

# STUDENTS AT THE LEGISLATURE

Volume 1, Issue 1  
Grade 6 2008/2009

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## THE LEGISLATURE

I feel like I was on stage entering the Legislature for the 2nd time, the lights was ablaze. ( Not the bad kind of ablaze.) Anyways I walk down the winding floor; on my left I see the caricature fountains shooting water high in the air. We practically did the same things as yesterday; we went in to find ourselves doing our journals. Time passed as you can see we were on our way to the place where we did our Mock Legislature. At first a wave of confusion flustered in my head. I didn't know what was happening and other then that I didn't know where we were. Thankfully though Charles was there to direct the process, it took about 1 hour before we finished the Mock. Drained I walked back to the SATL classroom only to find myself doing my journals, yet again. I was half asleep when a man who works for

the finance company came in. What really got me awake was when he was mentioning that math was involved. Enthusiasm pumped in my heart making me ready for action. A couple billions and millions were adequate for me. Monochrome sank in my heart when he left, though what cheered me up was the fact that lunch was next in our daily guide. After a wonderful lunch we left to interview Doug Greenan one of the workers here at the Legislature. The front desk was where we were suppose to meet him, he worked for the security group so that put some interest in my soul. The interview was splendid, as you can tell he told us a great deal of facts, such as the ones you will hear about in this newspaper article. The day flew by one of the parents took a group of kids to the candy shop.

The day ended like any fieldtrip would, we got on the bus and zoomed back to the school.

By Ferris



### Special points of interest:

- For the love of spelling and English
- He gets to carry a sword
- A cool green jacket and a stylish tie
- The legislature is a bit like school;
- Only three people know the combination to the vault

## HONORABLE ED STELMACH'S OFFICE

The Honorable Ed Stelmach's office is extremely big. It has lots of Premier. Displayed on his shelves. Such as Ukrainian pysanky and the premier living on the farm when he was a kid. He has lots of knick knacks in his office.

Did you know they don't allow him to drive or that he was appointed when he was young? And he passed to many bills to count.

He had four other positions before he was premier. His favorite part about his job is that he is making a difference in his job. In his office he

has a safe I think that Ed Stelmach likes to play golf because all I saw was golf balls.

We had so much fun in the office of the premier and thank you Rita and Ed Stelmach.

By Evan, Ben and Adam

## HUMAN RESOURCES

Do you know about the human resources department, or what they do? Do you ever wish you could hire and fire people whenever you please? Well on October 9, 2008 some grade 6 students from Clara Tyner School got the chance to interview a wonderful manager, Mrs. Moyra Johnson!

What is human resources? Well, doing the "hiring and firing" is not the largest part of their job. In fact, Human Resources are very busy. The Human Resources determine the skills

needed to do a job, prepare job ads, post job ads, review resumes from applicants for all types of positions prepare interview questions, conduct interviews, and well.... the list goes on and on. But in conclusion they help people down their career path.

Mrs. Moyra Johnson has been working at the Annex building for 19 years. Her favorite part about her job is meeting kids in the "School at the Legislature program" like us! Her least favorite part about her job is watching people get fired.

It was very fun and on the up side, we got candy.

By,

Hailey, Erika, Hannah, Drew, Rachel and Devin



## CAN'T BEAT THE NDP

Have you ever wondered what the NDP's Job is like? On October 7 2008 we visited Sarah Hoffman on the fifth floor of the annex building.

We learned some amazing things like: The NDP puts people first, and they always want to have the best environment. They run in every riding, and their job is always hard. They also are concerned about the world and its people.

This was a great experience meeting Sarah Hoffman. We had lots of fun and learned a lot.

*"...put people first and they always want to have the best environment".*

## THE ASSISTANT AT THE SERGEANT OF ARMS

Have you ever met a person who has held the mace? Well we have. A few gr.6 students from Clara Tyner School got to interview Brent Francis who is the assistant to the sergeant at arms. When we interviewed

him, we thought this answer was really good. "I like never having the same day twice." He has worked in the legislature for 4 years and was a tour guide for 3. He has a lot of experience and gave us a lot of

information. We interviewed him in the room where the MLA's come

to relax.

By,

Bella, Jessica and John

## TYPING TIME

Have you ever wanted to listen to what the MLA's say in the Chamber? I have but that changed when I met Joyce. On Thursday, October 9, 2008 we met and got to interview a very special Hansard employee. In our group there was Nicole, Paige, Rainley, Talin, Diane and Adam.

In the interview we asked a couple of questions and we are going to tell you what we learned. Joyce has worked in the Hansard office for three years and only joined

Hansard for the love of spelling and English. They only have to type five minute intervals but it takes one hour to finish each five minute interval. But in all it takes the whole system ten hours to finish after the process is double checked and triple checked. You also have to be prepared to be exhausted when you are a Hansard employee. There really is no deadline to handing in a Hansard but they have been late the past. When they are short staff sometimes they are late but it doesn't happen that often. You need lots of education to be a Hansard employee. You also some-

times work twenty to twenty-four hours a day.

If you want to be a Hansard employee here is what it's all about and what they do. What a Hansard employee does is listen to the meetings in the chamber in the Legislature building. Joyce helped us expand our knowledge and learn way more then we had walked in knowing. Do you want to be a Hansard Employee???

By: Nicole, Paige, Rainley, Diane, Talin, and Adam

## THE MOST NERVE RACKING THING

Can you imagine talking to 30 kids and parents about the legislature and the history of Alberta. Well the grade sixes at Clara Tyner School had a chance but it wasn't in front of 30 kids and parents it was in front of 3 parents June a person who gives tours to people o wants to learn about the legislature but back to the topic when all of us did the be a tour guide it was really nerve racking at first but then we got use to it first we talked about

Princess Louise Carolina Alberta, then Chief Crowfoot then we got to go up the elevator and we talked about the hand carved doors that lead us to the chamber then we went to the picture's of all the premiers and all of the lieutenant governor's. Then we took a look at the mace in its casing. Then we went to third floor then we went to see the king and queen's photo's and saw that their knees and eyes move then we went to the fourth floor

and saw the magic spot and talked about the 5<sup>th</sup> floor features then we saw the famous five then the tour was done. But it was the experience was alright after all.

By Kyle and Musa

## PARLIAMENTARY COUNSEL

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to work in Parliamentary Counsel?

On October Seventh 2008 at 1:00 we interviewed Mr. Robert Reynolds on the 8<sup>th</sup> floor of the annex building!

Mr. Reynolds told us the toughest

part about his job was saying no to people! Mr. Reynolds favorite part about his job is sitting front row in the chamber! Watching what's going on in the legislature!



Another cool thing is that he is very well suited for his job because he has worked there 17 years. (Since 1993) It was so awesome! He has the best job there!!!

By Bella, Erika, Talin, Ethan

## FINANCING WITH SCOTT ELLIS

Have you ever wanted to be the best mathematical person in the building? On October 7<sup>th</sup> we got to interview Mr. Scott Ellis in our classroom. He works in financing with his assistant Jacqueline Braulte, who is very nice! After Mr. Ellis left, Jacqueline gave us a booklet to work with, that we finished with flying colors! Mr. Ellis has been working at the legislature for 4 years! He is very nice and has gotten into the business fast! He sounded like he had been here for 20 years! An expert! We really liked his answer when he said that his favorite part of his job was meeting kids like us.

We had a really fun time interviewing him. Jacqueline also loves her job and hopes to come back again.



She says we finished the booklet at an amazing speed! We had the most amazing experience in financing! It made us feel so smart, because we worked with the things that he works with every day!

J By Erika, Bella, and Jaimie J

## TOURING THE LEGISLATURE

Do you ever wish you could walk around the Legislature every day wearing a really cool jacket and tie! We do. On October 9<sup>th</sup> 2008 we got the pleasure to meet Charles Gerelli the tour guide. We were scheduled to inter-

*“wearing a cool jacket and tie...”*

view the clerk but he was not available at the time, so we got to interview Mr. Gerelli. Some of the questions were; what inspired you to do your job? And what parts of the legislature do you like the

most? He gave awesome answers like; He said that he answered a job ad. And he also answered watching question period when the Legislative assembly is in session. Mr. Gerelli made us laugh too.

Written by Drew and Musa

## THE GREEN ROOM

If you are wondering what the green room is it is the most important room in the Legislature. It is where they make laws and important decisions it is the Chamber.

The room is lighted by about 640 light and some flood lights behind

stained glass. On the governments side is a portrait of Queen Elizabeth II, on the oppositions side is a portrait of Prince Phillip. The flags are in order in of when the provinces and territories joined the constitution.

By Ben, Evan & Adam



## I'M WATCHING YOU

On the day we met this distinctive worker at the legislature, we knew that he was a serious enough looking guy to be a security guard, of the Legislature. His office was filed with security screens on one side, while the other side was quite plain. As you know when we first flustered in without knowing anything we were quite amused with the tidiness of the room, because like any detective book we've read the offices were always fairly disordered. His name was like a cloud of haze that was relatively new to me, as you can see we have not yet told you the name of this man, we should say, his name was Doug Greenan one of the 9 consecutive workers that facilitates in a little district. As he tells us about his remarkable life, he mentions something very rousing, as we discover this fact even we am besieged by it. From time to time, in a series of 8 weeks the security of the Legislature drives the Lieutenant Governor around. Though writing didn't see as overwhelming as him saying it, we find this sentence quite dull.

We took ours seat or should I say, kneeled down he was telling us about his job, how long he worked for, which was rather appalling because, each of the 9 workers as you know work in a shift of 6am to 6pm or, 6pm to 6am. Other questions such as what Interests Do You have for this job was not needed to be asked because such answers were answered as he was speaking about his job. In tandem we know you are all wondering what the answer was, though of course it was; Meeting people because you get to assemble with people of different origin, age and culture. In any case we asked the next question, Do You Enjoy Your Work? We ask this question because of his past experience of that question, we were hoping the answer would be other than yes though an honest opinion would be better. But of course we knew he was telling the truth, because of how he said it, his reply was "It's very relaxing because of my past experiences, I also get to meet people from around the world which interests me".

In the direction of a conclusion we say that interviewing Mr.Greenan was one of the best chances that life could possibly give you.

, Ferris

Article By, Brett, Devin, Felix

## I CAN HEAR YOU

Well **TALIN**, DEVIN and I **Jessica** got to interview Ian Grey who works for the press. We got to go into a sound proof booth that looks likes a mirror on the outside and is a control room on the inside. On the inside you can here the

people talking into the microphone with the flip of a switch. There was a room next to the press room and there were microphones inside of the wall for the other press people to hear there conversation.

We had a great time interviewing Ian Grey!!!

By

Devin Talin and Jessica



## BEING A TOUR GUIDE

The cool green jacket and the stylish tie, how much better can life get!

At 1:00 on October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2008 I got to be a tour guide, can you believe it? It had been my dream as soon as I stepped foot in the Legislature building. I didn't get to wear a uniformed green jacket, but I still felt

like a real tour guide anyway. We all got to pick parts to tell the parents that we were touring! And beautiful and kind woman came right before we were going to tour the parents around, and we got some practice time, and the kind woman also gave us some tips on how to be a tour guide!

The parts I toured the parents around were the famous five and more!

You know what, when I grow up I might even want to be tour guide, it looks really fun but also serious!

Written by Drew

## NATURE EVERYWHERE

Do you love anything naturally grown in Nature? I know I do and I got to express that feeling when I met Mr. Ron LaFranchise. On Tuesday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2008 the whole class got to go on a tour around the Legislature gardens.

He doesn't work as a paid employee, he was a volunteer because he loves nature and he loves to watch grade six students love and learn all about nature. He has vol-

unteered his time for thirty three years. He doesn't get paid.

On the tour he took us to a petrified stump, it was ten million years old! There was an internal flame that never goes out. If you go out to the balcony of the Legislature you can see the flame and the candle. There was also a Memorial candle that marks all the important people in the community that have passed away. There was also my

favorite plant life in Nature on the tour was the banana tree, and surprisingly it was real!

I learned so unbelievably much on the tour that it made me love nature more than I had already had!!!

By Nicole

## ORDER IN THE CHAMBER

Have you ever wanted to yell at someone because they are talking when someone is about to say something really important? Well that is exactly what the Sergeant at Arms gets to do.

Brian Hodgson has been the Sergeant at Arms since 1993. If you want the job you don't have to do anything extreme you just have to put in a resume and go to an interview.

He gets some pretty awesome privileges he gets a really cool outfit. He also gets to carry a sword he is the only one in the chamber that gets to carry a weapon. Brian Hodgeson also

has to protect anyone if something were to happen, like if someone jumps down from the public gallery.

Brian Hodgson has carried the mace into the chamber too many times to count.

He is one of the three people who are allowed to know the combination to the vault that holds the mace during the night. During the day the mace is behind bullet proof glass. He is one of the few people that can even touch the mace.

He told us that the mace is

worth more than one hundred thousand dollars. It is made of gold and silver.

If you ever get to meet the Sergeant at Arms take it. It is one of the coolest things you'll ever get to do. It was so interesting and a lot of fun!

By Shannon, Jack, Ryley, and Brett

## LEGISLATIVE LIBRARY

Have you ever wanted to know all about the legislative library, or what you do when you work there? Well that's what I want to tell you about!

- First of all there are 450,000 books in the library.
- In the library they don't just collect books they also collect newspapers and some of the newspapers are going back to 1880's.
- 

The library also keeps the newspapers safe from ripping, they micro film every single newspaper.

I also got to know a little bit about the librarian his name was Paul. Is asked him a lot of questions and I am going to tell you a couple!!! He was inspired to work as a Librarian, he was never interested in history and then after college he got very interested. His favorite book is Gödel,

Escher, and Bach by Douglas Hofstadter.

You also have to be over 18 to get a library card for the Legislature Library. Answering questions is a major part of a librarian's job.

By,  
Rainley

# GHOST STORIES

Have you ever think that the Legislature just debate on important needs and work all day at the office. Well the Legislature is a bit like school, they have computer work and lots of paper work to work the city. The Legislature also has a library right under the Legislative Chamber. The library also has books that talk about stuff and advices to help people and give them more information. The library can hold about 45,000 books because it the size of the Chamber. The books are usually for adults to get more ideas to say during an important debate. My group met a librarian named Paul who worked about 4 months. He led us to a large table and asks us to take a seat. Then Paul talk about the library and while he talked I scribbled on my journal about interesting things about the library.

The library also has records for every assembly meeting. All the speeches are recorder on a file and later the file will be put into cabinets. It's a good thing for people to check the file because it can sometime give advices to another person to say speech correctly. Soon afterward he pulled a gigantic book from under the table. He opened it and then there were old wrinkled newspapers from the year 1962 and Paul talked about it and he read a few articles. After that Paul took us to an unusual computer, it looks more like a computer connected with a copy machine. Next he pulled out a box and took out a little object and then inserted it into the machine. Paul paused at the control panel and then he started to press buttons. The machine started to beep and flashed light in front of us, after it was done a paper rolled out an articles and he read it to us aloud. The newspaper

talked about the grand opening of my school Clara Tyner. It was pretty interesting and I read a few too. Then he pulled a little book out, **Ghost Stories** that gave me a fright. He read about a man who died alone with misery his ghost who walked on the third floor of the Legislature. The library was so awesome and unique. The library was now my second favorite place in the city. What a cool field trip I had

By Andy

## IS THIS FAIR OR IS THIS UNFAIR?

Have you ever heard of an Ombudsman? Has a government official or an official business treated you unfairly? Did you know that you can complain to an Ombudsman? Anyway, an Ombudsman is an official person who helps to make wrong decisions right. Ombudsmen are very old; in fact the first ombudsman was in Sweden in the 1800's.

On Wednesday, October 8th at 9:30-10:00 an Ombudsman investigator came to our class. Cody, Ethan and Rachel interviewed Mike Peterson. A couple things we learned are that they have an average of 5000 complaints files a year and they investigate 1000 of them, Ombudsmen are

allowed to be an Ombudsman for a five year period.

What kind of people do the Ombudsman's investigators meet? Well they often will meet people that are upset and happy at the same time. Upset, because someone was rude to them and they will often have gone through a long process. Happy, because someone has finally listened to them. So then if you want to be an Ombudsman, you will have to deal with these kinds of things.

Mike Peterson told us about three different groups that they get complaints about.

care and student loans. They get a wee bit more complaints during Christmas and the fall. The Ombudsman is obviously non partisan.

By Rachel, Cody and Ethan