

*Routine Proceedings*

global opportunities”, executive survey says. I listen today and Ford is going to invest a billion dollars—

**Some hon. members:** Oh, oh!

**Some hon. members:** Hear, hear!

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**THE ENVIRONMENT**

**Mr. Ross Harvey (Edmonton East):** Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of the Environment or the Minister of Forestry, I have today a question, I suppose for the Minister of National Health and Welfare.

**An hon. member:** He comes prepared!

**Mr. Harvey (Edmonton East):** Why, Mr. Speaker, the pipes, the pipes are blowing!

**Some hon. members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Harvey (Edmonton East):** Mr. Speaker, yesterday in the House of Commons the Minister of Forestry said and I quote: “Under the new regulations the industry will be required over the next three years to invest another \$5 billion to \$7 billion, the result of which will be a complete elimination of the emission of dioxins into the river systems”. A complete elimination, Mr. Speaker.

Can the Minister of National Health and Welfare confirm that it is the government’s intention and belief that at the end of the next three years a situation will exist whereby there has been complete elimination of the emission of dioxins into Canada’s river systems.

**Hon. Perrin Beatty (Minister of National Health and Welfare):** Mr. Speaker, I would say to the hon. member I get the sense he is blowing more than his pipes.

**Some hon. members:** Hear, hear!

**Some hon. members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Speaker:** I did not know what I had started yesterday. Perhaps the minister could answer the question.

• (1500)

**Mr. Beatty:** Mr. Speaker, it is our intention to do everything we can to reduce the levels of these chemicals. Our goal is obviously to have zero amounts of these chemicals in waters.

I will take the question as notice for my colleague, the Minister of the Environment, however, and he will be able to respond more fully.

**Mr. Ross Harvey (Edmonton East):** Mr. Speaker, if the minister cannot confirm—as obviously he cannot—that the goal and the anticipation is a complete elimination, and if he is thus refuting the words of his colleague, the Minister of Forestry, uttered in the House yesterday, how can any Canadian have any faith in anything any of those ministers say about the environment?

**Hon. Perrin Beatty (Minister of National Health and Welfare):** Mr. Speaker, the hon. member continues. I have already indicated that I would take the question as notice for my colleague, the Minister of the Environment. He will be pleased to give a full explanation to the hon. gentleman.

**ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS**

[*English*]

**COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE**

LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND  
IMMIGRATION—GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO SECOND  
REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

**Hon. Barbara McDougall (Minister of Employment and Immigration):** Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 109, I am pleased to table, in both official languages, the government’s response to the second report of the Standing Committee on Labour, Employment and Immigration, the refugee claimant backlog clearance.

[*Translation*]

COMMUNICATIONS AND CULTURE—GOVERNMENT  
RESPONSE TO SECOND REPORT OF STANDING  
COMMITTEE

**Hon. Marcel Masse (Minister of Communications):** Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to table, in both official languages, the government’s response to the second report of the Standing Committee on Communications and Culture on the Status of the Artist.