

Caroline Czach

This year, I was selected to be part of the House of Commons Page Program. Over the past few months, I have had the opportunity to serve Members of Parliament and other parliamentary officials during the proceedings in the House of Commons. As a page, I have the chance to learn about the workings of Canadian politics and parliamentary procedure from a unique perspective. It is an amazing experience.

What I like most about being a page is that I can see firsthand how my studies relate to real life. I am pursuing an Honours BSocSc (conflict studies and human rights) at the University of Ottawa, and I am able to see a connection between what I read in my textbooks and what I witness in the House of Commons. Even if I do not choose a career in politics I am still able to see how important theories shape the work of Parliament and how this applies to different fields of study. I also get to improve my French as I speak both official languages in a professional setting.

Each year, 40 students are selected from high schools across Canada to come to Ottawa and work as pages in the House of Commons. This gave me the opportunity to meet people that I would not have met otherwise. All the pages get along so well, it is like gaining 39 new best friends that are there to support you with work and school.

Can you picture yourself witnessing history on the floor of the House of Commons? If you can, please visit the Page Program Web site at www.parl.gc.ca/hocpage for more details!

