

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

**ON THE OCCASION OF THE RETIREMENT OF
THE HONOURABLE HUGH SEGAL, C.M., SENATOR**

**SPEAKER'S CHAMBERS
JUNE 12, 2014**

Speaker Scheer,
Senator Segal,
Honourable Senators and Members of the House of Commons,
Friends and Family,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Welcome to the Senate and to the Speaker's Chambers, where we are gathered to bid a fond farewell to a distinguished Senator, a dedicated public servant, and a dear friend, the Honourable Hugh Segal.

It was in the summer of 2005 that Senator Segal arrived in the Senate on the recommendation of the Right Honourable Paul Martin, one of the rare cross-partisan appointments. One might think this a difficult decision for a Liberal Prime Minister in light of Senator Segal's background as an advisor to Robert Stanfield, deputy minister to Ontario Premier Bill Davis and Chief of Staff to the Right Honourable Brian Mulroney.

An exceptional Parliamentarian throughout his years in the Senate, Senator Segal proved himself to be adept at leading initiatives and mobilizing support on all fronts, while garnering deep and widespread respect. He was an active participant in the work of many different committees, including serving as Chair of both the Special Senate Committee on Anti-Terrorism and the Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade. He has been a strong voice on a range

of issues, including financial reporting within government, national security and support for our armed forces. It has also been my pleasure to serve alongside him as Honorary Captains in the Royal Canadian Navy.

Senator Segal has continued to be a passionate advocate of income security and the steady reduction of poverty in Canada, while arguing persuasively for value-based foreign policy that extends and renews Canada's status as a principled global leader.

Turning to coming events, Senator Segal, on July 1st you officially begin your new role as the Fifth Master of the renowned Massey College at the University of Toronto. It will not be an entirely novel experience, as you have already served for many years on the Faculties of both Business and Policy Studies at Queen's University.

Drawing your attention to the oak panel along the south wall of this Chamber, you will observe the Latin epigraph which reads *Sapere aude*, which has been translated as "Dare to be wise". These timeless words by the Roman poet Horace seem particularly appropriate on this occasion, because it is the guiding motto of Massey College.

A broader reading of its source in Horace's *Epistles* clarifies its meaning, which is not to wait too long in starting a project or pursuit. As Horace implores: "Why put it off? Dare to be wise! Get yourself going and you're halfway there." Similar architecture, spirit of debate and inquiry, and indeed Horace's words themselves all await you under the august archways and in the learned halls of Massey College.

It was one of your predecessors in your forthcoming position, the founding Master of Massey College and great Canadian author Robertson Davies, who wrote: "A man must be obedient to the promptings of his innermost heart." In your

conduct in the Senate over the past nine years, you have consistently distinguished yourself as a principled advocate for positions and issues which you deeply knew to be just, and vital, and true. With integrity and courage you have stood firm – often in situations where personal comfort or political convenience might have compelled lesser individuals to sit down. As you aptly asked: “If we didn’t have to make tough decisions, why would we have a Senate?”

It is in this spirit of making tough choices in challenging but promising times that you are now following those inner promptings toward a place also fervently devoted to progress through debate, truth through inquiry, and justice through reason. In the Massey library named for Davies, as in the Red Chamber, there is no doubt that you will very soon find a second spiritual home, a place where your intellectual leadership will be as warmly welcomed as its absence from the Senate will be deeply missed.

Senator Segal, in your nine distinguished years with us in Parliament, you have dared to be true, you have dared to be just, and you have dared to be wise.

Before closing, I want to express our appreciation to your wife Donna, your daughter Jacqueline, and other members of your family for sharing you with us for so many years.

It is my great pleasure to invite Senator Segal to the podium and to present a clock handcrafted in my home province of New Brunswick. Senator, it is my sincere hope that the hands of this clock will not turn too many times before you once again grace us with your presence – always wise, always daring, and always welcome.

Thank you.