

1965, senators were appointed for life; that act set 75 years as the age at which any person appointed to the Senate after the coming into force of the act would cease to hold his place in the Senate.

In each of the four main areas of Canada (Ontario, Quebec, Atlantic provinces and western provinces) except Quebec, senators represent the whole of the province for which they are appointed; in Quebec, one senator is appointed for each of the 24 electoral divisions of what was formerly Lower Canada. The deliberations of the Senate are presided over by a speaker appointed by the Governor-in-Council (in effect by the government) and government business in the Senate is sponsored by the government leader in the Senate.

The Senate's traditional role in legislation originating in the House of Commons is to take a sober second look at such legislation and amend it if necessary; such amendments are often concurred in by the Commons. If representatives of the two houses cannot resolve disagreements arising from Senate amendments, the legislation cannot be further considered.

The Senate provides a national forum for discussion of public issues and airing of grievances from any part of Canada. Through its own committees and its participation in joint committees of both houses, the Senate is particularly active in making studies in depth on matters of public concern.

Since 1971, Senate committees have been performing a new function, that of studying the subject matter of government bills, including money bills, in advance of their formal introduction in the Senate. Under this procedure, amendments to a bill suggested by a Senate committee are often accepted by the government and by the House of Commons before the bill itself actually reaches the Senate.

In May 1978 the representation in the Senate was as follows:

Newfoundland

Eric Cook
William John Petten
Frederick William Rowe
Philip Derek Lewis
Jack Marshall
1 vacancy

Prince Edward Island

Florence Elsie Inman
Orville Howard Phillips
Mark Lorne Bonnell
1 vacancy

Nova Scotia

Donald Smith
Harold Connolly
John Michael Macdonald
Margaret Norrie
Henry D. Hicks
Bernard Alasdair Graham
Augustus Irvine Barrow
Ernest George Cottreau
George Isaac Smith
1 vacancy

New Brunswick

Fred A. McGrand
Edgar Fournier
Charles Robert McElman
Hervé J. Michaud
Michel Fournier
Louis-J. Robichaud, PC
Daniel Riley
Margaret Jean Anderson
2 vacancies

Quebec

Sarto Fournier
Hartland de Montarville Molson
Josie Alice Dinan Quart
Louis Philippe Beaubien
Jacques Flynn, PC
Maurice Bourget, PC
Azellus Denis, PC
Jean-Paul Deschatelets, PC
Alan Aylesworth Macnaughton, PC
J.G. Léopold Langlois
Paul Desruisseaux
Maurice Lamontagne, PC
Raymond Eudes
Louis de Gonzague Giguère
Paul C. Lafond
H. Carl Goldenberg
Renaude Lapointe (Speaker)
Martial Asselin, PC
Maurice Riel
Jean Marchand, PC
Pietro Rizzuto
Joseph Napoléon Claude Wagner
2 vacancies

Ontario

Salter Adrian Hayden
Norman McLeod Paterson
John J. Connolly, PC
David A. Croll
Joseph A. Sullivan
Lionel Choquette
Allister Grosart
David James Walker, PC
Rhéal Bétiste