

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 21, 2021

Contact: Dr. Paul Thomas
Director, Parliamentary Internship Programme
paul.thomas@pip-ppsp.org

PIP Alumni Arif Virani and Brad Vis Win Re-election to the House of Commons

Ottawa, Ontario – The Parliamentary Internship Programme (PIP) of the Canadian Political Science Association congratulates Programme alumni Arif Virani and Brad Vis on their re-election as Members of Parliament in Canada’s 44th federal general election.

An intern in 1994-95, Mr. Virani was first elected as the Liberal Party MP for the Toronto constituency of Parkdale-High Park in 2015 and won re-election in 2019. Mr. Vis completed the internship in 2010-11, and was first elected as the Conservative Party MP for the British Columbia riding of Mission–Matsqui–Fraser Canyon in 2019.

“While we applaud everyone who stood as a candidate in the 2021 election, we are especially proud of Arif and Brad for demonstrating the commitment to Parliament and Canadian Democracy that lies at the heart of the Parliamentary Internship Programme,” said Dr. Paul Thomas, the Programme Director.

Mr. Virani and Mr. Vis are not the first PIP Alumni to win election as MPs, with Ms. Judy Wasylycia-Leis, an intern in 1976-77, having served as the New Democratic Party MP for Winnipeg North from 1997-2010.

The 2021-22 parliamentary interns will begin their placements with MPs in November, 2021.

-- 30 --

About the Parliamentary Internship Programme (PIP)

Each year since 1969, the PIP has welcomed 10 recent university graduates to Parliament Hill for a paid, non-partisan work-study programme. Interns are selected through a national competition and will each complete placements with both an opposition and a government MP over the course of their 10 months in Ottawa. They also participate in weekly academic seminars, complete study tours to legislatures in Canada and beyond, and prepare an original research study. The PIP’s growing community of more than 500 alumni includes academics, politicians, senior government officials, diplomats, journalists, union leaders, judges, and leaders in industry and the non-profit sector.