Canadian Taxpayers Federation
Senate Campaign Backgrounder

June 2013
- In a survey, 65% of CTF supporters tell the CTF they wanted the Senate abolished, while 82% supported a national vote
- The CTF raises $4,700 from grassroots donors to commission a special balloon promoting Senate abolition

July 18, 2013
- The CTF launches its campaign and petition calling for a national referendum on abolishing the Senate in Ottawa
  - The launch event included the debut of our iconic Senate balloon
  - The balloon is 32 feet tall and looks suspiciously like a certain independent senator

July 25, 2013
- The balloon appears on the steps of the Saskatchewan legislature in Regina

October 28, 2013
- Federal finance minister Jim Flaherty speaks in favour of Senate abolition

November 7, 2013
- Saskatchewan MLAs, led by Premier Brad Wall, pass a motion calling for Senate abolition
- Federal minister of state for small business and tourism Maxime Bernier speaks in favour of Senate abolition, and calls for a national referendum to make it happen

November 26, 2013
- Manitoba MLAs, led by Premier Greg Selinger, pass a motion calling for Senate abolition

November 27, 2013
- The balloon was banned from the B.C. legislature precincts in Victoria by Speaker Linda Reid

December 4, 2013
- The B.C. NDP promises to introduce a Senate abolition motion in the spring

December 12, 2013
- The CTF brings the balloon to Vancouver's Olympic Village
- The CTF calls on Premier Clark to allow a free vote on the NDP's abolition motion

Senate Facts
- The Senate costs taxpayers $93 million a year
- B.C., with a population of 4.4 million people, is represented by 6 senators
  - New Brunswick, with 750,000 people (equal to Vancouver & Richmond), has 10 senators

- PEI, with 145,000 people (equal to Coquitlam & Port Moody), has 4 senators