



Debates of the Senate (Hansard)
1st Session, 38th Parliament
Volume 142, Issue 61

Tuesday, May 17, 2005
The Honourable Daniel Hays, Speaker

The Senate met at 2 p.m., the Speaker in the chair.

Senators' Statements

Atlantic Institute for Market Studies

Congratulations on Receiving the Templeton Freedom Award for Institute Excellence

Hon. Terry M. Mercer: Honourable senators, the Atlantic Institute for Market Studies, AIMS, is an independent economic and social policy think tank based out of Halifax, Nova Scotia. As a federally incorporated non-profit organization, it is supported by contributions from individuals, corporations, foundations and other organizations. AIMS embodies a distinctive Atlantic Canadian voice by initiating and conducting research on emerging economic and public policy issues facing Atlantic Canadians and indeed all Canadians.

Honourable senators, AIMS is celebrating its tenth anniversary this year. It is fitting that it has again received international recognition for the excellence of its work with the awarding of the 2005 Templeton Freedom Award for Institute Excellence.

The Templeton Freedom Awards Program celebrates the outstanding work of the top non-profit research institutes and their contribution to policy issues. More than 200 think tanks in 67 countries are eligible for the Templeton Awards, and AIMS is the only institute in North America to be honoured this year.

The award includes a grant of US \$10,000 and was presented at the end of April in Miami, Florida during the Liberty Forum of the Atlas Economic Research Foundation. This forum is an annual event that attracts influential policy and thought leaders from around the world.

Honourable senators, I take this opportunity to extend my sincere congratulations to AIMS President Brian Lee Crowley, as well as to the members of the board of directors, including such distinguished Haligonians as David Mann, George Cooper, Dr. Colin Dodds and Bill Mingo. I am sure all senators will join me in celebrating the ongoing domestic and international success of an important voice for Atlantic Canada.

(1410)