## THE SENATE OF TODAY

The framers sought to endow the Senate with independence from the electoral process to which members of the House of Commons were subject, in order to remove Senators from a partisan political arena that required unremitting consideration of short-term political objectives.

- Reference re Senate reform, 2014 CSC 32

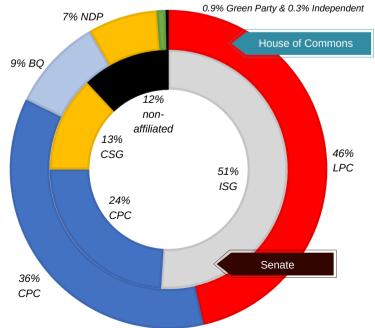
- **105 INDIVIDUALS:** 24 QUEBEC, 24 ONTARIO, 24 WESTERN PROVINCES, 24 MARITIMES. 6 NEWFOUNDLAND AND 3 TERRITORIES
- FROM DIVERSE PATHS OF LIFE: DIPLOMATS, DOCTORS, BUSINESSMEN, REPORTERS, SCIENTISTS, JUDGES, TEACHERS, ATHLETES, COMMUNITY LEADERS, LAWYERS, PUBLIC SERVICE EXECUTIVES, ETC.
- 12 INDIGENOUS SENATORS, REPRESENTING 9 DIFFERENT COMMUNITIES
- 14 OF VISIBLE MINORITY GROUPS, FROM 12 DIFFERENT HERITAGES
- 2 WITH DISABILITY

ŤŤ	MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT	SENATORS
Average office term	7.2 yrs	8.7 yrs
Median age <sup>*</sup>	54 yrs	67 yrs
% women	29	48
% indigenous people	3	12
% visible minority	15	14
% with disability	0.3	1.0

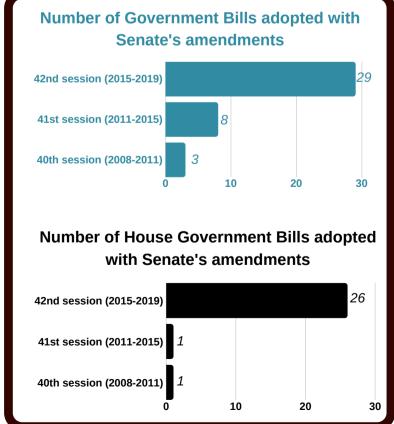
### WHO ARE THE SENATORS?

- 51 of Independent Senators Group (ISG)
- 13 of Canadian Senators Group (CSG)
- · 24 of Conservative Party of Canada (CPC)
- 12 non-affiliated
- 5 vacant seats

### THE COMPOSITION OF THE TWO CHAMBERS 0.9% Green Party & 0.3% Indep



### LEGISLATIVE WORK AT THE SENATE



# 42nd session

### **GOVERNMENT BILLS**

- 111 Bills received Royal assent, including 18
   Senate Bills, 83 House Government Bills and 10
   Private Member's Bills.
- 88 Government Bills received Royal Assent, including 83 House Government Bills and 5
   Senate Government Bills.
- 29 Government Bills were adopted with Senate amendments, including 26 House Government Bills and 3 Senate Government Bills.

### **SENATE AMENDMENTS**

- The Senate proposed 441 amendments (including 199 amendments to C-69) to 32 Government Bills:
  - 20 amendments to 7 Government Bills were entirely accepted;
  - 399 amendments to 22 Government Bills were partially accepted;
  - 22 amendments to 3 Government Bills were rejected (C-51, C-4 and C-44).

49.02% (25 OUT OF 51) OF HOUSE GOVERNMENT BILLS, EXLUDING MONEY BILLS, WERE ADOPTED WITH SENATE'S AMENDMENTS.

#### **SENATE COMMITTEES**

- There are 20 Standing Committees and 3
   Special Committees: Arctic, Senate
   Modernization and Charitable Sector.
- Since January 2019, 6 reports were
   published on the topics of federally-sentenced
   persons' rights, Rohingya Refugee Crisis,
   Official Languages Act Modernization,
   Financial Crisis of 2008, Relationship between
   indigenous peoples and Canada, and Growing
   Value-Added Food Sector in Canada.
- 146 Bills were studied by Senate
   Committees, including 100 House Bills and 46
   Senate Bills.
- Among the 441 proposed amendments, 408
  were proposed as part of Committee Report
  and 33 were proposed at third reading in the
  Senate.
- Among the 88 Government Bills, 37 were adopted with observations from Senate Committees.
- 16 bills originating from the House of Commons died on the Order Paper in the Senate, including:
  - C-337- Judicial Accountability through Sexual Assault Law Training Act
  - C-262- United Nations Declaration on Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act
  - C -243 National Maternity Assistance Program Strategy Act
- Senate sat 14 days in June 2019. There were 11 one-hour bells in those 14 days alone.