

"Deeply Rooted"

I returned home recently to find a telephone message from Jeff Paul, former Legislative Assistant to [Senator Lorna Milne](#). It had been some time since I had had any word from him, as shortly after the passage of Bill S-18, on 28 June 2005, Jeff left the office of Senator Milne.

Jeff was calling to advise that Senator Milne had written her account of the long campaign we had waged to regain the public access to Historic Census records that genealogist and historians believed regulations attached to the Privacy Act already stated that we could have.

Written from her perspective as a Parliamentarian, Senator Milne details much of the 'behind the scenes' activity that led us through her two Private Senator's Bills, and two Senate Government Bills before the final passage of Bill S-18, and its passage into law by Royal Assent on 29 June 2005. Some of the 'behind the scenes' action had been made public during the course of our campaign, some of it I had been advised about in confidence -- and was unable to make public, and some of it was new to me.

All in all, I found Senator Milne's book, titled "*Deeply Rooted - The story of one Senator's battle to preserve the Historic Census results*" a very interesting read and recommend it to everyone. It can be found on Senator Milne's website at <http://www.sen.parl.gc.ca/lmilne/>

We all owe Senator Milne a great deal of thanks for her efforts during our campaign. Without her to 'champion' our cause, without doubt now retired Ivan Fellegi would have succeeded in his goal to forever seal the records we all find so valuable to our historical and genealogical research.

The on-line publication of Senator Milne's book has reminded me that I should return to and complete my own account of the campaign.

