

## Order Paper Questions

[English]

## PETITION

MR. SKELLY—ABSENTEE BALLOTING

**Mr. Ray Skelly (Comox-Powell River):** Mr. Speaker, with your kind permission I will give it another try and see if I can get it right this time. I have a petition from the Comox-Powell River riding with a large number of signatures which pertains to a matter of proxy voting in the next federal election. These individuals have indicated that they wish the House of Commons to consider an amendment to the Elections Act to provide for absentee voting.

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## SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES (A), 1983-84

AMENDED REFERENCE TO STANDING COMMITTEES

**Hon. Yvon Pinard (President of the Privy Council):** Mr. Speaker, I move:

That the Order of the House of May 18, 1983, referring the Supplementary Estimates (A), 1983-1984, to the several Standing Committees of the House, be amended by removing the reference of Social Development Items 2a and 3a to the Standing Committee on Health, Welfare and Social Affairs and by adding the reference to the said items to the Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs.

There have been consultations, Mr. Speaker, and I think there is unanimous consent for that motion to be adopted.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Is there unanimous consent?

**Some Hon. Members:** Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

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● (1230)

## QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

**Mr. David Smith (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council):** Mr. Speaker, the following questions will be answered today: Nos. 4,180, 4,732, 4,763 and 4,797.

[Text]

MCDONALD ROYAL COMMISSION

Question No. 4,180—**Mr. Robinson (Burnaby):**

1. What is the exact cost of the McDonald Royal Commission?
2. By year, what amount was paid by the Government to (a) the law firm of Courtois, Clarkson, Parsons and Tétrault (b) the law firm of Blake, Cassels and Graydon (c) the law firm of Lamontagne, Mongeau and Bainville (d) lawyer Ross Goodwin for work done in connection with the McDonald Commission?
3. To date, what amount was paid by the Government for legal services in connection with the Commission?
4. What amount was paid by the (a) Privy Council (b) Department of the Solicitor General for legal services in connection with the Commission?

5. What amount was paid to (a) Professor Franks of Queen's University (b) Professor Edwards of the University of Toronto (c) Professor Friedland of the University of Toronto for the "background studies" prepared by them for the Commission?

6. For what reason did the Government not publish an itemized accounting of the costs of the Commission?

**Mr. David Smith (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council):** I am informed by the Prime Minister's and Privy Council Offices and the Ministry of the Solicitor General as follows:

1. McDonald Royal Commission only: \$8,098,786.73.
2. (a) Commission: nil, PCO: nil, RCMP: 78/79, \$248,-076.36, (b) Commission: 77/78, \$73,850, 78/79, \$121,098, 79/80, \$32,290, 80/81, \$64,710, 81/82, \$4,150. PCO: nil, RCMP: nil. (c) Commission: nil, PCO: nil, RCMP: 79/80, \$178,701.91, 80/81, \$521,991.05, 81/82, \$66,637.63, (d) Commission: 77/78, \$15,525, 78/79, \$127,775, 79/80, \$198,-500, 80/81, \$132,125, 81/82, \$18,400. PCO: nil, RCMP: nil.
3. Commission: \$2,289,283, PCO: \$16,592.89, RCMP: \$1,668,629.

Note: In addition, the amount paid by the Ministry Secretariat of the Solicitor General for legal services in connection with the Commission of Inquiry concerning certain activities of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police was \$1,585,200. This amount includes legal services in connection with representation before the Keable Inquiry in the Province of Quebec.

4. See Part 3 above.

5. (a) Commission: \$10,000, PCO: nil, RCMP: nil. (b) Commission: \$96,435, PCO: nil, RCMP: nil. (c) Commission: \$52,413, PCO: nil, RCMP: nil.

6. An itemized accounting of costs of the Commission by standard objects of expenditure has been published annually in Public Accounts.

CBC—PRIME MINISTER'S BROADCASTS

Question No. 4,732—**Mr. Bosley:**

During the period between the receipt of the Prime Minister's instruction for the granting of three 15-minute free-time appearances on CBC/Radio-Canada networks and the acquiescence in October, 1982, which senior officials of the CBC were consulted by the President of the CBC and what specific questions were put to them?

**Hon. Francis Fox (Minister of Communications):** I am informed by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation as follows:

No instruction was received by the CBC from the Prime Minister's office in connection with the appearances. A request was made for air time and the request met the requirements of the policy on prime ministerial broadcasts on current issues which was established following discussions between the CBC and representatives of the federal political parties.

The President of the CBC consulted the senior officers responsible for this area of program policy, asking them questions about its history and the previous interpretations that had been given to it. The President takes full responsibility