

MARCH 2023 | ISSUE NO. 3

# THE HONOURABLE YONAH MARTIN

➤ Sénate Visitor Entrance  
Entrée des visiteurs  
du Sénat



## Senator's Message

Greetings from beautiful British Columbia!  
Salutations de la belle Colombie-Britannique!  
아름다운 브리티시 컬럼비아에서 인사드립니다!

On this 1st day of March, I am reminded once more that “freedom is not free” – that Korea’s freedoms were hard fought and won by the patriots of the independence movement, their compatriots including my grandparents, and Canadians like Dr. Francis Schofield. Today marks the 104th anniversary of the 1919 March 1st Independence movement (“Samiljeol”) of the Korean people against Imperial Japanese rule. Together, my dedicated staff and I are inspired by the legacy of our brave patriots of the independence movement and veterans of the Korean war who built the foundation upon which we stand. We are honoured to serve them, to be the voice for the voiceless and to champion and represent important issues and causes that impact all Canadians from coast to coast to coast. Looking back on the month of February, there were many notable events and significant developments on Parliament Hill. February was Black History Month, and throughout the month, we reflected on the history of Black people in Canada and honoured their contributions to our nation.

~ Senator Martin

60TH ANNIVERSARY OF CANADA KOREA RELATIONS

&

70TH ANNIVERSARY OF SIGNING OF ARMISTICE

MINISTERIAL QP

QP: CITIZENSHIP

QP: TARIFF

KCS 150 STORIES & TIMELINE

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# February in photos



## March 1st Independence Movement

On March 1st 1919, after nearly a decade of Japanese military rule and forced assimilation, the Korean people stood together in strength, solidarity, resilience and courage to demand their inherent right to freedom, self-determination and nationhood. In Seoul, 33 Korean cultural and religious leaders read the Proclamation of Independence, marking the beginning of a courageous struggle by the Korean people for independence from Imperial Japanese rule. March 1st remains a historic day for Korea and a moment of pride and unity for Koreans around the world. It has become a national day to observe and reflect on the more than two million people who stood bravely together against forced assimilation, oppression and tyrannical rule.

## On the Hill & In the community

February was full of Chamber sittings, many official meetings (of committees, Senate Leadership, BC Caucus, Senate Caucus, National Caucus, bilateral and special meetings), advocacy work and meetings with stakeholders on various issues and more. As Co-Chair of the Joint Committee on Medical Assistance in Dying, Senator Martin along with Co-Chair MP Marc Garneau and committee members from both Houses completed the final report for MAID (as well as sign onto a dissenting report appended to the main report, along with other Conservative members of the committee), and it was officially tabled in both Houses of Parliament. As Deputy Leader, Senator Martin continued to advocate for Canadians and hold the government to account in the Senate Chamber by questioning the Government leader on immigration, refugees and citizenship issues regarding service contracts, public safety and drug-impaired driving, agriculture and agri-food issues relating to fertilizer tariff and alcohol excise tax, and questioning the Minister of Labour about Career Extension Tax Credit and the rate of taxes on beer. In British Columbia, Senator Martin attended various meetings and events throughout February to support constituents, communities and organizations. February was a busy and productive month in BC as well as in Ottawa.

