



Ontario Legislature Internship Programme Sponsorship Package

What is the The Ontario Legislature Internship Programme (OLIP)?

The Ontario Legislature Internship Programme is a non-partisan educational internship designed to offer recent university graduates practical work experience while providing backbench Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs) with highly qualified staffers. Interns participate in a ten-month placement, which is equally divided into two terms - one in the office of a Government MPP and one in the office of an Opposition MPP. In addition to these placements, interns travel to other jurisdictions within Canada and abroad to learn about other legislatures and political issues.

Who Participates in the Programme?

Applicants to the programme have at least one university degree and are selected for their academic abilities, interest in politics, as well as their extra-curricular and community involvement. Candidates go through a highly competitive application process, with hundreds of applications considered each year for ten positions.

What do interns do?

- Assist in writing press releases, speeches, and questions for question period.
- Organize conferences or special events on behalf of members.
- Conduct research for Private Members' Bills or other projects.
- Meet with stakeholders, journalists, and government officials from across the country.



Becoming an OLIP Sponsor

We are pleased to provide the following benefits to our sponsors

Exposure

- Sponsors are highlighted in the “Sponsorship Spotlight” section of our biannual magazine, *The Queens Park Insider*, which has a distribution of over 2000 readers including all MPPs, their staff, OLIP alumni, and other sponsors.
- All sponsor logos appear in each magazine.
- Our website lists each sponsor, a short description of their organization and a link to their website.

Networking

- Sponsors are invited to receptions at Queen’s Park hosted twice a year by the Speaker of the House and attended by Party Leaders, Ministers, Opposition Critics, MPPs and alumni.

Connection

- Sponsors are encouraged to meet with the interns to present their perspective on contemporary political issues and their relationship with government. Many interns have gone on to work for sponsors upon completion of the programme.

Where your contribution goes

- Recruitment of outstanding candidates and enhancing the profile of the Programme
- Hosting visiting interns and travelling to other legislatures
- Aiding in research for annual papers
- Hosting guest speakers and organizing educational seminars
- Providing administrative support for the Programme

All Sponsors are issued a tax receipt for their donation. Sponsors also benefit from knowing that their donation contributes to the development of the next generation of young thinkers, policy makers, analysts, academics and citizens.

“One of the keys to effective advocacy is building strong relationships with decision makers. In the context of our work in Ontario, Advocacy Solutions has always regarded the OLIP interns as an important link to elected officials and other important players in government. During their time at Queen’s Park, the interns develop the experience, skills, and contacts that make them a valuable resource as they move throughout their careers.”

- Ryan Clarke, President, Advocacy Solutions (OLIP Sponsor)



2010-11 Interns with Ryan Clarke

A Unique Learning Experience

In addition to working in MPP offices, interns take part in many other activities that serve to enhance the educational aims of the programme.

Visting and Hosting Other Legislatures

Every year, the interns participate in several visits to other legislatures and host interns from across the country. The purpose of these visits is to enhance the interns' understanding of their home legislature through contrast and comparison. Visits to the House of Commons in Ottawa, the National Assembly in Quebec and Westminster in London are integral components of the programme.



Interns with PC Leader Tim Hudak



Interns with NDP Leader Andrea Horwath

Major Seminars and Important Guest Speakers

While working in Toronto, traveling abroad and visiting other Canadian parliaments, OLIP's educational curriculum centres upon numerous meetings with politicians, public servants, private sector stakeholders, the media and nongovernmental organizations. Some recent meetings include: Jean Chrétien, Bill Davis, Robert Fisher, Peter Mansbridge and André Marin.

Intern Papers

Based on their experiences, each intern is required to write an original research paper on an aspect of the legislative process in Ontario. Interns present their papers at the annual conference of the Canadian Political Science Association, held in May or June of each year at a Canadian university.



Interns with Premier Dalton McGuinty

Former interns have gone on to successful careers in both the private and public sectors. Here are just a few of examples of where former interns have worked:

Private:

Senior Vice-President of Public Affairs, Ipsos Reid (OLIP Sponsor)
Vice-President of External Affairs, MDS Inc. (OLIP Sponsor)
Government Relations and Issues Advisor, Imperial Oil (OLIP Sponsor)
Vice-President, The Co-Operators (OLIP Sponsor)
Producer of "The Current" on CBC Radio

Public:

Chief of Staff to the Premier
Chief of Staff to the Prime Minister
Senior Policy Advisor, Ministry of Finance

Current OLIP Sponsors

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 Ontario Real Estate Association (Major Sponsor)
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 Certified General Accountants of Ontario
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 The Dominion
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 Imperial Oil
 Insurance Bureau of Canada
 Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ontario
 Ipsos Reid
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 Ontario Professional Fire Fighters Association
 Ontario Road Builders' Association
 Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Association
 Pfizer
 Professional Engineers Ontario
 Provincial Building and Construction Trades Council of Ontario
 TD Canada Trust
 Xstrata Nickel



"...the Law Society is delighted to continue its sponsorship of OLIP. Assisting young people who see public service as an important objective and laudable career choice is very satisfying. As many alumni attest, this unique experience provides invaluable insights that assist individuals throughout many diverse public service career options. Count on the Law Society to continue to see the intrinsic value of this programme"

- Sheena Weir, Government Relations Manager,
 Law Society of Upper Canada (pictured with
 2010-2011 interns)



Interns with Ted Wigdor, Vice-President,
 Government & Corporate Affairs, Certified General
 Accountants of Ontario



Interns with Craig Brockwell, Ontario Secondary School
 Teachers' Association



Interns with Kathleen Waters, President and CEO, LawPRO