

a broad consensus on reform of the tax system before implementing any further changes, and to ensure that there is a process of fair tax reform that will provide a healthy climate for future economic growth in Canada.

Mr. Lawrence MacAulay (Cardigan): Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to stand in this House today and present a petition on behalf of my constituents and those, in particular, in the Montague area. My constituents feel it is grossly unfair that the goods and services tax be levelled on skating expenses, including instructional fees, rentals and purchases. Instructional skating is an educational service, therefore it should not be taxed.

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QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

Mr. Albert Cooper (Parliamentary Secretary to Government House Leader): Mr. Speaker, the following questions will be answered today: Nos. 129, 134, 154, 155, 170 and 171.

[Text]

PAROLE HEARINGS ADJOURNED BY THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICE OF CANADA

Question No. 129—**Mr. Brewin:**

1. From 1985 to the present, have there been parole hearings which adjourned from month to month due to lack of case preparation by the Correctional Service of Canada and, if so, by region (a) has their number been growing (b) what proportion have been (i) full parole (ii) day parole hearings (c) has the same prisoner's case been adjourned more than once and, if so, what number of times (d) what number of prisoners are required to double-bunk with other inmates as a result of delays in Parole Board hearings?

2. What is the cost per day to keep a prisoner in (a) a medium-security (b) a minimum-security institution?

3. What is the estimated cost of hiring sufficient staff to perform the case studies and evaluations required by the Parole Board without undue delay to the parole process?

4. What number of new employees have been hired by the Correctional Service to prepare the assessments needed by the Parole Board?

Hon. Pierre Blais (Solicitor General of Canada and Minister of State (Agriculture)): 1. Yes, there have been parole hearings which were adjourned or waived, however, the Correctional Service of Canada (CSC) does not

have data on waivers available prior to the 1988-89 fiscal year.

(a) Yes, when comparing the period of April 1 to September 30 for the fiscal years 1988-89 and 1989-90, the total waivers issued, by region, were as follows:

Region	1988-89	1989-90
Atlantic	3	15
Quebec	72	58
Ontario	109	168
Prairie	8*	16
Pacific	11*	15
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	203	272

* Full reports were not received from the Prairie and Pacific regions during the first quarter of the 1988-89 fiscal year.

(b) (i), (ii) Statistics are not kept in a manner to differentiate day parole and full parole hearings. However, a system to provide this type of information is currently being developed.

(c) It is not possible to isolate individual cases that have been adjourned more than once. In order to provide such information, a case-by-case review of every inmate's file would have to be conducted. CSC does not have the resources available to conduct such a review.

(d) Statistics on inmates double-bunked solely as a result of delays in the National Parole Board (NPB) hearings are not available.

Double-bunking is reserved primarily for newcomers. Inmates are moved into single cells as soon as they become available. Normally, inmates awaiting parole decisions would have progressed to single accommodations. 2. (a) The annual cost of maintaining an inmate in a medium security institution during the fiscal year 1987-88 was \$40,783, thus resulting in a daily average cost of \$111.73.

(b) The annual cost of maintaining an inmate in a minimum security institution during the fiscal year 1987-88 was \$28,797, thus resulting in a daily average cost of \$78.90.

3. It is not possible to estimate this exact cost as the case preparation work for NPB is only one segment of the total workload of case managers. Other factors include supervision, preparing regular ongoing reports,