

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

ON THE OCCASION OF A DIPLOMATIC GATHERING

**UPPER CANADA VILLAGE
SEPTEMBER 15, 2010**

Speaker Milliken,
Your Excellencies the Members of the Diplomatic Corps,
Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen:

On this relatively informal occasion I would like to extend a very warm welcome to the members of the Diplomatic Corps. It was just a few short months ago that we gathered in Kingston for what has become an annual event and I am pleased to be with you once again.

I trust that you have been enjoying both the beautiful scenery and a most interesting visit to Upper Canada Village. This is an opportunity to share some time together and get to know one another a bit better in a congenial atmosphere.

In addition to less formal occasions such as today's gathering, Canadian parliamentarians are involved in diplomacy in a range of venues, including multilateral and bilateral parliamentary associations, interparliamentary groups, parliamentary exchanges, and numerous unofficial friendship groups. Whatever the occasion and wherever they go, diplomacy is a daily feature of what parliamentarians do as they serve those they represent.

You will all have a particular appreciation for the increasing interdependence of nations. As a consequence, the policy challenges that we face often require resolution through compromise and cooperation. The importance of the job that you do each and every day in promoting good relations is well recognized. You smooth the sometimes turbulent diplomatic waters, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing hard work. Your

impressive efforts are a critical element in fostering the cooperation required to address existing and emerging global challenges.

In closing, I want to thank you all once again for joining us today and I hope you are looking forward to a fascinating tour of HMCS Fredericton this afternoon, a ship that is named after my home city and thus holds special significance for me.