



# Senator Pamela Wallin



Canada has come through an incredible time, weathering the punishing global financial meltdown and actually emerging stronger. We have the best economic outlook in the G-8, our banks are in good shape and unemployment is lower than predicted.

In fact we've had even more good reasons to celebrate in the last few months. Our athletes inspired us at the Olympics and Paralympics in B.C. And her Majesty the Queen, on her 22nd Royal tour of Canada, helped us celebrate our country's 143rd birthday and gave us the chance to pay our respects for her nearly 60 years of service and duty.

Mother Nature, however, wreaked havoc on Saskatchewan farmers this summer. Prime Minister Harper and Premier Wall toured flood-affected areas. The federal government plus Saskatchewan, Alberta and Manitoba have pledged \$450 million—the largest, fastest AgriRecovery package ever.

The Senate met well into the summer and was remarkably productive, improving and passing much of the legislation sent to us by our colleagues in the House of Commons. The Senate really is a place of sober second thought.

And I'm pleased to report that our Senate committees are also working well.

Since March I've chaired the Senate Committee on National Security and Defence. For years, this committee was at loggerheads, with a partisan divide so wide that compromise was seldom sought or accepted. But we have now unanimously passed a report on Canada's mission in Afghanistan, with few arguments and no acrimony. It was a great act of bipartisanship. We are also preparing reports on Arctic sovereignty and border security. And we will look at our emergency preparedness in case of an attack or natural disaster. I, for one, was frustrated when all cell phones stopped working during an earthquake that shook the nation's capital in June. Clearly there's a problem if carriers like Bell and Rogers don't have enough capacity to function in a crisis.

I also sit on the Anti-terrorism Committee and there we are looking at whether we are really any better prepared for a terrorist threat than we were at 9/11. The long awaited report on the Air India disaster 25 years ago pointed out woeful shortcomings in airport security and in relations between our police and security services. So the Committee will follow up this fall on the report's recommendations for change.

At the Veterans Affairs Committee – on which I also serve – we are looking at a new system for helping a new generation of young, sometimes severely wounded veterans.

And at Foreign Affairs and International Trade, we've been examining Canada's growing trade with China, India and Russia. We are a powerful trading nation. It was good to see Premier Wall in China recently, explaining Western Canada's advantages to that burgeoning economic giant.



Senator Wallin meets Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II at a dinner hosted by Prime Minister Harper and his wife Laureen at the Royal York Hotel in Toronto. The Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Philip, is at the Queen's side.



G20 "Women of Distinction" brunch, Nobuko Kan, wife of Japan's PM; Olympic medallist Joannie Rochette; U.S. first lady Michelle Obama; wife of the Prime Minister, Laureen Harper; television personality Jeanne Beker; Sen. Pamela Wallin and former Olympic rower Silken Laumann.

REUTERS / Mike Cassese

On the home front we are making progress with some sensible moves by our Government to help combat crime by stiffening sentences and eliminating pardons for violent criminals. There is no reason why a Karla Homolka should ever receive a pardon—and now she never will!

Immigration rules are being tightened up too. While Canada welcomes much needed immigrants, especially in places such as Saskatchewan where we need new workers, we still have to keep the bad ones out. Anyone charged with a crime or who has a criminal conviction can now be turned away. And our backlogged refugee system is in the process of being reformed to welcome real refugees and reject false claimants in a timely fashion.

And the government is moving on Senate reform, with term limits. We've also put forward some ideas to make it easier for provinces to elect senators. Of course it takes a Prime Minister committed to recognizing those provincial choices.

I'll keep you posted. Enjoy your summer!



## NORAD—Happy Canada Day Colorado!

Senator Wallin was invited to speak to our troops at the Canada Day Garden Party at the North American Aerospace Defence Command (NORAD) in Colorado Springs. NORAD is a US-Canada military organization established to monitor and defend North American airspace. The organization's binational role has been evolving with the addition of the new terrorism threat and maritime warning to its responsibilities.



Sen. Wallin speaking about what Canada and the United States have in common and our shared military heritage. Canada's Prime Minister the Hon. Louis St. Laurent in 1947 said our countries are, "Like farmers whose lands have a common concession line."

Commander of NORAD and USNORTHCOM Admiral James A. Winnefeld Jr. beside Sen. Wallin at the ceremony.



Mrs Sue Forgues, wife of MGen Forgues; Major General Pierre Forgues, Director of NORAD Operations; Admiral Winnefeld and Sen. Wallin listen to Maj Kevin Lattimore.

Sen. Wallin visiting with Colorado dignitaries Lionel Rivera, the Mayor of Colorado Springs; Dale Eisler, the Consul General for Denver; and Admiral Winnefeld Jr.



Photo Credit: TSgt Aaron Bujan

## NORAD—Elmendorf, Alaska Air Force Base

In April, Senator Wallin spoke in Alaska at a NORAD event on the Elmendorf Air Force Base. Around 30 Canadians are stationed there, forming the backbone of the AWACS crews—the huge Airborne Warning and Control Systems planes that keep watch in the sky and the Russians in their place.



Sgt Fred Larlee, WO Darren Small, Senator Wallin and Sgt Greg Noel.



The Canadian women of the Alaska Elmendorf Base—all part of the family support system.



Col Todd Balfe, Deputy Commander of the Alaskan NORAD region, and his wife, Lt Chantal Balfe, with Senator Wallin.

## Air Force Day on the Hill



LEFT: Minister Public Safety Vic Toews, Air Force HCol Senator Pamela Wallin and Senator Joseph Day, sponsor of the Ottawa event held on Parliament Hill.

RIGHT: Chief of the Air Staff, LGen André Deschamps, Senator Wallin, with the national president of the Air Force Association, Brian Darling.

Photo Credit: Airforce magazine photos by Vic Johnson



## Air Force Honourary Colonel Conference



Honourary Colonels including Senator Wallin attending the Conference opening ceremonies of the CF Aerospace Warfare Center at 8 Wing Trenton.



Senator Wallin at the HCol Conference. Honourary Colonels work behind the scenes and provide a much needed connection between the CF and the community.



Honourary Colonels from across Canada at 8 Wing Trenton.

Photo Credit: Ken Allan, Air Force Public Affairs

## Northern Exposure—Whitehorse, Yukon



Senators Wallin & Lang

Senator Wallin is Chair of the Senate National Security and Defence Committee. The Committee has been studying Arctic security and defence, among other things. In June, Senator Wallin travelled with Senator Dan Lang to Yukon to give the keynote address to Yukon College's graduation ceremony in Whitehorse and to take part in the opening of the Whitehorse's new Legion. The Yukon is big! At nearly 484 thousand square kilometres it is larger than California, and bigger than Belgium, Denmark, Germany and the Netherlands combined.



Senator Wallin speaking at Yukon College.

### Excerpt from the Whitehorse Daily Star By Jason Unrau

When it comes to national security, former journalist and Conservative Senator Pamela Wallin does not mince words on protecting Canadian interests at home or abroad. On Arctic sovereignty, Wallin is firm in her belief that Canada need only assert its northern presence, not scramble to claim what is already ours. 'We don't need to establish our sovereignty in the Arctic, we have sovereignty (there),' Wallin, who chairs the Senate's National Security and Defence Committee, told the Star Wednesday. 'I feel it's important to have that public discussion about sovereignty. People think somehow that we have to establish this and defend it, but it's not some frontier we're still doing battle over.'



Yukon Premier Dennis Fentie and Commissioner Van Bibber listen to Sen. Wallin speak at the opening of the new Whitehorse Legion.

On the international front, the senator stands behind the Canadian mission in Afghanistan and decries criticism founded on an incomplete picture of what's happening on the ground in the war-torn country. Wallin points to Canada's civilian efforts in Afghanistan, including the work of officials from corrections and the RCMP who are improving prison and policing standards in a region of the world where previous to the 2001 invasion by NATO forces, barbarism ruled supreme.



Sen. Wallin in the convocation parade.

## Working with youth



Senator Wallin spoke at the G8 youth event, "My Summit 2010," where young delegates debated the same global issues as the G8 leaders.



Mica Jensen from École Braemar School in North Vancouver, BC, dressed up like Senator Wallin for a school project where the Senator was her "Famous Canadian" of choice.



Joshua Geno checking Senator Wallin into a Young Canadians in Finance event in Ottawa, April 27, where members discuss all things fiscal and financial.

## Speaking Events



Senator Wallin was the Master of Ceremonies for a Support our Troops Event held on Parliament Hill May 11th which raised money for military families.

Photo Credit: Mitchel Raphael



Speaking to the Nuclear Association, Senator Wallin's speech highlighted Canada's nuclear contributions over the last 50 years and looked ahead to the future importance of nuclear energy.



Master of Ceremonies Lt(N) Élise Côté listening to Sen. Wallin speaking at a Strength through Diversity event supporting women in the Canadian Forces. This May, a woman—Lt.-Col. Maryse Carmichael—took over as commander of the Snowbirds flying team at Moose Jaw's 15 Wing.

## The Power of Yellow—Canola Council of Canada



Sen. Wallin speaking at the CCC conference.

Senator Wallin spoke in San Francisco this spring at the Canola Council's Conference. Her speech focussed on Canada-United States relations, and in a unique video-conference session Senator Wallin interviewed Gary Doer, Canada's Ambassador to the United States, regarding recent trade developments and the expanding canola economy.



Sen. Wallin with Canola Council of Canada's President JoAnne Buth

Well over 10.5 million acres of canola are planted annually in Canada today, with Saskatchewan growing close to half of that amount! And Saskatchewan is the world centre for canola research and development. The province has five canola crushing facilities in four communities—Clavet, Watson, Nipawin and Yorkton—all operating to serve worldwide demand. There are research companies like Bayer CropScience which opened its global canola research facility in Saskatoon last spring. And we have leading bio-diesel production and research companies like Milligan Bio-Tech which recently expanded its operations in Foam Lake.

So it's an understatement to say canola is a major contributor to the Canadian and Saskatchewan economy. And it has come a long way from its humble beginnings! In the 1940s, only 6,000 acres of rapeseed (canola's former name) were planted per year and the oil gathered was used largely as a lubricant for machinery. It was Saskatchewan research and know-how that made better varieties suitable for human consumption.

Now today, transfat and cholesterol free canola cooking oil is not only popular with consumers at the grocery store, it is also the number one choice for restaurant chains like McDonald's, Olive Garden and Red Lobster. Over 7.9 million tonnes of canola is exported, making Canada the world's top exporter of canola and Saskatchewan the top province! Nationally, this brings in over five billion dollars to the farm gate, creating more than two hundred thousand jobs.

**That's the power of yellow!**



Agronomy Specialist, Jim Bessel, of Saskatoon celebrating a milestone 20-year anniversary with the Council at the convention.

## Moose Jaw Central Collegiate 100th Anniversary Reunion



← Randy Helgason, his sister Cathy McIntyre, Robert Dally, Senator Wallin, Carol Helgason meeting at the reunion.

Reunion organizer Debbie Cowan and Senator Wallin cut the 400 pound cake replica of the Central Collegiate Institute. Senator Wallin was an inaugural inductee into the CCI "Wall of Excellence." →



## Saskatoon's McClure Place Foundation Golden Heart Dinner



Senator Wallin speaking in Saskatoon at the McClure Foundation's Golden Heart Dinner, an award presented each year celebrating those with hearts of gold when it comes to serving seniors and community in Saskatchewan.



Vern and Mae Robinson with Senator Wallin. Originally from Wadena, Vern and Mae are residents of Saskatoon's McClure Place Tower.



**Golden Heart Award winners with Sen. Wallin:** Dr. Jack Millar, Vivienne Hauck, Joanne Folstad, Mary Ballantyne, Erin McGillivray and Dr. Murray Scharf.

## Saskatchewan Municipal Awards

*Celebrating Excellence in Saskatchewan*



Senator Wallin brought greetings on behalf of the Selection Committee.

The fourth annual Saskatchewan Municipal Awards was held on Friday, May 14th, 2010 at the Ramada Hotel in Regina. Close to 140 people from across the Province attended, eager to find out which of the finalists would win and to celebrate municipal excellence in Saskatchewan.

Awards are given for innovative and practical ideas that improve service and save taxpayers money—things like improving the way ratepayer requests are dealt with. Another example is the Economic Development Leadership award that was won by the Fife Lake Rail project, where seven municipalities partnered to acquire and operate the rail line. This line provides economic advantages to businesses and ratepayers in the region, reducing transportation costs and creating jobs. The recipients of this award were RM of Hart Butte No. 11, RM of Poplar Valley No. 12, RM of Willow Bunch No. 42, RM of Old Post No. 43, RM of Stonehenge No. 73, Town of Coronach and Town of Rockglen. Environmental Stewardship is another important award. Receiving the award on behalf of their municipalities were Richard Porter, Reeve, RM of Canwood No. 494, Hugh Otterson, Administrator, RM of Canwood No. 494 and Dean Demers, Highway 55 Waste Management Corporation.

Established in 2006, the Saskatchewan Municipal Awards program is a collaborative partnership of the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM), the Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association (SUMA), New North, the Rural Municipal Administrators' Association (RMAA), the Urban Municipal Administrators' Association of Saskatchewan (UMAAS) and the Ministry of Municipal Affairs. Each year, the number of municipalities participating in the awards program has increased. This year, twenty-four (24) nominations were submitted in six categories.



Minister Jeremy Harrison who recently became Saskatchewan's Minister of Enterprise and Minister responsible for Trade talking to Senator Wallin. Minister Harrison presented the Municipal Service Excellence Award.

David Marit, SARM President said, "The Saskatchewan Municipal Awards Program is an exciting initiative and SARM is proud to be just one of the many strong partners in this program."

Winners and finalists in each category were chosen by an independent selection committee whose members include Bob Linner, former City Manager, City of Regina; Murray Mandryk, political columnist, Regina Leader Post; Holly Hetherington, Senior Partner, Executive Source, Jim Angus, Administrator, Rural Municipality of Harris No. 316, and new to the selection committee in 2010, Senator Pamela Wallin.



Sen. Wallin with Regina Leader Post reporter, Joe Couture.

## North Saskatchewan Division of Commissionaires



Senator Wallin discussing issues relevant to Saskatchewan Commissionaires with Cliff Walker, CEO of the South Sask Corps and his wife Fran along with North Sask Chief of Operations Gerry Bull and his wife Shelley, who is from Wadena and who is also Sen. Wallin's best friend!

Senator Wallin spoke to the North Saskatchewan Division of Commissionaires this spring. The Commissionaires are a private, self-supporting, not-for-profit security company employing mostly ex-military and police personnel to protect public and private sector clients across Canada. In fact Commissionaires protect a good many of Ottawa's government buildings. The Commissionaires were founded in 1859 in Great Britain and have been in Canada for 85 years.



Sen. Wallin with the North Saskatchewan Commissionaires Board of Directors: Murray Scharf, Donna Birkmaier Tillotson, Larry Wong, John Dalzell, Mary Beckett, Jim Stakiw and CEO Mike Cooper.

# Our Afghan mission isn't finished

Pamela Wallin, Chair of the Senate Committee on National Security and Defence,  
and Deputy Chair Roméo Dallaire



The Globe and Mail, Wednesday, June 23, 2010

With a year to go before the Canadian Forces start withdrawing from Afghanistan, Canadians are waking up to the import of the military mission and the fact that we are about to leave. Meanwhile, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, which is leading the multinational force there, is quietly pressing Canada to keep making a troop contribution. Now, the House of Commons special committee on Afghanistan says it is time for Parliament “to begin a serious discussion on the future of the Canadian mission.”

We are delighted that the debate has been joined. Our Senate committee, studying the same issue, has heard from key Canadian and other players in Afghanistan. None has said the mission should end. Many believe that at least some troops should stay. And all agree our contribution has been remarkable.

From the beginning, Canada has been part of the United Nations-sanctioned international force for one overriding reason: our national security. When al-Qaeda terrorists struck on Sept. 11, 2001, they killed 2,976 people from 77 countries, including 24 Canadians, and brought home the threat of terrorism to us all. Those terrorists and others had trained in Taliban-controlled Afghanistan. NATO took the unprecedented step of invoking Article 5 of its founding treaty whereby an attack on one member is an attack on all.

The Canadian Forces hit the ground in Afghanistan in 2002, and since 2005 have nearly single-handedly held the line in Kandahar province, the birthplace of the Taliban, as part of the International Security Assistance Force. They are commanding American forces, conducting combat patrols, protecting and assisting the Provincial Reconstruction Team and training and mentoring the Afghan National Army and Afghan National Police. They have also developed a counterinsurgency strategy much admired by the American military – moving into and living in small numbers in villages so that the Afghan government, agencies of other governments as well as civilian organizations can safely go in to help rebuild the civil society to enable it to resist coercion by the Taliban.

Canada is playing a big part in this reconstruction of the civil society. We have been building schools, advising government ministries, helping to repair the Dahla Dam and its irrigation system to provide vital water – and much more. When it comes to building Afghanistan’s capacity to govern, there is no point in training police officers if there is no functional judicial system to back them up. Likewise, it would be easier to develop both the police and army if the recruits had some education and were able to read and write. NATO’s goal, and Canada’s, is to help Afghanistan stand on its own.

As for the work of our nearly 3,000 troops, whether it was from top U.S. military officials or a policy lobbying group, our committee heard nothing but praise. As Terry Glavin, with the Canada-Afghanistan Solidarity Committee, told us, “It is hard to draw direct cause-and-effect lines between the death of a soldier and a young girl who learns how to write her name for the first time, but those lines are there.”

Training and mentoring units of the Afghan National Army and Afghan National Police is a key part of what the Canadian Forces are doing in Kandahar. After all, their soldiers and police will have to provide security and law enforcement after the international forces leave – and they are still far from ready. Our 200 or so troops that do this are part of Operational Mentor and Liaison Teams and a Police Operational Mentor and Liaison Team.

One of the most eloquent pleas our committee heard for keeping Canadian troops in Afghanistan came from Canadian Brigadier-General (Retired) Serge Labbé, who is now in Kabul as deputy to the NATO Senior Civilian Representative. He says the time doesn’t seem right for removing all the troops when “we need more troops to turn the tide.” He called for the training of another Afghan army brigade, adding, “We cannot leave them in the lurch.” Afghanistan’s ambassador to Canada, Jawed Ludin, also urged Canada to remain involved in ensuring security by helping to build up the Afghan forces. That is Afghanistan’s most important strategic priority, he said. “We would like to get it right with your help.” We agree.

The Senate Committee on National Security and Defence released an interim report, *Where We Go From Here: Canada’s Mission in Afghanistan*, which was tabled Tuesday, June 23, 2010 in the Senate. The Committee has also been studying Arctic Sovereignty and Security. For more info or to access the Afghanistan interim report visit [www.pamelawallin.com](http://www.pamelawallin.com), click on “Articles.” Or to order the Afghanistan report call 613-947-4097.

## Canadian Crime Victim Foundation



Joe and Lozanne Wamback, Canadian Crime Victim Foundation founders, presenting appreciation award to Senator Wallin.

Senator Wallin spoke at the Canadian Crime Victim Foundation's annual gala this year. Joe and Lozanne Wamback created the Foundation in 2002 after their son was almost killed by young offenders. Their organization provides a powerful national voice for Canadian men, women and children who fall victim to crime. It promotes laws, policies and programs that support and assist victims.

The Federal Government has six tough-on-crime bills before Parliament, and two bills to help victims of terrorism. One of the crime bills will change the pardon system in a big way! Up till now, 98% of pardon applications were granted. This will no longer be automatic. Those convicted of sex offences against children or with more than three indictable offences will be ineligible. And even those allowed to apply will have to wait five or ten years before doing so, depending on the seriousness of their crimes. These changes will ensure that a convicted criminal like Karla Homolka (who would have been eligible to apply in July) will not receive a "pardon". **And in the fall there will be more important changes coming!**

Under other recent get-tough legislation, criminals will no longer get extra credit for time served! And the *Tackling Violent Crime Act* has hardened sentencing and bail conditions for those who commit serious gun crimes. It also better protects youth from sexual predators; better protects society from dangerous offenders; and gets serious with drug-impaired drivers. And because victims and their families need a greater voice in the criminal justice system and more access to available services, a federal ombudsman for victims of crime was created and a new ombudsman, Sue O'Sullivan, was recently appointed.



Senator Con Di Nino, Randy Carroll CEO, Insurance Brokers Assoc. with Senator Wallin.



Senator Wallin presented Emily Brunnett with a \$2,000 scholarship from the CCVF at the May 28th dinner. The CCVF awards scholarships to crime victims and their families.

## Update on the National Day of Service

Liberal senators have again delayed Senator Wallin's bill – the National Day of Service Act. The idea for the bill was brought to Senator Wallin by the Coalition of Canadians Against Terror, and she thought it important to declare September 11<sup>th</sup> each year as a day for all Canadians to commemorate the Canadian victims of 9/11 and all acts of terror by helping out in their communities. In speaking to the bill, Liberal Tommy Banks called the idea "sacrilegious" and wanted proof that the victims of 9/11 had shown "courage" and "sacrifice." Senator Wallin was appalled. On 9/11, 24 Canadians were among the more than 3,000 killed. In the Air India bombing 280 Canadians died. In Afghanistan more than 150 Canadians have been killed. Terrorism doesn't only affect others. It affects Canadians too. Senator Wallin will try a third time this fall, but meanwhile another 9/11 anniversary will pass in Canada without an official day of commemoration through community service. **What can you do to help? Call and email opposition Senators and let them know you support the National Day of Service Act, Bill S-209.**

### Senator Tommy Banks

P: 613-005-1889; E: [bankst@sen.parl.gc.ca](mailto:bankst@sen.parl.gc.ca)

### Senator Tardif (Deputy Leader of the Senate Opposition)

P: 613-947-3589; E: [tardic@sen.parl.gc.ca](mailto:tardic@sen.parl.gc.ca)

For more info visit Senator Wallin's website: [www.pamelawallin.com](http://www.pamelawallin.com), click on "Senate."

## The Federal Government is taking action to protect Canadian consumers. That's why we introduced the Fairness at the Pump Act to:

- ➔ Increase the number of mandatory gas pump inspections
- ➔ Save Canadian consumers millions of dollars every year
- ➔ Impose severe fines and penalties on offenders

### Did you know?

The Canadian Taxpayers Federation recently gave the Saskatchewan Government a passing grade on "gas tax honesty"! 100% of the money raised through the fuel tax is being invested back into road construction and repairs.

# Where the Parks Are

## Thinking about where to spend your summer vacation?



If you are a Grade 8 student then you can visit any Canadian national park and historic site for free with your new "My Parks Pass"! Distributed by Parks Canada and the Historica-Dominion Institute, 550 Saskatchewan schools received student kits explaining our Canadian parks' cultural heritage along with the new *My Parks Pass*. This means over 12,000 Saskatchewan students have the opportunity of visiting Canada's national parks and historic sites for free! For the whole year! There are also discounts and coupons for the families of Grade 8 students! For additional info on Parks Canada's the *My Parks Pass* please visit [www.myparkspass.ca](http://www.myparkspass.ca).

## Where you can go in Saskatchewan with your *My Parks Pass*...

Saskatchewan National Parks and Historic Sites you can visit!

- Prince Albert
- Batoche
- Fort Walsh
- Motherwell Homestead

### Fort Battleford National Historic Site of

Canada...commemorates the role of the North-West Mounted Police at the fort from 1876 to 1885 in extending the Canadian government's interests in the west. The role of the fort during the North-West Rebellion/Resistance of 1885, included its role in the "siege" of Battleford, as a base for the military operations at Cut Knife Hill, Fort Pitt, and the search for mistahi-maskwa (Big Bear). It was also the site of the surrender of pîhtokahânapîwîyîn (Poundmaker) to General Middleton's forces on 26 May 1885.



## Saskatchewan's Federal Team Working for you



Please feel free to contact me anytime with questions and ideas.

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