

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

**ON THE OCCASION OF A LUNCHEON TO HONOUR THE
ERNEST C. MANNING AWARDS FOUNDATION**

**SPEAKER'S DINING ROOM
17 OCTOBER 2012**

Ms. Samson,

Distinguished guests,

Ladies and gentlemen:

It is a pleasure to welcome you to Parliament Hill and to the Speaker's Dining Room, where we are gathered to pay tribute to the Ernest C. Manning Awards Foundation and its work.

Since 1982, the Ernest C. Manning Awards Foundation has helped promote Canadian innovation by recognizing Canadian innovators. The recipients at the gala later this evening are being recognized for a variety of innovations, including an advanced blood transfusion management system, a medical imaging scanner, compostable utensils, and plant nutrition products. In addition, the contributions of young innovators will be recognized. All Canadians are the beneficiaries of discovery and innovation, making the foundation's work a source of pride for us all. Innovation is key to enhancing productivity, which is vital if we want to compete on the global stage, and continue to enjoy our high standard of living.

This magnificent room has many historical features and I would draw your attention to the epigraph carved in the wood at the top of the south wall that reads *sapere aude*, which means "dare to be wise." Although the Roman poet Horace wrote these words more than two thousand years ago, they are still relevant. The words highlight the courage it often takes to face challenges, and to seek

innovative solutions to the problems of today and tomorrow. It is through discovery that we acquire knowledge, and it is through knowledge that we acquire wisdom.

Another feature of this room is the inclusion of the coats of arms of the accomplished individuals who served Canada as Governors General, which will be seen in the frieze running along the top of the wall just below the ceiling. This occasion reminds me of Lord Lansdowne, Canada's Governor General from 1883 to 1888, who promoted the advancement of science and learning. He understood that it is through such efforts that we achieve progress, for one and all.

It is safe to say that Lord Lansdowne would have been delighted with the group of thoughtful individuals in the room today, people who have contributed in significant ways to our society and to scientific advancement.

Please join me in raising a toast to Canada's innovators and to all of those who dare to be wise!