

*Supply*

The Commissioner of Official Languages has commented upon the number of bilingually designated positions in the RCMP in which the incumbent does not yet fully meet the language requirements of the position. In headquarters, for example, just over 50 per cent of bilingual positions are staffed by members who do not meet the linguistic requirements of the position. This can, of course, be explained by the fact that headquarters is made up of members drawn from the regions, most of whom served in English-speaking provinces. Nevertheless, this points to the need for the force to increase beyond its immediate requirements the size of its bilingual resources. A substantial pool of bilingual members is necessary if the force is to maintain a flexible policy of promotions and transfers while at the same time maintaining a high level of bilingual capability at headquarters.

It might also be stated that the Francophone participation rate is both a success and a shortcoming. It is a success in comparison to where the force was in the past but a shortcoming in view of where it wants to be in the future. Francophone members of the force still comprise less than 15 per cent of the regular member category, exclusive of special constables, a considerable distance from the full participation objective of 20.8 per cent for Francophones which the force set for itself in 1978.

These and other shortcomings have been referred to by the Commissioner of Official Languages and by the Hon. Member for Ottawa—Vanier during committee hearings on official languages. As the Hon. Member is aware, the Solicitor General (Mr. Kelleher) has submitted proposals to the President of the Treasury Board (Mr. de Cotret) for changing some aspects of the RCMP official languages program.

• (1750)

These proposals are designed to address the shortcomings which I have just mentioned. It is also worth noting that these proposals would build on the successes of the existing official languages program.

I am speaking here of the UBC concept which has been demonstrated as being a flexible and valid approach to providing bilingual service in unilingual areas. I am also referring to the recruit official language training program, and I believe that I can safely say at this point that there will be no diminution at this time to the long-term commitment of the force to provide for equitable participation of both official language groups.

I am not at liberty at this time to go into the details of the proposals of the Solicitor General (Mr. Kelleher). However, I am sure the Hon. Member for Ottawa—Vanier (Mr. Gauthier) will be hearing from the Solicitor General concerning these matters in the not too distant future.

**The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne):** Is the House ready for the question?

**Some Hon. Members:** Question.

**The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne):** The question is on the amendment standing in the name of the Hon. Member for Ottawa—Vanier (Mr. Gauthier).

Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the amendment?

**Some Hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Some Hon. Members:** No.

**Mr. Gauthier:** On division.

**The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne):** I declare the amendment negatived.

The next question is on the main motion. Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Some Hon. Members:** No.

**The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne):** All those in favour of the motion will please say yea.

**Some Hon. Members:** Yea.

**The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne):** All those opposed will please say nay.

**Some Hon. Members:** Nay.

**The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne):** In my opinion the yeas have it.

*And more than five Members having risen:*

**The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne):** Call in the Members.

The House divided on the motion (Mr. de Cotret), which was agreed to on the following division:

*(Division No. 142)*

## YEAS

## Members

Attewell	Epp	Lawrence
Bertrand	(Provencher)	Leblanc
Blais	Fennell	Lewis
Blouin	Ferland	Lopez
Boyer	Fontaine	MacDougall
Brightwell	Forrestall	(Timiskaming)
Brisco	Gagnon	Mailly
Browes	Gass	Mantha
Caldwell	Gérin	Martin
Cardiff	Girard	Mazankowski
Chartrand	Graham	McCain
Comeau	Halliday	McInnes
Corbett	Hamilton	McKenzie
Crombie	Hicks	McKinnon
Darling	Howie	McMillan
Daubney	James	Nickerson
de Cotret	Jepson	Oberle
Della Nocce	Jourdenais	O'Neil
Dorin	Kelleher	Peterson
	Kempling	Pietz