

Routine Proceedings

ADMINISTRATION OF THE GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Question No. 117—**Mr. Gardiner:**

Does the government estimate that new jobs will be created to administer the proposed goods and services tax and, if so, what number?

Hon. Otto Jelinek (Minister of National Revenue):

Taxation

It will be necessary to create new jobs in order to administer the Goods and Services Tax Credit program. Unfortunately, it is not possible to give a reliable estimate of the number of jobs until such time as draft legislation is available.

Customs & Excise

The Goods and Services Tax has a much larger client base than the current Federal Sales Tax. As a result it will be necessary to establish additional jobs to administer the tax.

The number of staff required for this tax are dependent on the number of vendors involved, the complexity of tax and other such factors. Until details of the tax and the draft legislation are made available it is not possible to speculate on the number of resources required.

SUPPLY AND SERVICES—NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES AT SHEDIAC, NEW BRUNSWICK

Question No. 118—**Mr. Robichaud:**

1. How many (a) full-time (b) part-time employees are presently employed in the Superannuation Branch of the Department of Supply and Services at Shediac, New-Brunswick?

2. Does the government intend to reduce the number of (a) full-time employees (b) part-time employees (c) person-years at the Shediac office?

3. If so, (a) how many jobs or person-years will be cut (b) when will those cuts be made (c) which subdivision of the Superannuation Branch will be affected (d) which activity will be affected?

4. Has a plan been set up to provide assistance to affected employees and, if so, what is it and, if not, is such a plan being considered?

Hon. Paul Wyatt Dick (Minister of Supply and Services): 1. At the end of June 1989, (a) 396 full-time (including 26 Leave Without Pay and 38 casuals) and (b) 25 part-time employees were employed by the Superannuation Branch, at Shediac, New Brunswick.

2. This fiscal year, the number of person-years in the Branch was reduced by 6. The planned reduction for fiscal year 1990-91 is 5 PY's. The budgets for future years are not known at this time. The number of part-time and full-time employees will be adjusted as required to meet our allocated budget.

3. (a) Six person-years have been cut for this fiscal year. (b) Two were absorbed in Support and Management Services through regular attrition. Exactly when the other four PY's will be cut is unknown because a final decision is pending. (c) While a number of proposals have been put forward, no final decision has been reached and this matter is still under review. (d) This cannot be determined until the review mentioned in 3 (c) is complete.

4. The Superannuation Branch management is committed to make all possible efforts to place the incumbents of affected positions in other available positions. The Treasury Board Departmental Workforce Adjustment Policy would apply to the affected employees. The policy includes provisions to help the employees such as priority status, re-training for other positions, etc. As well, all provisions of the applicable Collective agreements will be adhered to.

CHEMICAL PRODUCTS OR TOXINS IN CHEDOKE STREAM

Question No. 119—**Mr. Keyes:**

Since 1984, has the government carried out investigations to determine whether any chemicals or toxins have been leaching into Chedoke Creek at Princess Point from the Kay Drage Park in Hamilton and (a) if so, have they discovered any and, if so (i) what are the types of chemicals or toxins (ii) what is quantity of each chemical or toxin found in the Creek in parts per million (iii) has the government undertaken to contain the chemicals or toxins from leaching into the Creek (b) if not, is the government prepared to do so at the earliest opportunity and report back as to its findings?

Hon. Lucien Bouchard (Minister of the Environment):

a) No test was performed. b) The federal government does not plan to carry out such tests, as these activities fall under provincial jurisdiction.

LANDSLIDE ON CN RAILS

Question No. 120—**Mr. St-Julien:**

On or about June 13, 1989, did a landslide occur between mileage points 106 and 107 on the Chapais subdivision, between Miquelon and Chapais and, if so, on what date (a) was CN advised of the landslide (b) did CN managerial staff take photographs of the landslide (c) did CN employees go to the area between mileage points 106 and 107 to repair CN's track?