



December, 2020

Welcome to this issue of the Youth Parliamentarian - your alumni newsletter for updates about the Youth Parliament of Manitoba. In this issue, you will find out how to **visit our upcoming virtual Session**, an invitation to an alumni gathering, and an introduction to **this year's Senate inductee, Adrienne Tessier**.



Alumni visiting the 93rd Winter Session (2014): [L-R from second] Amy Dhillon, Dana Gregoire, Katie Szilagyi, Michael Urban

Visit us at Session!

It's never been easier to visit Winter Session. For the first time in our 99-year history, YPM will forgo the Manitoba Legislative Building and instead host Winter Session virtually, over Zoom. If you're curious about how this will turn out, you can come watch our proceedings in a **virtual "viewing gallery"** from the comfort of your own home. To join us, simply fill out this [Google form](#) and we will email you a Zoom link and password to come watch our sittings. Alumni in the gallery will be recognized, just like any other year. Current YPM Senators who visit also have the option of "taking the Chair" to act as Speaker.

To plan your visit, you can refer to the [Session schedule here](#). You can also find [summaries of the legislation that will be presented here](#). Some highlights beyond the regular sittings will include:

- Opening Ceremonies - 11:00am, December 26 (Saturday)
- Senate induction, Alumni Achievement Award, Bear Pit - 3:40pm, December 27 (Sunday)
- Executive speeches - 2:00pm, December 30 (Wednesday)
- Closing Ceremonies - 5:25pm, December 30 (Wednesday)
- Election of the 100th Executive - 5:40pm, December 30 (Wednesday)

Visit the 99th Session!



Abigail Theano-Pudwill as a backbencher in her first Session (93rd Winter Session in 2014). This year, she will serve as the **first Black Premier in YPM's history**.

Alumni Dino Dinner!

Each year, YPM alumni gather for dinner on the last day of Winter Session to catch up, reminisce about old times, and meet other members of the YPM community. So bring a meal, (maybe) a drink, and join your fellow alumni for dinner! Please see below for details about this year's virtual Dino Dinner.

When: December 30th at 4:00pm CST

Zoom information:

<https://mcgill.zoom.us/j/81329360162>

Meeting ID: 813 2936 0162

We also have a YPM alumni Facebook group! Join 100+ former members of the Youth Parliament of Manitoba to find old friends and be part of a growing online community.

YPM Alumni Facebook Group!

Presenting YPM's newest Senator: Adrienne Tessier



Left: Adrienne Tessier as the Speaker of the 98th Winter Session (2019). Right: Adrienne Tessier

Adrienne Tessier (90th to 98th Sessions)

Adrienne began in YPM when she was in Grade 11, initially learning about the organization through her involvement in Manitoba's high school debating community. She was the Member from Beaches East York in the 90th Session. She then spent four years on Cabinet, first spending two years in the Ministry of Public Relations (as the Parliamentary Secretary in the 91st Session, and as the Minister in the 92nd Session), before spending two years as a Bill-Presenting Minister. In the 93rd Session, she served as the Registrar General and passed the *Religious Literacy Act*, a bill to increase the teaching of religion in schools. In the 94th Session, she served as the Minister of Human Resources and passed the *Justice Employment Reform Act*, introducing a new system of publicly funded legal aid to increase access to justice. That year, she was elected to the Executive and served as the House Leader of the 95th Session, the Deputy Premier of the 96th Session, the Premier of the 97th Session, and the Speaker of the 98th Session.

Adrienne holds a political science degree from the University of Winnipeg, and is currently in her third year of law school at McGill University. In law school, she works as an intern in the Legal Information Clinic at McGill and also serves in the university Senate.

Some reflections on her 9 years as a member of YPM: *"Being a part of this organization for 9 years marked a massive transitional period in my life when I discovered more about who I am, and my passions, academically and professionally. YPM and my many mentors and dear friends played an intrinsic role in shaping who I am and who I hope to be. Moving on from Exec, my goal is to continue living up to the love and faith they gave to me - and paying it forward whenever I can."*

On December 28, 2020, Adrienne will be officially inducted into the YPM Senate as the Speaker of the Senate. This designation comes in recognition of her long years of dedicated service to this organization, and the lasting impact her work will have for the years to come. You can find her on Twitter [@Adrienne_Tess](#)

Support YPM



The Executive of the 96th Winter Session (2017): [L-R] Deborah Tsao, Adrienne Tessier, Ariel Melamedoff, Joey Broda, Abigail Theano-Pudwill

Stay involved!

We would love to keep you involved in the community! Here are two ways:

1. **Share your YPM experience.** We are writing a YPM history book in commemoration of the 100th anniversary! Alumni stories are *invaluable* in helping us construct and contextualize the organization's past. If you would like to share, please fill out the google form ("Share your YPM Experience") below, or email speaker@ypmanitoba.ca to set up a video interview.
2. **Stay connected.** Follow us on [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#). Like our page on [Facebook](#)! If you are receiving this email, you are on the Youth Parliamentarian email list. However, if you know someone who is an alum of YPM but *isn't* receiving these emails, please encourage them to join the mailing list!

Share your YPM Experience

Join our mailing list

Cheers,

Deborah Tsao

Speaker, 99th Session of the Youth Parliament of Manitoba

