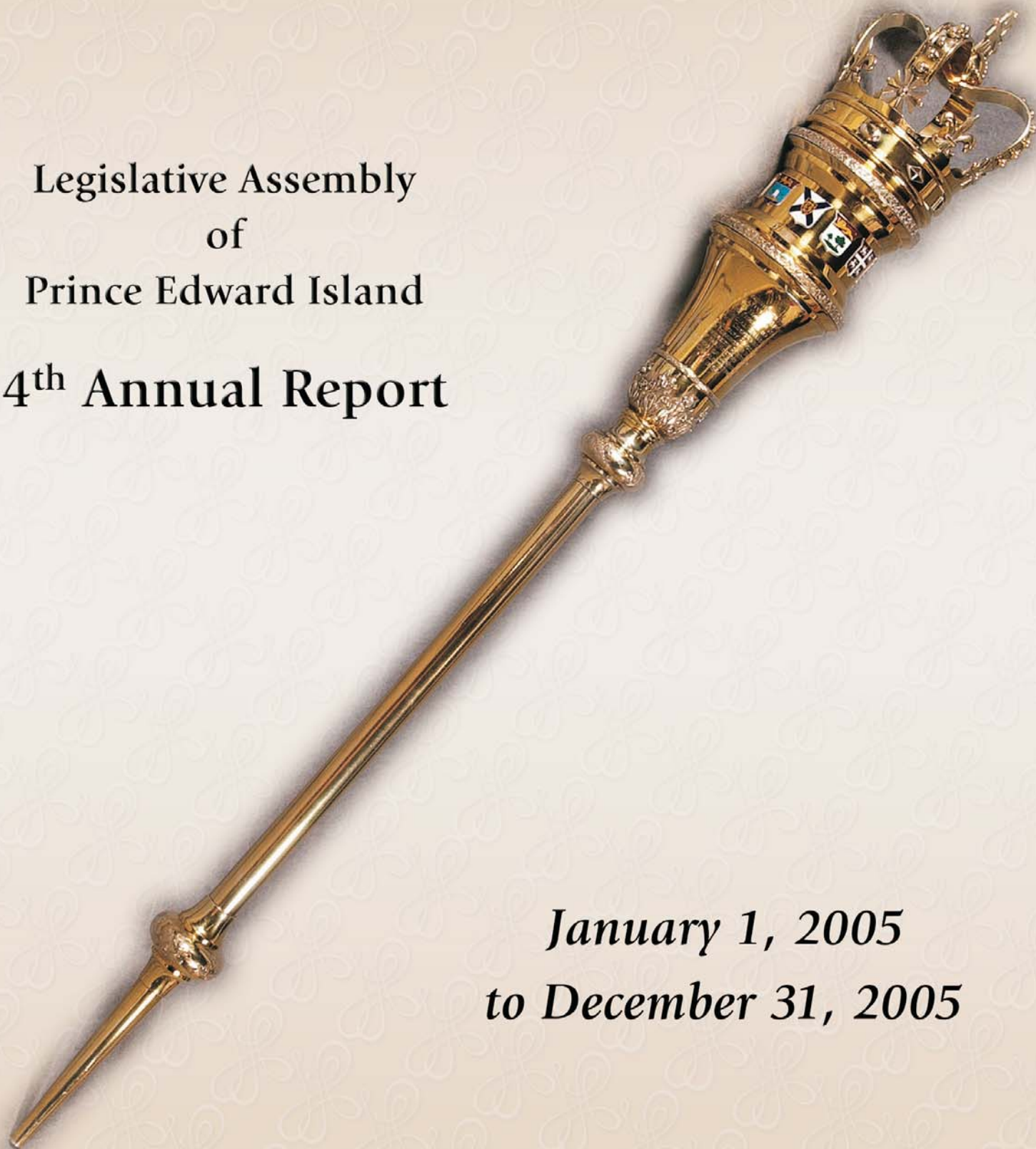


Legislative Assembly
of
Prince Edward Island
4th Annual Report



*January 1, 2005
to December 31, 2005*



**Legislative Assembly
of
Prince Edward Island**



4th Annual Report
January 1, 2005 to December 31, 2005



June 20, 2006

To Members of the Legislative Assembly
of
Prince Edward Island

I am pleased to hereby submit the 4th Annual Report of the Legislative Assembly of Prince Edward Island and the PEI Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association for the period January 1, 2005 to December 31, 2005.

It is my hope that the information contained herein will serve to promote a better understanding of the Legislative Assembly and the important work that is conducted here.

Respectfully,



Hon. Greg Deighan, MLA
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly

June 17, 2006

Honourable Gregory J. Deighan, MLA
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly
Province House
Charlottetown, PE

Dear Mr. Speaker,

I have the honour to present to you the 4th Annual Report of the Legislative Assembly of Prince Edward Island and the Prince Edward Island Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. This report will highlight the various activities of the Office of the Clerk and Office of the Legislative Assembly for the period January 1, 2005 to December 31, 2005.

As always, the staff of the Office of the Clerk and the Office of the Legislative Assembly continue to demonstrate a high level of commitment and professionalism in supporting the work of the House.

This report will highlight the work of the Office of the Legislative Assembly and the services it provides to Members, Staff, the Provincial Government and the general public.

Respectfully submitted,



Charles H. MacKay
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly
and
Secretary, PEI Branch, Commonwealth Parliamentary Association

**4th Annual Report
of the
Office of the Clerk, Office of the Legislative Assembly
PEI Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association
(January 1, 2005, to December 31, 2005)**

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Role of the Speaker


Hon. Gregory Deighan, MLA
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly

The Speaker of the Legislative Assembly is an elected Member of the Legislative Assembly. Any elected Member who is not the Leader of a political party in the House or a Cabinet Minister is eligible to allow his or her name to stand for secret ballot election as Speaker. This procedure usually takes place at the beginning of every new General Assembly or when a vacancy in the Office of Speaker occurs. The Speaker, once elected by secret ballot, has received the confidence of Members of the Legislative Assembly and must then preside over the debates and make sure the House follows established rules of procedure and behaviour. The Speaker must conduct his or her business in an impartial and politically neutral manner to ensure that the confidence of the House is maintained. One of the Speaker's first duties is to claim, on behalf of all Members, the "ancient and accustomed parliamentary rights and privileges", the most important of which is freedom of speech in debate. It then becomes the Speaker's heavy responsibility to uphold the individual and collective privileges of all Members of the House regardless of political affiliation.

The Office of Speaker has a long and colourful history. An appreciation of the historic role of Speaker helps one to understand the modern role of Speaker. In the book *The Office of Speaker in the Parliaments of the Commonwealth*, Philip Laundry states:

"The Office of Speaker is almost as old as Parliament itself. The first Speaker to be so designated was appointed in 1377...the principal function of early Speakers was to communicate the resolutions of the Commons to the King..."

On Prince Edward Island, the Speaker's role is ever-changing; however, there are some fundamental responsibilities of the office that absolutely must be continued. First and foremost, and as stated above, the Speaker must conduct the business of the Office in a non-partisan manner and is responsible for ensuring that all MLAs are treated fairly and impartially. Balancing the right of the majority to conduct business with the right of the minority to be heard is one of the Speaker's most difficult tasks. Given the often adversarial nature of parliamentary business on the floor of the House - with a majority Government and a minority Opposition - the role of the Speaker is often referred to as being similar to that of a referee!



Further, the Speaker serves as Chair of the Standing Committee on Legislative Management (see page 10), as Chair of the Standing Committee on Legislative Audit and as President of the Prince Edward Island Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. As such, the Speaker represents the Legislative Assembly at regional, national and international meetings of CPA. The Speaker is also responsible for the operation of the various activities of the Legislative Assembly when the House is not in session such as the provision of security and the co-management of Province House with Parks Canada.

Office of the Clerk and Office of the Legislative Assembly

Charles MacKay
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

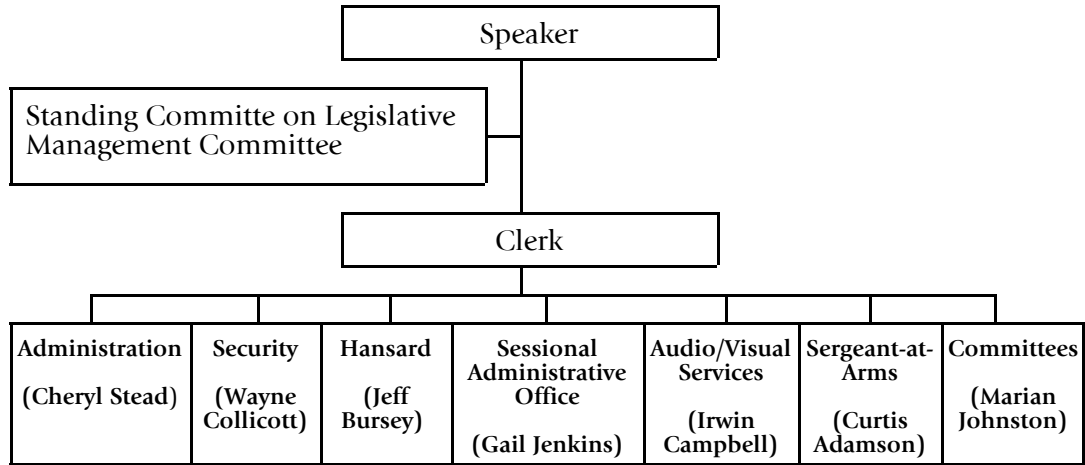
The Office of the Clerk provides non-partisan procedural and administrative support services to Members of the Legislative Assembly, ensures that the records of the House are maintained, and that the Speaker and Members of the House have access to independent advice on the proceedings of the House.

The Office of the Legislative Assembly is not a branch of Executive Government and Legislative Assembly employees are not Civil Servants as defined under the Civil Service Act. In the Westminster Model of parliamentary democracy (to which PEI and all other Canadian jurisdictions adhere), the “government” is the Executive Branch (responsible for applying and enforcing laws and for the administration of Government), the Legislative Branch is responsible for establishing these laws, for the granting of supply (or money) to Government so that the Executive may carry on its programs and policies. The Assembly is a forum in which Government is held publicly accountable for the decisions it takes and it is important that all employees support the work of Members of the House equally regardless of whether they are a Member of the Governing party or an Opposition party.

The Office of the Legislative Assembly then has two main roles. The first is to support the Speaker and Members in the administration and provision of services to MLAs so that they can perform their legislative responsibilities as effectively as possible. Further, the Office administers the payroll and benefits programs for all Members and staff of the Legislative Assembly, produces certain House documents, and maintains the official record of the House.

Below is an unofficial organizational chart to help illustrate the present structure of the Office of the Legislative Assembly:

Office of the Legislative Assembly



Report on Activities

Since 1997, there have been two distinct sittings of the Legislative Assembly in each calendar year, resulting in increased House activity. This increased activity is not only with the House itself but also with Committees. With the House usually adjourning in mid-December and resuming in late March, the House continues to be in session for a much longer period of time (even if the House is not actually meeting). The Rules of the Legislative Assembly permit Committees to meet when the House is in session thereby resulting in greater Committee activity (see the report of the Clerk of Committees - page 15).

Below is a comparison of sitting days over the past 10 years;

Year	Number of Sitting Days
Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2005	54
Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2004	46
Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2003*	44
Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2002	45
Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2001	44
Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2000*	35
Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 1999	58
Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 1998	63
Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 1997	68
Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 1996*	30
Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 1995	24
Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 1994	34
Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 1993*	18
Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 1992	28

*Indicates a General Election year.

The 2nd Session of the 62nd General Assembly commenced on November 18, 2004, with the reading of the Speech from the Throne by the Honourable J. Léonce Bernard, Lieutenant Governor, and adjourned to the call of the Speaker on December 16, 2004. The session then resumed on April 6, 2005 and prorogued on June 7, 2005 after 53 sitting days. The 3rd Session of the 62nd General Assembly commenced on November 16, 2005, and adjourned to the call of the Speaker on December 15, 2005 after 18 sitting days.

During the 2nd Session of the 62nd General Assembly, 53 Notices of Motion were filed at the Table; 34 of which were Private Members Motions and 19 were Government Motions.

- Fifty-eight Government Bills were introduced with fifty-six receiving Royal Assent;
- Ten Private Members Bills were introduced with none of these bills receiving Royal Assent;
- Two Private Bills were introduced with both receiving Royal Assent;
- There were 175 Written Questions were tabled;
- The Estimates of Revenue & Expenditure were Tabled and a Budget of \$1,127,734,300 was considered and approved by the House.
- The Capital Estimates were introduced for the first time during the Fall sitting of the House. More than \$54 million in spending was approved for FY 2006-2007 with the change initiated to enable contractors the opportunity to better prepare for the construction season and to take advantage of potential cost-savings.

Administratively, the Office of the Legislative Assembly continues to evaluate and reassess the way in which it delivers services and supports the work of the Legislative Assembly.

Hansard continues to be produced and has evolved, thanks to the commitment of Hansard Office staff, into very professional and reliable publication (see Hansard Office Report - page 27). Audio proceedings of the House were broadcast live on the Internet for a first time in 1996 with video coverage of House proceedings commencing in the Fall of 1997. The Assembly provided for the first time during the Spring 2005 sitting, a video-stream of House proceedings and, perhaps most useful of all, an archived video stream enabled users to access the video proceedings of the House on demand. This has proved to be a useful tool for civil servants, the public, media and researchers in accessing and following the debates and decisions of the House.

Administratively, work has commenced on updating committee meeting rooms and refurbishing the look and feel of the Pope and Whelan Rooms in the Coles Building. It is hoped that this work will be completed in early 2006 and will include:

- installation of in-floor wiring for audio system;
- new chairs to replace the 25 year-old chairs that no longer meet occupational health and safety standards;
- refinishing of existing tables to repair damage resulting from considerable use;
- installation of an overhead LCD projector and overhead remote screen for powerpoint/data presentations;
- new paint and blinds.

Security measures continue to be reviewed on an ongoing basis (see Security Officer Report, page 25). With ongoing world events, security continues to be a priority to ensure that legislators, general public and staff at Province House may conduct its parliamentary affairs in a safe and accessible environment.

The Office of the Legislative Assembly also continues to provide human resource services to the various operations of the House. Included are the Legislative Assembly Office, Sessional Offices, Opposition Members and Government Members Offices, Conflict of Interest Commissioner, Elections P.E.I. and the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner.

Throughout 2005, the Office of the Legislative Assembly continued to support such initiatives as the Prince Edward Island Page Programme, the Rotary Youth Parliament, co-management of Province House (in cooperation with Parks Canada) for which the Assembly has taken the lead in establishing a Queens Square Committee so all stakeholders will have input into the operation and management of the Square, ensuring adequate staffing and training for sessional and other operations of the House, administrative and research support for the Indemnities and Allowances Commission (as required) and various other special initiatives, programs and reviews as undertaken from time to time.

One special project that has been completed is an educational CD on the Legislative Assembly entitled "Discover the Legislative Assembly". All informational material was supplied by the Office of the Legislative Assembly with technical, design and layout support and direction provided by Audio Visual Services of the Provincial Treasury. Plans are underway to officially launch the CD early in 2006. It is hoped that Members and staff of the Assembly may utilize the resource in an effort to promote a better understanding of the work that is done at the Assembly.

In conclusion, the Office would like to sincerely thank all of those in the Government Service who provide assistance and support to the Legislative Assembly. Without the competent and professional assistance of these dedicated public servants, the Office of the Assembly would not be in a position to deliver high quality services to Members and the public. Specifically, special thanks are extended to Audio Visual Services (Provincial Treasury), Fiscal Management (Provincial Treasury), Queen's Printer (Provincial Treasury), Financial Information System support, Information Technology Management Group, Department of Transportation and Public Works, Provincial Archives (Department of Community and Cultural Affairs) and Federal Parks Canada.

Standing Committee on Legislative Management

The Standing Committee on Legislative Management, pursuant to the Rules of the Legislative Assembly, is comprised of the Speaker (as Chair), the Leader of the Official Opposition (or designate), Leader of the Third Party (or designate), Government House Leader (or designate), Government Caucus Chair (or designate), Opposition Caucus Chair (or designate) and the Deputy Speaker.

The Committee is charged with matters as follows:

- (a) policies for the administration of the Legislative Assembly,
- (b) the provision of security, facilities, and services, including allocation to party caucuses and individual Members,
- (c) the appointment, supervision, and management of the staff of the Legislative Assembly, other than the staff of party caucus offices and the Office of the Leader of the Opposition.
- (d) review of estimates of expenditure for the Legislative Assembly, including the forecasts and analysis of expenditures and financial commitments of the Assembly,
- (e) other matters necessary for the efficient and effective operation and management of the Legislative Assembly.

During 2005, the Committee was active in dealing with such matters as staffing changes resulting from resignations, budget for the Legislative Assembly, support levels provided to the Opposition and Government Members Offices, management of Province House and Queens Square, operation of the offices of the officers of the Legislative Assembly and many other administrative matters, issues and initiatives respecting the operation of the House. Specifically, matters considered included;

- 2005/2006 Budget for the Legislative Assembly,
- Appointment of the Commission on Prince Edward Island's Electoral Future,
- Funding and support for the Government Members Office and Opposition Members Office,
- Recruitment of a new Information and Privacy Commissioner,
- Technology support for members of the Legislative Assembly,
- Consideration of the proposed Service Memorial Fountain for the grounds of the Coles Building,
- Security at Province House,
- Support for the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner.

Committee Activity

Annual Report (January 1, 2005, to December 31, 2005)

Summary of Activity during the Year

The standing and special committees of the Legislative Assembly maintained an active and productive schedule during the year. In total, 73 meetings were held during 2005 to complete the work mandated to the various committees. In comparison, 49 meetings were held in 2004; and 39, throughout 2003. The most active committees were the Standing Committee on Public Accounts, with 20 meetings; and the Standing Committee on Agriculture, Forestry and Environment which held 16 meetings. The following chart presents a breakdown of the various committees and the number of meetings held by each.

Summary of Committee Activity January 1, 2005 to December 31, 2005				
Committee Name	Chairman	Committee Members	Number of Meetings	Number of Reports/ Dates of Reports
Committee on Committees	Jim Bagnall	Hon. Robert Ghiz Hon. Mitch Murphy Richard Brown Cletus Dunn	0	1 Nov. 24 , 2005
Special Committee on Climate Change	Wayne Collins	Wilfred Arsenault Jim Bagnall Carolyn Bertram Richard Brown Hon. Chester Gillan Wes MacAleer Helen MacDonald	8	1 April 22, 2005
Standing Committee on Agriculture, Forestry and Environment	Wilbur MacDonald	Wilfred Arsenault Richard Brown Ron MacKinley Fred McCardle Andy Mooney Hon. Mitch Murphy Eva Rodgerson	16	2 May 24, 2005 Dec. 1, 2005
Standing Committee on Community Affairs and Economic Development	Wilfred Arsenault	Hon. Jamie Ballem Carolyn Bertram Hon. Philip Brown Richard Brown Helen MacDonald Fred McCardle Eva Rodgerson	11	2 May 11, 2005 Dec. 1, 2005

**Summary of Committee Activity
January 1, 2005 to December 31, 2005**

Committee Name	Chairman	Committee Members	Number of Meetings	Number of Reports/ Dates of Reports
Standing Committee on the Constitution of Canada	Hon. Pat Binns	Wilfred Arsenault Carolyn Bertram Hon. Robert Ghiz Hon. Chester Gillan David McKenna Hon. Mitch Murphy Eva Rodgeron	1	0
Standing Committee on Fisheries, Intergovernmental Affairs and Transportation	Wes MacAleer	Hon. Philip Brown Hon. Mike Currie Cletus Dunn Hon. Robert Ghiz Ron MacKinley Fred McCardle Andy Mooney	2	1 May 5, 2005
Standing Committee on Privileges, Rules and Private Bills	Helen MacDonald	Carolyn Bertram Richard Brown Hon. Mildred Dover Hon. Kevin MacAdam Wes MacAleer Hon. Elmer MacFadyen Hon. Gail Shea	3	1 April 20, 2005
Standing Committee on Public Accounts	Ron MacKinley	Jim Bagnall Wayne Collins Cletus Dunn Hon. Robert Ghiz Wes MacAleer Wilbur MacDonald David McKenna	20	2 May 6, 2005 Nov. 23, 2005
Standing Committee on Social Development	Wayne Collins	Carolyn Bertram Hon. Robert Ghiz Hon. Kevin MacAdam Wilbur MacDonald Hon. Elmer MacFadyen Beth MacKenzie David McKenna	12	4 April 21, 2005 May 3, 2005 May 5, 2005 Nov. 30, 2005

Highlights of Committee Activity

Committee on Committees

Before committees can organize themselves or undertake any business, the membership of each committee must be established. Rule 82(a) and guidelines 3(1) and 3(2) provide for the establishment of a striking committee, called the "Committee on Committees," which is charged with the selection of members for all the standing committees (with the exception of the Standing Committee on Legislative Management). The Committee on Committees is guided in its work by rule 82(b) which limits the number of members on a standing committee to ten; rule 84 which prohibits ministers from appointment to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts; and guideline 4 which specifies that membership of the committees be, generally, in the same proportion as that of the recognized political parties in the House. In April 2005, the House adopted a further guideline which states that in no case shall the Official Opposition have fewer than two members on any committee, unless there are fewer than two members of the Official Opposition.

Special Committee on Climate Change

The Special Committee on Climate Change was appointed by motion on May 20, 2004, to consult with Islanders and to develop recommendations to the Legislative Assembly on a climate change strategy for the province. Over the course of its public meetings in 2005, the Committee heard 18 presentations and received more than 80 separate recommendations on issues related to climate change. These included recommendations on renewable energy, transportation, energy efficiency, agriculture, coastal management, forestry, waste management, and enhancing awareness and understanding of climate change. Presenters commonly expressed the need for government to provide strong leadership, build partnerships and provide financial incentives to deal with climate change. The Committee participated in the official launch of the Promoting Active Community Transport campaign; and joined in the celebrations marking the entry of the Kyoto Protocol into international force. With the adoption of its final report on April 22, 2005, the Special Committee on Climate Change ceased to exist.

Standing Committee on Agriculture, Forestry and Environment

The Standing Committee on Agriculture, Forestry and Environment was directed by the Legislative Assembly on December 16, 2004, to seek public input on the issue of genetically modified (GM) organisms. The Committee placed advertisements in newspapers across the province, inviting the public to share their issues and concerns. The immediate response was intense, and was received from provincial, national and international sources. The high degree of public interest was sustained over the entire year, resulting in the highest reaction the Committee had ever experienced to a call for input.

During 2005, the Committee held a total of 15 meetings to consider the issue of GM organisms, and received briefs and heard presentations from a total of 138 groups and individuals. In addition, the Committee reviewed dozens of briefing notes prepared by researchers; read books, magazines and other publications provided by the various presenters in support of their testimony; and responded to hundreds of email inquiries. The Committee also received numerous telephone calls and had many personal contacts which served to reinforce the importance of the issue to the people of Prince Edward Island, Canada, and around the world.

Public response focused on various issues: short-term and long-term impacts on human health; environmental concerns and the importance of biodiversity; consumers' right to know about production methods; trends of globalization and privatization; ethical considerations; and trade and economic consequences. It was a challenge for the Committee to become informed of all of the relevant developments in science, technology, policy, politics, shifts in popular opinion, and law in the field of genetic resources.

Debate on the issue was polarized, at times heated; however, throughout the process, the Committee accepted that there are strongly-held and contrary views on the topic of GM organisms, and maintained a neutral forum for discussion.

In its final report on this issue, tabled in the Legislative Assembly on December 1, 2005, the Committee made a total of eight recommendations, and affirmed its intention to take an active interest in matters pertaining to areas of regulation, monitoring of long-term human health and environmental effects, labeling of foods, and the integration of social and ethical considerations into public policy discussions and decision-making.

Standing Committee on Community Affairs and Economic Development

The Standing Committee on Community Affairs and Economic Development is charged with matters concerning community, cultural and economic affairs, labour and justice. In late 2004, the Legislative Assembly forwarded to the Committee the issue of attracting new immigrants to Prince Edward Island. The Committee devoted 10 meetings held throughout 2005 to this topic. In addition, during the consultative process, the Committee had the opportunity to review, in detail, a number of written submissions on the topic of immigration, which included personal stories and experiences of immigrants.

The Committee concluded that immigration has historically been important to Prince Edward Island's growth; possibly never more so than it is today. The province is a small one, with an aging population and a low birth rate. The reality is that we are facing a labour shortage, competing with other regions in Canada, and, indeed, with other industrialized nations, for talented newcomers.

We must make a concerted effort to attract skilled workers and provide an environment where new Canadians can maximize their potential. The government of the province must play a key role in determining immigration targets and strategies, and coordinating policies on identifying, accepting and integrating immigrants in an efficient and compassionate way. But the responsibility is not government's alone. It will take the collective efforts of government, community, labour and business for Prince Edward Island to become the destination of choice for talented people with skills, energy and drive.

Standing Committee on Fisheries, Intergovernmental Affairs and Transportation

The Standing Committee on Fisheries, Intergovernmental Affairs and Transportation met on February 4, 2005, to consider the implications of a proposed sale of the Cardigan Fish Hatchery. Subsequently, the hatchery was purchased by a private business.

Standing Committee on Privileges, Rules and Private Bills

The Standing Committee on Privileges, Rules and Private Bills met twice to consider a variety of matters placed before it. In March, the Committee met to discuss its report of April 13, 2004, which was tabled in the Legislative Assembly during the first session of the Sixty-second General Assembly but not considered for adoption. The report was re-introduced and adopted on April 20, 2005. In December, the Committee discussed the distribution of tabled documents, the estimates process and the sitting hours of the House.

Standing Committee on Public Accounts

The Standing Committee on Public Accounts was very active during 2005. It held a total of 20 meetings, and reviewed, in detail, a number of reports: the *2004 Report of the Auditor General to the Legislative Assembly* (dated March 5, 2004), *Government's Involvement with Polar Foods International Inc.* (dated January 11, 2005), the *2005 Report of the Auditor General to the Legislative Assembly* (dated March 8, 2005), and *Polar Foods International Inc. Final Report Prepared for the Auditor General of Prince Edward Island* by KPMG LLP (dated September 30, 2005). In addition, the Committee also discussed the province's waste management system and held one meeting with staff of CCAF, a national research and education foundation, to assist them with research on parliamentary oversight committees.

The Committee heard from a number of witnesses throughout its investigations: the Auditor General, Colin Younker, CA, accompanied by members of his staff, appeared at 15 meetings. The Premier, the Provincial Treasurer, and the Minister of Transportation and Public Works appeared once each. The Minister of Development and Technology attended two meetings to give a statement and answer questions on Polar Foods International Inc., and to provide further details concerning the construction and operation of the Atlantic Technology Centre.

Other witnesses included two researchers from CCAF and three members of the Board of Directors of the Atlantic Technology Centre. In an unusual move, the Committee heard from one of its permanent members, Wes MacAleer (Charlottetown-Spring Park), appearing as a witness in his capacity as a former Minister of Economic Development.

The Standing Committee on Social Development

The Standing Committee on Social Development considered several important issues throughout the year: combatting impaired driving, appointments to the Prince Edward Island Human Rights Commission, and mandatory retirement. The Committee met a total of 12 times and produced four written reports for the members of the Legislative Assembly. Perhaps the most intensive work was on the topic of strategies and recommendations to combat impaired driving in Prince Edward Island. The Committee made 14 recommendations which included amending legislation to allow for the introduction of an Ignition Interlock Program and a Vehicle Forfeiture Program for repeat offenders. Throughout the consultations there was a common view presented by interested groups and the general public that impaired driving must be reduced.

Conference Activity

Ron MacKinley (North River-Rice Point), Chairman of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts; Jim Bagnall (Montague-Kilmuir), Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts; and Marian Johnston, Clerk Assistant and Clerk of Committees, attended the 26th Annual Conference of the Canadian Council of Public Accounts Committees at Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, from August 21-23, 2005.

The 27th Annual Conference will be held in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, from September 10-12, 2006.

Sergeant-at-Arms and Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod

Sergeant Curtis H. Adamson

The Sergeant-at-Arms is part of the Office of the Legislative Assembly as defined in the *Legislative Assembly Act*, RSPEI 1988 Cap L-7. The position is steeped in parliamentary tradition. The office originated in the early years of the British Parliament, when mace-bearing members of the Royal bodyguard were assigned to attend the Speaker at sittings of the House of Commons. With the Sergeant-at-Arms and the Mace, the House may exercise its considerable rights and privileges and the various parliamentary functions assigned to it.

Today, the Sergeant-at-Arms on Prince Edward Island is responsible for bearing the Mace during the daily procession into the House, ensuring the safekeeping of the Mace, and carrying out such other duties as may be assigned by the Speaker or the Clerk.

On November 12, 2003, the Legislative Assembly unanimously appointed Sergeant Curtis H. Adamson of Charlottetown as Sergeant-at-Arms. Mr. Adamson replaced Mr. Ivan Kerry, FO, DFC who had served as Sergeant-at-Arms since January 3, 1997.

Prior to being appointed Sergeant-at-Arms, Mr. Adamson served with the Security Services for the Legislative Assembly and with the Canadian Corp of Commissionaires.

Prince Edward Island's Mace



On February 24, 1966, with the following words, appreciation was extended to the Canadian Area Council of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association for the gift of a Mace to accompany the proceedings of the Legislative Assembly of Prince Edward Island.

Moved by Hon. Walter R. Shaw, Premier, Seconded by Mr. Alexander. B. Campbell, Leader of Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition, as follows;

THAT this House accepts, with sincere thanks, the generous gift of a Mace from the Canadian Area Council of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, as graciously presented on their behalf by the Honourable Alan MacNaughton. This beautiful emblem will serve in this Legislature not only as a symbol of the Speaker's authority but also as a symbol of those bonds of goodwill which exist between the Provinces of Canada and the Countries of the Commonwealth. It will further serve as a constant reminder of those high ideals of Parliamentary Government which we cherish.

The Mace was designed by Canadian manufacturer Henry Birks and Sons Ltd. It incorporates the seals of the ten Canadian provinces and the Coat of Arms of Canada. Originally serving as a symbol of the authority of the Crown, it is now widely accepted as a symbol of the authority of parliament and the Speaker - with the Speaker's authority being inseparable from the House itself. In use, for example, the secret ballot election of Speaker cannot proceed unless the Mace is present. During these proceedings, the Mace lies in the lower stand in front of the Table, indicating that the House is without a voice until it has elected one from among its numbers to be Speaker. As soon as the House has elected a Speaker, the Mace is placed on the Table indicating that the House is now properly constituted and may now conduct business. During everyday business of the House, when the Speaker is in the Chair, the Mace is on the Table. When the Speaker is not in the Chair, the Mace is placed in the stand in front of the Table.

At the beginning of each sitting day the Sergeant-at-Arms, with the Mace resting on his right shoulder, leads the Speaker's Procession into the Chamber. It is then placed on the Table, with the Prince Edward Island Shield of Arms facing upward, and is present in the Chamber at all times when House business is being conducted.

Black Rod


In addition to serving as Sergeant-at-Arms, Mr. Adamson also serves in the historic capacity of Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod during ceremonial occasions. Responsibilities of this position are to serve as an escort to the Honourable Lieutenant Governor when entering the Legislative Chamber at the beginning of a Session for the reading of the Speech from the Throne and for the granting of Royal Assent, usually at the end of a session or before a lengthy adjournment.

In parliamentary proceedings, symbols such as the Black Rod are important as they serve to remind us of historic struggles of people against the arbitrary rule of monarchs. They also serve to signify the serious responsibilities of people in elected office. Early use of the Black Rod in 1348 suggest that it was used to deny admission of unauthorized persons to various festivals and events at Windsor Castle. Later, its symbolism and history reflect an occurrence in the British House of Commons in 1642 when King Charles I stormed the Chamber to arrest five Members who opposed him, but the Speaker of the day refused to turn them over.

Current practice has the Sergeant knocking on the doors of the Chamber with the Black Rod seeking permission for the Lieutenant Governor to enter. This symbolic act was incorporated into the opening ceremony on Prince Edward Island in 2000 and serves to emphasize that the people, and their elected Assembly, are supreme and not the Crown.



Prince Edward Island has a relatively new, and unique, Black Rod. It is made of Island Red Oak, Prince Edward Island's official tree. It has a gold band at the top representing the Lieutenant Governor of the Province, a silver band representing the Speaker, red, white and blue signifying the Clerk, Clerk Assistant and Sergeant-at-Arms, four white rings for the pages and large and small dark green rings representing the Province and the three counties respectively.



Two Island pennies have been mounted. These are the only Island coins ever minted for P.E.I. and show on the face "Victoria Queen 1871" and on the reverse the Provincial Oak trees. Below this are the 27 grooves representing the 27 electoral districts in Island rust representing our uniquely coloured soil.

*Lloyd Kerry's Woodworking of Charlottetown crafted the redesigned Black Rod with the assistance of Ivan Kerry, Sergeant-at-Arms of the Prince Edward Island Legislative Assembly (1997 - 2003). Island historian Doug Morton presented as a gift the two 1871 coins mounted in the base of the Rod.

Security


Wayne Collicott
Security Officer

The Security Officer is responsible for the implementation and day-to-day operations of security policies for the Legislative Assembly. The objective is to provide a safe and secure environment for MLAs and Assembly staff to conduct their parliamentary responsibilities in Province House and the Coles Building. At present, assisting the Security Officer in the delivery of security services are seven Members of the Canadian Corp of Commissionaires (one full-time and six part-time).

Additional responsibilities include monitoring and maintenance of electronic surveillance equipment, additional training of security personnel, liaison with Charlottetown City Police as required, creation of contingency plans for bomb threats, fire evacuation plans, contact for assistance with public demonstrations, etc.

Security policies include the following:

1. There are 2 security personnel covering the parking lot.
 - [a] only allow authorized parking,
 - [b] time sheets are maintained for persons arriving and departing,
 - [c] radio contact is maintained with the Security Office in Province House,
 - [d] regular foot patrols and reporting of suspicious activity.
2. Province House
 - [a] Physical security consists of:
 - [1] Head of Security
 - [2] 4 Commissionaires - Provincial,
 - [3] 1 Commissionaire - Federal,
 - [b] entire building is searched twice a day,
 - [c] check sheets are completed and retained on file.
3. Visitors
 - [a] visitors are required to sign a visitor book.
 - [1] name written and printed,
 - [2] date and time,
 - [3] book kept on file.
4. Meetings
 - [a] meetings for security personnel are held on a daily basis.
5. Badge system
 - [a] badges are colour coded for easy recognition,
 - [b] changed and upgraded every session.

- 
6. Control
 - [a] brief cases, kit bags and other such bags, camera cases and other media equipment are searched upon coming into the building.
 - [b] visitors with articles that are not allowed beyond the 1st floor are secured by the Commissionaire and are given back to the owners when they are leaving.
 - [c] articles are controlled by numbered tags.

 7. Policy and Procedures
 - [a] policy and procedures are in place to cover movements of persons within the building,
 - [b] call tracing has been put on all government telephone lines and it is checked before each sitting of the legislature,
 - [c] policy is amended and revised as required,
 - [d] personnel are advised of the amendments.

 8. Alarm system/CCTV
 - [a] Province House is alarmed for the following:
 - [1] intrusion - tested frequently,
 - [2] glass break - tested frequently,
 - [3] panic alarms - strategically located, on a need to know basis,
 - [4] all movements inside/outside are covered by cameras and taped,
 - [5] taping covers 24 hours, 7 days a week.
 - [b] Two metal detectors are used as deemed advisable and necessary.

 9. General
 - [a] The tunnel connecting Province House to the Coles Building is secured by "Unican" pushbutton lockset. The combination is changed before each session.
 - [b] The building is equipped with emergency lighting and a fire alarm system. They are tested periodically.

 10. Contingency Plans
 - [a] There are contingency plans in place to cover the following.
 - [1] fire,
 - [2] demonstrations,
 - [3] bomb threats,
 - [4] radio contact with the Charlottetown Police.

Report of Hansard Office for 2004

Jeff Bursey
Manager of Hansard

Hansard was established in 1996 at the commencement of the 4th Session of the 59th General Assembly.

Hansard has five sessional employees responsible for the transcription, editing and production of the proceedings of the Legislature. The Preliminary Proceedings of Question Period is transcribed by the end of each sitting day. This means that Tuesday's Question Period appears in print, with Statements by Members, for Wednesday's sitting, etc. This task is the responsibility of one transcriber. The remaining three transcribers produce the rest of the day's sitting. The Legislature sits, on average, sixteen hours per week. The manager is also the editor.

The Hansard document is produced within two sitting days of the legislative proceedings: Tuesday's Hansard is distributed on Thursday, Wednesday's Hansard is distributed on Friday, Thursday's Hansard is distributed on Tuesday, and Friday's Hansard is distributed on Wednesday. Hansard is posted online at the Legislative Assembly's website. Previous sessions of the Assembly since the creation of Hansard are archived online and may be searched by keyword or phrase.

At the conclusion of a session, the printed Hansard is bound into volumes, which are distributed within the Legislative offices, to government and opposition offices, to libraries locally and nationally, as well as to certain individuals. The Speaker retains a certain number of copies for sale to interested parties.

1996: 4th Session of the 59th General Assembly; 2 volumes (1,238 pages)

1997-1998: 1st Session of the 60th General Assembly; 13 volumes (6,150 pages)

1998-1999: 2nd Session of the 60th General Assembly; 3 volumes (3,623 pages)

1999-2000: 3rd Session of the 60th General Assembly; 2 volumes (1,001 pages)

2000: 1st Session of the 61st General Assembly; 2 volumes (1,054 pages)

2000-2001: 2nd Session of the 61st General Assembly; 2 volumes (1,100 pages)

2001-2002: 3rd Session of the 61st General Assembly; 2 volumes (2,417 pages)

2002-2003: 4th Session of the 61st General Assembly; 3 volumes (2,788 pages)

2003-2004: 1st Session of the 62nd General Assembly; 3 volumes (3,300 pages)

2004-2005: 2nd Session of the 62nd General Assembly; 4 volumes (3,762 pages)

In 2005, the Hansard staff consisted of transcribers Judy Burgoyne, Kirsten Ferguson, Linda Henry and Helen Gunter, with Shirley Trainor substituting for absent personnel. The manager and editor is Jeff Bursey.

The daily Hansard, as well as Question Period, has been distributed on a consistent and efficient basis since the installation of the printer/photocopier in Province House in the fall of 2004. It had been thought that the bound Hansard could be produced without recourse to the Document Publishing Centre, but an analysis of the cost of paper production proved that to be, at this time, fiscally prohibitive.

Hansard's index, first created in its present form in the summer of 2003, has proven to be extremely useful for concerned parties. In the late summer of 2005 the indices for 2002 through 2005, previously available only in print, were placed on the Legislature's Hansard site, www.assembly.pe.ca/hansard/index.php. Currently, the website offers the text of Hansards from 3 January 1997, and audio archives of the Legislature from the spring of 1999.

Building on our presence in Halifax at the Hansard Association of Canada (HAC) conference in August 2004, Hansard PEI was able to attend the Commonwealth Hansard Editors Association (CHEA) conference in Edmonton in August 2005 (within which the HAC conference took place). The delegates to this conference were from every Hansard jurisdiction in Canada, as well as from Australia (national and state levels), British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, East Africa, Fiji, Hong Kong, Ireland, Jamaica, Kenya, Republic of Kiribati, Lesotho, Namibia, New Zealand, Northern Ireland, Papua New Guinea, Scotland, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda, Wales, and Westminster. In total, there were 91 delegates representing 44 jurisdictions. Present also was a visitor from the Deutscher Bundestag (Germany). Hansard PEI could therefore present itself on a world stage, in addition to partaking in discussions concerning technical issues. The interest expressed in PEI by other delegates was sincere, as this was the Hansard PEI's first attendance at CHEA.

As stated in the manager's post-conference report:

"These conferences are forums where knowledge, not just information, is shared about diverse matters, including, but not limited to, technological advancements, system improvements, fiscal approaches, and personnel matters, as experienced by Hansards in Africa, Asia, Australasia, the Caribbean, Europe, and North America; they foster closer ties between Hansards so that personnel from one province or country can discuss, in session and privately, matters that arise from day to day in jurisdictions investigating similar matters; they ensure that there is a continual addition to the encyclopaedic knowledge of Hansard worldwide. The resulting benefit of this accumulated knowledge among bureaucrats is that each Hansard can work to better answer the needs, and anticipate the requirements, of legislators. The exchange of knowledge, the comparison of methods, and the anecdotal and statistical analysis of pressing and future concerns, contribute to each delegate's understanding of global practices, and this understanding can be brought back home, considered, transformed, and utilized, to particular ends."

To conclude, 2005 was both a period of consolidation and an opening into new fields for Hansard PEI, which will hopefully bear fruit in 2006.

Jeff Bursey
Manager of Hansard
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**Budget for the Legislative Assembly
for
Fiscal Years 2005/2006**

Legislative Assembly

	ESTIMATE 2005-2006	FORECAST 2004-2005	ORIGINAL BUDGET 2004-2005
Legislative Services	\$1,472,300	\$1,527,400	\$1,527,400
Members	\$1,655,800	\$1,650,500	\$1,650,500
Commonwealth Parliamentary Assoc. Conference	\$ 42,000	\$ 0	\$ 0
Conflict of Interest Commissioner	\$ 28,200	\$ 28,200	\$ 28,200
Office of the Privacy Commissioner	\$ 79,500	\$ 85,300	\$ 85,300
Elections	\$ 188,900	\$ 188,900	\$ 188,900
Election Expenses	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Electoral Future Commission	\$ 148,200	\$ 0	\$ 0
TOTAL	\$3,614,900	\$3,480,300	\$3,480,300

Indemnities and Allowances Commission

The independent Indemnities and Allowances Commission is appointed by the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly (pursuant to Section 46 of the *Legislative Assembly Act*, R.S.P.E.I. 1988, Cap. L-7) and is charged with the responsibility of making binding decisions on remuneration and allowances to be paid to Members of the Legislative Assembly, Premier, Speaker, Ministers of the Crown, various House positions and Executive Council Committee positions.

Members of the Commission are appointed for the duration of the General Assembly in which they are appointed or for not more than five years.

The Commission conducts an annual review of remuneration and allowances and submits, on or before December 1 each year, a report determining the remuneration and allowances to be paid to the persons referred to in subsection 46(1) of the *Legislative Assembly Act*.

Members of the Commission as appointed by Hon. Greg Deighan, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, for the 62nd General Assembly are:

- Mr. Keith Boswell, Chair
- Mr. Albert Ferris, Commissioner
- Mr. Michael Schurman, Commissioner

The Commission's last report was tabled in the Legislative Assembly by the Speaker on December 1, 2005 at which time an extension was requested by the Commission to complete its work. The Office anticipates receipt of the 2005 Report sometime early in 2006.

Prince Edward Island Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association

Aims, Goals and Activities of the Association

The CPA is an Association of Commonwealth Parliamentarians who, irrespective of gender, race, religion or culture, are united by community of interest, respect for the rule of law and individual rights and freedoms, and by pursuit of the positive ideals of parliamentary democracy.

The Association is a charity registered under the laws of the United Kingdom. Its stated purpose is to promote knowledge and understanding of the constitutional, legislative, economic, social and cultural systems within a parliamentary democratic framework. It undertakes this mission with particular reference to the countries of the Commonwealth of Nations and to countries having close historical and parliamentary associations with it.

CPA provides the sole means of regular consultation among Members of Commonwealth Parliaments. It fosters cooperation and understanding among them and promotes the study of, and respect for, Parliament. Its role is endorsed by Commonwealth Parliaments and Heads of Government.

The CPA pursues these objectives by means of

- Annual Commonwealth Parliamentary Conferences, Regional Conferences and other symposiums;
- Interparliamentary visits;
- Parliamentary Seminars and Workshops;
- Publications, notably *The Parliamentarian*, *Canadian Parliamentary Review* and two newsletters on CPA activities and on parliamentary and political events;
- Parliamentary Information and Reference Centre communications.

History

The CPA was founded in 1911 as the Empire Parliamentary Association and its affairs were administered by the United Kingdom Branch. The original member Branches were Australia, Canada, Newfoundland, New Zealand, South Africa and the United Kingdom. Evolving with the Commonwealth, the CPA in 1948 adopted its present name, changed its rules to enable all member Branches to participate in the Association's management, and established a separate Secretariat to manage its affairs.

Association Branches now exist in more than 165 national, state, provincial and territorial Parliaments, with a total membership of over 14,000 Parliamentarians.

Today's resurgence of parliamentary democracy is evident in the growth of the CPA. In the 1990s, nearly 30 new Parliaments and Legislatures joined or rejoined the CPA: Cameroon; Fiji; new devolved Assemblies in Canada, India and the United Kingdom; Maldives; Mozambique; Nigeria; Seychelles; South Africa and its provinces; Uganda, and Zanzibar in Tanzania. Pakistan and its provinces were members until the 1999 coup.

The CPA in 1989 created the constitutional posts of Patron and Vice-Patron. Her Majesty The Queen as the Head of the Commonwealth consented to become Patron. The Vice-Patron is normally the Head of State or Government of the Branch hosting the coming plenary conference. The 2004 Vice-Patron is the Governor General of Canada, the Right Honourable Adrienne Clarkson.

Activities

In 2005 the Prince Edward Island Branch participated in the following activities of the Canadian Region of the CPA.

- 43rd Annual Canadian Regional Conference, St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador from July 19 -24 2005. PEI representatives were: Hon. Greg Deighan, Jim Bagnall, David McKenna, Wes MacAleer, Wayne Collins and Richard Brown
- Atlantic Parliamentary Conference, Fredericton, New Brunswick from June 23 - 26. PEI representatives were: Hon. Greg Deighan, Beth MacKenzie, Wilfred Arsenault, Richard Brown and Charles MacKay, Clerk.
- The annual Canadian Regional Seminar was hosted by Speaker Deighan in Summerside, PEI from October 20 - 23, 2005. PEI representatives at this Seminar were: Hon. Greg Deighan, Helen MacDonald and Richard Brown.
- The 51st Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference and Small Countries Conference was held from September 1 - 10, 2005 in Nadi, Fiji. Prince Edward Island's representative was Hon. Greg Deighan, Speaker.
- At the request of the Canadian Region, and attending as the Canadian Regional Representative, the Hon. Greg Deighan attended the CPA Mid-Year Executive meetings in Sydney, Australia in April, 2005.

President of the P.E.I. Branch is the Honourable Greg Deighan, MLA, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly and Branch Secretary is Charles MacKay. Questions may be directed to the Office of the Clerk, Province House, Box 2000, Charlottetown, P.E.I. C1A 7N8 (tel) 902-368-5970, fax 902-368-5175 or email *chmackay@gov.pe.ca*.