

## **Bios of the Canadian Participants**

### **2006 Mission to China on Norms and Standards for Public Consultation**

#### **Canada-China Legislative Cooperation Project**

**July 11-20, 2006  
Beijing, China**

---

#### **Mr. Paul Steckle, MP**

**Vice Chair of the Standing Committee on Agriculture and Agri-food  
House of Commons of Canada**

Paul Steckle is a Canadian Member of Parliament for Huron—Bruce and a member of the Liberal Party of Canada. Paul Steckle was elected to the House of Commons as the Member of Parliament for Huron-Bruce in 1993. He was re-elected in 1997, 2000, 2004 and 2006. With his motto "Priority; the people", he quickly established himself as an advocate of public engagement in the Parliament and Committee process.

Mr. Steckle is now serving as the Vice Chair of the House of Commons Committee on Agriculture and Agri-food. During the last session of Parliament, Mr. Steckle was an Associate Member of the Standing Committee on Fisheries and Oceans, Treasurer of the Liberal Rural Caucus, and a Member of the National Dairy and Feather Caucuses. Formerly, he also served as Chair of the Standing Committee on Agriculture and Agri-Food, where he worked tirelessly to resolve the complex difficulties facing our farmers and rural communities. In the past 12 months alone, the Agriculture Committee has focused on issues like BSE, the Avian Flu, and the impact that a high dollar has had on Canada's pork industry. Whether on the floor of the House, in committee or at the countless public events he attends each year, he is never afraid to loudly and passionately speak up on behalf of his constituents.

Mr. Steckle, a life-long resident of Stanley Township and respected municipal leader, is an effective and determined voice for the people of Huron-Bruce. He served as a township councillor in Stanley Township, Ontario from 1970 to 1980, and was elected reeve in 1980 where he served as until 1985.

**Ms. Linda Jeffrey, MPP**  
**Chair of the Committee on General Government Committee, Ontario Legislative Assembly**  
**Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Children & Youth Services, Ontario Province**

Linda was elected Member of Provincial Parliament to represent the riding of Brampton Centre on October 2nd, 2003. In addition to her parliamentary duties Linda is a member of the Cabinet Committee on Inter-Provincial, Municipal and Federal Relations. She currently chairs the Standing Committee on General Government and in November 2005 was appointed Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Children & Youth Services.

Before entering provincial politics, Linda had a strong record of representing her constituents. She was elected to Brampton City Council in 1991 and served as Alderman and then City Councillor for twelve years. As a Councillor, Linda Chaired the City's Administration and Finance Committee for a number of years and in that role frequently chaired the City's Budget Committee. As Budget Chair, Linda introduced changes to boost transparency and increase public and council access to the city's budget review process.

Shortly after arriving at Queen's Park Linda spoke to the Minister of Health and the Premier about Brampton's desperate need for a new hospital. In October 2004, construction crews and cranes arrived at the Bovaird Drive and Bramalea Road site. The new Civic Hospital is scheduled to open in the fall of 2007. As well, Linda strongly advocated the redevelopment of the William Osler Health Centre's Peel Memorial site on Lynch Street – she was successful in her discussions and construction is slated to begin in 2009/2010 on this multi-million dollar redevelopment. Since being elected Linda has been a fierce advocate not only for increased health care but also for adequate and fair funding for transportation, education and social services in Brampton.

In November 2004 Linda introduced her first Private Member's Bill entitled "The Home Fire Sprinklers Act, 2004". This Bill, revised and reintroduced in October 2005, is aimed at preventing loss of life due to fire, by ensuring that all new residential housing will be constructed with fire sprinklers.

**Mr. Michel Amar**  
**Principal, Strategic Planning Associates**  
**Former Chief of Staff, Minister of State for Employment & Immigration/Seniors**

Michel Amar is an award-winning strategic planning consultant with an outstanding record of achievement in communications planning, policy development and public consultations. A former Chief of Staff to a federal Cabinet Minister, he has worked on some of Canada's most significant public policy initiatives over the past 2 decades. He has managed, designed, supported or delivered consultation processes on a variety of sensitive, national issues for a range of clients, including: the Royal Commission on the Future of Health Care in Canada; the pan-Canadian Public Health Goals Initiative; the Working Group on Citizen Engagement in Pandemic Influenza Planning; the Public Review Panel on Oil Tanker Safety; the Canadian Biotechnology Advisory Committee; the Canadian Citizenship Initiative; the External Advisory Committee on Smart Regulation; the Federal-Provincial Relations Office; and, the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency.

Mr. Amar provided strategic communications support to the RCMP (Canadian Federal Police) during the Quebec Summit and the 9/11 crises, and advisory services to the federal government during the Charlottetown and Meech Lake negotiations. He has made numerous presentations in Canada and internationally on the interface between strategic communications and consultations planning, and is regularly invited to serve as a conference facilitator and rapporteur.

**Dr. Pauline Rankin**  
**Director, School of Canadian Studies, Carleton University**  
**Senior Gender Advisor, Canada-China Legislative Cooperation Project**

Pauline Rankin holds a Ph.D. in political science and researches in the area of women's participation in political life. She is a co-author of *Politics As If Women Mattered: A Political Analysis of the National Action Committee on the Status of Women*, the editor of a collection on Gender and Public Policy and the author of articles on various aspects of women's movements in Canada, nationalism, gender and public policy and gender mainstreaming. Her current research is concerned with women's engagement in the public policy in an era of gender mainstreaming both in Canada and abroad as well as the role of national machineries for women.

She is involved in several international gender and development projects where she specializes in integrating gender into public policy. She has delivered seminars and training workshops in Russia, Ukraine, Ethiopia and throughout the South Caucasus. She serves as the Canadian Gender Advisor for the Canada-China Legislative Cooperation Project through the Parliamentary Centre and the Gender Advisor for the Ukrainian Civil Service and Human Resource Management Reform Project.

Her current projects also include Policy, Leadership and Advocacy for Gender Equality - a CIDA collaborative project with Cowater International and the Ministry of Women and Children's Affairs in Bangladesh and the Public Policy Knowledge Network, a Canadian Bureau for International Education project based in Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan.

Dr. Rankin has received two Carleton University Student Association Teaching Awards as well as a Carleton University Teaching Achievement Award. She served as Director of the Pauline Jewett Institute of Women's Studies from 2000-2005 and currently is Director of the School of Canadian Studies at Carleton University in Ottawa, Canada.