

December 2009 Legislative Update

JURISDICTION	PARLIAMENT	BILL #	TITLE	GOVERNMENT/ MEMBERS BILL	STATUS	EXPLANATORY NOTE
<u>Canada - Senate</u>	40 <sup>th</sup> Parliament, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Session	S-202	<i>An Act to amend the Canada Elections Act (repeal of fixed election dates)</i>	Murray	First Reading – January 27, 2009	This enactment amends the <i>Canada Elections Act</i> to repeal the provisions that provide for fixed dates for general elections.
		S-213	<i>An Act to amend the Income Tax Act (carbon offset tax credit)</i>	Mitchell	First Reading – January 27, 2009	This enactment amends the <i>Income Tax Act</i> to provide for a new non-refundable tax credit for carbon offset purchases.
		S-224	<i>An Act to amend the Canada Elections Act and the Parliament of Canada Act (vacancies)</i>	Moore	Second Reading – May 14, 2009	This enactment amends the <i>Canada Elections Act</i> and the <i>Parliament of Canada Act</i> with respect to filling vacancies in Parliament.
						With respect to vacancies in the Senate, the enactment amends the <i>Parliament of Canada Act</i> to require the Prime Minister to recommend to the Governor General a fit and qualified person for appointment within 120 days after a vacancy happens.
						With respect to vacancies in the House of Commons requiring a by-election, the enactment amends the <i>Parliament of Canada Act</i> to establish a 60-day time limit for the issue of a writ for the election of a member to fill a vacancy, and also amends the <i>Canada Elections Act</i> to provide that the date fixed for voting in the by-election must be no later than 60 days after the issue of the writ.
						The enactment also amends the <i>Parliament of Canada Act</i> to provide for the order in which by-elections are called when more than one vacancy occurs in the House of Commons.