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

## ON THE OCCASION OF THE PRESENTATION OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II DIAMOND JUBILEE MEDALS

## FREDERICTON, NB AUGUST 26, 2012

Minister Ashfield, Minister Leonard, Minister Carr, Members of the Legislative Assembly, Medal Recipients, Distinguished guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a pleasure to welcome all of you and to join you at this afternoon's ceremony for the presentation of the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal. These medals are part of the celebration of the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the accession to the Throne of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Queen of Canada.

Her Majesty became the Queen of Canada on February 6, 1952. As Canadians mark this historic milestone, they 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. It 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".

The medal being presented this afternoon is a tangible expression for Canada to honour Her Majesty for her service and care for our country. At the same time, it serves to salute the significant contributions and achievements of Canadians who have served and cared for their communities.

One side of the medal has the Royal Cipher, consisting of the Royal Crown above the letters EiiR, which stands for Elizabeth II Regina, with the dates 1952 and 2012. On the other side is a crowned image of Her Majesty. The medals were manufactured by the Royal Canadian Mint in Ottawa and are made of nickel silver.

By Command of Her Majesty the Queen, it gives us great pleasure to present the Diamond Jubilee Medal in appreciation of the service each of you has rendered to Canada.