

The actions and the firings alleged by the hon. member did not take place. What took place was a reassignment of one individual, expiration of term contracts by other individuals and a finding of inappropriate action by another individual. As the hon. member knows, please ask what actions were taken but do not ask this minister or other ministers to release names of individuals in the House of Commons that cannot be released outside the House.

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PRESENCE IN GALLERY

Mr. Speaker: I wish to draw to members' attention the presence in the gallery of the Hon. Sherwin Petersen, Minister of Highways and Transportation for the Province of Saskatchewan.

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SUPPLY AND SERVICES

Hon. Bob Kaplan (York Centre): Mr. Speaker, with answers like we just heard from the ministers, is it any wonder that Canadians are more and more indignant about this government.

My question is for the Prime Minister. Hard-pressed taxpayers are seeing hundreds of thousands of their dollars going to cronies of cabinet ministers for winning the Terminal III contract at Pearson Airport. This morning it was revealed that \$390,000 went to John Lundrigan, a former Tory MP from Newfoundland, for 15 to 20 meetings that he attended.

Can the government, and the Prime Minister, assure this House that in awarding this rich contract, which contains a government guarantee for the promoters against losses, that the Minister of Transport of the time, and the government, were not influenced by the fact that the consultants who made money on this deal included not only the former member from Newfoundland but also the minister's former aid, Chester Burt, the former Tory Premier of Newfoundland, Frank Moores, as well as two close personal friends of the Prime Minister, Gary Ouellet and Gerald Doucet? Tell us that all these good Tory connections were irrelevant in winning that contract.

Hon. Harvie Andre (Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion and Minister of State for Science and Technology): Mr. Speaker, lobbying is not against the law in Canada. It has not been, and will not be in the future. Nor is there any law in respect of how much lobbyists, be they lawyers or otherwise, are paid. What this government has done is introduce a lobbyist registration system

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so that people can know who is lobbying and on whose behalf.

I think it is going some way beyond a sense of decency to infer wrongdoing or impropriety. If the hon. member has evidence of that, let him bring it forward. Otherwise he should keep his mouth shut.

Mr. Kaplan: It sure is easy to see why taxes are going up and why the cost of air travel is going up.

If the minister wants the respect of the Canadian people for that legislation, will he accept the amendment that was proposed on this side, and will he, without the amendment, make public, as is done in other countries where lobbyists exist and are regulated by statute, disclose all the amounts that were paid for the winning of this contract and who received them; all the amounts and who?

Mr. Andre: The contracting procedure of this government is well known.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Andre: The Auditor General has full access to the procedure. There was a competitive procedure.

I repeat to the hon. member, if he has any evidence of wrongdoing he has a duty to bring it forward. He makes a suggestion about the fees paid and so on. I wonder, if he were continuing to act as a lawyer, if he would be agreeable to a system that provided that his legal fees in respect of any action that involved this kind of contract must be a matter of public record. It was for considerations of the invasion of privacy that would be involved that the committee which studied the legislation did not take the recommendation of the hon. member that fees be disclosed.

I repeat again, there is no accusation in the article, none whatsoever, of wrongdoing. It is wrong of the hon. member to suggest wrongdoing when he has no evidence.

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NATIONAL PAROLE BOARD

Mr. John Brewin (Victoria): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Solicitor General. Today all the federal parole and case management officers are being forced out on strike by this government. There has been no pay increase for the last three years. This strike is a crisis in the administration of justice. It will mean an even greater overcrowding of the prisons. It will deny prisoners their right to parole, and mean that parolees will not be supervised.