Canadian-American Relations Committee Meeting Minutes

2016 Professional Development Seminar
Boise, Idaho
Thursday, Sept. 22, 2016

Call to Order
The meeting of the Canadian-American Relations Committee was called to order by Ann Cornwell (Ark.), Chair, Canadian-American Relations Committee.

Attendance
The following members of the committee were present: Ann Cornwell (Ark.), Chair, Paul Smith (N.H.), Vice-Chair, Lee Cassis (W.Va.), Vice-Chair, Butch Speer (La.), William MaGill (Vt.) Corey Carnahan (Kan.), Patsy Spaw (Texas), Susan Furlong (Nev.), Denise Weeks (N.C.), Michael Adams (Va.), Brad Young (Ohio), Pat Harris (Ala.), Robert Haney (Texas), Jackie Schulz (Alaska), Liz Clark (Alaska), Emily White (Mo.), Tyler Peavler (Ky.), Sandy Tenney (Utah), Lindsey Vroegindewey (Mont.), Stephanie Hall (Alaska), Steve Marshall (Vt.), Effie Ameen (Colo.), Alan Whittington (Tenn.), Crystalline Jones (Alaska), and Londi Ensor (Alaska).

Other members/guests in attendance included: Janice Gadd (Utah), Lori Roland (Alaska), Carrie Maulin (Idaho), James White (N.C.), Andrew Ketchings (Miss.), Yolanda Dixon (La.), Deborah Deller, Clerk of the House (Ontario, Canada), Jeffrey LeBlanc, Principal Clerk (Ottawa, Canada).

Approval of Minutes
Upon a motion by Denise Weeks, seconded by Paul Smith, the minutes of the last meeting held Monday, Aug. 8, 2016, at the 2016 NCSL Summit in Chicago, Ill., were approved with the following corrections: under the “Attendance” section of the minutes, the spelling of the name William MaGill (Vt.) was corrected, and Patsy Spaw (Texas) was added.

Old Business
Ann Cornwell noted that Brad Young, Clerk of the Ohio House of Representatives, and his staff, hosted the 2015 Canadian-American joint meeting in Columbus, Ohio. Brad Young spoke to the committee about his experience as a host state and noted that the host state manual update is near completion.

New Business
Ann Cornwell reminded the committee that the next Canadian-American joint meeting would be held in Saskatchewan, Canada, in 2017, and would return to the United States in 2019. She mentioned Oregon, New Hampshire, Tennessee, Louisiana, and Alaska as possible hosts in 2019.

Butch Speer suggested the committee choose a host state by the 2017 PDS.

Discussion then centered on the programming of the joint meeting and Deborah Deller suggested appointing a programming committee. Butch Speer and Iris Lang were nominated to serve on the committee.
Denise Weeks spoke about the importance of the Jane Richards Scholarship and suggested the Canadian-American Relations Committee could do more to promote it to ensure participation in the Canadian-American Exchange Program.

Jeffrey LeBlanc informed the committee about a Parliamentary Officers’ Study Program offered by the Canadian Parliament and encouraged the attendance of American clerks and secretaries. He noted he would email additional information about the seminar to the members of the committee.

Adjournment
Upon a motion by Paul Smith, seconded by William MaGill, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Lee Cassis (W.Va.), Vice-Chair, Canadian-American Relations Committee