Canadian-American Relations Meeting Minutes

2018 ASLCS Professional Development Seminar
Madison, Wisconsin
Thursday, September 27, 2018

Call to Order
The meeting of the Canadian-American Relations Committee was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Paul Smith (N.H.), chair.

Attendance
The following members of the committee were present: Paul Smith, chair (N.H.), Liz Clark, vice chair (Alaska), Crystaline Jones (Alaska), Janice Gadd (Utah), Jackie Schulz (Alaska), Alfred Speer (La.), Claire Clift (Nev.), Lindsey Vroegindewey (Mont.), Mary Gibson (Mass.), Bill MaGill (Vt.), Marshall Long (Ala.), Jamie Oswalt (Ala.), Andrew Carpenter (Colo.), Tammy Wehrle (Wis.), Ali Sagraves (Ohio), Lori Roland (Alaska), Jason Hataway (Nev.), Yolanda Dixon (La.), Morgan Speers (Colo.), Susan Furlong (Nev.), Patsy Spaw (Texas), Stephanie Hall (Alaska), Alan Whittington (Tenn.), Leann Gallagher (Calif.), Jessica Kidd (Minn.), Donna Holiday (Ky.), Steve Marshall (Vt.), Julie Bochat (Mo.), Denise Weeks (N.C.), Andrew Heist (Alaska), Brad Hendrickson (Wash.), Bill Horn (Ala.), Brad Young (Ohio), Joyce Wright (Ala.).

The following guests from Canada were in attendance: Annette Boucher (Nova Scotia), Deborah Deller (Ontario), and Robert Benoit (Ontario).

Approval of Minutes
Upon motion by Stephanie Hall (Alaska), seconded by Bill MaGill (Vt.), the minutes from the August Canadian-American Relations committee meeting held at the NCSL Summit in Los Angeles were approved.

Old Business
There was no old business discussed.

New Business
Chair Smith recognized the incoming ASLCS President Pat Harris (Ala.), who addressed the group. Mr. Harris explained the Canadian-American Relations committee is his favorite ASLCS committee of all time, as it helped form some of the tremendous friendships with Canadian clerks that he enjoys to this day. He suggested the committee explore some new initiatives to permit Canadian Clerks-at-the-Table (CATTs) members to also be members of ASLCS. He hoped the committee could find additional avenues to expand training and share knowledge with our Canadian counterparts. He thanked the committee and departed saying, “Work hard, do right, send money.”

Chair Smith announced the dates of the 2019 Canadian-American meeting (September 3-7), which will be held in Concord, New Hampshire. The room rate will be $139 and 40 rooms will be reserved initially with the option to expand. He encouraged committee members to mark their calendars.
Chair Smith recognized the following distinguished guests from Canada who were in attendance: Ms. Annette Boucher, CATTS President from Nova Scotia, Deb Deller (retired) from Ontario, and Robert Benoit of Ottawa.

Ms. Boucher gave a bit of background on the CATTS organization and encouraged committee members to consider attending a meeting of the organization - generally held the end of July/beginning of August. Ms. Deller added the next CATTS meeting will be held August 5th - 9th in Ottawa (which unfortunately conflicts with the NCSL Summit in Nashville, TN). In thinking about the charge from President Harris, Chair Smith asked Ms. Boucher to describe the relationship between CATTS and the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association in terms of membership and whether consideration had been given to memberships out of their own association. She indicated that while CATTS participates with the CPA, it is an umbrella organization (similar to NCSL) and that they tend to invite the Parliamentary Clerks from the UK to their meetings, but there is no membership extended.

Alfred Speer (La.) volunteered to assist in the programming for the Joint Canadian-American meeting in 2019 and explained that because it will be hosted in the U.S. (Concord, New Hampshire), the Americans will be responsible for two-thirds of the program.

Joyce Wright (Ala.) gave a plug for the Canadian-American exchange program and the Jane Richards scholarship that supports this excellent opportunity. She said, “I can't imagine we’re not sending someone every year,” and encouraged ASLCS members to participate.

**Adjournment**
Upon a motion by Janice Gadd (Utah), seconded by Joyce Wright (Ala.), the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Clark (Alaska), vice chair