

Transport Canada, DND, DFAIT, Agriculture and Agri-food Canada, as well as the Solicitor General and the Deputy Prime Minister. As always, Ministers remain available to appear before relevant committees of both houses of Parliament upon invitation.

Recommendation 10

While acknowledging potential legal restrictions, the Committee recommends that the House of Commons establish a Standing Committee on Security and Intelligence, with appropriate secure premises, dedicated and cleared staff and other requirements. In addition, the ad hoc Cabinet Committee on Public Security and Anti-Terrorism should be replaced by a permanent Cabinet Committee on National Security. Further, the Government should institute a review of Canada's intelligence services and report the findings to Parliament. Finally the Government should also facilitate increased parliamentary oversight in this area by the new Standing Committee on Security and Intelligence recommended above.

The question of whether the House of Commons should establish a Standing Committee devoted entirely to security and intelligence issues is a matter for the House to decide.

Oversight of the Canadian Security and Intelligence community is elaborate and involves executive and judicial branches of Government. Independent review of the community is conducted by the Security Intelligence Review Committee in the case of the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS), by the Commission for Public Complaints Against the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), and by the Commissioner of the Communications Security Establishment (CSE) in the case of the CSE. These review bodies produce annual reports that are tabled in Parliament by the Government. In addition, government-wide review is provided by the Auditor General, and departmental review is provided by the CSIS Inspector General. The Government believes there is currently no compelling need to modify the oversight architecture of the intelligence community as it has served Canada well.

The Ministerial Meeting on Security and Intelligence (MMSI), chaired by the Prime Minister with the Deputy Prime Minister as Vice-Chair, includes the Ministers of Foreign Affairs; National Defence; Justice; Citizenship and Immigration; National Revenue; and the Solicitor General. The MMSI affords an opportunity for Ministers to provide coordinated direction to the activities of the intelligence community.

In the aftermath September 11, a number of legislative, funding and procedural changes were made to strengthen public safety, improve the collection, analysis and sharing of intelligence, and enhance cooperation among members of the Canadian Security and Intelligence community. Many of the legislative changes will be reviewed by Parliament

