

tions are given first priority over disposal on the open market.

METRIC COMMISSION

Question No. 811—Mr. Towers:

1. By year, what was the total amount of funds disbursed on the metric conversion program?

2. (a) How many persons are employed under the program (b) how many man-years are allocated to the program?

3. (a) How many contract employees or consultants are employed under the program (b) what was the total amount of funds disbursed, by year, on contract employees or consultants?

4. (a) How many contracts with consultants has the metric program (b) who are the recipients of the contracts and what is the total amount of their emolument, by year?

5. What was the total amount of money disbursed to date, for paid media advertising to publicize or promote the metric conversion program?

6. How many letters of comment has the Metric Commission received from concerned Canadians regarding the implementation of the program and how many were letters (a) of complaint (b) praising the program?

7. Are weights and measures that have been adopted in the Canadian metric conversion program fully compatible and interchangeable with weights and measures used by other nations which use the metric system (b) is the Canadian "tonne" fully interchangeable with all other nations?

8. What percentage of Canada's trade is carried on with nations using the metric system?

9. Does the government possess information on the plans of the critical path of the government of the United States with regard to implementation of a metric system in that country and, if so, what is such information?

Mr. Ralph Ferguson (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of State (Small Businesses and Tourism)): In so far as Metric Commission Canada is concerned: On the date this question was asked, a complete significant answer was not available. This information has now been compiled as of January 31, 1981.

1. The amount of funds spent and/or disturbed by the commission by fiscal year is as follows:

Fiscal Year	Expenses	Contributions (Workers Metric Tools Assistance Program)
1971/72	\$ 44,541	\$
1972/73	530,943	
1973/74	1,590,792	
1974/75	2,634,101	
1975/76	3,316,100	
1976/77	4,380,300	
1977/78	5,753,000	120,600
1978/79	6,174,901	800,000
1979/80	6,740,991	2,113,941
1980/81*	3,963,581	1,447,158

*Note: Fiscal Year 1980/81 up to January 31, 1981

2. (a) As of December 15, 1980, 96 persons were employed by Metric Commission Canada;

(b) As of December 15, 1980, 96 person-years were allocated to Metric Commission Canada.

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3. (a) As of December 15, 1980, Metric Commission Canada employed nine contract employees or consultants;

(b) The total amount of funds disbursed and/or authorized by year for those contract employees or consultants employed on December 15, 1980 is as follows:

Fiscal Year	Amount
1978/79	\$ 61,900
1979/80	46,650
1980/81 to Dec. 15/1980	147,790

4. (a) During the 1980/81 fiscal year, Metric Commission Canada had seven consultant contracts in force.

(b) Consultants under contract during fiscal year 1980/81 (up to January 31, 1981) including funds disbursed and/or authorized by year are as follows:

Consultant	Fiscal Year	Amount
1. Mr. Brian Dixon	1980/81	\$ 3,699
2. Intertask Limited	1980/81	15,000
3. Bob Mellor and Associates	1978/79	33,000
	1979/80	26,150
	1980/81	34,200
4. Public and Industrial Relations Limited	1980/81	17,715
5. Mr. Alan Rogers	1980/81	21,900
6. Bryce Taylor Leisure and Recreational Consultants Ltd.	1980/81	21,426
7. Ms. Nola Wade	1980/81	25,000

5. Due to budget limitations, Metric Commission Canada has a policy of not buying media advertising time and space. On one occasion only, the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce, Office of Information and Public Relations, on behalf of the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce, did spend \$130,000 on March 31, 1975, for newspaper advertising relating to weather conversion.

6. The number of letters of comment received by Metric Commission Canada during the period April 1, 1974, to March 31, 1980 is as follows:

	Total Letters	(a) Letters of Complaint	(b) Letters Praising the Program
April 1/74 to March 31/75	66,033	—	108
April 1/75 to March 31/76	98,827	77	121
April 1/76 to March 31/77	42,947	112	160
April 1/77 to March 31/78	34,969	157	147
April 1/78 to March 31/79	25,956	72	106
April 1/79 to March 31/80	22,799	99*	88

*Note: During the fiscal year April 1, 1979 to March 31, 1980, 826 printed form letters protesting metric conversion were also received.

7. (a) The Weights and Measures Act, Section 4, which received royal assent on April 7, 1971, stipulates that "Le Système international d'unités" should be the basis of all units of measurement used in