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LE MYTHE DE NAPOLEÓN AU CANADA FRANÇAIS

Statement by:

The Honourable Claudette Tardif

Tuesday, February 14, 2017

THE SENATE

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[Translation]

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Hon. Claudette Tardif: Honourable senators, to add to Senator MacIntyre's accolades of last Thursday, I, too, wish to acknowledge the extraordinary work of our colleague Senator Joyal and congratulate him on his considerable recent accomplishments.

First, the commemorative symposium on the Great War held in the Senate of Canada on November 11, 2014, and then at the National Assembly in Paris in May 2015 was brilliantly organized and supervised by our colleague, and was met with great success. Then came the voluminous and extensively illustrated book entitled *Le Canada et la France dans la Grande Guerre 1914-1918*, which the symposium's participants worked on under the direction of Senator Joyal and Professor Serge Bernier. It is a collection rich in historical details of little known moments in the history of French Canada's participation in the Great War. This unique book is set to be released in March 2017.

A second book, *Le mythe de Napoléon au Canada français*, published in 2013, is a well-researched historical work filled with details and beautiful illustrations. The research and the connections this book makes between Napoleon and important moments in French-Canadian and Quebec's history brings the myth of Napoleon back to life.

On January 31, I attended a viewing of the documentary *Le mythe de Napoléon au Canada français* and was quite impressed. The film is based on Senator Joyal's book. It was produced by Daniel Bertolino and Catherine Viau, and inspired by the vision and direction of our colleague, who is the main character. It is a work of exceptional depth. Will he be awarded a Genie or a César? Stay tuned. The documentary will soon be broadcast on RDI/Radio-Canada as part of *Les grands reportages*.

In addition, dear colleagues, a coffee-table book in honour of Montreal's three hundred seventy-fifth anniversary entitled *Traces de l'histoire de Montréal* was launched on February 2. The book covers many aspects of Montreal's history. Senator Joyal and his co-authors, Paul-André Linteau and Mario Robert, deserve our hearty congratulations.

Honourable senators, it is important to celebrate Senator Joyal's remarkable achievements. We are privileged to have among us a very learned individual whose work has had a lasting impact on our society. In fact, on November 2, 2016, the Barreau du Québec awarded him the honorary distinction of emeritus lawyer in recognition of his exceptional legal career.

My dear colleague, I admire your passion and your dedication to perpetuating cherished values and knowledge in the areas of culture, history and the law. Thank you, and congratulations on the tremendous work you've done.
