

STATUS OF WOMEN COMMISSION—CANADIAN FORCES  
SUPERANNUATION ACT

Question No. 375—**Mr. Howard:**

What action has been taken with the recommendation of the Royal Commission on the Status of Women that the Canadian Forces Superannuation Act be amended so that its provisions will be the same for male and female contributors?

**Hon. James Richardson (Minister of National Defence):** The recommendation to amend the Canadian Forces Superannuation Act so that its provisions will be the same for both male and female contributors is being studied in concert with other government pension plans. Any change would require legislation and would be presented to parliament in the normal manner.

STATUS OF WOMEN COMMISSION—POLICY STATEMENT  
BY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ENSURING EQUALITY OF  
OPPORTUNITY IN EMPLOYMENT

Question No. 376—**Mr. Howard:**

What action has been taken with the recommendation of the Royal Commission on the Status of Women that (a) the federal government issue a policy statement to the Ministers of all federal government departments, the heads of Crown Corporations and agencies, and the Speakers of the Senate and the House of Commons, expressing its intention to (i) ensure equality of opportunity in employment for women and the greater use of womanpower, and (ii) undertake short-term special measures where these are necessary to achieve its objectives; and (b) an information programme be undertaken so that management and supervisors at all levels in the Government of Canada be made aware of the government's policy regarding its employment of women?

**Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour):** With respect to part (a) of the Recommendation, a Cabinet Directive was issued to deputy heads of all government departments and agencies in April 1972, directing them to "take steps to encourage the assignment and advancement of more women into middle and upper echelon positions". With respect to (b), this has been effectively implemented through the Cabinet Directive, the departmental activities and the service-wide Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women in the Public Service developed by the Public Service Commission's EOW Office and jointly chaired by the Commission and the Treasury Board, as well as the widespread public attention being focussed on the federal government's equal opportunities program.

STATUS OF WOMEN COMMISSION—NATIONAL HOUSING  
LOAN REGULATIONS

Question No. 377—**Mr. Howard:**

What action has been taken with the recommendation of the Royal Commission on the Status of Women that the National Housing Loan Regulations be amended so that (a) for purposes of the gross debt service ratio, either husband or wife may be deemed to be the purchaser or owner and (b) up to 50 per cent of the income of the spouse of the purchaser or owner, or of the spouse of the person deemed to be the purchaser or owner, may be included in computing the annual income?

**Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour):** (a) and (b) The National Housing Loan Regulations were amended by Order in Council P.C. 1971-1767, August 18, 1971 to provide that either the husband or wife could be considered the home owner or the home purchaser, and that up to 50

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per cent of the spouse's income can be included with the applicant's income. A further amendment to the National Housing Loan Regulations by Order in Council P.C. 1972-1836, dated August 24, 1972, makes it possible to include up to 100 per cent of the spouse's income for the purpose of qualifying for an NHA loan.

STATUS OF WOMEN COMMISSION—PARTICIPATION BY  
SPOUSE IN CANADA AND QUEBEC PENSION PLANS

Question No. 378—**Mr. Howard:**

What action has been taken with the recommendation of the Royal Commission of the Status of Women that (a) both the Canada and Quebec Pension Plans be amended so that the spouse who remains at home can participate in the Plan, and (b) the feasibility be explored of (i) crediting to the spouse remaining at home a portion of the contributions of the employed spouse and those contributions made by the employer on the employed spouse's behalf, and (ii) on an optional basis, permitting the spouse at home to contribute as a self-employed worker?

**Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour):** The Minister of National Health and Welfare will meet with his provincial colleagues in April to examine the total Canadian social security system, and to determine the manner and extent to which the present system might be more satisfactorily organized and made more responsive to the needs of Canadians. Such issues, as posed by the Royal Commission on the Status of Women, would fall within the scope of these discussions. With respect to the Quebec Pension Plan, amendments were made on January 1st, 1973, and no action was taken by the Government of Quebec in regard to these particular recommendations of the Royal Commission on the Status of Women.

STATUS OF WOMEN COMMISSION—WOMEN'S VOLUNTARY  
ASSOCIATIONS

Question No. 379—**Mr. Howard:**

What action has been taken with the recommendation of the Royal Commission on the Status of Women that the federal government (a) make greater use of women's voluntary associations; and (b) increase their financial support of (i) women's voluntary associations engaged in projects of public interest, and (ii) voluntary associations working in fields of particular concern to women?

**Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour):** The Citizenship Branch of the Department of the Secretary of State has increased its financial support to women's voluntary organizations engaged both in projects of public interest and projects related directly to the concern of women from \$6,000 in 1971-72 to \$75,000 in 1972-73.

STATUS OF WOMEN COMMISSION—ILO, INSTRUMENT OF  
RATIFICATION OF CONVENTION 100

Question No. 380—**Mr. Howard:**

What action has been taken with the recommendation of the Royal Commission on the Status of Women that a federal-provincial conference on labour legislation affecting women in Canada be called to prepare for Canada's ratification of the International Labour Organization Convention Concerning Equal Remuneration for Men and Women Workers for Work of Equal Value (Convention 100)?