

*INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT  
ADVICE TO THE PREMIER*

**BACKGROUND / STATUS:**

- The House of Commons will expand by 30 seats under legislation passed in December 2011, adding MPs for British Columbia, Alberta, Ontario and Quebec. The anticipated breakdown is: 3 seats for Quebec, 15 for Ontario, and 6 each for Alberta and British Columbia.
- The federal government estimates the cost of the additional MPs will be \$14.8 million annually.
- The federal government has introduced the Senate Reform Act. It is currently at second reading in the House of Commons. The Act has two elements: (1) it proposes a framework for consulting voters on the selection of Senate nominees from the provinces; (2) and introduces non-renewable nine year term limits.
- Quebec has launched a reference case to the Quebec Court of Appeal on the constitutionality of the Senate Reform Act.

s.13, s.14

s.13, s.14
- The framework would require the Prime Minister to consider the recommended names from a list of elected Senate nominees but would not be binding on the Prime Minister or the Governor General when making appointments to the Senate.
- BC Senator Gerry St. Germain is required to retire from the Senate in November 2012. The proposed term limits would mean that BC Senators Martin, Neufeld and Greene Raine would serve a further 9 years after the term limits came into force. Senators Jaffer and Campbell would not be affected by the new term limits.

**CONTACT:**

Paul Craven, Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat

**DATE:**

April 27, 2012

*INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT  
ADVICE TO THE PREMIER*

**ISSUE:** House of Commons and Senate Reform

**RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:**

**House of Commons Representation**

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Not Responsive

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**Senate Reform**

- The Province supports abolition of the Senate on the basis that it has outlived its purpose. BC is also not fairly represented in the Senate with only 6 seats (compared to 24 in both Ontario and Quebec; 10 in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia; 6 in Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Newfoundland and Labrador).
- Abolition of the Senate or changing the representation in the Senate requires a constitutional amendment supported by 7 of the Provinces representing at least 50% of the population of all provinces.
- If the Senate is to remain and the federal act passed, British Columbians ought to have their say on their senate nominees.
- MLA John Les's Private Member's Bill, "Senate Election Act" would provide a legal framework for electing Senatorial nominees to represent BC in the Senate.
- The proposed Senate Election Act sunsets eight years after proclamation unless the distribution of seats in the Senate is amended to provide British Columbia with a more balanced and equitable proportion.

## Craven, Paul IGRS:EX

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**From:** Fitzpatrick, Ron [Ron.Fitzpatrick@pco-bcp.gc.ca]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 18, 2012 7:02 AM  
**To:** Craven, Paul IGRS:EX  
**Subject:** Senate

s.13

## B.C. plans Senate election

Move would pre-empt feds

BY PETER O'NEIL, POSTMEDIA NEWSSEPTEMBER 18, 2012

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Ron Fitzpatrick  
Policy Advisor | Conseiller en politiques  
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66 Slater, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A3  
Tel: (613) 943-0528 Fax: (613) 947-1699

## Craven, Paul IGRS:EX

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**From:** Farley, Vick JAG:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 15, 2012 10:02 AM  
**To:** Copley, George JAG:EX; Craven, Paul IGRS:EX  
**Cc:** Fyfe, Richard J JAG:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Quebec's Challenge to the Senate Reform Bill

Paul,

s.14

Vick

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**From:** Copley, George JAG:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 15, 2012 4:30 AM  
**To:** Craven, Paul IGRS:EX; Farley, Vick JAG:EX  
**Cc:** Fyfe, Richard J JAG:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Quebec's Challenge to the Senate Reform Bill

Paul:

s.14

George

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**From:** Craven, Paul IGRS:EX **Sent:** Monday, May 14, 2012 4:16 PM  
**To:** Farley, Vick JAG:EX; Copley, George JAG:EX  
**Cc:** Fyfe, Richard J JAG:EX  
**Subject:** Quebec's Challenge to the Senate Reform Bill

Hi George and Vick,

s.14

Thanks,

Paul

Paul Craven  
Executive Director, Federalism and Canadian Intergovernmental Policy  
**Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat**  
Office of the Premier  
250.356.2272



## Progress Report

**Ministry:** Justice

s.12

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s.12





June 4, 2012

Honourable Shirley Bond  
Minister of Justice and Attorney General

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s.12



## Priorities and Planning Committee Decision Summary Sheet

**Ministry:** Justice

s.12



## **Priorities and Planning Committee Submission – Request for Decision**

**Minister:** Honourable Shirley Bond, Minister of Justice and Attorney General  
**Ministry:** Justice

s.12

Pages 13 through 28 redacted for the following reasons:

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s.12



# **DRAFT Priorities and Planning Committee Submission**

## **– Request for Decision**

**Minister:** Hon. Shirley Bond, Minister of Justice and Attorney General

**Ministry:** Justice

s.12

Pages 30 through 42 redacted for the following reasons:

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s.12

## Dunn, Jennifer LCTZ:EX

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**From:** Preyde, Anne M PREM:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 16, 2012 10:36 AM  
**To:** Powell, Charlotte PREM:EX  
**Cc:** Furry, Jennifer PREM:EX; Gillespie, Joyce PREM:EX  
**Subject:** FW: s.12

s.12

Anne

350 387-5541

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**From:** Preyde, Anne M PREM:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 16, 2012 10:35 AM  
**To:** Carter, Nancy L JAG:EX  
**Cc:** Chalke, Jay JAG:EX  
**Subject:** RE: s.12

Nancy

s.12

Anne

350 387-5541

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**From:** Carter, Nancy L JAG:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 16, 2012 10:13 AM  
**To:** Preyde, Anne M PREM:EX  
**Cc:** Chalke, Jay JAG:EX  
**Subject:** FW: s.12

s.12

*Zoe O'Neil*

*Executive Director, Civil Policy and Legislation Office  
Justice Services Branch  
Ministry of Justice  
Ph. (250) 356-6182  
Fax (250) 387-1189*

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**From:** Reimer, Neil JAG:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 16, 2012 9:44 AM  
**To:** Carter, Nancy L JAG:EX  
**Subject:** FW: s.12



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**From:** Preyde, Anne M PREM:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 16, 2012 9:32 AM  
**To:** Forrest, Cris J JAG:EX; Reimer, Neil JAG:EX  
**Cc:** Keyes, Donna JAG:EX; Dvson-Loewen, Jessica JAG:EX  
**Subject:** s.12

Cris, Neil

s.12

thanks

Anne Preyde

Cabinet Committee Director  
Cabinet Operations  
Office of the Premier  
250 387-5541



April 23, 2012

Honourable Shirley Bond  
Minister of Justice and Attorney General

s.12



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Previous Minute –

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## **Priorities and Planning Committee Decision Summary Sheet**

**Ministry:** Justice

s.12



## **Priorities and Planning Committee Submission – Request for Decision**

**Minister:** Hon. Shirley Bond, Minister of Justice and Attorney General

**Ministry:** Justice

s.12

Pages 49 through 53 redacted for the following reasons:

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s.12



## DRAFT Cabinet Submission – Request for Decision

**Minister:** Hon. Shirley Bond, Minister of Justice and Attorney General

**Ministry:** Justice

s.12

Pages 55 through 58 redacted for the following reasons:

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