

**BANKING, TRADE AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE**

COMMITTEE AUTHORIZED TO MEET DURING SITTING  
OF THE SENATE

**Hon. Leopold Langlois** moved, with leave of the Senate and notwithstanding Rule 45(1)(a):

That the Standing Senate Committee on Banking, Trade and Commerce have power to sit while the Senate is sitting tomorrow, Thursday, 30th September, 1971, and that Rule 76(4) be suspended in relation thereto.

Motion agreed to.

**PUBLIC WORKS**

POST OFFICE CONSTRUCTION IN WOLFVILLE,  
NOVA SCOTIA—QUESTION ANSWERED

**Hon. Paul Martin:** Honourable senators, on September 16 the honourable Senator Welch asked me a number of oral questions concerning the building of a new post office in Wolfville, Nova Scotia, and stated that he had originally directed his request to the Department of Public Works from whom he had not received a reply.

I am now in a position to reply. The information given to me by my colleague the Minister of Public Works is as follows:

A new building was required because the old one was not structurally sound nor was it large enough to provide the extensive improvements required by the Post Office Department without an addition to it. The floors sagged to such an extent that lock boxes could be opened without keys. A new mail lobby was required; also a screen line extension, a storage room, improved washroom facilities and an office for the postmaster.

To renovate the existing building completely and construct an additional ell would have cost more than the new modern building and would have meant displacing the old Post Office operations for a period of a year.

The approximate cost for removal of the old building, including restoration of the site, was \$17,000. This amount is included in the overall contract price for the new Post Office of \$148,800.

The cost of landscaping the site on completion of the new building was \$6,600, and this was also included in the contract price of \$148,800. Except for any relics which might be discovered, material from the old building becomes the property of the general contractor for disposal as he sees fit.

Not only is it a complete reply, but it shows that the Department of Public Works has not lost its sense of humour.

**Hon. Mr. Flynn:** I am quite sure it knew for whom it was preparing the reply.

23351—81½

**NATIONAL CAPITAL**

SCULPTURE IN CONFEDERATION PARK—  
QUESTION ANSWERED

**Hon. Paul Martin:** There were two questions put by Senator Forsey on September 14 last. I regret not having a reply to the first, which concerned a film.

As to his second question, regarding the sculpture in the park, I have a reply prepared by Miss Jean Sutherland Boggs, Director of the National Gallery, for whom I am sure we all have great admiration and respect and in whom we have confidence. She says the agency responsible for the piece of sculpture placed in a small park, called Confederation Park across from the Lord Elgin Hotel, is the National Gallery of Canada.

**Hon Mr. Forsey:** Shame!

**Hon. Mr. Martin:** Well, I am sure Senator Forsey knows Miss Jean Boggs, and I am sure he would wish to revise that interjection.

The National Gallery of Canada—the reply goes on—does not have sufficient space or a sculpture garden of its own to exhibit monumental pieces of sculpture.

**Hon. Mr. Flynn:** Is it a sculpture?

**Hon. Mr. Martin:** It, therefore, approached the National Capital Commission for permission to install this large work called *Traffic* by the Canadian sculptor, Ed Zelenak, in Confederation Park which is so close to the Gallery itself.

The sculptor is 30 years old and lives in West Lorne, Ontario, near London, certainly a good section of Ontario. The Gallery commissioned this work, which is made of very thick plexiglass, from the sculptor on the basis of a full size maquette in lighter, thinner plastic. The Gallery's director, Miss Jean Sutherland Boggs, states that its acquisition is part of a traditional National Gallery policy of encouraging the work of young Canadian artists and of particular interest since sculptors have never had the same opportunities as painters in Canada. She points out that in the past the Gallery's support of such "lively young contemporary artists" as Tom Thomson, A. Y. Jackson, and David Milne aroused the same kind of skepticism as did Senator Forsey.

The director feels that although the work has considerable presence because of its design and size, it is also very much at home in a landscape setting, since its purple colour is close to the purple of some of the trees, and its somewhat translucent material changes with light and atmosphere. Its acquisition is considered by the Gallery to be a tribute to the Canadian artist.

I am sure this reply will be completely satisfactory to my artistic and dear friend, Senator Forsey.

**Hon. Mr. Forsey:** It is not, honourable senators, and I think there is a portion of the question which remains