

**NOTES FOR REMARKS TO BE GIVEN BY
SPEAKER KINSELLA TO WELCOME A
MEXICAN DELEGATION TO OTTAWA FOR THE XVIIITH
CANADA–MEXICO INTERPARLIAMENTARY MEETING**

Excellency Mr. and Mrs. Morfín,
Honourable representative of the Chamber of Deputies,
Ladies and gentlemen:

Bienvenidos a Ottawa! [meaning: “Welcome to Ottawa”].

On behalf of my fellow parliamentarians, it is with great pleasure that I welcome you to Ottawa and to the National Capital Region of Canada. We are thrilled that you could be here for the 18th Canada–Mexico Interparliamentary Meeting and very eager to begin what will no doubt be two terrific days of meetings.

Tomorrow morning I will have the opportunity to speak with you in more detail about the program for this year’s Interparliamentary Meeting. As I am sure you will agree, the substantive discussions we will be having speak directly to the fundamental bilateral and multilateral issues that we face as parliamentarians.

Along with providing a forum for substantive discussion, our interparliamentary meetings also provide a wonderful occasion to strengthen the ties between our countries as well as our parliaments. I look forward to your insights and learning from your parliamentary experience.

Most importantly, I am excited to build on the people-to-people ties that Canada and Mexico share. Over the years, our peoples have developed a deep and abiding friendship and I am very pleased to play a part in strengthening these ties and in continuing the important exchanges that have become a fixture of our relationship.

Before I turn it over to my colleague, let me wish you once again a warm welcome to Ottawa. I hope that you enjoy yourself this evening and I look forward to welcoming you to Parliament tomorrow.

Cheers!