



CPA Activities: The Canadian Scene

23rd Canadian Regional Seminar

The Canadian Regional Seminar of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association was held in Halifax from October 19-22, 2000. About 35 delegates and observers from every legislature except the House of Commons, Nunuvut and Yukon attended.

The host of the Seminar was Speaker **Murray Scott** of the Nova Scotia House of Assembly. Other Speakers in attendance were **Mildred Dover** of Prince Edward Island, **Lloyd Snow** of Newfoundland, **Gary Carr** of Ontario, **Ken Kowalski**

of Alberta and **Bill Hartley** of British Columbia.

There were six topics on the agenda all of which generated considerable discussion. **Harvey Hodder** (Newfoundland) led off a discussion on "The Consequences of Under-funding our Post-secondary Educational Institutions." **Mark Parent** (Nova Scotia) opened the session on "Does Religion have a Role in Politics?" The Clerk of the British Columbia Legislative Assembly, **George Mac-Minn**, presented opening remarks in a session on "Enhancing the Public Image of Parliament and Parliamentarians."

Shawn Graham (New Brunswick) was the lead speaker in the session on "Youth and Government." The session on Family Policy was lead off by **Roger Paquin** and **Russell Copeman** of the Quebec National Assembly. Finally, the session on "The Use of Technology in Legislatures" was led by Speaker Kowalski of Alberta.

The seminar was held in historic Province House and delegates experienced many instances of traditional Nova Scotia hospitality including a Lobster Supper and induction to the "Order of the Good Time" established by Samuel de Champlain.

