

**SPEAKING NOTES
THE HONOURABLE NOËL A. KINSELLA
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE**

**ON THE OCCASION OF THE PRESENTATION OF QUEEN ELIZABETH
II DIAMOND JUBILEE MEDALS TO SENATE TABLE OFFICERS**

**OTTAWA
MAY 17, 2012**

Mr. Stephen Wallace, Secretary to the Governor General of Canada
The Honourable Donald Oliver, Speaker Pro tempore of the Senate
Senator Cowan,
Dr. Claire Boudreau, Chief Herald of Canada,
Mr. Bruce Patterson, Deputy Chief Herald of Canada,
Honourable Senators,
Medal Recipients,
Distinguished guests,
Ladies and gentlemen,

On the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the accession to the Throne of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Queen of Canada, I am pleased to host this ceremony for the presentation of the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal.

It is also a pleasure to welcome the Chief Herald of Canada, Dr. Claire Boudreau. The garment she is wearing is her ceremonial Tabard which was just completed this week and this occasion is the first time it has been on public display. The next appearance will be on a barge on the River Thames in London, England, where our Chief Herald will be wearing her Tabard along with other Heralds from around the Commonwealth during the Diamond Jubilee celebrations.

It was on February 6, 1952 that Her Majesty became the Queen of Canada. As Canadians mark this historic milestone, Canadians honour Her Majesty's life of service and commitment to duty.

This commemorative medal is part of the Canadian Honours System, recognizing thousands of Canadians for their outstanding work in this country and abroad. The medal is more than a symbol of accomplishment; it is a symbol of responsibility. As His Excellency, David Johnson stated: "We must always strive to improve the lives of others, to be smarter and more caring about how we build our country". This evening we salute Medal recipients, who through their care, professionalism and dedication have strengthened the cultural institution of the Parliament of Canada and in particular the Senate of Canada.

That this ceremony should take place in the Senate Chamber speaks not only to the officers and those who serve this Honourable House but also gives focus to the fact that it is here where the thrones of the Sovereign of Canada and consort are permanently found.

Therefore by Command of Her Majesty the Queen, it gives me great pleasure as the Speaker of the Senate to present the Diamond Jubilee Medal in appreciation of the service you have rendered to Canada.