

[English]

PETITIONS

MR. FULTON—BROADCASTING ACT—AMENDMENT RESPECTING
PORNOGRAPHY

Mr. Jim Fulton (Skeena): Madam Speaker, I have the honour today to present petitions from three communities in my constituency, Prince Rupert, Telegraph Hill and Kitimat. The petitioners are asking that their concerns regarding adult programming and the proliferation of pornography in various media be considered by this House and this Parliament as soon as possible, and that the Broadcasting Act be amended in the way proposed by the Hon. Member for Broadview-Greenwood (Ms. McDonald) on March 8 of this year.

* * *

[Translation]

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

Mr. André Maltais (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Madam Speaker, the following questions will be answered today: Nos. 4,678, 4,679 and 5,010.

[Text]

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES ACT

Question No. 4,678—**Mr. McKenzie:**

Does the Secretary of State intend to personally involve himself in the application of the Official Languages Act in Quebec, especially at Nordair, or does he consider that Quebec has only one official language?

Hon. Serge Joyal (Secretary of State): The question deals with the Secretary of State's personal involvement in applying the Official Languages Act in Quebec generally, and, more specifically, with respect to Nordair.

The Official Languages Act applies in all of the Canadian provinces, including the Province of Quebec, with respect to matters within federal jurisdiction and to subjects and entities to which the Act's provisions are expressly made to apply.

The Secretary of State is responsible for ensuring that those government services offered by his Department conform to the Official Languages Act and to federal bilingualism policy generally. His mandate also includes the encouragement and facilitation of the use of both official languages in operations of organizations and institutions in the private sector and in the non-federal public sector.

More specifically, with respect to Nordair, it should be noted that the Secretary of State is not responsible for ensuring that the provisions of the Official Languages Act are adhered to by Crown Corporations or subsidiaries of Crown Corporations such as Nordair, that are within the responsibility of the Minister of Transport. However, the Secretary of State would presume that, as a matter of policy and practice,

Order Paper Questions

Nordair would endeavour to provide its services to the travelling public in both official languages.

SALT USED ON ROADS

Question No. 4,679—**Mr. Reid (Kenora-Rainy River):**

1. Does the Department of the Environment have any record of the amount of salt used to keep roads clean in Canada on a yearly basis and, if not, for what reason?

2. To the knowledge of the Government, what is the amount of salt being used by municipal, regional, provincial and federal Governments to keep roads and sidewalks clean on an annual basis?

3. Has the Department done any research or sponsored any research on the effect of this salt on the freshwater resources of each region of Canada and upon the soil quality of each region of Canada?

4. Has the Department taken a position on the use of salt for the above purposes and has it determined the safe level for the disposal of salt into the environment and, if not, for what reason?

Mr. John Evans (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Department of the Environment and Statistics Canada as follows:

1. Environment Canada does not keep records on the amount of salt used annually in Canada for de-icing purposes. Research into de-icing practices has shown that the impact on the receiving environment is of a localized nature and may range in significance from nil to severe depending on several site-specific variables. In terms of environmental priorities, however, de-icing practice on highways and roads is not a significant national issue and does not justify the resources that would be necessary for collection and management of salt-use data.

2. Statistics Canada does not collect statistics on the amount of salt used by municipal, regional, provincial and federal Governments to keep roads and sidewalks clean on an annual basis.

3. Yes.

4. Because of the localized nature of the problem of the many site-specific variables that influence the definition of "safe" or "hazardous", concentrations of salt in snow melt, Environment Canada has not developed a national effluent objective for salt concentrations in point and non-point discharges to the environment.

PURCHASE OF BOOK "FLAUNTING IT" BY CANADA COUNCIL

Question No. 5,010—**Mr. Epp:**

1. Did the Canada Council distribute copies of the book "Flaunting It" and, if so, how many were distributed to (a) libraries (b) prisons (c) senior citizens' clubs (d) cultural centres (e) hospitals (f) native peoples (g) primary schools (h) high schools?

2. How many copies of the book did the Council purchase?

3. What was the total cost of the book to the Council?

4. What were the distribution costs of the book to the Council?

Hon. Francis Fox (Minister of Communications): I am informed by the Canada Council as follows:

1. Yes.