

*Proceedings on Adjournment Motion*

Minister of Justice, who is ex officio Attorney General of Canada, are clearly set out in the Department of Justice Act. In essence the minister is the principal law officer of the crown, and in that capacity his primary function is to advise the executive. Traditionally the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada does not give advice to parliament or its committees. At his discretion he may give advice, but in no circumstances would he express an opinion in a hypothetical case or

on matters that are or might come before the courts.

The Minister of Justice, in his capacity as Attorney General of Canada, is expected to advise the heads of the various departments of government upon all matters of law connected with the work of those departments. Opinions given by the law officers of the Crown are privileged and the production or disclosure thereof cannot be compelled.

Motion agreed to and the house adjourned at 10.15 p.m.

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