

CW UPDATE

THE MONTH IN REVIEW

by *Jonathan Batty*

ONTARIO'S SOCIAL CONTRACT

Following the collapse of negotiations with its public sector workers, Ontario introduced a legislative package on June 14 to effect restraint. The goal of the legislation is to cut \$2 billion in spending, with a three-year wage freeze and unpaid leave days. The bill affects 900,000 public sector employees, who are offered several incentives to conclude a non-legislated settlement before August 1. The Bill received third reading on July 7.

SENATE DEFEATS BILL C-93

A bill that would have amalgamated the Canada Council, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, and the cultural and academic policies of External Affairs was defeated in the Senate on June 10. This was the first time in nine years that a non-free vote government measure was defeated. Five Conservative senators, including **Finlay MacDonald** and **Norm Atkins**, voted against the bill. Three Conservative senators, including former Cabinet minister **Pat Carney**, abstained.

CONSERVATIVE LEADERSHIP CONVENTION RESULTS

Kim Campbell became the first woman to lead the Progressive Conservative party after a narrow second ballot victory at the party's convention to chose a successor to **Brian Mulroney**, on June 13. The results were as follows:

	Ballot 1	Ballot 2
Campbell	1,664 (48%)	1,817 (53%)
Charest	1,369 (39%)	1,630 (47%)
Edwards	307 (9%)	
Turner	76 (2%)	
Boyer	53 (1.5%)	

ALBERTA PROVINCIAL ELECTION

Premier **Ralph Klein's** Conservative government was re-elected with a slightly reduced majority on June 15. The Conservatives won 51 seats, and the Liberals led by Laurence Decore won 32 seats. The NDP, which had been the official opposition with 15 seats before the election, failed to win any seats. The election was the first for **Ralph Klein** as premier, who succeeded **Don Getty**.

QUEBEC BILL 86

The Liberal government of Premier **Robert Bourassa** passed its new language legislation through the National Assembly on June 17. The new language law significantly relaxes the restrictions on the use of English, and gives the provincial Cabinet expanded regulatory power over its use.

UPROAR OVER SENATE EXPENSE ALLOWANCE

On June 22, senators voted themselves a \$6,000 increase in their travel and accommodation allowance. Currently, senators earn \$64,400 and have an indexed tax-free allowance of \$10,400. Because of the resulting public outcry, the Senate reconvened in special session on July 12 and rescinded the increase by a vote of 80-1 with 2 abstentions.

NEW CABINET NAMED

Kim Campbell became Canada's 19th prime minister when she and her Cabinet were sworn in on June 25. The new Cabinet has 25 mem-

bers, the smallest since 1963, and is supposed to streamline government operations. Of the 25 ministers, including the PM, 18 held posts under **Brian Mulroney**. The new Cabinet is as follows:

- **Perrin Beatty**, External Affairs
- **Thomas Siddon**, Defence
- **Charles Mayer**, Agriculture, Small Communities and Rural Areas; minister designate of agriculture and agri-food
- **Lowell Murray**, government leader in the Senate
- **Paul Dick**, Supply and Services, Public Works; minister designate of government services
- **Jean Charest**, deputy prime minister, Industry, Science and Technology; Consumer and Corporate Affairs; minister designate of industry and science
- **Thomas Hockin**, International Trade
- **Monique Landry**, secretary of state, Communications; minister designate of Canadian heritage
- **Bernard Valcourt**, Employment and Immigration, Labour; minister designate of human resources and labour
- **Gerry Weiner**, Multiculturalism and Citizenship; minister designate of citizenship
- **Douglas Lewis**, solicitor-general, government House leader; minister designate of public security
- **Pierre Blais**, Privy Council president, Justice
- **Mary Collins**, Health and Welfare, Status of Women; minister designate of health
- **Jean Corbeil**, Transport
- **Gilles Loiselle**, Finance
- **Pauline Browes**, Indian Affairs and Northern Development
- **Pierre Vincent**, Environment
- **James Edwards**, Treasury Board president
- **Robert Nicholson**, Science, Small Business

- **Bobbie Sparrow**, Energy, Mines and Resources, Forestry; minister designate of natural resources
- **Peter McCreath**, Veterans Affairs
- **Ross Reid**, Fisheries and Oceans; Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency
- **Larry Schneider**, Western Economic Diversification
- **Garth Turner**, National Revenue

ELECTION LAW OVERTURNED

Sections 213 and 259 of the *Canada Elections Act* were found to be an unconstitutional infringement of the freedom of expression by an Alberta Court of Queen's Bench judge, Mr. Justice MacLeod, on June 26. (See Jamie Cameron's *Legal Report* elsewhere in this issue for her analysis of the decision.) The law banned advertising in the first 18 days of a federal election, and limited individuals and groups to spend no more than \$1,000 on advertising. In Parliament, the law was supported by the three major parties when it was passed as Bill C-114. The challenge was instigated by the National Citizens Coalition.

NATIVE RIGHTS

On June 25, the B.C. Court of Appeal released judgments on eight different cases that concerned the extent of the definition of aboriginal rights. Generally, the court upheld convictions of natives for regulatory offences if their actions contravened *bona fide* environmental protection or commercial regulation statutes.

NAFTA UPDATE

A U.S. District Court judge ruled on June 30 that NAFTA will have to be formally evaluated for its environ-

mental impact before it is submitted to Congress in September. An action was launched by various environmental groups against the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative for violating the national *Environmental Policy Act*. The Clinton administration's trade negotiator, **Mickey Kantor**, stated that the decision would be appealed. Implementing legislation was passed in Canada on June 23, but the treaty has not yet been submitted to Congress pending the conclusion of side agreements, which are expected to be reached in July.

PATRONAGE APPOINTMENTS

Prior to his departure from office, Prime Minister **Brian Mulroney** continued to fill vacant Senate seats and assign offices and postings. *The Globe and Mail* claims that 655 patronage appointments have been made since December, surpassing the number of appointments made by the former Liberal government in 1984. In the last nine years,

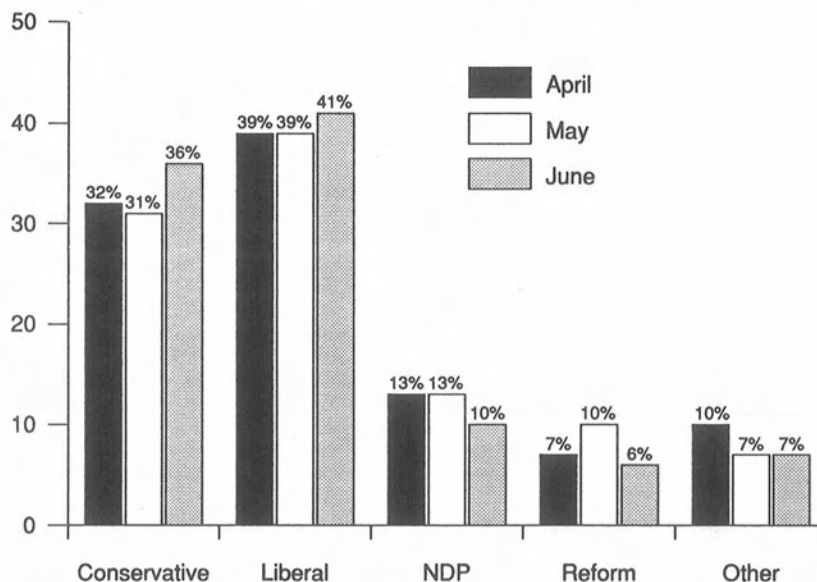
Mulroney appointed 57 people — 14 since the announcement of his resignation — to the 104-member red chamber. There are no vacancies in the Senate, composed of 58 Conservatives, 43 Liberals, and 5 independents.

TORIES UP WHILE NDP, REFORM DOWN IN LATEST POLL

The latest Gallup poll, taken in the week immediately following **Kim Campbell's** second ballot win on June 17, showed the Tories up 5 points over their showing in May. But the Tories, at 36 percent of decided voters, still trail the first place Liberals under **Jean Chrétien** by 5 points. Support for both the NDP and Reform declined, while in Quebec the Bloc Québécois held firm at 31 percent, trailing the first-place Conservatives there by 3 points.

Jonathan Batty, B.A. M.P.A., LL.B., is a member of the 1993 class at Osgoode Hall Law School.

Latest Gallup Poll Results



Source: Gallup Canada, June 16-21, telephone poll of 1,014 adults.