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MR. PATRICK CHAN
2012 World Figure Skating Champion

Statement by:

The Honourable Vivienne Poy

Wednesday, April 4, 2012

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2012 WORLD FIGURE SKATING CHAMPION

Hon. Vivienne Poy: Honourable senators, I rise today to congratulate Patrick Chan, an extraordinary Canadian and a Torontonians, on successfully defending his title and winning the world championship in men's free skating last Saturday in Nice, France. He is the first Canadian to win back-to-back world gold medals in 16 years. This accomplishment caps an unbeaten season for Patrick. He also won Skate Canada; the Trophée Bompard, in Paris; the Four Continents; and the Grand Prix Final. He collected eight Athlete of the Year awards in Canada, including

the Lionel Conacher Award as *The Canadian Press* male athlete of 2011.

Patrick Chan is only 21 years old. Over the last few years, he has honed his skills in preparation for the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia. He is a tremendous athlete who combines the grace of dance with speed, agility, strength and tremendous discipline. Patrick's achievements and his humility are an inspiration to all Canadians, but particularly those of Asian heritage, who see that anything is possible in Canada if they persevere.

Honourable senators, as we approach the month of May, which Canada recognizes as Asian Heritage Month, please join me in celebrating the achievements of one of Canada's greatest athletes, Patrick Chan.
