



BCTI Alumni NEWS

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Legislative Tour Office

The summer has begun for the Legislative Tour Office. Between Monday, May 14 and Monday, September 3, 2012 our Summer Guides and Parliamentary Players will be offering tours 7 days a week. Each summer, more than 75,000 visitors from around the world join us for free guided tours of the Parliament Buildings.

The Parliamentary Players are dressed in period costumes to portray six prominent personalities from British Columbia's history, including: Mary Ellen Smith (BC's first female MLA), Thomas Uphill (BC's longest-serving MLA), Queen Victoria, Francis Rattenbury, Sir James Douglas and Amor De Cosmos. Watch the Players perform [here](#).

If you will be joining us for a guided tour in the fall, please remember that there are lots of great resources on our website to help you prepare for your visit:



- Visit our [Learning Resources](#) page to access lesson plans and resources.
- Visit our [Discover Your Legislature](#) interactive program on the Legislative Assembly and the history of the Parliament Buildings.
- View the Chamber Poster ([English](#) / [Français](#)) to see inside the Legislative Assembly.
- See what [Bills](#) have been introduced in the Legislative Assembly.
- View the [Progress of Bills](#) during the current session of the Legislative Assembly.
- View the full [transcripts](#) and [video](#) of proceedings and special events.
- Visit the [MLA Finder](#) to learn more about your school's MLA.
- View the [MLA Seating Plan](#) to find out where your MLA sits.
- Find out more about the rules of the Legislative Assembly in the [Standing Orders of the House](#).

Upcoming Institute

The next British Columbia Teachers' Institute on Parliamentary Democracy will be held in October 2012. Completed applications are due by July 15, 2012. Encourage your colleagues to apply for this and future Institutes!

For more information, to complete a BCTI Alumni Survey, or to view photos of past Institutes, visit the:

[BCTI Alumni Corner](#)



For any other inquiries, to update your contact information, or to unsubscribe to this newsletter, email PEO@leg.bc.ca.



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Special Feature: The Queen's Diamond Jubilee



New Resources from The Parliamentary Education Office

In other news . . .

Hansard Services at the Legislative Assembly of B.C. has begun to digitize the earliest Hansard broadcasts of House proceedings. To date, a variety of broadcasts from the 4th and 5th sessions of the 34th Parliament can be viewed online. Visit the [Previous Sessions](#) page to view the historic first Hansard broadcast of March 11, 1991.

In addition, the Legislative Library has recently digitized all Royal Commissions in B.C. from 1872-1980. Find them [here](#).

THE CAREY MEWS Government House, Victoria, B.C.

The Carey Mews are a collection of wooden service buildings on the Government House grounds that date back to the 1870s. The buildings have been rehabilitated and now house an Interpretive Centre, Costume Museum, Tea House and the Carey Mews Gift Shop. The buildings are open to the public on Wednesday, Friday and Saturday from 11am - 3 pm through August.

Government House also welcomes school groups throughout the year. To request a tour, teachers should submit a [School Tour Request Form](#).

 Legislative Assembly of British Columbia
Indoor Tour Quiz

British Columbia

1. British Columbia became the 6th Province of Canada in the year _____.
2. British Columbia's provincial motto translates to '_____. Without Diminishment' or 'Beauty Without End.'
3. The Lieutenant Governor serves as the representative of the _____ in British Columbia.

Members of the Legislative Assembly

4. There are _____ MLAs elected to serve in the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia.
5. The Lieutenant Governor invites the leader of the party that wins the most seats in the provincial election to become the _____.
6. The leader of the party that wins the second highest number of seats in the provincial election becomes the Leader of the Official _____.

In the Parliamentary Education Office, we are continually adding to our list of free educational resources for teachers. Our redeveloped Indoor and Outdoor Tour Quizzes are a great activity for your students to complete during their visit to the Parliament Buildings.

In addition, we are excited to offer three innovative new lesson plans developed by teachers who attended our spring Institute. View the entire collection of lesson plans and classroom activities [here](#).

To order educational resources for your classroom, email PEO@leg.bc.ca or call 250-356-8295. Many activities, fact sheets, lesson plans and posters can also be downloaded in PDF form from our [Learning Resources](#) page.

Notable Dates in B.C. History

August 12, 1856 | The first House of Assembly of the Colony of Vancouver Island is opened. The elected Assembly is comprised of seven representatives: John Muir, Dr. J. S. Helmcken, Thomas J. Skinner, J. D. Pemberton, James Yates, E. E. Langford and Dr. John F. Kennedy.

August 2, 1858 | The Colony of British Columbia, named by Queen Victoria, is formally established. New Westminster is selected as the mainland colony's capital.

July 1, 1867 | The federation of colonies comprising British North America (New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Quebec and Ontario) join together to form the Dominion of Canada. Canada Day celebrations are held yearly on this date.

July 20, 1871 | British Columbia becomes the sixth province to join Confederation, receiving three seats in the Senate and six in the House of Commons.



BCTI Attendees ~ Spring 2012

Legislative Trivia



Which Statutory Officer is not permitted to vote in provincial elections?

Email your answer to PEO@leg.bc.ca. The first 5 correct respondents will win a Legislative Assembly notepad!

The Diamond Jubilee



Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II
Queen of Canada



The Crown in Canada

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Queen of Canada, is the sixth sovereign since Canadian Confederation in 1867.



Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and The Duke of Edinburgh speak with Iona Campagnolo, Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, 2002.

Canada's System of Government

Canada is a constitutional monarchy with a parliamentary system of government. Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II is the Queen of Canada and is Canada's Head of State.

As a constitutional monarchy, the duties of Head of State and Head of Government are separate and distinct. The power to govern is vested in the Crown but is entrusted to the elected government on behalf of the people.

This balance between the roles of the elected representatives and the Crown was established in both the *Constitution Act, 1867* and the *Constitution Act, 1982*, and provides a stable influence which is a hallmark of Canada's political tradition.



Visit of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and The Duke of Edinburgh to the Parliament Buildings, 1959.



Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II with Prime Minister The Rt. Hon. Pierre Elliott Trudeau signing the Proclamation of the Constitution Act, 1982.

Canadian Representatives of the Crown

The Governor General serves as the representative of the Queen in Canada. The Queen is also represented by a Lieutenant Governor in each of Canada's ten provinces.

These representatives are non-partisan and non-political and are appointed to exercise the powers of the Crown in Canada.

Since 1871, the Lieutenant Governor has served as the representative of the Crown in British Columbia. The Lieutenant Governor fulfills the duties of the Crown in the province and maintains the vibrant link between the Queen and the elected representatives on a daily basis.

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II celebrates 60 years on the throne in 2012. The UK and many Commonwealth nations have held celebrations and events to mark this historic milestone. On February 14, a Diamond Jubilee Celebration at the Parliament Buildings in Victoria welcomed members of the public and school children. The event featured the raising of the official Diamond Jubilee Flag and addresses by the Lieutenant Governor, the Premier, and the Speaker and Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

The panel above forms part of a Diamond Jubilee exhibit currently on display in the Reception Hall of the Parliament Buildings in Victoria.