

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

**ON THE OCCASION OF A LUNCHEON FOR THE SPEAKER OF  
THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUEBEC**

**SPEAKER'S DINING ROOM, OTTAWA  
DECEMBER 10, 2012**

Speaker Scheer,

Président Chagnon,

Honourable Senators and Members of the House of Commons,

Distinguished guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is a great pleasure to welcome everyone to the Parliament Buildings and to the dining room of the Speaker of the Senate. Président Jacques Chagnon of the National Assembly of Québec is our special guest.

Président Chagnon, your last visit was just a little less than a year ago. Personal contact of this nature is an important element in maintaining a collegial and cooperative relationship between our two legislatures. We appreciate the effort you and your staff have made to keep us apprised of developments in the National Assembly.

The election in Quebec resulted in significant changes in your Chamber. It will be interesting to hear about developments and their effect. With your 25 plus years of experience as a member of the National Assembly, your perspective will be particularly informative. Throughout your time in the National Assembly, you have held many important posts in the service of your legislative assembly.

That includes chairing many committees, holding numerous cabinet positions, and acting as second vice-president of the Assembly before being elected *Président*. Prior to your political career, you worked in one of the most important fields – education. Your notable experience undoubtedly gives you a unique outlook on the newly elected Assembly.

Let us take some time this afternoon to learn firsthand about the achievements and challenges facing our respective legislatures. It is often in less formal settings, like this meeting today, that strong working relationships are established.

Visits of this nature enhance our working relationship, with open and frequent discussions being welcomed by all concerned. *Président* Chagnon, we appreciate your taking the time to be with us today and we look forward to further exchanges in the future. This continues an important tradition of working together.

Thank you and best wishes for the holidays.

Cheers.