



DEBATES OF THE SENATE

1st SESSION



41st PARLIAMENT



VOLUME 148



NUMBER 9

TRIBUTES

The Honourable Lucie Pépin

Statement by:

The Honourable Claudette Tardif

Tuesday, June 21, 2011

THE SENATE

Tuesday, June 21, 2011

TRIBUTES

THE HONOURABLE LUCIE PÉPIN

Hon. Claudette Tardif (Deputy Leader of the Opposition):

Honourable senators, it is with some emotion and great pleasure that I speak today to pay tribute to our dear colleague, Senator Lucie Pépin. She is a remarkable, caring woman and a very kind colleague who deserves our respect and our profound gratitude. She is a great parliamentarian with a unique career whose passion, devotion and pioneering actions not only advanced women's rights, but are a source of inspiration for many Canadian women to enter politics. She is a woman of great class and elegance who made herself heard in order to advance her ideals. She is a model of perseverance for the women of our generation.

Since her appointment to the Senate by the Right Honourable Jean Chrétien on April 8, 1997, Senator Pépin has faithfully carried out her duties by drawing on her experience, knowledge, generosity, goodness and devotion. Her sincere commitment and her determination to change things for women and children, military wives and veterans have been recognized across Canada. Senator Pépin has stood up for social justice causes throughout her years in Parliament. She has clearly demonstrated her

humanism and her convictions by coming to the defence of military wives, among others.

• (1440)

Very early on in her life, she tackled serious problems head-on, at a time when very few women were addressing such controversial issues. She was a great pioneer whose actions and tenacity advanced the cause of women.

Dear Lucie, you are a person who seeks consensus, a unifying force who likes to go out with colleagues and friends for a good dinner, an enjoyable evening, a good party.

You are always happy, smiling, full of life, and I can say that I have very much appreciated your company and your friendship.

Dear colleague, your actions throughout your parliamentary career have contributed to the evolution of our institution. You remain a source of inspiration for all of us. Your contribution to active political life and to our democratic institutions is invaluable to future generations.

Dear Lucie, please accept my best wishes for health and happiness in the coming years.