

Supporting the Parliamentary Internship Programme

What is the Parliamentary Internship Programme?



Founded in 1969, the PIP is a non-partisan educational initiative jointly operated by the House of Commons and the Canadian Political Science Association that provides an outstanding work-study experience for recent university graduates. Each year, 12 Interns are recruited through a rigorous national competition to spend 10 months in Ottawa, where they each complete placements with both a government and an opposition MP. Interns also attend weekly academic seminars, produce original research papers, complete study tours to other legislatures in Canada and abroad, and host visits by the counterpart programs at the provincial legislatures and the US Congress. The Programme operates an inclusive recruitment strategy to ensure that its participants reflect Canada’s ethnic, linguistic, and cultural diversity.

The over 500 PIP alumni – who include two MPs and a Senator – can be found in distinguished positions in academia, business, journalism, civil society, and the public service across Canada.

Funding

Grants from the House of Commons and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) together provide about one-third of the PIP’s annual budget, with the rest contributed by a wide range of external supporters. The PIP’s fiscal year runs from 1 July to 30 June.

Supporter levels and recognition

PIP offers five supporter categories. Four categories (Platinum, Gold, Silver, and Bronze) are for sponsors who provide core funding and vary with the value the contribution made. The final category is for “Friends of the Programme,” who either provide in-kind support or funding for specific Programme activities, such as the legislative study tours.

The level of sponsor recognition varies with value of the contribution made.

Level	Contribution	Spots (available)	Event sponsorship and branding	Attend Speaker’s Luncheons
Platinum	\$50,000+	1 (0)	Yes	Yes
Gold	\$22,000+	6 (1)	Yes	Yes
Silver	\$11,000+	20 (4)	No	Yes
Bronze	\$2,750+	Unlimited	No	No
Friends	In-kind or project specific	Unlimited	No	Yes

All sponsors receive:

- Invitations to the annual **Alumni Celebration** (typically held in fall) and the **Spring Reception**. All MPs, Senators, supporters, and PIP alumni are invited to both events.
- **Acknowledgement** on the PIP website, in the annual advertisement thanking sponsors in the Hill Times, and in the PIP Bulletin (the annual Programme magazine published in July).
- An opportunity to **brief the Interns** about their policy priorities.
- Invitations to the annual **Welcome Reception** held each September to give supporters the chance to meet the new Interns on their second day at Parliament.
- Invitations to the annual **Gaboury Symposium** where Interns present their research projects.

Silver sponsors and Friends of the PIP receive:

- One invitation per organization to the **series of three PIP luncheons** hosted by the Speaker of the House of Commons (who is the Patron of the PIP) to recognize the mentorship contributions of host MPs and the support of higher-level sponsors.
- The luncheons follow the PIP year, with the **Welcome Luncheon** taking place in October or November at the start of the Interns' first placements, the **Winter Luncheon** in February or March when the Interns move to their second placements, and the **Spring Luncheon** towards the end of the Internship in late May or early June.

Platinum and Gold sponsors receive:

- One invitation per organization to the three Speaker's Luncheons.
- A **title sponsorship** for a PIP event or activity (such as one of the Speaker's Luncheons), including sponsor branding on event invitations and a speaking role.

To learn more about opportunities to support the PIP, please contact Dr. Paul Thomas, PIP Director, at paul.thomas@pip-psp.org.



House Speaker Greg Fergus with the Interns and their host MPs at the 2023-24 Welcome Luncheon, October 2023

Please note: All event invitations and seating arrangements for Members of Parliament and other public office holders are handled by the Programme and are in keeping with the guidelines and rules set out by the Ethics and Lobbying Commissioners. Supporters are contributing to an educational program and the PIP will recognize all contributions to the training of the Interns. Sponsors have no input into the selection of MPs and Interns, and the Programme is not a channel for lobbying activities.



PIP Supporters 2023-24

Programme Partners

- House of Commons
- Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada

Platinum (\$50,000+)

- BMO Financial Group

Gold (\$22,000+)

- BDC
- Bombardier Inc.
- Canadian Bankers' Association
- Canadian Life and Health Insurance Association
- Canadian Real Estate Association
- RBC Financial Group

Silver (\$11,000+)

- BIOTECanada
- Canadian Automobile Dealers Association
- Canadian Canola Growers Association
- Canadian Media Producers Association
- Chicken Farmers of Canada
- CIBC
- CN
- Dairy Farmers of Canada
- Desjardins
- Forest Products Association of Canada
- Innovative Medicines Canada
- Suncor
- Tech-Access Canada
- TD Bank Financial Group
- Universities Canada

Bronze (\$2,750+)

- Abacus Data
- Amazon Web Services
- Business Council of Canada
- Canada's Building Trades Unions
- Canadian Association of Broadcasters
- Canadian Cattle Association
- Canadian Credit Union Association
- Canadian Telecommunications Association
- Chemical Industry Association of Canada
- Civic Engagement Foundation
- Conference for Advanced Life Underwriting
- CropLife Canada
- Estée Lauder Inc.
- Federation of Canadian Municipalities
- Rogers Communications
- Sagen
- Vox Pop Labs

Friends (Variable)

- British High Commission Ottawa
- Clayton H. Riddell Graduate Program in Political Management at Carleton University
- Delegation of the European Union to Canada
- Embassy of the United States of America
- Fednav
- Institute on Governance
- The Hill Times
- Metropolitan Brasserie
- Parliamentary Centre
- Parliamentary Internship Alumni Association
- VIA Rail Canada