

NEWS RELEASE

THE SENATE OFFICIAL LANGUAGES COMMITTEE

Senate Official Languages Committee elects its chair

OTTAWA, November 7, 2013 – Members of the Standing Senate Committee on Official Languages today elected Senator Claudette Tardif (Alberta) as its Chair.

Senator Tardif is recognized as one of Canada's champions of minority linguistic and cultural rights and for her considerable contribution to secondary and post-secondary education. Senator Andrée Champagne (Grandville-Quebec) was re-elected Vice-chair of the committee. Senator Champagne was first elected Vice-chair of the committee in 2006.

The Standing Senate Committee on Official Languages has the mandate to study all matters relating to official languages generally. It studies matters relating to the application of the *Official Languages Act* (OLA) and of the regulations and directives made under it. The Standing Senate Committee on Official Languages has tabled more than 15 substantive reports since its creation in the fall of 2002. The committee has also examined each of the three objectives of the OLA, with a particular focus on the objective to support the development of official language minority communities.

The committee wishes to express its thanks to outgoing chair Senator Maria Chaput (Manitoba) for her commitment, contribution and guidance.

The following senators sit on the committee:

Lynn Beyak (Ontario)
Maria Chaput (Manitoba)
Marie-P. Charette-Poulin (Northern Ontario – Ontario)
Suzanne Fortin-Duplessis (Rougemont – Quebec)
Paul E. McIntyre (New Brunswick)
Rose-May Poirier (Saint-Louis-de-Kent – New Brunswick)
Vernon White (Ontario)

To learn more about the work of the committee and read transcripts from previous meetings, please visit: <http://senate-senat.ca/ollo.asp> .

You can also follow the Senate of Canada on Twitter @SenateCA and use the committee hashtag #OLLO for updates.

For more information:

Brigitte Lemay
613-240-5687
brigitte.lemay@sen.parl.gc.ca