REPORT OF THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT DELEGATION TO SCOTLAND WEEK 2014: NEW YORK, OTTAWA AND TORONTO, APRIL 2014
Contents

Contents ........................................................................................................................................... 2
Introduction ....................................................................................................................................... 3
Canadian Legislatures: Processes and Procedures .......................................................................... 4
Policy Meetings .................................................................................................................................. 8
  Welfare Provision and Food Banks ................................................................................................. 8
  Health Policy .................................................................................................................................... 11
  Domestic Violence ........................................................................................................................... 13
  Diplomatic Meetings ....................................................................................................................... 15
Supporting Scottish Organisations in New York ............................................................................. 15
Engaging with the Scottish diaspora ................................................................................................. 17
Acknowledgements ............................................................................................................................ 19
Annex A: Scotland Week Delegation Programme 2014 ................................................................. 20

Front page: The Presiding Officer, Rt Hon Tricia Marwick MSP is pictured with Linda Fabiani MSP, Rhoda Grant MSP and Members of the Ontario Legislative Assembly. From left to right, Ms. Laurie Scott, MPP (Member of Provincial Parliament), Ms. Rhoda Grant, MSP, Ms. Sarah Campbell, MPP, Presiding Officer Rt. Hon. Tricia Marwick MSP, Ms. Dipika Damerla, MPP and Ms. Linda Fabiani, MSP.
Introduction

The Scottish Parliament delegation to Scotland Week in 2014 consisted of the Presiding Officer, Rt Hon Tricia Marwick MSP, Linda Fabiani MSP and Rhoda Grant MSP. The delegation undertook a series of meetings and engagements in New York City, Ottawa and Toronto. The delegation had a number of objectives which it sought to achieve during Scotland Week. These are detailed briefly below:

- To engage in a range of policy meetings focussed on health policy, domestic violence, the operation of welfare policy and the role of food banks in Canada and the United States;

- To undertake meetings in the Federal Parliament of Canada and the Legislative Assembly of Ontario which sought to discuss best practice in Parliamentary procedure and practice in these legislatures in order to inform the Presiding Officer’s reform agenda;

- To support and promote Scottish organisations undertaking activity promoting Scotland during Scotland Week in New York; and

- To engage with the Scottish diaspora in Canada and the United States, to highlight the on-going contribution of the Scottish diaspora to the success of the both countries and to promote dialogue between Scotland and the Scottish diaspora.

The Scottish Parliament’s UK and International Strategy (Session 4) highlights a range of areas where the Scottish Parliament will seek to engage with Canada and the USA which informed the objectives for the delegation. In particular, the Scottish Parliament had not engaged with Canadian legislatures during Scotland Week in the current Parliamentary session and the delegation sought to reinvigorate relations in this area through the 2014 Scotland Week programme.

The scope and scale of activity undertaken by the 2014 delegation was similar to that of the 2013 delegation. The cost of the Scottish Parliament delegation’s work during Scotland Week 2014 was under £30,000. Consideration of the environmental impacts arising from the 2014 Scotland Week programme was integrated into the development of the delegation’s itinerary. This ranged from the use of shared transport options at all points in the programme to the consideration of environmental best practice in Canadian legislatures informing the delegation’s programme.
Canadian Legislatures: Processes and Procedures

As noted above, Scottish Parliament delegations to North America had not engaged with Canadian legislatures during the current Parliamentary session. The 2014 delegation therefore sought to re-engage in this area through undertaking meetings at the Canadian Federal Parliament in Ottawa and the Ontario Legislative Assembly in Toronto. In particular, the delegation sought to undertake activities which could inform the Presiding Officer’s Parliamentary reform agenda and therefore engagement in Canada focused on Parliamentary processes and procedure. The Presiding Officer undertook courtesy calls with the Speakers of each of the legislatures visited by the delegation. These were:

- The Honourable Noel A Kinsella, Speaker of the Senate, Parliament of Canada;
- The Honourable Andrew Scheer MP, Speaker of the House of Commons, Parliament of Canada; and
- The Honourable Dave Levac, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario.

The Presiding Officer, Rt Hon Tricia Marwick MSP, signing the guest book of the Canadian Senate following a courtesy call with the Honourable Noel A Kinsella, Speaker of the Senate.

Discussion in each of these courtesy calls focused on Parliamentary procedures and processes, the challenges facing legislatures in adapting to new technologies and how legislatures can best engage with the public they represent in a manner suited to the 21st Century. The delegation also observed question time in both the
House of Commons and the Senate where the Speaker of each House welcomed the delegation to their respective Chambers¹.

The delegation’s discussions on Parliamentary process in the Parliament of Canada began with a series of meetings with Members and officials within the House of Commons. The delegation met with Mr Dean Allison MP², Chair of the Liaison Committee of the House of Commons, and Mr Joe Preston MP³, Chair of the Standing Committee of the Procedure and House Affairs of the House of Commons. Discussion covered a wide range of topics including the role and influence of Committees within the House of Commons, the process for changing Standing Orders within the House of Commons, electoral law in Canada and the impact of reduced budgets on the delivery of Parliamentary services within the House. In particular, there was a focus upon the increased use of video-conferencing as a means of gathering views and taking evidence given the vast geography of Canada. In addition, the Canadian Members also discussed the increasing use of digital technology by some Parliamentary Committees as a means of reducing paper usage. The Canadian Parliament purchased bespoke software, termed ‘Briefcase’, onto which all Committee papers are loaded and which is updated each day. This has enabled the Parliamentary committees within the House of Commons which have engaged with this technology to become ‘paperless’ Committees.

¹ Link to Senate Hansard, 8/4/14: www.parl.gc.ca/Content/Sen/Chamber/412/Debates/050db_2014-04-08-e.htm#3
² www.parl.gc.ca/Parliamentarians/en/members/Dean-Allison(25446)
³ www.parl.gc.ca/Parliamentarians/en/members/Joe-Preston(25448)
delegation then met with Mr James Rajotte MP, Chair of the Standing Committee on Finance of the House of Commons. The Finance Committee is one of the House Committees which has pioneered the use of ‘Briefcase’ and is now a paperless Committee. Discussion focussed on the use of technology in relation to the budget process and the experience of Members in managing the transition to digital working.

The delegation also met with the Clerk of the House of Commons, Ms Audrey O’Brien, and her officials, Mr Marc Bosc, Deputy Clerk, and Mr Mark Watters, Chief Financial Officer. Discussion considered the impact of the turnover of Members following the 2011 House of Commons election upon the working of the House and the procedures which the House has put in place in relation to making information about Members expenses open to public scrutiny. The Clerk to the House also discussed how the role of the Clerk is changing with an increasing emphasis on administration rather than the procedural aspects of the post. The main focus of discussion, however, concerned how the House had managed reducing budgets. The House had implemented a 7% reduction in budgets over three years with budget reductions being maximised towards the end of the three year period. These reductions were achieved primarily through reducing the number of Parliamentary staff and the costs associated with Members’ travel. The budget pressures upon the House will remain significant as the last Canadian census has resulted in a

---

4 [www.parl.gc.ca/Parliamentarians/en/members/James-Rajotte(1826)]
requirement for an additional 30 MPs to be elected to the House at the next Canadian General Election in 2015. The delegation also met with the Senate Committee on Rules, Procedures and the Rights of Parliament where delegation received an overview the operation of the Senate and discussion around the workload of the Committee particularly with regard to Parliamentary privilege.

Lastly, the delegation also met with Mr David W. Monaghan, Curator of the House of Commons, to discuss the art collection of the House of Commons in order to inform the policy of art collection within the Scottish Parliament. The House of Commons has maintained a ‘heritage collection’ since 1848 and currently has over 5,000 objects within its collection. Since 1988, the House has maintained an inventory of heritage objects. The intention of the collection is to record the evolution of Parliamentary life within the House of Commons. Since 2005, the ‘heritage collection’ of the House of Commons has been available on-line as the House has sought to provide greater public access to the collection.

In Toronto, the delegation held meetings at the Ontario Legislative Assembly. The most recent election to the Assembly, in 2011, had resulted in a Minority Government and the delegation held discussions regarding the impact of Minority Government upon the operation of the Assembly. The delegation also held meetings regarding the financial management of the Assembly in the context of declining budgets, the rules governing Members’ expenses, the funding of political parties in Ontario, Members’ salaries and the impact on the Assembly of Committee Chairs becoming paid positions. The delegation also observed Question Time in the Assembly and the Presiding Officer had a courtesy call with the Honourable Dave Levac, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario.

---

5 Further information on the ‘heritage collection’ of the House of Commons can be accessed at: [http://www.parl.gc.ca/About/House/Collections/index-e.htm](http://www.parl.gc.ca/About/House/Collections/index-e.htm)

Policy Meetings

Rhoda Grant MSP and Linda Fabiani MSP focussed on a range of policy areas during their time in Canada and New York City. Linda Fabiani MSP held meetings focussed on the provision of welfare and the operation of food banks. Rhoda Grant MSP held meetings focussed primarily on health policy and interventions to tackle domestic violence.

Welfare Provision and Food Banks

Linda Fabiani MSP held meetings in New York and Toronto dealing with the issue of the operation of food banks. In New York City (NYC), she met with Ms Cecile Noel, Executive Deputy Commissioner in the Emergency and Intervention Services department of the New York City Government. This department fulfils a range of functions including ‘emergency feeding services’. There are currently 500 programmes of food bank support provided by the New York City Government with food banks receiving £8.3 million per annum in funding from State and Federal sources. Food pantries and soup kitchens receive in the region of 10 million visits per annum. The NYC Government also operates a food stamps scheme which includes paying money onto a debit card which can be used at any store in the city. At present, more than 1.5 million NYC residents, or 18% of the population, receive food stamps. In essence, the provision of emergency feeding services has become part of the fabric of the welfare system in NYC7.

---

7 Further information about the NYC Emergency Food Assistance Program can be accessed at:
In Toronto, Linda met with two officials from the Ontario Association of Food Banks (OAFB). They were Carolyn Stewart, Manager – Operations and Finance, and Amanda King, Manager – Membership and Communications. OAFB is a voluntary organisation, founded in 1992, which receives no State support and to which individual food banks affiliate. It has 127 food banks that are Members and 1,100 affiliates representing hunger relief programmes and agencies across Ontario. The first Canadian food bank was formed in 1982, being perceived at the time as a temporary solution to tackle poverty and hunger. Food banks have grown in Ontario to the extent that currently they serve over 375,000 people a month of which 35% of users are children. The client base of food banks is extremely varied ranging from people in full-time employment to senior citizens to school leavers. Every University in Ontario has a food bank.

In addition to the provision of food, the role of food banks in Ontario has expanded to encompass operating as a ‘community hub’ which provide a range of social services. These vary between individual food banks but include services such as dental programmes, free child care, CV classes and the provision of medical advice. As was the case in New York City, food banks in Ontario place a particular emphasis upon promoting healthy food and nutrition. To this extent, OAFB also seeks to work closely with food producers and retailers. This approach has taken on a legislative form with the recent passage of the Ontario Local Food Act whereby farmers can claim a 25% tax credit based on the fair market value of food donated to food banks and other charitable meal programmes. Accordingly, since 1982 the role of food banks has expanded to become an institutionalised, non-State, source of mainstream support within Ontario.

Linda Fabiani MSP reported back to the Welfare Reform Committee, of which she is a Member, on her meetings with regard to food banks during Scotland Week in order to inform work that the Committee was doing with regard to this issue. A note of the main points covered in the meetings attended by Linda Fabiani MSP dealing with food banks in NYC and Toronto, in addition to that outlined above, is available at: www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Welfare_Reform_Committee/Food_Banks_-_Scotland_Week_2014.pdf

The Official Report of Linda Fabiani MSPs evidence to the Welfare Reform Committee on her meetings regarding food banks during Scotland Week can be accessed at: www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=9181&mode=pdf

The Welfare Reform Committee report ‘Food Banks and Welfare Reform’ can be accessed at: www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/77641.aspx#a6

In relation to the evidence the Committee had taken regarding the operation of food banks internationally, the Committee reached the following conclusion:

8 Further information on OAFB can be accessed at: http://www.oafb.ca/
“The Committee received evidence which questioned the UK Government’s view of food bank usage in other countries. The Committee found evidence that in Canada food banks had become institutionalised and were replacing state provision. There was also evidence that the high level of food bank usage in Germany was related to the changes in the country’s welfare provision. The Committee therefore believes that this casts doubt on the value placed by the UK Government on international comparisons as validation of its argument that food bank usage is supply led”

Linda Fabiani MSP also met with officials from the Ontario Government’s Ministry of Community and Social Services. The provision of welfare is a provincial responsibility in Canada with expenditure on ‘social assistance’ accounting for 6% of the Ontario Government’s expenditure in 2012-13. Discussion focussed on the two main forms of welfare provision in Ontario. These are, firstly, ‘Ontario Works’ which provides financial and employment assistance to help people move towards paid employment and independent lives. In 2012-13, there were over 468,000 recipients of support via Ontario Works, equating to 3.5% of the population of Ontario. Of those who received support via Ontario Works in 2012-13, 21% left the programme

Pictured above (from left to right): Carolyn Stewart, OAFB; Linda Fabiani MSP and Amanda King, OAFB.


10 Further information regarding Ontario Works can be accessed at: www.mcss.gov.on.ca/en/mcss/programs/social/ow/
and entered employment. The second main form of welfare provision in Ontario is the ‘Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)’, which provides financial assistance and employment support to enable people with disabilities and their families to live as independently as possible in their communities. In 2012-13, there were over 420,000 recipients of ODSP equating to 3% of the population of Ontario\(^\text{11}\).

**Health Policy**

In New York City (NYC), Rhoda Grant MSP met with officials from the NYC Government Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DoHMH). The officials present at the meeting were:

- Maura Kennelly, Director of Policy for the Bureau of Chronic Disease Prevention & Tobacco Control, DoHMH; and
- Kevin Schroth, Senior Legal Counsel for the Bureau of Chronic Disease Prevention and Tobacco Control, DoHMH.

Discussion ranged across a variety of policy interventions being pursued by DoHMH to address health inequalities, smoking cessation (including with regard to e-

\(^{11}\) Further information on ODSP can be accessed at:  
cigarettes) and tackling obesity particularly in relation to sugar intake\textsuperscript{12}. In relation to health inequalities, the focus of Mayor De Blasio on health inequalities in NYC during his election campaign was noted followed by discussion of targeted DoHMH programmes which seek to tackle health inequalities in neighbourhoods such as the South Bronx, East and Central Harlem and parts of Queens. The role of DoHMH in requiring calorie labelling on food sold in fast-food restaurants was also highlighted with NYC having been the first jurisdiction in the U.S. to require calorie labelling when this was introduced in 2008. The role of DoHMH in encouraging healthy eating, supporting farmers’ markets in poorer neighbourhoods and support to food banks was also considered.

With regard to smoking cessation, the role of higher taxes at both NYC and State level as a means of reducing tobacco use was cited alongside media campaigns to reduce tobacco consumption. In particular, the role of negative advertising strongly emphasising the health impacts of tobacco use had been pursued by DoHMH since 2005 with the impact of the adverts being monitored through focus groups and the number of calls to smoking cessation hotlines following the broadcasting of adverts. In relation to e-cigarettes the NYC Government raised the legal age at which e-cigarettes could be purchased from 18 to 21 and e-cigarettes cannot be used, in NYC, in any location in which smoking is banned. Both these measures came into effect in summer 2014. Both Chicago and Los Angeles have taken the same measures although the federal Government has not yet taken a position on e-cigarettes. Discussion then focussed on the unknown issues with regard to e-cigarettes such as whether they help people to stop smoking, whether they are harmful and the absence of clinical trials on their impact to date. The role of some of the larger tobacco companies investing in e-cigarette companies was also discussed.

In terms of policy regarding sugar intake, the focus for DoHMH policy interventions has been upon tackling the consumption of sugary drinks which are the largest single source of sugar in the U.S. diet accounting for over 40\% of sugar intake. Policy interventions have focussed on media campaigns and the setting of nutritional standards for establishments such as child-care providers\textsuperscript{13}. Unsuccessful attempts were made at State level to levy a tax on sugary drinks, while DoHMH are considering measures to place a cap on sugar levels for drinks sold in NYC. It was noted that Mexico recently passed a tax on sugary drinks of 1 peso per drink.

In Toronto, Rhoda Grant MSP met with officials from the Ontario Government’s Ministry for Health and Long-Term Care to discuss care for the elderly. In particular, discussion focussed on the policies of the Ontario Government which seek to encourage ‘home care’ and prevent older people being admitted to hospital. The Ministry employs ‘case managers’ at hospital emergency departments that organise the discharge of older people to their home as soon as possible. Recently, the Ontario Government has employed specialist nurse practitioners that work in local communities and seek to prevent the admission of elderly people to hospital. Specialist nurses and ‘case managers’ can organise 24 hour home care to keep

\textsuperscript{12} For further information on the role of DoHMH, see: www.nyc.gov/html/doh/html/home/home.shtml

\textsuperscript{13} For example, see the DoHMH publication ‘Are you Pouring on the Pounds?’: www.nyc.gov/html/doh/downloads/pdf/public/dohmhn8-06.pdf
people out of hospital as well as discharge elderly people from hospital to a nursing home for up to 90 days for rehabilitation.

**Domestic Violence**

In New York City, Rhoda Grant MSP met with two officials who were at the forefront of tackling domestic violence with the city. Firstly, Rhoda visited the Manhattan Family Justice Centre and met with the Executive Director of the Centre, Hannah Pennington¹⁴. The Manhattan Centre, which opened in March 2014, is the fourth centre of its kind to open in NYC. The Centre provides criminal justice, civil legal, and social services all in one location for victims of domestic violence, elder abuse, and sex trafficking. Victims can meet with a prosecutor, speak with a trained councillor and apply for housing and financial assistance at the Centre. Children can play in a children’s room while their parents receive services. In total, the Centre brings together 16 different public agencies within the one location.

![The play-room for children in the Manhattan Family Justice Centre.](image)

The services provided by the Centre are free and staff are able to deal with more than 25 languages. For roughly 46% of individuals seeking assistance from the centre, English is not their primary language. The Centre integrates the civil and


criminal aspects of domestic violence whilst NYC operates an ‘Integrated Domestic Violence Court’ where a Judge deals with criminal issues as well as any associated domestic issues.

Secondly, Rhoda met with Ms Kathy Ryan, a former Deputy Chief of the New York Police Department. Ms Ryan described her role commanding the NYPD domestic abuse unit from 2003. The Unit was established in response to rising levels of domestic violence but also an increasing awareness that 75% of domestic violence incidents did not come to the attention of the police. In particular, Ms Ryan was responsible for instigating a process of home visits by police officers which enabled perpetrators of domestic violence to be removed from homes. Ms Ryan also instigated a process of providing prosecutors with access to the criminal records database so that they could build a case dealing with domestic violence based on previous criminal records and incidents.

Pictured above from left to right: Niki Ashton MP, Rhoda Grant MSP and Helene Le Blanc MP

In Toronto, Rhoda met with two Members of the Canadian House of Commons’ ‘Standing Committee on the Status of Women’\(^{16}\). The two MPs were Ms Helene Le

\(^{16}\) For more information on the Standing Committee on the Status of Women, see: www.parl.gc.ca/CommitteeBusiness/CommitteeHome.aspx?Cmte=FEWO&Language=e&Mode=1&Parl=41&Ses=2
Blanc MP¹⁷, Chair of the Committee, and Ms Niki Ashton MP, Member of the Committee¹⁸. Discussion ranged across a variety of topics including the experience of women MPs within the House of Commons, the position of women within Canadian society and the policies of the current Canadian Government and their impact on women including the impact of austerity measures. Discussion also centred on the work of the Standing Committee and in particular, a recent report by the Committee on missing and murdered indigenous women in Canada. It is estimated that 600 indigenous women in Canada have either been murdered or disappeared over the last decade¹⁹.

**Diplomatic Meetings**

Upon arrival in New York City, the delegation met with officials from the UK Government’s Consulate in NYC. The officials were Deputy Consul-General, Mr Nick Astbury, and Mr Matthew Windrum, Vice Consul (Political). Discussion focussed on the work of the UK Government’s ten consulates across the U.S.A, the policies of Mayor de Blasio within NYC and inter-governmental relations between NYC and New York State. Similarly, in Ottawa, the delegation met with officials from the UK High Commission. The officials from the UK High Commission were Deputy High Commissioner, Corin Robertson, Matthew Lawson, Head of Global Issues and Kevin Farrell, Political Officer. Discussion centred on political developments in Canadian federal politics and the election in Quebec which was taking place while the delegation was in Canada.

**Supporting Scottish Organisations in New York**

The delegation, during their time in New York City, undertook four activities which sought to support the work of Scottish organisations present in NYC during Scotland Week. Firstly, the Presiding Officer and Linda Fabiani MSP visited the new Glasgow Caledonian University Campus (GCU NY) in downtown Manhattan. The new campus is the first time that a UK University has opened a campus in NYC.

The delegation toured the site in SoHo’s Wooster Street and met with Principal and Vice-Chancellor of GCU, Professor Pamela Gillies CBE, and Vice-President GCU NY, Cara Smyth, to discuss the work of Glasgow Caledonian in NYC. Discussion centred on plans for GCU NY, with programmes and transatlantic exchange opportunities for students and staff illustrated during a group discussion with additional GCU representatives. This included GCU Student President, Matt Lamb, who offered a very interesting and positive image of life at GCU, from a student perspective.

---

¹⁷ [Link to the website of Helen Le Blanc MP](http://www.parl.gc.ca/Parliamentarians/en/members/Helene-LeBlanc(71424))

¹⁸ [Link to the website of Niki Ashton MP](http://www.parl.gc.ca/Parliamentarians/en/members/Niki-Ashton(36037))

The discussion also focussed on GCU’s wider purpose and approach through what it terms ‘common good’ – a commitment to aid social development as an intertwined part of GCU’s overall role. The delegation were able to hear how GCU operated under ‘common good’ and took particular interest in GCU’s efforts to provide wide access to outreach programmes and its plans for helping students from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Secondly, the delegation attended an event to publicise two 15-foot scale models of ‘the Kelpies’ which were being displayed in Bryant Park, NYC, during March and April 2014. The Kelpies are a major public art installation which forms the centrepiece of the ‘Helix project’ that seeks to regenerate disused land between Falkirk and Grangemouth. The project forms part of a £43 million partnership between Falkirk Council and Scottish Canals. The delegation met with Mr Andy Scott, the creator of the Kelpies, and representatives of the wider Helix project to discuss the impact of the installation in Bryant Park and the broader objectives of the Helix project.

Thirdly, on arrival in NYC, Linda Fabiani MSP attended and provided the opening remarks at a launch reception for a photographic exhibition that showcased the life of the Jewish community in Scotland. The exhibition was the work of the award winning photographer Mr Judah Passow and the exhibition was produced by Mr Michael Mail. In February 2014, the exhibition was the subject of an event, hosted by Linda Fabiani MSP and addressed by the First Minister, in the Scottish Parliament. However, the exhibition in NYC was the first time that the photographs had been exhibited outside of Scotland. The exhibition went on to other venues in the U.S.A, including Chicago, San Francisco and Minneapolis.

Pictured above, from left to right, are Linda Fabiani MSP, Michael Mail and Judah Passow.
Lastly, the delegation attended and spoke at the launch reception for the Broad Daylight Exhibition by Scottish artists Tricia Malley and Ross Gillespie. The exhibition consists of a series of photographs of prominent Scots who have been asked to ‘sit’ for a photograph which seeks to depict their favourite Robert Burns text.

**Engaging with the Scottish diaspora**

The delegation undertook a range of activities that involved engaging with the Scottish diaspora in both NYC and Canada. Upon arrival in New York, the delegation attended a St Andrew’s Society of the State of New York reception at which the Presiding Officer addressed guests, as the keynote speaker. The primary focus of Scotland Week in NYC is the ‘Tartan Day Parade’. The delegation took part in a range of activities surrounding the Parade which took place on Saturday 5 April. On the morning of 5 April, the delegation attended the ‘Scotland Run’ which is a 10 kilometre race through Central Park. The ‘Run’ which was taking place for the 11th time saw over 8,000 runners participate. The delegation held the finishing line for the male and female winners of the race and gave out the prizes at the finishing ceremony.

![The Scotland Week 2014 delegation pictured on the finish line of the Scotland Run prior to the arrival of the runners.](image)

The delegation then attended a traditional ‘Kirkin’ of the Tartan’ service which acts as a prelude to the Tartan Day Parade. Following this, the delegation participated in the aforementioned Tartan Day Parade which was led by Mr Howie Nicholson as Grand Marshall of the Parade in 2014. The delegation then attended a reception organised
by the American Scottish Foundation, at which the Presiding Officer addressed guests, and a reception organised by the New York Tartan Day Committee at which Rhoda Grant MSP addressed guests who had been on the Parade earlier that day.

Lastly, a reception was held in the Parliament of Canada by the Canada-Scotland Parliamentary Friendship Group to welcome the delegation to Ottawa, at which the Presiding Officer was the principal speaker. The Group was launched on St Andrew’s Day 2011 by the Co-Chairs of the Friendship Group, Peter Braid MP\textsuperscript{20} and Kirsty Duncan MP\textsuperscript{21}.

\textsuperscript{20} Peter Braid MP’s website can be accessed at: \url{www.parl.gc.ca/Parliamentarians/en/members/Peter-Braid(58922)}

\textsuperscript{21} Kirsty Duncan MP’s website can be accessed at: \url{www.parl.gc.ca/Parliamentarians/en/members/Kirsty-Duncan(58877)}
Acknowledgements

The Scottish Parliament delegation to Scotland Week 2014 wishes to thank the following organisations and individuals for the assistance they provided to the delegation:

- American Scottish Foundation
- British High Commission in Ottawa
- Canada Scotland Parliamentary Friendship Group
- Glasgow Caledonian University
- Kathy Ryan
- Legislative Assembly of Ontario
- Manhattan Family Justice Center
- Michael Mail
- Ministry of Community and Social Services, Ontario Government
- Ministry of Health and Long Term Care, Ontario Government
- NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
- NYC Human Resources Administration / Department of Social Services
- New York City Tartan Day Committee
- Ontario Association of Food Banks
- Parliament of Canada
- St Andrew’s Society of New York
- The Helix Project, and
- UK Consulate in New York
Annex A: Scotland Week Delegation Programme 2014

THURSDAY 3 APRIL 2014

- Travel to New York
- Scots Jews: Identity, Belonging and the Future exhibition
- St Andrew’s Society of the State of New York reception

FRIDAY 4 APRIL

- Meeting with officials from the UK Consulate in New York
- Meeting with officials from the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, New York City Government
- Meeting with the Executive Deputy Commissioner of Emergency and Intervention Services, New York City Government
- Meeting with the Helix project
- Meeting with the Principal and representatives from Glasgow Caledonian University
- Meeting with the Executive Director of the Manhattan Family Justice Center
- ‘As Others See Us’ – Broad Daylight exhibition

SATURDAY 5 APRIL

- Attend Scotland Run
- ‘Kirkin’ of the Tartan’
- Tartan Day Parade
- American Scottish Foundation reception
- New York Tartan Day Committee reception

SUNDAY 6 APRIL

- Meeting with former Deputy Chief of the New York Police Department
- Travel to Ottawa
- Meeting with officials from the British High Commission in Ottawa
MONDAY 7 APRIL – Parliament of Canada

- Meeting with Members of the Standing Committee on the Status of Women, House of Commons
- Meeting with Chairs of the Liaison Committee and Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs, House of Commons
- Meeting with the Curator of the House of Commons and officials from the Senate Real Property Planning Directorate
- Courtesy Call with the Speaker of the House of Commons
- Meeting with the Clerk, Deputy Clerk and Chief Financial Officer of the House of Commons
- Meeting with the Chair of the Standing Committee on Finance of the House of Commons
- Canada Scotland Parliamentary Friendship Group reception

TUESDAY 8 APRIL – Parliament of Canada

- Meeting with the Clerk to the Senate
- Meeting with the Standing Committee on Rules, Procedures and the Rights of Parliament of the Senate
- Courtesy Call with the Speaker of the Senate
- Attendance at Senators’ Statements and official recognition
- Attendance at House of Commons Question Period and official recognition
- Travel to Toronto

WEDNESDAY 9 APRIL – Legislative Assembly of Ontario

- Courtesy Call with the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario
- Attendance at official introduction in the House
- Meeting with Assembly officials regarding Parliamentary procedure and administration
- Meeting with officials from the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, Ontario Government
- Meeting with officials from the Ministry of Community and Social Services, Ontario Government

- Meeting with officials from the Ontario Association of Food Banks

THURSDAY 10 APRIL

- Travel to Scotland