

*Order Paper Questions*

## COST OF TROPICAL PLANTS

Question No. 2,731—**Mr. Jones:**

1. What is the cost per year for the upkeep of tropical plants in the various government offices in the City of Moncton?
2. (a) How many government offices across the country are provided with tropical plants (b) what is the total cost of maintaining them (c) what was the cost in 1976 (d) what is the estimated cost for 1977?
3. What (a) was the cost for 1976 (b) is the estimated cost for 1977 of maintaining the plants in the Province of New Brunswick?

**Hon. Judd Buchanan (Minister of Public Works):** 1. \$3,607.20 for 1977—by contract.

2. (a) In the National Capital Region, there were 120 buildings which had tropical plants in July 1977. This total figure is presently fluid as moves to buildings in Hull and elsewhere are being made. However, in the rest of Canada, where accommodation changes are smaller in number and where the concentration is lower, there were 401 offices with tropical plants. (b) See (c) and (d); (c) \$357,554.60 for 1976; (d) \$413,612.06 (estimated) for 1977.
3. (a) Nil; (b) \$5,000.00 (estimated).

STUDIES MADE BY GOVERNMENT ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL  
IMPACT OF OIL SPILLSQuestion No. 2,735—**Mr. Friesen:**

1. Were studies made by the government on the environmental impact of an oil spill in the Semiahmoo Bay and Mud Bay areas and, if so, how many have been completed?
2. (a) What was the length of time taken to complete each (b) on what date were they completed (c) what was the cost of each?
3. Does the government intend to use the White Rock Federal Building as a Pollution Alert Centre?
4. In the event of an oil spill in the Surrey-White Rock area as a result of oil tankers using the Cherry Point facility is there oil pollution clean-up equipment available and, if so (a) what is the nearest location (c) what is the nature of the equipment (c) what is the estimated time it would take for the equipment to reach the White Rock area (d) how many personnel are permanently assigned to operate the equipment?
5. Does the government have any plans to locate oil clean-up equipment in the City of White Rock?
6. (a) What is the estimated value of any government installation, i.e. piers, wharfs, DOT facilities etc., on the Semiahmoo Bay, Mud Bay, Boundary Bay shoreline (b) what is a description of each of these facilities?
7. How much money has the government contributed through LIP, Canada Works and Young Canada Works to environmental projects in the Boundary Bay, Mud Bay, Semiahmoo Bay, Serpentine Fen area of the lower mainland of B.C. in (a) 1974 (b) 1975 (c) 1976 (d) 1977?
8. Does the government have any training programme in place in B.C. for the purpose of instructing its employees and/or interested citizens in oil spill clean-up procedures and, if not, is it the intention to establish such a programme?
9. Has the government held any discussions with the local city and municipal governments of Surrey, White Rock, Richmond and Delta with respect to clean-up procedures, their financing and implementation and, if so, on what date and what was their conclusion?

**Mr. Ralph E. Goodale (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council):** I am informed by the Departments of Fisheries and the Environment, Employment and Immigration and Transport Canada as follows: 1. Yes, two by the Department of Fisheries and the Environment.

[Mr. Cullen.]

2. The first study was a joint Headquarters/Regional effort. It resulted in the report entitled "The Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Oil Transport between Valdez and Cherry Point Refinery" and was dated August 5, 1971. Costing is indeterminate as internal staff time was involved. The second study was carried out by the firm of consultants Howard Paish and Associates Ltd. It resulted in the report entitled "West Coast Oil Threat in Perspective". The three volume report was six months under preparation and is dated April 1, 1972. Cost of the report was \$50,000.

3. No. The Canadian Coast Guard Pollution Emergency Centre is established at its VTM Centre, Kapilano 100, West, Vancouver.

4. (a) Equipment is based at Richmond, Vancouver and Victoria, B.C. and also, Bellingham, Wash. (b) Equipment is used for the containment and removal of spilled oil both on the water and the shore, as well as pumping out damaged vessels. (c) Minimum two hours deployment time. (d) None dedicated, but Canadian Coast Guard ship and base personnel are trained and available for this task.

5. Not at this time.

6. Government Wharf, Float and Breakwater, White Rock, B.C. Administered by Fisheries and Environment Canada. Estimated replacement value 1970: Float, \$9,000; Breakwater, \$280,000; Wharf, \$186,000; Total, \$475,000. Government Wharf and Float, Crescent Beach, B.C. Administered by Fisheries and Environment Canada. Float, \$5,000; Wharf, \$26,000; Total, \$31,000. 1977 replacement value considered to be approximately three times those of 1970. 7. (a) 1974-75 LIP, \$56,569; (b) 1975-76 LIP, \$60,060; (c) 1976-77 LIP, \$433,160; (d) 1977-78 Canada Works Program \$279,384.

8. Both the Canadian Coast Guard of the Ministry of Transport, and the Environmental Protection Service of the Department of Fisheries and the Environment ensure the training of its employees in oil spill cleanup procedures through attendance at in-house, and out of house training programmes, seminars and conferences. In-house exercises are carried out at intervals with attendance by Port Authority, industry personnel and employees of other government departments. The private sector and other levels of government are encouraged to develop and sponsor similar training programmes for the benefit of their respective staff to enable them to better deal with and direct on-scene oil spill containment and cleanup countermeasures. Already several major industries, groups and agencies within the province of B.C. have done so. This includes the B.C. Petroleum Association, Provincial Emergency Program, MacMillan Bloedel Limited and the Burrard Inlet Working Group to name four. In all instances both the Ministry of Transport and the Department of Fisheries and the Environment have actively supported the programmes through an advisory and/or participatory capacity.

9. A seminar covering these subjects was held on May 29 and 30, 1975 at U.B.C. Surrey, Richmond, Delta and White Rock representatives were among the participants. The expla-