learned how the political system works in a very practical way. This knowledge has continued to be helpful in every step of her career.

After OLIP, Karli went on to work with Mr. Duncan, and eventually worked in the Premier's Office, crafting former Premier Dalton McGuinty's health platform. These roles led her to her current field of work – healthcare management. She now has experience working on projects such as the merger of the Credit Valley Hospital and Trillium Health Care.

While Karli mentioned that she could not have predicted her career path, it is clear that maintaining a network from Queen's Park has been a key part of her success. Karli noted that many of the people she met early on have become helpful to her at some point later in her career. Karli also believes in the power of not being afraid to ask for advice. By reaching out to those who are ahead of you in fields that you are interested in, you can gain valuable insight for your own career.

Dr. David Docherty (1984–1985)



Prior to becoming an OLIP intern, Dr. David Docherty had been told that Ontario politics is dull. Yet, as an intern from 1984–1985, it is safe to say that David's experience was anything but dull, as he was at Queen's Park for

one of the most exciting times in Ontario's political history.

David came to OLIP with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Wilfrid Laurier University. Like many interns, David was attracted to OLIP for the opportunity to work in his field of study. Through his experiences at Queen's Park, David was drawn into the political world and has continued to work in it in one way or another throughout his career.

After OLIP, David worked at Queen's Park for several years. He later completed his Master of Arts degree in political science at McMaster University and obtained his PhD in political science from the University of Toronto. Armed with both academic knowledge and field experience in politics, David has accomplished a great deal as an author, professor and university administrator.

Positions held by David include Dean of Arts at Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo and most recently President of Mount Royal University in Calgary. As President of Mount Royal, David is presented with many exciting challenges including overseeing the university's Strategic Plan to 2025.

David is a proud supporter of OLIP. When asked if he had any advice for current OLIP interns, he stressed the importance of remaining flexible and open to opportunities that may be provided throughout our careers. OLIP interns are attending the Canadian Political Science Association Conference in Calgary this year and are excited by the opportunity to spend more time with David on his home turf.

One thing that's hard to forget during OLIP is that the programme is so much more than the ten short months we all spend together as a cohort at Queen's Park. A key feature of OLIP is the alumni, who continue to be huge supporters of the work we do.

OLIP alumni go on to do many things. Certainly there are those who get hooked on politics and stay at the Legislature, but they go far beyond too, into politics elsewhere, or academia, or the private sector, or any combination of things they can dream of.

During our time in OLIP we've had the great pleasure of meeting so many of these alumni. Sometimes it's in an informal context, given how many interns still roam the halls of the Pink Palace.

But we also make an effort to reach out to alumni who can give us insight and advice on where to go next.

At home in Toronto, we got to chat with Karim Bardeesy. Now the Deputy Principal Secretary in the Premier's Office and an instructor at the University of Toronto School of Public Policy and Governance, Karim has led a fascinating career. He has held policy jobs in Ontario, as well as a series of roles in journalism. As a central figure in policymaking in the province's executive branch, Karim had many thoughts to share with us about how the government operates.



Jason Lagerquist was another alumnus who took the time for us in Whitney Block. Jason is the

Director of Operations in the Ministry of Education, which he got to through a series of jobs at the Legislature. He was happy to advise us on how to start going about job hunting for when our time in the comfort of OLIP ends.



Beyond the Pink Palace, during our trip to Ottawa we had a great chat with Dr. Chris Waddell of Carleton's School of Journalism and Communications. With an illustrious journalism career to his name, he was keen to have a conversation with us about the role of the media in government and its evolving nature.



We even found an alumnus in Yellowknife! Jason Steele was somewhat surprised we were able to track him down in the NWT, and we swapped stories of working at Queen's Park then and now.

These are just a few of our alumni encounters from over our ten months. We cannot thank our alumni enough for their ongoing support of us and the programme in general. Thanks all, and be sure to stay in touch!

Looking back

WELCOME TO THE OLIP NEWSLETTER

This is the first edition of a quarterly publication designed to keep friends, supporters and graduates of the Ontario Legislature Internship Programme up-to-date on its activities. With new sponsors and a growing group of graduates and supporters, we thought that this method of communication was worth a try.

This issue features reports on our fund-raising efforts, exchange visits, and seminar programme, as well as biographies of the 1983-84 interns and

profiles of some past interns. In future issues, we will provide more profiles and reports on selected seminars.

Since this **Newsletter** is a spare-time effort of the interns and programme administrators, we would be most grateful for suggestions for future issues, as well as names of persons who might like to receive it.

Fred Fletcher,
Graham White
and the
1983-84 interns



The magazine started as a simple Newsletter under the direction of Fred Fletcher back in the early 1980s. The 1983-1984 Interns (right) were certainly happy to be one of the first Interns whose escapades were captured forever in this written form.



ORIGIN AND PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAMME

Ontario Legislature Internship Programme is similar in nature and use to the Parliamentary Internship Programme for the House of Commons of Canada. The latter programme was established by the Canadian Political Science Association in 1969. Toward the end of the 1970s discussions took place between members of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario and the executive of the C.P.S.A. An agreement was reached that a similar internship programme, to be administered by the C.P.S.A., would be established at Queen's Park. In January 1976 a formal agreement of the new programme was signed jointly by the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly and the President of the C.P.S.A. and the first group of interns arrived at Queen's Park in September 1976.

The focus of the programme is upon the Legislative Assembly as a vital institution

in the governmental structure and, particularly, upon the role of the backbench Member. Interns provide assistance of various kinds to some of these Members. In this manner interns are able to supplement their academic training with valuable practical experience and it is expected that they will become thoroughly familiar with the procedures and conventions of the legislature. At the same time it is hoped that they will contribute in some measure to an increased knowledge and appreciation on the part of the public of the work of the legislature. More so, those interns who return to academic life are more likely to carry out research on legislative bodies and, because of their experience, will be able to give students a better understanding of the important role of the legislative assembly in the provincial political system.

Looking back

Intern Update

The Newsletter of the Ontario Legislature Internship Programme Spring 1992

The *Intern Update* became the title of the newsletter for a brief period in the 1990s before the *Internal Observer* was born during the punny mid-'90s.

Intern UPdate

The Newsletter of the Ontario Legislature Internship Programme

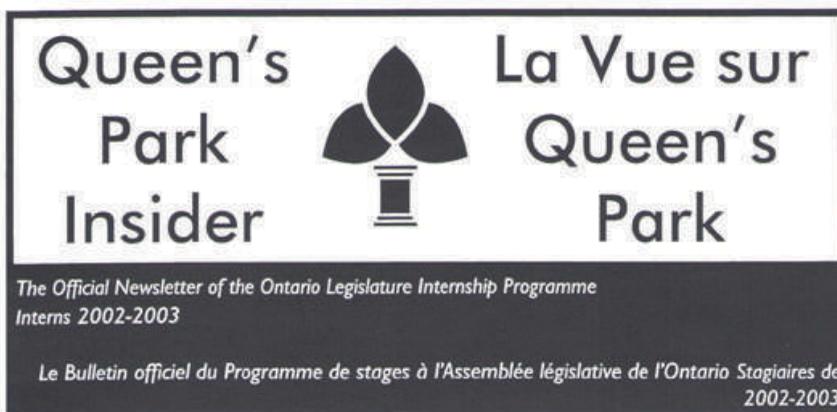
Spring '94



QUEEN'S PARK INSIDER

The Official Newsletter of the Ontario Legislature Internship Programme

2000-2001 Interns ♦ Spring 2001



After OLIP's logo changed slightly for the 25th anniversary of the Programme, a bilingual version of the magazine emerged in the early 2000s. C'était une vraiment belle période de temps pour le Bulletin officiel du Programme de stages de l'Assemblée législative de l'Ontario.

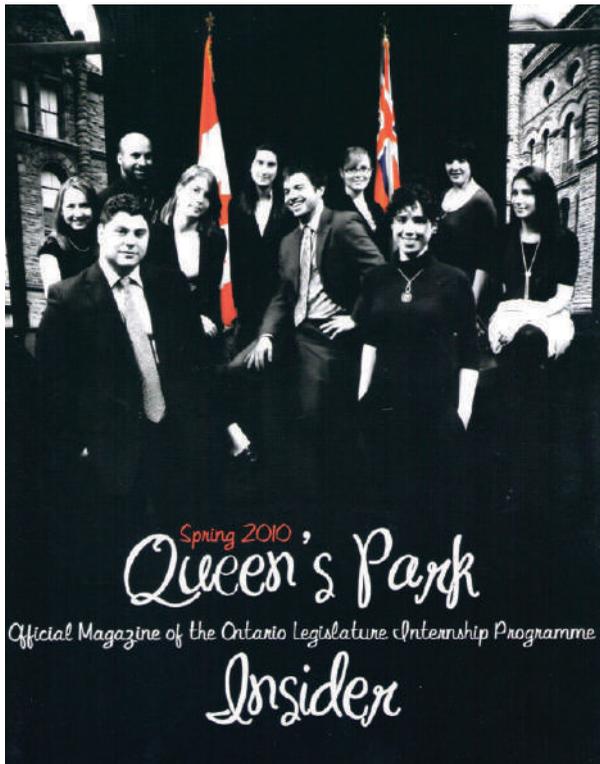
OLIP GETS NEW LOOK

By: Dr. Robert Williams

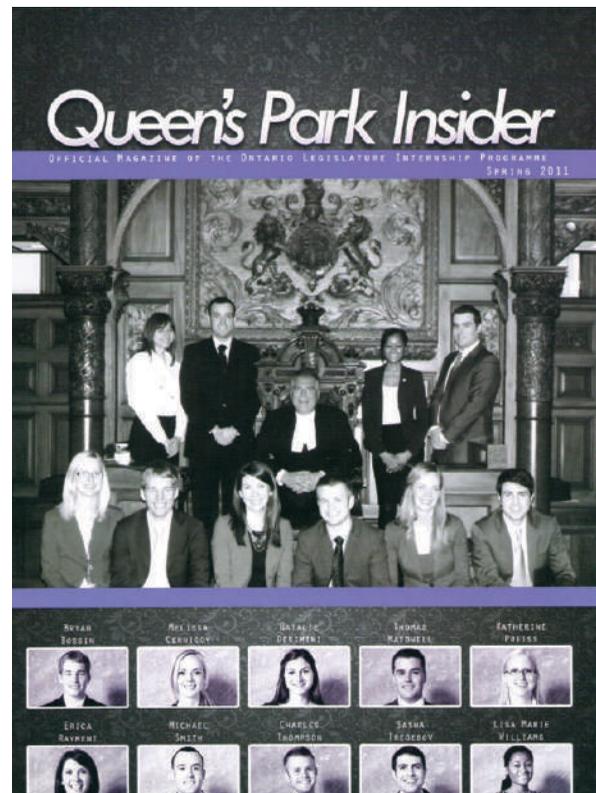
Notice the new logo on the front page? As part of the celebration of 25 years, and the arrival of the new century/millennium, we decided that OLIP needed a 'new look'. The previous logo consisted of a trillium on top of a letter 'I' (for Intern!) - which most people actually failed to recognize! - divided vertically in two. The new logo, which was designed by the graphic services department at the University of Waterloo, builds on the old one: the trillium now has its three parts and the 'I' is more reminiscent of some of the pillars found in many parts of the Legislative Building.

Too bad, as Ellen Schoenberger reminded us after the fact, that the trillium is upside down! the official Ontario logo, it points down and not up! The only response was that OLIP has done it this way for some years and nobody noticed! In any case, we hope you like it!

Looking back



The new decade brought about the OLIP Magazine in lieu of the former newsletter. OLIP began to move into the world of graphics, design, and glossy, printed pages.



The magazine's design has also changed over the years with newer OLIP cohorts. And we've moved on from just a print edition; all our magazines from past and present can now be accessed online.

Looking back

Over the years, interns have been placed with MPPs from all three parties in the Legislature. Through the forty years of the programme, many MPPs have enjoyed the experience enough to have had multiple interns. For example, our current Speaker and MPP for Brant, Dave Levac, has always been a huge supporter of the programme and had many interns. Other members who still sit in the 41st Assembly, such as MPPs Ernie Hardeman, Laurie Scott, France Gélinas, Gilles Bisson, Norm Miller, Helena Jaczek and John Yakabuski, among many others, have been lucky to host a number of interns.

A slightly younger Dave Levac poses with OLIP interns Joshn Hagan, 2002–2003, (left), Brian Wettlaufer, 2005–2006 (middle), and Olivia Levy, 2009–2010 (right).



Sometimes our alumni go above and beyond for our interns, and 1993–1994 was no exception. That year, intern Karen Murray was placed with OLIP alumnus Tim Murphy (1982–1983) during his time as MPP for St. George – St. David.

“So, what do interns do?”

93-94 Intern Karen Murray, who is working for former Ontario Intern Tim Murphy, MPP for St. George-St. David, helps to answer the perennial question posed of interns.

KAREN MURRAY'S WORK AS an intern has landed her in court – but only as an observer.

Working with a former Ontario Legislature Intern, Tim Murphy, MPP for St. George-St. David, Karen has been busy writing press releases, statements, questions for Question Period, conducting policy research, working in the constituency office and attending various functions, including caucus meetings.

In addition to all of this, Karen has been charged with overseeing a

major initiative in the office. On her first day with Tim, he handed Karen the Community Witness Program file. The program is designed to ensure that criminals get the sentences they deserve for committing criminal acts in the community. To do this, Karen designed the Neighbourhood Impact Statement, whereby volunteers act as witnesses at sentencing hearings testifying on the impact of crime in their area. Judges use this information in determining the length of sentences.

“The project was perfect for Karen,” Tim said, “because until she came to the office it was still only an idea we were thinking about. Since Karen’s been here, the idea has come to life.”

Karen has been involved at every stage of development. Working closely with federal prosecutors, provincial crowns and local police, Karen has implemented a system

where volunteers can be reached to testify. “Everyone thought it was a great idea,” she says. “The challenge was to ensure that the program would run efficiently and effectively.”

To achieve this end, Karen authored a brochure and poster, which was then translated into five different languages, as a way to reach out to community residents.

A second challenge is to help volunteers gain the confidence to go to court. “Many people have never seen the inside of a courtroom, so it is imperative to provide a way to educate witnesses, and help alleviate any fears, before they testify.”

To do this, Karen arranges orientation sessions for new volunteers. They spend several hours at the Old City Hall Court House, meeting lawyers and watching hearings.

“It is a really great learning experience,” Karen says, “both for the volunteers and for me.”

Interns have always had the privilege of meeting with prominent Canadians – politicians, journalists, past Ministers, former Premiers, and even former Prime Ministers. While there have been many gracious professionals who have been willing to meet with the interns over the years, there have also been a select group of individuals who have made a tradition of it. Steve Paikin, Peter Mansbridge, and former Premier Bob Rae give us only a glimpse of the many important people that you’ll see in almost every magazine.



Steve Paikin, Bob Rae (both pictured in 2001), and Peter Mansbridge (in 2006) have been ongoing supporters of OLIP.

Looking back

Intern cohorts have been known to meet the same people year after year and they have also been known to go to the same places year after year and learn new and interesting things each time. Whether our Nation's capital or our Nation's North, there are many places that Interns continue to visit and continue to learn from.

Yellowknife is one place that continues to be a favourite of interns everywhere. Where the trip began as a connection with a past Director, the trip has continued yearly mostly due to continued interest from different Intern cohorts and years of support from those who work in the Legislature at the NWT.



ON THE GROUND IN YELLOWKNIFE

"Go North, young interns, go North!" we were told.

So, in keeping with recent OLIP tradition, the 1993-94 interns again donned their Canadian Armed Forces Regulation designer arctic wear (compliments of MPP Gord Mills and Colonel Ted Nurse) and embarked on the now legendary annual adventure to Edmonton and Yellowknife.

A Visit to Six Nations

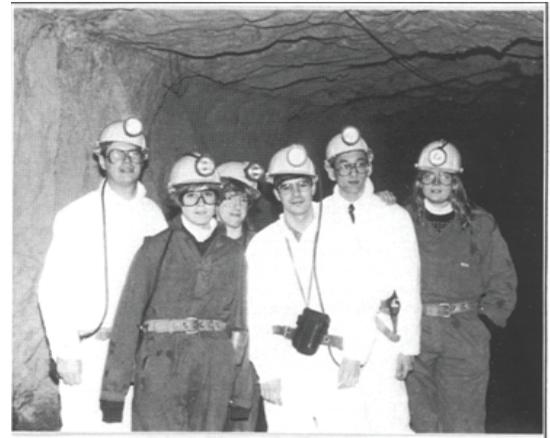
During a Feb. 14 visit to the Six Nations community in Brantford, the interns met with elected councillors Sandy Porter and John Peters to gain an understanding of the community's political system.

Six Nations is the only native community in North America that has each of the Iroquois nations represented: Mohawk, Onondaga, Seneca, Cayuga, Oneida, and Tuscarora.

The interns also were also given a tour of the Woodland Cultural Educational Centre by the centre's owner, Tom Hill. The centre provides a history of the Eastern Woodland First Nations people from a First Nations Perspective. While at the centre, the interns were also able to view a striking art exhibit depicting the stand-off at Oka from a native perspective.

In addition, tour guide Janet VanEvery took the interns to visit several historical sites, including Her Majesty's Royal Chapel of the Mohawks and Chiefswood Mansion, birthplace of the world-famed Mohawk poetess, Emily Pauline Johnson. The interns also toured the village of Ohsweken.

Interns have braved the cold for NWT winters for many years, including 1993-1994 (left), 2010-2011 (below) and 1991-1992 (right). This year's interns even learned about Giant Mine (right), which is now undergoing environmental remediation.



Interns go for gold: The chance to plummet 1,650 feet beneath the earth in the Giant Mine in Yellowknife didn't faze these intrepid interns.



Another exciting trip was the visit to the Six Nations of the Grand River in 1993. Now, over two decades later, new Interns have gone back to the Six Nations and our wonderful experience will hopefully inspire future Interns to learn more about the First Nations communities across Ontario.

Looking back

In the 40 years of this programme's history, the Interns have been witness to many historic events in Ontario's and Canada's history. From attending conventions and leadership races and campaigns (all in a non-partisan capacity of course) Interns have witnessed new leaders and governments come to fruition. They have even watched with bated breath when our neighbour to the east would stay within our nation.

It has truly been a fascinating 40 years for OLIP and there will hopefully be another 40 fascinating years to come. With changes to ridings to new members or whole new governments, it is our hope that the programme will always remain as an important part of the Ontario Legislature.

ON THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL

The May 2nd election campaign proved to be one of the most interesting (and historic) in Ontario's political history. Working within guidelines prohibiting overt displays of partisanship, all of us were thoroughly involved. The type of work and the extent of the duties varied from intern to intern, but everyone had invaluable exposure to the mechanics of running a campaign. Some Interns actually moved in with the family of their MPP so as to be close as possible to the campaign.

Among the various activities undertaken, Interns worked as speech-writers, canvass organizers, researchers, office staff, and in numerous other roles. (Every campaign in which an Intern was

involved was successful.) One Intern worked with the news bureau of CBC television, providing background research material for their election coverage. All in all, we were able to see the workings of our electoral system from a variety of perspectives.

To the 125 people elected to the Ontario Legislature, on May 2nd, we offer our congratulations. Having worked on the elections ourselves, we know how much hard work and emotional strain goes into a campaign. At the same time, many incumbents were defeated. The Interns had formed personal relationships with some of them — in some cases worked with them — and we share in the sadness of their defeat.



Marianne Goodwin working on campaign strategy with leadership candidate Mike Harris.

OLIP took full advantage of the political happenings of the day, including in this set of events in the mid-1980s.

LEADERSHIP CONVENTION

The Interns were able to attend the PC Leadership Convention in November 1985. The convention provided the Interns with a very worthwhile experience for their year, as Leadership Conventions are generally not held often. The Interns would like to thank David and Roberta McFadden for assisting the Interns in allowing them to volunteer for the Convention.

OCTOBER 30, 1995: A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

PETER SAMPAIO

THE QUEBEC REFERENDUM on sovereignty held on October 30th, 1995 will stand as a defining moment in Canadian history. Future generations of Canadians will no doubt debate the merits of this referendum, its outcomes and consequences. On this historic occasion, the interns were fortunate to be participant-observers as guests of T.V. Ontario's public affairs programme *Studio 2*. On this night we witnessed Canada's never-ending struggle unfold under the glare of the studio lights.

Those in attendance that evening were representative of Canada's social diversity — academics, artists and writers, political activists, former leaders and politicians, economists, media observers, students and average citizens. All of these people had one thing in common — a genuine concern for the nation's future. Among the former politicians in the studio were David Peterson, Larry Grossman and Barbara McDougall.

It was clearly an emotional evening for all Canadians as we nervously watched the referendum vote teeter between "Yes" and "No." As the polls closed and the early results came in from Quebec one could not help but feel a sense of impending doom as the "Yes" forces jumped to an early lead. It was not until almost two hours into the proceedings that a sense of hope emerged as the "No" vote finally reached the 50% threshold. It was at this juncture that most of the observers unleashed a roar of approval with the changing fortunes. Many in the studio were unable to extract themselves from the television monitors, tenaciously watching the changing numbers throughout the evening.

To ease the tension, TVO provided satirical relief in the form of Nancy White, a singer and songwriter who sang about the struggle for national unity in Canada. However, the mood in the studio remained ominously serious throughout the evening, as the observers contemplated what would happen next. The lack of any sustained elation at the end of this referendum evening signified the feeling among most that Canada remains in a precarious position as it heads into the next century.

As interns, we were privileged to be present in the midst of this group of impressive Canadians. The significance of this "spectacle" was further heightened by our presence in a television studio. Not only were we observers in a historic event, we were also active participants in the media's coverage of this event. It is for this reason that October 30 will forever remain a night to remember. ♦



Interns in academia

While OLIP is in many ways a professional programme, it has important academic aspects as well. OLIP is administered by the Canadian Political Science Association, which develops and promotes political science in Canada.



The most significant of OLIP's academic components is the academic paper all interns complete over the course of the ten-month term, to be written about a topic relating to Queen's Park. The interns will be presenting their research at the annual conference of the CPSA in conjunction with the Congress of the Humanities and Social Science, to take place this May in Calgary, AB. Here's what this year's interns are writing about.

Matthew: SUCH Value!: Value-for-Money Auditing in Ontario's Broader Public Sector

Isa: Bridging the Divide: Dissecting the North-South Divide in Ontario Politics

Sydney: Casting Ballots for Convenience and Digital Democracy in Ontario: Essensa-lizing the Right to Choose

Olivia: An Economic Analysis of the Impacts of Fiscal transparency: The Case of Ontario

Brittany: Regulation and Oversight: An Investigation into the Creation and Oversight of Regulations in the Legislative Assembly of Ontario

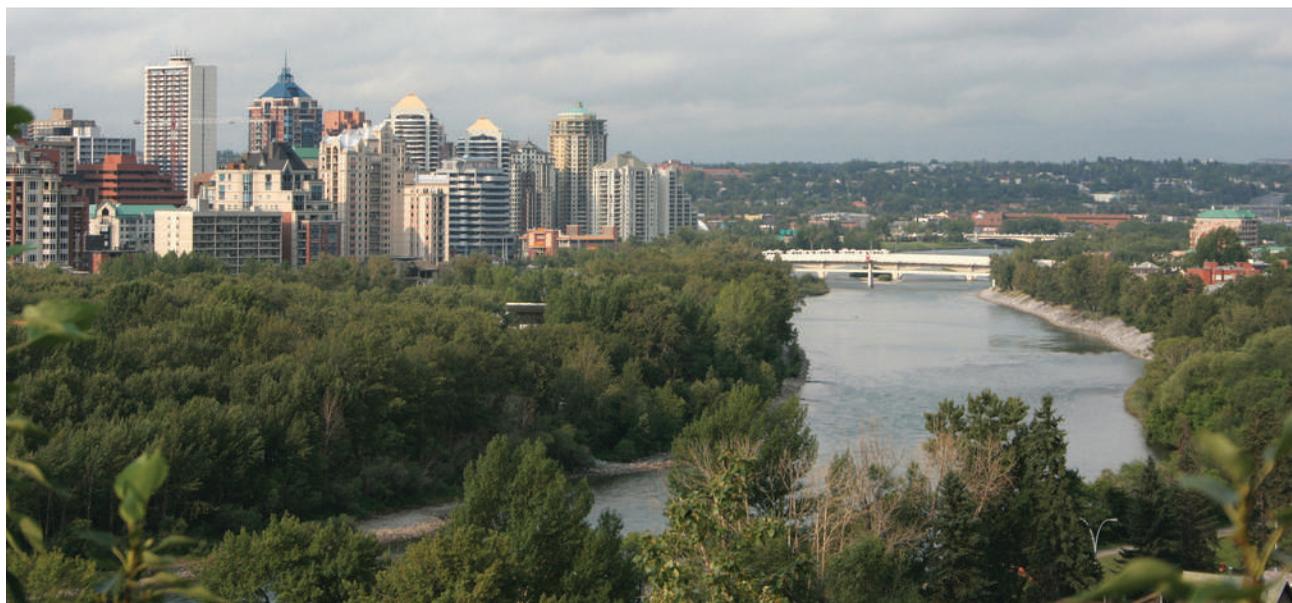
Eric: Strong Shadows: What Makes an Effective Opposition Critic?

Alison: Finding Purpose in the Pink Palace: Investigating why Individuals become Political Staffers

Sara: The Habits of Highly Effective Consultations: an Analysis of Pre-Budget Consultations at the Legislative Assembly

Justyna: Post, Tweet, Gram, and Snap - The Use of Social Media in the Ontario Legislature

Julia: Evidence in the Pink Palace: Does Ontario need a Parliamentary Science Officer?



Churchill Society



Above: We clean up nice! The interns were excited to attend the annual Churchill Society dinner.

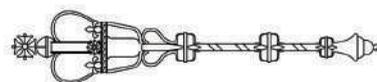
The Churchill Society for the Advancement of Parliamentary Democracy has been and continues to be a very important OLIP sponsor. The Society, which was formed in Toronto in 1982, honours the life of Sir Winston Churchill by facilitating education, discussion and debate about Canada's parliamentary democracy. What makes the Society's partnership with OLIP so meaningful is OLIP's focus on parliamentary democracy and the educational component of the programme, which aims to further the understanding of parliamentary democracy.

Each year, the interns take part in the Society's annual dinner as volunteers and feel privileged to be part of this event. The guest list always includes politicians, former politicians, members of the business world and many others, all of whom are interesting and accomplished guests. No matter how you approach it, the dinner is absolutely an exciting place to be and each and every intern feels truly grateful for being part of such an amazing experience.

At this year's dinner we saw exclusive footage from

Churchill's funeral procession and listened to insightful and engaging speeches from two outstanding guests, Mme. Louise Fréchette and the Honourable Bob Rae, who was the recipient of this year's Award for Excellence in the Cause of Parliamentary Democracy.

The dinner sets the stage for the relationship between the Churchill Society and OLIP, which culminates in a trip to London, England, generously sponsored by the Society. In London, the interns will follow in the footsteps of Churchill, taking part in a week-long inter-parliamentary study tour, beginning in late June. We are grateful to the Churchill Society for its additional contributions this year that will help us to have a fulfilling and interesting visit. Churchill would be proud!



CHURCHILL SOCIETY

FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF
PARLIAMENTARY DEMOCRACY

Our sponsors

Our sponsors form the foundation of our programme. OLIP would simply not exist without their continued commitment to helping young professionals learn about Canada's parliamentary process. Many of our sponsors have supported our programme for decades; it's a credit to their commitment that OLIP has thrived and blossomed over time. Indeed, it's difficult to overstate the generosity showcased by our de-facto cheerleaders throughout the year. Whether touring an office, lunching at a

restaurant, or settling in for an hour-long conversation, we typically left work on Fridays after meeting with a sponsor feeling thoroughly spoiled and awed. As an added bonus, the interns developed a profound knowledge about government relations and advocacy – two areas of interest to our group. We'd like to extend a particular thanks to the women and men who met with our group throughout the year, and for their inspiring words of hope and encouragement!



Above: Paul Kossta from OSSTF told us what it means to be a Legislative Observer at Queen's Park.

Below: We had a great visit to Metroland Media accompanied by Caroline Medwell, from our sponsor OCNA.



Above: We loved hearing David Lindsay from COU talk about his fascinating career, in and out of politics.

Below: We met with Alain Brandon of Loblaw's at the flagship Maple Leaf Gardens location in downtown Toronto.



Our sponsors



Above: We had a great chat with Jim Murphy from our lead sponsor IBAO.



OLIP alumni turn up everywhere! Above: we met with Enbridge Gas (including OLIP alumnus David Donovan) and talked energy policy.

Below: The lovely GR team and Director at OCUFA (among them, OLIP alumnus Erica Rayment) told us about the issues facing Ontario's university faculty.



Above: CPA Ontario was kind enough to invite us to its head office in Toronto to learn more about their work.

Below: Gary Clement from TD told us fascinating stories about his time in politics and the world of government relations.



Below: We're proud to have CAA join us as a new sponsor. Elliott Silverstein told us more about the great advocacy work CAA does on transportation.



Our sponsors

OLIP would not be the same without its generous sponsors. We are excited to announce several new groups who have come on board to support the programme this year.

Firstly, we'd like to acknowledge Mammoth Outerwear, a Toronto-based company producing jackets with a focus on quality, warmth, and functional style. You've probably noticed us wearing them in our photos, including on the magazine cover. We were outfitted by Mammoth prior to traveling to Yellowknife (so we can absolutely attest to the warmth of their jackets!).

We're also happy to announce that Sussex Strategy Group and VIA Rail Canada have come on board as major sponsors, while CAA will be supporting us as sponsors. We look forward to building our relationships with all three of these organizations in our



remaining months, and for the years of interns who will follow us.

Thank you again to those who have offered us their time and support, which helps to make OLIP a fulfilling experience for all involved.

We're thrilled to introduce Ontario Power Generation as our newest OLIP lead sponsor this year. We've been lucky to have its support for several years now and appreciate its ongoing involvement. Ontario Power Generation is owned by the province and has plants and staff from Kenora to Cornwall and everywhere in between. The company produces more than half the power used in most homes, schools, hospitals and businesses in Ontario and is OPG committed to ensuring its energy production is reliable, safe and environmentally sustainable for Ontarians today and for the future. In 2014, OPG burned its last piece of coal to make electricity. This was the largest single action to combat climate change in North America to date. OPG's two northwestern coal stations were converted to renewable biomass. Now, together with a diverse fleet that includes 65 hydroelectric stations and two nuclear stations, OPG's power is 99.7 per cent free of smog and greenhouse gas emissions. And it produces this power at about half the cost of other generators.



Our sponsors

The Ontario Real Estate Association (OREA) has developed a unique working relationship with the OLIP interns over the past 20 years, most recently, becoming a lead sponsor in 2012. OREA is one of Ontario's most respected professional associations. Founded in 1922 by a handful of real estate professionals, today, OREA represents over 56,000 REALTORS® and 40 local real estate boards and associations. It serves its members through a variety of publications, educational programs and brings a united voice to the Ontario Legislature on behalf of REALTORS®.

The association is committed to promoting high industry standards, protecting consumers and promoting home ownership. OREA is the only authorized provider of real estate licensing courses in the province. Committed to education and professionalism, OREA takes special pride in helping nurture young people's interest in politics and creating tomorrow's leaders. OREA is a proud sponsor of the Ontario Legislature Internship Programme, and boasts two former interns as part of its government relations staff.



The Insurance Brokers Association of Ontario (IBAO) became OLIP's first Lead Sponsor in 2010, and we would like to thank the Association for its continued support over the years. Since 1996, IBAO has been a proud sponsor of OLIP, and in 2010 the Association took on the role of lead sponsor. IBAO is a voluntary membership organization that serves over 11,500 independent insurance brokers across the province. The organization is a politically active group that represents its members at the Ontario Legislature, regulatory bodies, as well as industry commissions and

associations. The Insurance Brokers Association of Ontario member brokers play an active role in their communities with strong vested interest in serving consumers across the province. Its members volunteer at many local events and participate in many career fairs at high schools, colleges and universities, supporting and encouraging young Ontarians to build solid futures in this province.



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