

- 5.2** We recommend that upon the resumption of the sitting of the House of Commons in January after the Christmas recess, that the Minister of Finance present to the House a State of Nation Address dealing primarily with broad economic matters affecting the entire country.
- 5.3** We recommend the abolition of Ways and Means motions.
- 5.4** We recommend that tax changes announced in the budget should be given first reading with the budget presentation. Tax changes announced at a time outside the budgetary process should be given first reading when they are announced.
- 5.5** We recommend that the motion for second reading should be called within 30 calendar days after the tax bills have received first reading in the House of Commons. After second reading they should be referred to a legislative committee.
- 5.6** Taxation bills should be disposed of by Parliament within 120 calendar days of their introduction into the House of Commons for First Reading. If they do not receive Royal Assent in this period, they are deemed to be nullified.
- 5.7** We recommend that to accommodate our desire to establish a real relationship and consistency between the budget and the spending estimates that sufficient time be allowed after presentation of the budget for adjustments to be made to the estimates which may be occasioned by the budget. Therefore, Standing Order 63(14) should be amended so that the latest date for referral of the main departmental estimates to the standing committees will be March 15th of the then expiring fiscal year.
- 5.8** We recommend in order to give sufficient time for study of the main estimates in committee that Standing Order 63(14) should be amended to state:
- ...“Each such committee shall consider and shall report, or shall be deemed to have reported, the same back to the House not later than June 10th in the then current fiscal year.”
- 5.9** We recommend in order to ensure that the supplementary estimates process is not used to circumvent the financial process which is established by this Report, that the number of supplementary estimates be limited and they be tabled at least 15 calendar days prior to the end of the supply period in which their approval is sought.
- 5.10** We recommend that the budget itself be simplified. It should become a true budget dealing primarily with the raising of revenue and the consequent introduction of new taxes or changes to existing ones.
- 5.11** The methods of calculation and the formulae used to arrive at conclusions should be consistent from one budget to another and also between the budget, the estimates and the borrowing bills. This is to facilitate comparisons on such matters as economic forecasts which are contained in budgets from year to year. It should also aid in the reporting of the Public Accounts.