

THE HONOURABLE YONAH MARTIN



Senator's Message

Happy Canada Day, everyone! Bonne fête du Canada! 즐거운 캐나다 데이를 보내시기를 바랍니다! As we celebrate Canada's birthday, and what it means to be Canadian, this year we also pause to reflect on the tragic events that have come to light. The discovery of unmarked graves of Indigenous children and adults and the Islamophobic act of violence that took place in Ontario, remind us of past injustices and compel us to fight current intolerance. Canada is not a perfect country but the solidarity of Canadians standing shoulder to shoulder to denounce these historic and present forms of bigotry and racism clearly demonstrates that as a nation, we are strong and free to fight for a better future for all. We are excited to launch the long-awaited "Korean Canadian Stories" (KCS150) website on this important day. It was inspired by Canada's 150th anniversary in 2017, and was several years in the making (see feature below). June was a productive month of commemorations and celebrations (the 71st anniversary of the outbreak of the Korean War on June 25th, Deafblind Awareness Month and Filipino Heritage Month). We concluded the Spring Sitting with fierce and robust debate on important pieces of legislation,

and the passage of a record number of private member's bills (PMBs), including six put forward by CPC MPs. On this important day for our nation, my hard-working staff and I pause to count our blessings and rededicate our commitment to work to the best of our abilities. July is an important month as we prepare to commemorate Korean War Veterans Day (July 27th) and the disbandment of Korea Veterans Association of Canada Heritage Unit shortly thereafter. Though it is an end of the association as we know it, my office and our amazing partnering organizations vow to uphold the legacy of our brave and noble veterans of the Korean War long into the distant future. We will remember them. Nous nous souviendrons d'eux. 우리는 그들을 기억할 것입니다.

~Senator Yonah Martin

Korean Canadian Stories 150 (KCS150)

The creation of "Korean Canadian Stories 150" (KCS150), inspired by Canada's 150th birthday in 2017, has been a labour of love and a tribute to the strength and deep rooted history of Canada Korea relations. KCS150 is virtual site that aims to connect communities, shares stories and records the unique history between Canada and Korea. KCS150 includes personal stories of Canadian missionaries who lived and served in Korea; Korean War Veterans' stories of valour and service; and stories of Korean-

Canadians and others who have contributed to the growth of Canada and Korea's friendship and history. Each story is unique and a thread that is woven together to create the beautiful fabric of Korean Canadian Stories. These stories remind us of the past and the importance of looking ahead to the future with renewed vision and hope that one day there could be peace on the Korean peninsula again.



**VISIT KCS150
WEBSITE**

Historic Virtual Bilateral Event

On June 23rd the Canada Korea Interparliamentary Friendship Group (CKIFG) of the Canadian Parliament and the Korea Canada Parliamentary Friendship Association (KCPFA) of the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea, held a virtual bilateral meeting for the first of more to come. As co-chair of CKIFG, Senator Martin hosted the meeting via Zoom and welcomed His Excellency Michael Danagher, Ambassador to Canada in Korea and His Excellency Keung Ryong Chang, Ambassador to Korea in Canada and representatives of both parliamentary groups. Parliamentarians thanked the Ambassadors for their hard work, dedication, and deep commitment to advancing Canada-Korea diplomatic relations. Canada and Korea have a long and storied tradition of sacrifice and cooperation, since the first Canadian missionaries arrived in Korea in 1888, and the service and sacrifices of Canadians during the Korean War more than 70 years ago. With the historic Canada Korea FTA ratified and implemented since 2015, there are many opportunities for greater exchanges, partnerships and joint ventures on various fronts. The parliamentarians shared their mutual optimism about Canada and Korea's relationship, especially in a post COVID world.



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SPEECHES



FILIPINO HERITAGE MONTH



DEAFBLIND AWARENESS MONTH



BREAKOUT OF THE KOREAN WAR



INQUIRY ON IMMIGRATION

End of Spring Sitting

June was another busy end to the spring sitting for both Houses of Parliament, with hybrid sittings, committee meetings and late evenings. As Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the Senate, Senator Martin continued to hold the government to account with important questions during QP and review of all legislation and motions on the Order Paper. Debates on Bill C-30 (Budget Implementation Bill) concluded in the final week of the sitting, to address concerns of deficit spending but also provide support to Canadians facing on-going challenges and struggles in various sectors. As part of Canada's Official Opposition, Sen. Martin and her colleagues will remain vigilant on keeping close watch of Government spending as well as call for specific action plans and programs to support Canadian workers, small business and families in order to ensure Canada's post-COVID economic recovery. Senator Martin had the honour of successfully sponsoring MP Richard Bragdon's Bill C-228 (An Act to establish a federal framework to reduce recidivism); and introducing her second Senate Public Bill S-230 (An Act to amend the Citizenship Act granting citizenship to certain Canadians). Senator Martin was also the "friendly" critic for MP Sidhu's Bill C-237 (An Act to establish a national framework for Diabetes), and Sen. Jim Munson's Bill S-223 (An Act respecting Kindness Week), which were both adopted to become Acts of Parliament. It was a truly productive sitting on the Hill.



LINKS

[KCS150 WEBSITE](#)

[C-228 NATIONAL FRAMEWORK ON RECIDIVISM](#) [2R](#) [3R](#)

[S-230 LOST CANADIANS](#) [2R](#) [3R](#)

[C-237 NATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR DIABETES](#) [2R](#) [3R](#)

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