



STATEMENT

The Office of the Speaker Pro Tempore

Statement from Speaker Pro Tempore on the death of Senate Speaker Pierre Claude Nolin

Ottawa – April 24, 2015 – The news of Speaker Pierre Claude Nolin’s passing last evening has hit me with an overwhelming sense of sadness. The loss has been felt across our institution, and our grief is profound.

Despite the disease that threatened his life, Senator Nolin was committed and determined to see the Senate through difficult times. His deep commitment to modernize the institution was manifested throughout the Chamber, by all Senators. We will continue his legacy of being transparent and accountable to the people of Canada.

Over the coming days, you will hear a great deal about this proud Canadian and Parliamentarian whom we were so fortunate to work alongside. We will remember him as a man of principle, and for his independent mind, courage in the face of uncertainty, and fierce belief in working together.

In my 30 years of working with Senator Nolin, I have always known him to be a proud Quebec nationalist. He believed deeply in our Parliamentary system as fundamental to bringing together all the diversity of this country. For him, there was never a dichotomy to being a strong Quebecer and a strong Canadian.

On behalf of all Senators, I offer my deepest sympathies to Speaker Nolin’s wife, children and grandchildren, and to his friends and family.

The Honourable Senator Leo Housakos
Speaker Pro Tempore