Navy League Cadet Corps Vice-Admiral Kingsmill Annual Inspection

Speaking Notes for:

The Honourable Noël A. Kinsella Speaker of the Senate Honorary Captain (Navy) Reviewing Officer

Ottawa, Ontario 7 June 2009

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The Honourable Noël A. Kinsella Speaker of the Senate Honorary Captain (Navy) Reviewing Officer

On the occasion of the NLCC Vice-Admiral Kingsmill Annual Review

June 7, 2009

Distinguished guests,
Ladies and gentlemen,
Parents,
Staff ,
and most especially, Cadets of NLCC Vice-Admiral Kingsmill.

It is an honour to be here today as your Reviewing Officer, and I want you to know that I appreciate this opportunity. As Speaker of the Senate, I preside over the Senate Chamber and try to ensure that matters proceed smoothly. That is much like what a Reviewing Officer does.

Today I have witnessed something truly wondrous. I have seen you come together as a corps and have marvelled at the precision of your drill. I have listened to you and discovered that the Navy League Cadet Program means a great deal to you.

With the "can-do" attitude you have shown, you can achieve anything. And you have achieved much over the last year.

Despite the challenges that faced you, you and your corps placed in the top three in seamanship, semaphore, first aid and drill. This is no small achievement and is a direct result of your hard work. You should be proud of yourselves. I know that your staff and parents are proud of you.

You should also be proud of what you do for your community.

No matter how busy you were at school and at home, you still took the time to honour veterans at the Battle of Britain Parade on Remembrance Day and at the Battle of the Atlantic Parade.

You also brought a cup full of cheer to veterans at the Pearly Rideau Hospital in December and you remembered Vice-Admiral Kingsmill's contribution to the Canadian Navy in May.

Even Santa got a helping hand from your corps when you participated in the "Help Santa Toy Parade" in November.

Youth will always part of our community and I am certain that NLCC Vice Admiral Kingsmill will continue its fine tradition of service and remembrance.

Since becoming an Honorary Navy Captain in the Naval Reserve, I have become much more involved with the naval community. This is my first Annual Review and I cannot think of a better way to start my tenure as an Honorary Captain.

Thank you again for inviting me to be your Reviewing Officer. I look forward to hearing more about your activities in the future.