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The Honourable Noël A. Kinsella, P.C.

Statement by:

The Honourable Claudette Tardif

Wednesday, February 25, 2015

THE SENATE

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[*Translation*]

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THE HONOURABLE NOËL A. KINSELLA, P.C.

Hon. Claudette Tardif: Honourable senators, I am very pleased to say a few words in tribute to the Honourable Noël Kinsella, the former Speaker of the Senate, who retired on November 26.

I would like to congratulate you, Senator Kinsella, on your outstanding parliamentary career, during which you made your mark with dignity and honour as a senator and Speaker of the Senate.

In my role as Deputy Leader of the Opposition, I observed that as you carried out your duties as Speaker of the Senate, you took care to ensure that procedures were followed correctly. You approached your duties in this seat of parliamentary democracy with honesty, thoroughness and wisdom. I especially appreciated your openness and willingness to listen.

• (1350)

You are no doubt aware, honourable colleagues, that the Honourable Noël Kinsella is a great diplomat who loyally defends

the values and interests of our country. I had the honour of accompanying him on a few diplomatic missions, and I can attest to the sincere respect and attention he is given by the world's senior leaders.

I would like to highlight in particular the Honourable Noël Kinsella's commitment to and availability for activities involving the Canada-France Interparliamentary Association. I am grateful, Senator Kinsella, for the great interest that you always showed in Canada's diplomatic relations with France and the development of the francophone community in our country and throughout the world. I sincerely thank you for your commitment and your support.

[*English*]

Senator Kinsella, you deserve our profound respect and gratitude. The Senate was enriched by your generous contributions, your dedication to serve our country, your wisdom and your knowledge. Senator Kinsella, I wish you a happy retirement, dedicating your time to activities that you enjoy in the company of your family and your lovely wife, Ann. My very best wishes for a happy retirement.

Hon. Senators: Hear, hear.
