

Fall 2009



Queen's Park Insider

Official Magazine of the Ontario Legislature Internship Programme

Director's Report

I knew my sixth year of my directorship would be a special year from the first day. At 8:45 a.m. On Wednesday, September 9th, the new interns were arriving at the East Doors of the Main Legislative Building to meet with Eithne Whaley, the OLIP Programme Assistant and myself. Just as the interns were arriving, so was the Premier, Dalton McGuinty. I asked the Premier to say hello to the brand-new interns and he was delighted to do so.

After that unplanned meeting, the official Intern Orientation began. I would like to thank all Legislative Assembly officials and staff, sponsors, alumni and friends of the Programme for making themselves available for the Interns during Orientation. Sponsors who took part included Advocacy Solutions, the Certified General Accountants of Ontario, the Churchill Society for the Advancement of Parliamentary Democracy, the British Consulate-General, Counsel Public Affairs, Hill & Knowlton, Ipsos Canada, LawPRO, G.P. Murray Research Limited, the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Association, CIBC, Novartis, Ontario Professional Firefighters Association, Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations and the Law Society of Upper Canada. I thank them all, as well as those who are meeting with the interns in the coming months, for their continuing support of our Programme.

A highlight of the orientation for the new interns is always their meetings with the independent officers of the Legislative Assembly. This year, they enjoyed meetings with the Integrity Commissioner Lynn Morrison, the Information and Privacy Commissioner Dr. Ann Cavoukian, Ombudsman André Marin, Environmental Commissioner Gord Miller, Auditor General Jim McCarter and Assistant Chief Elections Officer Loren Wells. This year was especially interesting since reports by three of the Officers were being tabled in the Legislature at the time of our visits.

provided a wealth of information to the new interns in the orientation period and beyond. A partial list includes Clerk Deborah Deller, Clerk of Journals and Procedural

Research Lisa Freedman, Human Resources Director Nancy Marling, Executive Director of the Library Vicki Whitmell, Director Susan Swift of Research and Information Services, Director of Hansard Reporting and Interpretation Services Deborah Caruso, Debi LaMantia, Director of Parliamentary Protocol and Public Relations Branch, Clerk of Committees Tonia Grannum and Sergeant-At-Arms Dennis Clark.

Two very important individuals who met with the interns were his Honour, the Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario, David Onley and the Speaker, the Honourable Steve Peters. The interns were also greatly impressed

by their visits with Mr. Lynton "Red" Wilson, alumnus Chris Morley, the Premier's Director of Communications, alumnus Jason Hagan of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Peter Nicolson, Dick Currey, and former speaker David Warner. Journalists such as Honorary Interns Jim Coyle and Robert Fisher, Robert Benzie, April Lindgren and Steve Paiken

gave the interns special insight into the Legislature. Other key alumni who helped with orientation were Meghan Warby, Dan O'Brien and Rod Cummings.

Finally I want to acknowledge that the success of our Programme is a result of a great team effort. First and foremost is Eithne Whaley, our Programme Assistant, who solves so many of our problems. Legislative Researcher Lorraine Luski is one our Queen's Park coordinators. As a former intern, Lorraine is our best institutional memory and acts informally as our review editor on all written communications. Finally, we are happy to have Anne Stokes, Deputy Clerk of Journals, in her third year as a coordinator. Anne continues to make a great contribution to the OLIP Programme.



Of course, many members of the Assembly staff

About Us...

Matthew Gray was born and raised in Maple, Ontario just north of the City of Toronto. He graduated from Queen's University with a BA (Hon) in Political Studies and Philosophy. There, Matthew developed a passion for all things political, and is greatly looking forward to an exciting year at Queen's Park. He was a member of the Queen's Model Parliament, enjoys playing tennis, traveling, and spending time with family. After the Internship Programme, Matthew hopes to attend law school and perhaps spend time studying abroad.



Leslie on Matt

Matt is one of those rare people who you can take at face value. So when you first see his big, charming smile, believe it: he's for real! After we first met, I quickly learned that Matt is easy-going and has a great sense of humour. Although he has a quick wit and is prone to making jokes, he is also quick to be courteous and show his gentlemanly qualities; Matt always opens the door for the OLIP ladies. Underneath Matt's easy-going demeanour is also a keen and inquisitive mind. Matt can think on his feet and has asked difficult and astute questions in our meetings so far. With his warm personality, eagerness to discuss and debate the latest news story and passion for politics, I know I'm not alone when I say that I'm glad Matt is in the program!

Christiana Fizet grew up in Ottawa and Lennoxville, Quebec. She completed a Bachelor of Honours in History and Political Science from Trent University this spring. In 2007, she traveled to South America where she spent the year living in a small indigenous community teaching English and sports. Upon returning to Canada, Christiana began volunteering at a New Canadians Centre and worked for two years as a host, tutor and organizer for new Canadians. She speaks English, French, Spanish and some German. Her academic interests lie in postcolonial studies, popular education and issues of citizenship and multiculturalism. She is an avid cyclist and plays the guitar. Following the internship, she hopes to study refugee and human rights law.



Paul on Christiana

What to say about Christiana Fizet? Christiana is definitely this year's most travelled intern! She's walked thousands of kilometres across Europe and has spent time in South America teaching children how to speak English, but when you ask her what her true passion is, the answer will beam across her face! Becoming a refugee lawyer is Christiana's passion and life goal. Among her many academic accomplishments (she is very proud of having attended Trent University and rightly so!!!), Christiana has never wavered in her desire to help new Canadians. She is often heard saying that many Canadians are more keen on trying to help the poor and impoverished of other countries but refuse to acknowledge the hardships of individuals in their backyards. This year's OLIP interns are blessed to have Christiana in the group, for without her we would be bereft of the insightful and knowledgeable comments that she provides to any discussion.

Beesan Sarrouh grew up in Ottawa, and is very excited to be a part of the OLIP team this year. Beesan earned a Bachelor of Humanities and Political Science at Carleton University, and a MA in Political Science at the University of Alberta, where she also was a Teacher's Assistant and MA representative for the Political Science Graduate Student Association. Beesan's work experiences include completing a research and writing placement in the Program Development department at Covenant House Headquarters in New York City, an organization that helps homeless youth in North and Central America. Outside of her academic interests, Beesan likes to travel; swim and hike; watch live music; and go on adventures with her friends.



Yuliya on Beesan

Every intern would agree that attending our very first Spring Reception was one of the most terrifying events. Luckily, my nervousness was reduced tremendously after I bumped into Beesan, also making her way through the Tamil demonstration. My mood was lightened considerably by Beesan's sincere smile. And if anyone lacks organizational skills, Beesan is the one to take lessons from (I had a chance to be present while she chaired the Receptions meeting where everything was up to the minute and planned out). Is

anyone up for some French chat? Our Ottawa polyglot will keep you company and even teach you some of her native Arabic! With two degrees under her belt from two different parts of the country, Beesan's contribution to the intellectual level of the group is enormous, and I am looking forward to learn from her!

Natalie Tutunzis is originally from Markham, Ontario, however, for the past five years she has resided in Hamilton, Ontario to complete her studies at McMaster University. Natalie received a BA (Hon.) with a major in Political Science and a minor in Theatre and Film Studies and most recently completed an MA in International Relations. In her fourth year of study, Natalie was invited to participate in the writing of a forthcoming publication dealing with issues related to arms control. Apart from academics and a love for politics, Natalie's interests include studying film, keeping fit, travelling, and she would someday love to get back into her passion for acting.

Aviva on Natalie

Natalie amazed us all when, on the first day of the internship, she shared with us her unique minor during undergrad of theatre and film studies. To this day, she has continued to amaze us with her impressive knowledge of movie facts and passion for – get this – statistics. She even willingly TA'd a stats course! Even though Natalie has formally studied political science, international relations, and public policy, her interests lay in the communications and PR arena. The insightful questions she has asked to the OLIP sponsors involved in communications have proved to be both thought provoking and intensely perceptive. Natalie is one of the four interns to have attended McMaster but distinguishes herself by her witty demeanour and other standout qualities. Natalie is by far one of the most photogenic interns and her easygoing nature along with her fantastic sense of humour makes her an integral part of the OLIP team!



Leslie de Meulles was raised in Sudbury, Ontario. She has completed the Humanities program at Carleton University with concentrations in English literature and philosophy. During her undergraduate degree, she had the opportunity to go on exchange both to China and Wales. Most recently, she has completed an M.A. in political theory from McGill University where she was a research and teaching assistant. While at McGill, she also was able to complete an internship at the International Center for Transitional Justice in New York City as part of her coursework. Leslie enjoys travelling, running, playing ultimate frisbee, playing music and cooking in her spare time.

Jon on Leslie

Leslie is the type of person that within the first ten minutes of speaking with her, you know you have made a new friend. She has a way of finding some common interest with whomever she is speaking, and I have a feeling that this is a result of her breadth of accomplishments, talents, and interests. To me she is a musician, a chef, an athlete, a world traveler, and a passionately driven person. She is intensely proud to be from Sudbury, and this drives her interest in the issues facing Northern Ontarians. Moreover, she is inspirational in her desire to work on Aboriginal issues. As a vegetarian, Leslie has provided me with several recipe ideas, which have turned out to be life transforming, as I discovered that truly healthy foods can taste unbelievably good when done properly. Other discussions with Leslie have also taught me of the ‘ultimateness’ of Ultimate Frisbee, a sport heralded (by Leslie) as one of the great new sports ever to be invented! I am thankful for the opportunity to work with Leslie over the coming months, because I know that I will learn a tremendous amount from her.



Yuliya Khraplyva was born and grew up in Ukraine, arriving in Canada in 2003. She earned a BA (Hon.) from York University, majoring in Law and Society with a minor in Psychology. In addition to her academic pursuits, Yuliya enjoyed volunteering as an academic peer advisor and participating in a competitive dance team. She has dedicated her last few summers to improving her French Language skills through immersion in

Quebec. Yuliya is looking forward to OLIP and is interested in seeing how it will influence her intention to pursue the study of law following the programme.



Maegan on Yuliya

While there are many interesting facets to Yuliya’s personality and background, one of her most unique talents is her ability to speak four languages, all with near fluency. Since coming to Canada in 2003 from the Ukraine, Yuliya has maintained her Ukrainian and Russian linguistic capabilities, strengthened her English, and has developed a strong background in French, which she

speaks beautifully. As an intern, Yuliya has already proven to be extremely supportive and always ready to lend a hand; she has become an honorary member of two committees in addition to the three she was already a part of. Yuliya participates actively in all of her endeavours and I can say with confidence that her two member placements are extremely fortunate to have someone so dedicated and dependable in their offices.

Paul Di Ianni is from Hamilton, Ontario. Paul attended Sheridan College where he graduated with a co-op Diploma in Computer Science and upon graduation worked for a marketing research firm for 3 years. Never being one to shy away from pursuing goals, Paul returned to school where he recently completed an Honours



Bachelor of Arts degree in History and Political Science and a Masters of Arts in Political Science and Public Policy from McMaster University. At McMaster, Paul worked as a teaching assistant and, in addition to his studies, has interests that include politics, travelling, reading, soccer and spending time with family and friends.

Natalie on Paul

Who's that sharp looking guy whose OLIP photos may easily be mistaken for a Hollywood celebrity's head shots? The answer is Paul Di Ianni, a McMaster graduate from Hamilton, Ontario. But don't let the good looks and charm fool you, Paul is an extremely intelligent, hard working and confident individual who holds an

impressive amount of political knowledge. Paul also applies this knowledge by consistently asking intriguing questions and raising important issues throughout various meetings with sponsors and political figures, as well as just through general conversation. Aside from his intellectual abilities, Paul has a diverse range of interests including a fascination for municipal politics, a love for soccer, and – possibly as a result of his Italian heritage – a deep love for food. Paul also has a knack for impersonations, which his fellow interns have discovered to their delight. Paul is truly a unique and highly valued addition to the 2009-10 OLIP team.

Jonathan Trentadue grew up in Toronto, and completed his BA (Hon.) from the University of Toronto. While working towards his undergraduate degree, Jonathan worked extensively for the John P. Robarts research library, as well as volunteering with the UofT multi-faith centre initiative. He would continue his educational career at McMaster University, where he completed his MA in Political Science, with a specialization in Public Policy and Administration. Some of Jonathan's interests include reading, travelling, cooking, and the study of classical history. Jonathan is honoured to be part of the 2009-2010 OLIP team.

Beesan on Jon

Jon's warm personality coupled with his infectious laugh makes him a natural fit for the OLIP team. His nuanced and insightful questions always elicit informative responses from whomever we are meeting with, whether it is OLIP sponsors, Officers of the Legislature or MPPs. Jon's fondness for having in depth conversations with his friends has transferred over to the OLIP team, often resulting in lively, engaging, and entertaining conversations that usually leave us in fits of laughter. And while it is clear that Jon's interests are diverse, nothing, and I mean nothing, can compare to his passion for food. He is a wealth of information on the culinary world, and always has a great restaurant to recommend. Indeed, Jon is one of a kind; we are very lucky to have him as a fellow intern this year.



Aviva Levy, a Toronto native, graduated from McGill University (2009) with a B.A. in Canadian Studies and Sociology. In addition, she spent a year studying Hebrew and Middle Eastern politics at the University of Haifa in Israel. A lifelong political junkie, she devoted much of her undergraduate career to both studying and working in the Canadian political sphere. As a student, she was a founding member of the McGill Political Issues Club. Over the summer, Aviva worked on policy issues at the Ontario Ministry of Transportation. A devoted non-fiction bookworm and travel enthusiast, Aviva is thrilled to be a part of the 2009-10 OLIP team.

Matt on Aviva

Energetic, engaging, and incredibly well informed, Aviva is truly an asset to the OLIP ten. Her passion for all things political is inspiring and her wealth of knowledge of Ontario politics is unmatched. Aviva never ceases to impress, whether it is giving impromptu tours of Queen's Park in Hebrew or getting photographed for the next issue of *Maclean's*. Don't be misled by her love of talent-based reality television, Aviva is as sharp as they come. Although she habitually speaks a mile a minute, you can be sure that everything she says is worth listening to. Aviva's upbeat disposition and contagious laughter makes any time she is absent all too noticeable, and her quirky comments and quick-wit keeps it interesting in the OLIP Office. All of the interns are privileged to have her as a colleague.



Maegan Baird is a fluently bilingual French Canadian hailing from Welland, Ontario. Since the age of twelve, Maegan can remember being extremely interested in both law and politics, which led her to pursue a BA (Hon.) in political science at McMaster University. During those years she volunteered with various organizations including an after school tutoring programme as well as with a community legal clinic. She has since completed her MA in international relations and public policy and is looking forward to being part of the 2009-2010 Ontario Legislature Internship Programme.



Christiana on Maegan

We were just a few hours into our first day of the internship and Maegan revealed to the group that she was a sci-fi buff. Immediately, I knew I liked her. Funnily enough, I hate all things sci-fi: movies, books, conventions, etc. But I was taken by how honest and quirky Maegan was. Over the past two months Maegan has continued to stand out as an extremely charming, compassionate and strong woman. Her academic interest in horizontal systems of governance reveals a concern and appreciation for listening to and working with others. The questions she poses and ideas she contributes to conversations are always creative and refreshing. I think it would be safe to say that Maegan is the sunshine of our group. Her constant positive attitude, smarts and charm make foggy days sunny. Her 'one-of-a-kind' expressions and compassion for others make her a lovely friend, and I'm thrilled to have met her.

Alumni Spotlights

David Myles is a captivating performer, internationally recognized songwriter and award winning recording artist from Fredericton, New Brunswick. Over the past three years, David has been showered with accolades and praise for his first two albums: *Things Have Changed* and *Together and Alone*. Among his recent awards are: 2006 Winner of the International Songwriting Competition, 2007 Nova Scotia Male Artist of the Year and most recently, 2009 Winner ECMA Folk Record of the Year. Apart from his recent success, David also has quite an interesting biography. In 2004, he graduated from Mount Allison with a degree in political science and a minor in Chinese language and culture. During the third year of his undergraduate degree, David also had the opportunity to travel to Hang Zhou, China.



After graduation in 2004, David was accepted to the Ontario Legislature Internship Programme and placed with Michael Gravelle and Norm Miller. It is interesting to read his OLIP biography and note a prophetic line: “When not studying or working, David can generally be found playing, listening to, or talking about music.” Although David’s OLIP experience did not lead him down the path to a career in the Ontario Public Service, nor into a life in poli-

tics, though he undoubtedly has had enormous success in his musical career so far.

Just after finishing the OLIP, David released his first album in 2005 titled *Things Have Changed*, followed by *Together and Alone*. Currently, David is working on many new musical projects. Among these is his involvement in the CBC Great Canadian Songquest. David, by popular vote, has been chosen to write a song about New Brunswick. This song will be in competition with other provincial songs which will also be written by other Canadian musicians. One song will be chosen, again through popular vote, by CBC listeners across the country. As well, David is working on another new album. By what he has revealed in his blog, this album certainly sounds exciting, especially since it will be produced by Canadian folk legend Joel Plaskett! The Ontario Legislature Internship Program is certainly proud to have David Myles amongst its alumni and is happy to celebrate his well-deserved successes and awards as well as enjoy his incredible music.

Leslie De Meulles

Alumni Updates

Karim Bardessy (01-02) Reporter, The Globe & Mail, Toronto.

Ann Wales DeRabbie (94-95) Senior Manager, Public Affairs, Scotiabank, Toronto.

David Donovan (08-09) Warden, Buckingham Palace, London, England.

Jason Hagan (02-03) Coordinator, Local Authority Services, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Toronto.

Kim Hokan (08-09) Government Relations & Policy Development Consultant, Canadian Association for the Fifty-plus, Toronto.

Tristan-E. Landry (97-98) Counsellor (Public Relations) and Spokesperson, Canadian Embassy, Washington D.C., USA

Lauri Leduc (97-98) Administrator, The Canadian Club of Hamilton, Hamilton, Ontario.

Angela Longo (76-77) Deputy Minister, Ministry of Health Promotion, Government of Ontario, Toronto.

Sara Lyons (01-02) Program Director, Community Foundation of Canada, Ottawa.

Samantha Ann Majic (01-02) Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, City University of New York / John Jay College, New York City, USA.

Adam McDonald (04-05) Policy Advisor, Transportation and Cooperative Services Unit, Ministry of Education, Government of Ontario, Toronto.

Tim Murphy (82-83) Board Member, Legal Aid Ontario, Toronto.

Alison Nankivell (97-88) Senior Equity Manager, Export Development Canada, Beijing, China.

Rob Nicol (93-94) Vice-President of Communications and Government Relations, 407 ETR, Toronto.

Vonbrun Palmer (90-91) Chief Government and Media Relations Officer, Toronto Real Estate Board, Toronto.



Graham Abbey, most recently known in his role as Detective Sergeant Gray Jackson on CBC's television drama *The Border*, is also one of our former Ontario Legislature Interns. Originally a Stratford native, Graham started his acting career from a young age and began his roles while he was only eleven years old. Among his roles in his youth were parts in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, and *As You Like It*. Although Graham has stated that acting has always been his true passion, he took a brief break from acting and attended Queen's University. It unquestionably was at Queen's, where Graham studied political science, that he caught the politics bug.

After his undergraduate degree, Graham entered the Ontario Legislature Internship Program. Although the realm of politics and especially question period are undoubtedly theatrical, Graham returned to his true love of acting and theatre after completing the program. Between 1997 and 2006, Graham remained at Stratford where he subsequently played main lead roles which included Romeo in *Romeo and Juliet*, Macbeth in *Macbeth*, and Petruchio in

The Taming of the Shrew. Graham has had much success so far in his acting career: during his time at Stratford, he received critical acclaim for his work and, in 2002, he also received a Dora award for Outstanding Performance by a Male in a Principal Role for his performance in Ross Petty's musical *Snow White and the Magnificent Seven*.

Before starring in *The Border*, Graham accumulated varied television and film credits, and is currently developing a script for his own television series. Most recently, he appeared at the Toronto International Film Festival in fellow Canadian Peter Stebbings' film *The Defender* with such Hollywood notables such as Woody Harrelson and Sandra Oh. Although Graham was featured this fall in the *National Post*'s "Hey Big Wig!" article, highlighting up-and-coming actors, he has clearly already made his mark on the stage and in Canadian television. OLIP is proud to have Graham Abbey as one of its alumni and to champion his already impressive CV and accomplishments in the acting world.

Leslie De Meulles

Katie Robb (07-08) Senior Analyst (Currency) Bank of Canada, Vancouver.

Emma Stanley-Cochrane (08-09) Associate Manager, Policy and Stakeholder Relations, Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation, Toronto.

Erik H. Stephenson (02-03) Sessional Lecturer, Department of Philosophy, Carleton University, Ottawa.

Beki Scott (04-05) National Youth Chair, Equal Voice, Toronto.

Lyndsey Saunders (01-02) Senior Policy Advisor, Population Health and Integration Strategy Unit, Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, Government of Ontario, Toronto.

Dagmar Soennecken (98-99) Assistant Professor, School of Public Policy and Administration, York University, Toronto.

Aamir Taiyeb (07-08) Research Policy Analyst, Ministry of Training, Colleges & Universities, Government of Ontario, Toronto.

Eleni Tsoutsias (06-07) Policy Advisor, Waste Management Policy Branch, Ministry of the Environment, Government of Ontario, Toronto.

Christopher Waddell (77-78) Associate Director, School of Journalism and Communications, Carleton University, Ottawa.

Meghan Warby (05-06) Senior Consultant, Public Affairs and Digital Communications, Hill and Knowlton Canada.

Rosanne Waters (08-09) Executive Assistant to the Chief Electoral Officer of Ontario, Toronto.

Tim Welch (84-05) President, Tim Welch Consulting, Cambridge, Ontario.

Graham White (76-77) President-Elect, Canadian Political Science Association.

Gemma Zecchini (88-89) Senior Vice-President, Public Policy, Food and Consumer Products of Canada, Toronto.

Orientation



Interns with Speaker Peters

We began on 09/09/09. A sign? Perhaps. Nevertheless, the interns have become instant friends throughout these past few months, discussing politics over everything from cake to catered meals. In large part, it's due to the orientation that the interns have become so close so quickly. Where would we be without the orientation? We have many people to thank, all of whom contributed to our understanding of the many activities taking place daily at Queen's Park. Without them, we would be lost in the maze of tunnels and wouldn't be able to brag that we visited the attic! Now that our names are forever inscribed in Hansard and we've made our debut on the Ontario Parliament TV network, we have officially been initiated. Thanks to the Officers of the Legislature, Clerks, former interns, library staff, security personnel, and broadcast and recording staff and many more for taking the time out of your busy schedules to help orient the interns to their new home, Queen's Park!

During orientation, the interns met with all the officers of the Ontario Legislature, a long list that includes Ombudsman André Marin, Environmental Commissioner Gord Miller, Integrity Commissioner Lynn Morrison, Auditor General Jim McCarter, and Information and Privacy Commissioner Dr. Ann Ca-

voukian. In addition, the interns met with the Clerk, Deborah Deller, Sergeant-at-Arms Dennis Clark, as well as with the Speaker of the House, the Hon. Steve Peters. Most recently, the interns met with the Deputy Chief Electoral Officer, Loren Wells, and Greg Es-sensa, the Chief Electoral Officer of Elections Ontario, who provided insight on the major issue of declining voter turnout. All of these individuals contributed greatly to our understanding of how Queen's Park works, and shared with us the important work each of their offices undertake on a daily basis.

Navigating the legislative library was something that unquestionably intimidated all the interns. However, since meeting with a number of library staff, who demonstrated the importance of library services, we are now all well equipped to find our way around the place and properly utilize the many services it offers. We participated in informative sessions on everything from searching Hansard, E-Laws, and the library newsdesk, to researching on the Internet, and making use of the legislative research team. These meetings have been extremely valuable; many of us have already been searching

Hansard in our offices and are now self-proclaimed experts!



Interns with Clerk Deborah Deller



The Interns with Research Librarian Susanne Hynes



The Interns with Legislative Security Operations Manager Rick Boon

There are many individuals who ensure that Queen's Park runs smoothly. One of these people is Arleigh Holder from Broadcasting and Recording. In addition to giving us a full tour of the extensive recording equipment at the Legislature, Arleigh provided each intern with a CD of our introduction in the house! Security staff additionally play a large role at Queen's Park; our meeting with Rick Boon, the Legislative Security Operations Manager, educated us about the safety measures and complex security procedures at the Legislature. The interns also met with Nancy Marling, Director of Human Resources, who discussed her role in providing non-partisan assistance to employees of the Legislature, and also gave us helpful tips on resume-writing and job interview preparation.

The interns were able to meet with all the clerks of the legislature, and had extensive meetings with Tonia Grannum, the Clerk of Committees, and Lisa Freedman, the Clerk of Journals and Procedural Research. Lisa's "Top 10" list was a humorous but informative



The Interns with Clerk of Committees, Tonia Grannum

account of procedural details essential to any legislative intern. Our meeting with Debi LaMantia of Parliamentary Protocol and Public Relations enlightened us as to all the superb educational programming available at Queen's Park and taught us about the wonderful page program. As well, the interns were privy to the incredible renovation completed in the West Wing of Queen's Park, home to Hansard, where we met with Deborah Caruso. She exposed us to our first-ever hard copy of the document, an integral part of the Legislative Assembly.



The Interns with Clerk of Journals and Procedural Research, Lisa Freedman

Last but not definitely not least, the interns met with members and staff of our provincial legislature. We were able to meet with Tim Hudak, the new leader of the Progressive Conservative Party, as well as Scott Turner from Finance, and Chris Morley, Premier McGuinty's Executive Director of Communications and an OLIP alumnus. The interns also met with Shelley Jamieson, Secretary of the Ontario Public Service, who informed us about a number of initiatives on which she has worked, including developing effective management and leadership styles, implementing programs and policies in a timely manner, and ensuring a diverse, representative and equitable atmosphere in the OPS. We are grateful to all of the individuals who took time out of their busy schedules to help the interns become oriented to Queen's Park. Their helpful tips and enlightening advice have ensured that all the interns are wholly prepared for the next ten months at the Pink Palace.

Aviva Levy

Sponsor Meetings



Meeting Ted Wigdor from the Certified General Accountants of Ontario



Interns meet with former OLIP Intern Rod Cumming from CIBC

Our first sponsor meeting was with the Certified General Accountants of Ontario represented by Ted Wigdor, Vice-President of Government & Corporate Affairs. Mr. Wigdor educated the interns on how to become comfortable in our roles as interns, as well as the issues surrounding CGAs in Ontario. It was interesting to see his views on Queen's Park through the eyes of a stakeholder. The interns met next with CIBC's Rod Cumming, Senior Director of Retail Markets, Communications & Public Affairs. Mr. Cumming highlighted his experiences at Queen's Park during his time as an intern and a political staffer during the early days of Dalton McGuinty's leadership of the Ontario Liberal Party. Mr. Cumming also highlighted the issues surrounding Canadian banking during the recession, as well as projects that his department is currently working on.

During our orientation period the interns had a chance to meet with many different sponsors of the program, and Kathleen Waters from LawPRO really stood out for all of us. Not only did we get to hold the meeting in their beautiful office, but breakfast was also provided, and as an intern, that is always a special treat! LawPRO is a professional indemnity company that provides insurance for the legal profession in Ontario, and Mrs. Waters was keen on educating us on the issues facing the legal profession in Ontario today. Our next meeting was with OSSTF representative Craig Brockwell that

turned out to be a very informative session on the hard work that OSSTF does on behalf of their members. The interns would like to thank OSSTF for their hospitality! More recently, the Ontario Real Estate Association held a lunch and learn session at the Sutton Place Hotel and the interns were thrilled to attend, and thank them for their support.



The Interns with Kathleen Waters of LawPro



Interns with Robert O'Brien of the Churchill Society

Our meeting with Robert O'Brien of the Churchill Society was a very interesting and informative meeting, due to the fact that Mr. O'Brien provided the interns with various interesting tidbits of information regarding the life and times of Sir. Winston Churchill. The next meeting that the interns had was with OCUFA, the Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations, which was held at their gorgeous and very historic office place on

Yonge Street. We thank them for their interesting and informative session with us. Our meeting with Sheena Weir, Manager of Government Relations from the Law Society of Upper Canada was a great session due to Ms. Weir's candidness in her answers to our many questions. We thank Ms. Weir and the Law Society for their continued support, and we look forward to visiting Osgoode Hall, a historic venue in downtown Toronto.

Our meeting with former intern John Wright of Ipsos Reid was a great session; not only was it held in their beautiful office, Mr. Wright was exciting, interesting and very informative. Mr. Wright educated us on the history of Ipsos as well as the state of Marketing Research in the world today. Our next meeting was with Ryan Clarke, President and Founder of Advocacy Solutions, a dynamic company that empowers people in the health sector to advocate their issues at Queen's Park. The interns next met with the Ontario Professional Fire Fighters Association, and it was an informative session that taught us about the issues surround Fire Fighters across the Province. We thank them for coming to Queen's Park to meet with the interns. The Professional Engineers of Ontario are proud sponsors of OLIP and they invited us to their reception at Queen's Park, as well as their election readiness session at the Westin Hotel in Toronto. We thank them for their continued support. The Ontario Community Newspaper Association held a reception at Queen's Park and the interns were thrilled to attend. The reception was informative and the interns had a chance to meet many representatives from different newspapers throughout the province. Our lunch & learn session at Hill & Knowlton was a great opportunity to learn about the world of consulting, and the interns greatly enjoyed their time at H&K. We thank them for lunch and the opportunity to meet at their office in Toronto. Our next meeting was with the very affable and interest-

ing Graham Murray of G.P. Murray Research Limited of Toronto. As a former Queen's Park staffer and political candidate, Mr. Murray was engaging, inquisitive and very kind. After our meeting Mr. Murray took the interns to one of his favourite restaurants for a quick bite and drink



The Interns with Sheena Weir of the Law Society of Upper Canada



The Interns with Ryan Clarke, Advocacy Solutions



The Interns with Victoria Hunt, Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association



The Interns with Mark Smithyes, Novartis

in the heart of Toronto's Danforth. The interns would like to thank Mr. Murray for his hospitality. Our meeting with Victoria Hunt from The Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association was an engaging and informative session due to the fact that Victoria gave the interns an interesting viewpoint of Queen's Park from the eyes of a stakeholder organization that represents 43,000 Catholic English teachers across the Province. Our meeting with Mark Smithyes from Novartis was a great session because Mark educated the interns on the great work that his company does in the health sector within this province, as well as the long process of drug development. The interns would like to thank Mark for his informative lunch & learn session. Our last sponsor meeting was the Counsel of Public Affairs, a dynamic company that assists clients from a broad spectrum of sectors in achieving their public policy goals at Queen's Park. This corporation is made up of some formidable parliamentarians and political experts. Our meeting with them was very knowledgeable due to the wealth of political experience in the room. OLIP would like to thank all of our sponsors for their continued support so that the interns can have an educational experience that is unprecedented in Ontario. Thank you!

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Our next meeting was with the very affable and interest-

Paul Di Ianni

Oh The People We'll Meet...

Yes, indeed. We have met a lot of interesting characters over the past couple of months and we know this list will only continue to grow. One crucial aspect to our orientation was speaking with people or organizations that do not work for the Legislature and hearing about their experiences. While we can only detail a few of our meetings below, we would like to thank Lynton 'Red' Wilson, former CEO of Bell Canada Enterprises, The Economic Club of Canada, Jason Hagan from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario as well as journalists April Lindgren, Robert Benzie, Jim Coyle, Steve Paikin, and Robert Fisher for speaking with us. Such meetings are particularly interesting, since this group is so diverse and their own stories and advice applicable in different ways to our internship.



Interns with Paul Macmillan, Public Sector Industry Leader, Deloitte

In the earlier part of the orientation, the interns were lucky enough to meet with David Warner, former NDP MPP and Speaker of the Ontario Legislature. Mr. Warner spoke about his tenure as Speaker of the House and how his teaching background came to largely inform his own interest in politics, and the kind of work he wanted to do as Speaker. The interns were able to glean many important lessons from Mr. Warner's talk, including the ability to go beyond what is expected of you, and to be

innovative and inclusive in the projects you'd like to pursue.

An orientation would never be complete without meeting a former intern and seeing what they've been up to! This year, the interns were able to meet former intern Dan O'Brien, now a

policy analyst and researcher for the Alliance of Canadian Cinema, Television and Radio Artists (ACTRA). Dan not only shared his insights about his time at the internship, but also how transferable the skills he developed during his time at Queen's Park were to his career path. Speaking with Dan gave the interns a chance to see what kinds of opportunities lay ahead and get some helpful pointers about the internship.

Another memorable meeting was with Paul Macmillan, a consultant and national public sector industry leader for Deloitte. This was the first time that any group of interns were able to meet with someone in consulting, so it was a rare treat to learn the ins and outs of the consulting process and how professionals in this line of work engage both in the private and public sectors. The interns learned a tremendous amount from Mr. Macmillan and felt privileged in having a first hand account of what it is like to work in such an interesting profession. We look forward to meeting more remarkable people across all fields!

Beesan Sarrouh

Christiana: Although my time in **Mrs. Mangat's** office has only just begun, it has already proven to be an extremely busy and exciting place. Mrs. Mangat is the MPP for Mississauga-Brampton South as well as the Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister Responsible for Seniors. With the first wave of baby boomers turning 65 in 2011, caring for seniors is becoming a greater priority for the province of Ontario. Accordingly, the Seniors portfolio is quickly expanding and keeping us on our toes! Mrs. Mangat is the first South Asian woman to hold a seat in the Ontario Legislature. Her background in education and small business make her an extremely compelling and knowledgeable individual and I am thrilled to be working for her over the course of the next four months.



MPP Placements

Aviva: This term I will be working for **Cheri DiNovo**, MPP for Parkdale-High Park. Cheri has worked tirelessly to better the lives of her constituents in several ways, including increasing access to affordable housing and calling for a raise in Ontario's minimum wage. As a former United Church Minister, Cheri has an obvious gift for public speaking, a quality that I deeply admire. This term, I was slightly nervous when I discovered that I am the only intern working for a New Democratic Party Member, but I have been welcomed with open arms into an incredibly gracious and hard-working caucus. Thus far, I have learned that working for a politician and studying politics are completely different—more different than I could have ever imagined. Nevertheless, I look forward to working for Cheri and learning more about her diverse and numerous critic portfolios, which include Citizenship and Immigration, Housing, Employment Standards, and Women's Issues.



Beesan: Working in Progressive Conservative MPP **Sylvia Jones'** office is an experience that any OLIP intern could hope for. Ms. Jones and her Legislative Assistant, Ashley, have really made me feel like a part of the team, and my exposure to political life has been both incredibly interesting and educational. With so many things on the go, a day in the office of the Member for Dufferin-Caledon is never predictable. My activities often include attending stakeholder meetings and Policy Advisory Council sessions, strategizing with staff for Question Period, writing Member Statements and researching issues for the Select Committee on Mental Health and Addictions (which Ms. Jones sits on) just to name a few. Ms. Jones is critic to the Ministry of Youth and Child Services and the Ministry of Community

and Social Services, and learning about the complexities of these Ministries has been eye-opening, to the say the least. I cannot believe how much I have absorbed and I look forward to rest of this very enriching placement.

Jon: My first placement is with **Rick Johnson**, MPP for Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock. Working with Mr. Johnson has been a wonderful experience. His office is relaxed and inviting, which allows me to jump into new tasks without hesitation, and with the full support of his staff. I feel as though I have learned a tremendous amount already, both in the office and by shadowing Mr. Johnson during meetings. Furthermore, having grown up and lived in Toronto all my life, working for the MPP for Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock, provides me with the opportunity to also learn about issues facing rural Ontarians. It has been a great experience so far, and I am looking forward to the rest of my time in MPP Johnson's office.





Leslie: This session I have the pleasure of working with **Joyce Savoline**, Progressive Conservative Member for Burlington. Joyce was first elected to municipal politics in 1982, when she served as a Local and Regional Councillor for Burlington, which she held for four terms. She has also had the distinction of serving as Chairman of Halton Region for 12 years and was the first Chairman to be directly elected by the people, a change that Joyce chose to implement in the interest of promoting accountability and a true democratic process. It is no wonder that the people of Halton chose to re-elect Joyce so many times; her integrity and dedication to her constituents is remarkable. Joyce continues to fight for issues that matter to the residents of Burlington, and all of Ontario, such as increasing funding for Avastin, a drug used to treat colorectal cancer. With all her experience in municipal politics, it makes perfect sense that, as an MPP, she is the critic

for Urban Municipal Affairs and Housing. I greatly look forward to helping Joyce in her role as critic and also learning more about her riding in Burlington.

Maegan: **Jean-Marc Lalonde** is the Member from Glengarry-Prescott-Russell, first elected to the Ontario Legislature in 1995. Prior to his career in provincial politics, Mr. Lalonde was involved in municipal politics for 25 years, 15 of those as Mayor of Rockland, Ontario. He has transferred his skills and passion for municipal and local affairs to his provincial portfolio. Mr. Lalonde consistently strives to represent the needs and interests of his constituents at Queen's Park. One of the qualities which I find most remarkable in Jean-Marc is his level of commitment to his constituents; he will make every effort to personally respond to his constituents by phone, making calls throughout the day and late into the evening. In addition to his work for his riding, Jean-Marc is also dedicated to bringing MPPs together through a fun and friendly (though competitive!) hockey league, known as the "Legiskaters". He is a very dedicated and hard-working MPP whom I respect deeply and continue to enjoy working with every day.



Matt: Working in the office of **Randy Hillier**, MPP for Lanark-Frontenac-Lennox and Addington, is not like working in your average office. This is because Randy is not your average Member. He is principled, passionate and does not hesitate to stand up for his beliefs. In our short time working together, Randy has shown me why the people of his riding entrusted him with their votes. His unwavering support for the freedoms and rights of the individual is without comparison and makes for an exciting work environment. After my first day in his office, going out for some beer and conversation showed me how easy-going Randy is.



Mr. Hillier is Progressive Conservative Critic for the ministries of Labour and Northern Development, Mines, and Forestry. As such, I am learning a great deal about the problems experienced by Ontario's workers and those facing the remote North. As someone who hails from the Greater Toronto Area, working in Randy's office provides me with a great learning experience and for that I am thankful.

Natalie: When I found out that my first term placement would be with the newest MPP to Queen's Park, **Dr. Eric Hoskins**, I couldn't have been happier! While the MPP for St. Paul's is relatively new to the Legislature, Eric brings with him years of experience and accomplishments. He has been particularly active in the international community – he is co-founder of War Child Canada and has devoted much time to the provision of humanitarian assistance. One of the things I enjoy most about working in Eric's office is that, due to his recent arrival to the Legislature, I have the unique opportunity to learn along with him and am always kept quite busy as a result. So far, the majority of my time has been devoted towards research on various initiatives he is hoping to pursue in the near future. I must say that after only having been here for a short while I feel quite settled, and am getting along great with his staff. I'm truly enjoying the (seemingly) endless supply of baked goods and frequent laughs!



Yuliya: I first met **Dr. Helena Jaczek** at a Queen's Park reception, long before my placement, yet I knew that she was the kind of MPP I would love to work for. By her pleasant tone and genuine smile one would never guess that for this busy Oak Ridges-Markham MPP, every single day (and minute) is planned out in full! Despite her busy schedule, Helena has demonstrated incredible patience with my endless questions and she includes me in the most interesting happenings. She is always proud to introduce her brand new, wide-eyed intern to bureaucrats, ministers, lobbyists, staff and MPPs, making me feel welcome and at home. What I value the most, however, is Helena's ability to always think critically and independently on everything that happens in Queen's Park and share her thoughts with me. Her wealth of knowledge and education (in both medicine and business) could make one feel inadequate, but her superb communication skills and ability to find a common ground with any interlocutor always makes a conversation with her extremely enjoyable. I am looking forward to learning more from Helena as a politician, a doctor, a community activist, and an incredibly talented and strong person.



Paul: This term I have the pleasure of working in Mr. **Jim Wilson**'s office. As the MPP for Simcoe-Grey, Jim was first elected in September 1990 as Progressive Conservative MPP for Simcoe West. He also holds the positions of Deputy Speaker of the Ontario Legislature and First Deputy Chair of the Committee of the Whole House. During the Progressive Conservative Governments of Mike Harris and Ernie Eves, Mr. Wilson served as Minister of Health, Minister of Energy, Science and Technology, Minister of Northern Development and Mines, and Minister of Environment. Currently, Mr. Wilson is PC critic for Research and Innovation, and Colleges and Universities. I am extremely excited to be working for such a distinguished parliamentarian, and I know that his wealth of knowledge and experience will be a valuable asset for many years to come.



Sponsor Spotlights



LawPRO is a fantastic supporter of OLIP. They are a professional indemnity company that provides insurance for the legal profession in Ontario, as well as title insurance across Canada. LawPRO supplies insurance to more than 22,000 members across the Province, and all members are in good standing with the Law Society of Upper Canada. Incorporated in 1990, through the Law Society of Upper Canada, LawPRO has its own management and Board of Directors and its current president, Kathleen Waters, is a strong advocate for the organization, and the interns had the pleasure of meeting with her. On behalf of OLIP, I would like to thank LawPRO for its continued support of the OLIP programme.

The British Consulate is stationed in Ottawa and is the key diplomatic post for Canada. Fortunately for the Ontario Legislature Internship Programme, the British Consulate is also one of our prized sponsors. In addition to their generous support of the programme, they also organize our final trip at the end of the programme with a visit to Westminster in London, England. Our relationship with the Consulate educates us about our historical ties with Britain and enables us to promote the advantages of parliamentary democracy in our role as interns. We are grateful to the Consulate for the historical and educational opportunities they provide. We thank the Consulate for their support of the programme and for giving us these opportunities to learn about our historical connections to Westminster and the Commonwealth.



Established in 2003, Advocacy Solutions is the culmination of over ten years experience in legal practice, government and business. The company has expertise in government relations, stakeholder relations, communication strategies and public policy analysis and development.

AstraZeneca is one of the largest pharmaceutical companies in the world. As a research-oriented company, we believe that curiosity is the best way to express our commitment to the health of Canadians.



The CAW is the largest private sector union in Canada. In this section of our website, we describe the CAW, our past as well as the present, in all our diversity. Through our members and our departments, the CAW has on-going involvement in, and commitment to, many workplace, economic and social justice issues.

The CGPA represents the Canadian-based pharmaceutical industry: a dynamic group of companies which specialize in the production of high quality, affordable generic drugs, fine chemicals and new chemical entities.



The Certified General Accountants of Ontario is a self-governing body, which grants the exclusive right to the CGA designation and controls the professional standards, conduct and discipline of its members and students in the province of Ontario.

The Churchill Society for the Advancement of Parliamentary Democracy is a non-partisan, charitable organization that honours the life of Sir Winston Churchill by facilitating education, discussion and debate about Canada's parliamentary democracy.





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The Co-operators greatest fundamental strengths are its co-operative structure and community-based approach. The co-operative spirit which inspired their founders almost 60 years ago continues to guide the organization today and into the future.



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The Spring 2010 Queen's Park Insider Magazine will highlight the other half of our sponsors as well as including Sponsor Spotlights. If you are interested in being a spotlight sponsor, please contact the OLIP office.



Baby Photos

*Can you match us with our baby pictures?
Just to confuse you, there is also a photo of Dr Jacek as a baby too.*

A. Matt - B. Aviva - C. Christina - D. Natalie - E. Dr. Jacek - F. Beesan - G. Paul - H. Jonathan - I. Maegan - J. Leslie - K. Yuliya



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Our Sponsors are an integral part of the Programme and without their help, the Programme could not function. We would like to thank our sponsors for all the help they have given us and for helping make the Programme as successful as it is today. OLIP has always been supported by a substantial annual grant from the Legislative Assembly of Ontario through the Board of Internal Economy. Corporate donations are an important element in OLIP and are used to fund exchange visits and related educational activities.



Our other sponsors are highlighted on pages 18 & 19