

Routine Proceedings

addressed before a permanent fishery and the issuance of permanent licenses are allowed: stock evaluation, marketing and harvesting limits.

Question No. 172—Mr. LeBlanc:

With respect to the purchase of the former IDD/ECBC farm in Black River, Inverness County, Nova Scotia from the Government of Canada, (a) what is name and address of the purchasers (b) what was the purchase price (c) was the purchaser's bid the highest one received, and if not, (i) who submitted the highest bid (ii) how much was it (iii) why was this not selected (d) what did the successful bidder undertake to do with the property?

Hon. John C. Crosbie (Minister of Fisheries and Oceans and Minister for the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency): a) Herman Vanden Hoogen Bros., R.R. #2, Mabou;

(b) The highest purchase price was \$180,500;

(c) Yes, it was the highest bid received; and

(d) All of the potential purchasers planned to use the Mabou farm for agriculture purposes although their individual business plans differed. The successful bidder focused his plans on livestock and dairy operations.

Question No. 174—Mr. Axworthy:

Has the government created a Children's Bureau within the Department of National Health and Welfare, and, if so, (a) on what day was it created (b) how much money has it been allocated and spent in each fiscal year since its formation (c) how many (i) full time (ii) part-time staff are employed in the bureau in each fiscal year since its formation (d) what mandate has it been given (e) what projects has it undertaken since its formation (f) has it been directed to evaluate the government's constitutional proposals as they affect children (g) has it been directed to evaluate the government's prosperity agenda as they affect children?

Hon. Benoît Bouchard (Minister of National Health and Welfare): (a) The Children's Bureau was created following the World Summit for Children, on February 4, 1991, by the Minister of National Health and Welfare.

(b) the Bureau has an annual operational budget of \$1.2 million.

(c) 12 person-years.

(d) The bureau's mandate is to ensure co ordination and consistency in federal programs relating to children. The bureau's principal purpose is to ensure the effectiveness of federal policies and programs relating to the health, welfare and development of children. To this end, the bureau promotes co-ordination within the federal government, consults with other levels of gov-

ernment and non-government, consults with other levels of government and non-government organizations and communicates federal initiatives relating to children.

(e) The bureau's first major task is to co-ordinate the development of an action plan to implement the commitments made at the World Summit, and reiterated in the May 1991 Speech from the Throne. The plan will serve as a framework for initiatives that the government has undertaken or will put in place to improve the well-being of children in Canada and in developing countries.

By way of improving co-ordination among federal departments on children's issues and obtaining input for the development of the action plan, the bureau has established an Interdepartmental Committee on Children, comprising of 21 departments. The committee has met twice to discuss the plan.

The bureau held numerous meetings with non-governmental organizations as well as other federal departments. While the bureau does not have the capacity to provide grants or contributions, it has acted in support of initiatives and events contributions, it has acted in support of initiatives and events such as the conference "Canada's Children: The Priority for the 90's" held in Ottawa at the end of October, the "Ceasefire" conference, and next February's "Child Health 2000" conference which will bring together world-renowned experts on child health issues in Vancouver. In keeping with its interest in promoting research on the status of children, the bureau was involved with last spring's conference "State of the Child in Ontario" and the bureau has worked with the Child, Youth and Family Policy Research Centre to organize a small colloquium on the state of the child research across Canada.

(f) and (g) The children's bureau has not been directed to do this.

Question No. 179—Mr. Blenkarn:

Do the provinces pay goods and service taxes to the government and, if so, (a) which provinces pay goods and services taxes (b) how many dollars are collected in goods and services taxes from these provinces?

Hon. Otto Jelinek (Minister of National Revenue): Purchases made by provincial governments are outside the scope of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) legislation by virtue of the Constitution Act. Therefore, all