

Rainbow Day on the Hill, October 13th 2017

Introduction

Rainbow Day on the Hill invites LGBTQ2S+ youth from the Ottawa valley to Parliament Hill for the day to shadow an LGBTQ2S+ identified parliamentarian. Throughout the day the youth participate in all aspects of the parliamentarians day, including special meetings and councils, and Question Period.

On October 13, 2017, thirteen students for the Ottawa Carleton District School Board joined five openly LGBTQ2S+ politicians on Parliament Hill to shadow and take part in their day. The students met the politicians in the morning as a group, and then broke off into smaller groups to see what the life of an openly gay politician was like. The students were able to sit in on special meetings and councils in the morning and get a feel for what it is that these politicians stand for and what their job entailed.

After the shadowing period, the students got a chance to meet Dr. Hedy Fry and learn about her work as a medical professional and hear of her groundbreaking work for the LGBTQ2S+ community. They were very impressed and motivated by Dr. Hedy Fry's constant work as an activist and advocate for Queer and Trans communities.

The students then had the opportunity to sit in on Question Period and watch the politicians they just shadowed participate and speak.

Before leaving, the students wrote cards to the politicians to thank them for letting them join them.

Schedule

8:00am - Meet and Greet over Breakfast

9:00am- Break off with Politicians and Shadow for Morning

11:30am- Lunch

12:30pm - Meet and Greet with Dr. Hedy Fry

2:00pm - Question Period

3:00pm - Students Depart



"Randy's work is so interesting!"

"The government needs more LGBTQ people in it. We hope that we can inspire you to become involved."

"We had a wonderful time hosting [them]; They are all wonderful students."

"Thank you for letting us shadow you!"



Politicians

Randy Boissonnault, Liberal

Sheri Benson, NDP

Randall Garrison, NDP

Rob Oliphant, Liberal

Kim Pate, Senator

Dr. Hedy Fry, Liberal



"It was so great to see their enthusiasm and excitement as they saw the inside of Parliament for the day"

"Question Period was so cool!"

Schools

Glebe Collegiate Institute

Bell High School

Nepean High School