

*Order Paper Questions*

**SUPPLEMENTARY RETIREMENT BENEFITS ACT**

AMENDMENTS RESPECTING LIMITATION OF BENEFITS

**Hon. Donald J. Johnston (President of the Treasury Board)** moved for leave to introduce Bill C-120, to amend the Supplementary Retirement Benefits Act.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

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**QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER**

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

**Mr. Jim Peterson (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Justice and Minister of State for Social Development):** Madam Speaker, I have something today which is non-controversial and should be music to the ears of all hon. members.

[Translation]

Madam Speaker, the following questions will be answered today: Nos. 3,151, 4,036, 4,308 and 4,355.

[Text]

DESK FOR PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

Question No. 3,151—**Mr. Cossitt:**

With reference to the answer to question No. 2,599 which stated in part that a province wide search was made for suitable limestone for the \$2,500 worth of limestone purchased for the Prime Minister's new desk, before the actual purchase was made in the area of Cambridge, Ontario, did the search include an examination of limestone in the constituency of Leeds-Grenville and, if so (a) on what date did such an examination take place (b) what were the names and job designations of those who completed the examination?

**Hon. Paul J. Cosgrove (Minister of Public Works):** As stated in answer No. 2,599, a province-wide search was undertaken for suitable limestone samples through stone suppliers in Toronto. The limestone qualities in the constituency of Leeds-Grenville were not inspected, as it—along with other quarries, produces rubble stone, rather than dimensional stone, and were not represented with samples for the purpose which had been identified. (a) Not applicable, (b) Not applicable.

GRANT TO NOVA SCOTIA VOLUNTEER WEEK COMMITTEE

Question No. 4,036—**Mr. Crosby:**

1. Did the Nova Scotia Volunteer Week Committee receive a payment of \$7,800 from the Secretary of State and, if so, under which program?

2. Are funds available to other organizations or groups under the program and, if so, what circumstances entitle a group or organization to the funds?

3. Was any part of the \$7,800 granted to the committee paid to the wife of Mr. Michael J.L. Kirby, former Deputy Clerk of the Privy Council, for any services provided or any expenses incurred by her?

4. Was Mr. Kirby in any way involved in the obtaining of the grant and, if so, what was the nature of his involvement?

**Hon. Jim Fleming (Minister of State (Multiculturalism)):**  
1. Provincial Volunteer Week Committee (Nova Scotia

Volunteer Week Committee) received a grant of \$7,800 to assist with its project "Community Volunteer Recognition Kit". Two of the project objectives—among others—are as follows: (i) "to increase dialogue between ethnic communities and the majority community on volunteerism, (ii) to increase opportunity for ethnic groups and the Provincial Volunteer Week Committee to recognize outstanding volunteers." The grant was made under group development section of the multicultural program.

2. Yes, 51 grants were issued within Nova Scotia in the 1981-82 fiscal year. Conditions for granting: (i) group must qualify as voluntary organization under the criteria established for the Secretary of State Department programs; (ii) the project must meet the objectives and priorities of the program and the goal priorities of the Halifax Regional Office of the Secretary of State Department—in this case "the encouraging and supporting of activities to improve relations between majority and minority groups in Nova Scotia by reducing perceptual barriers"—.

3. Ms. Bonnie Kirby is co-ordinator of the Provincial Volunteer Committee, and \$3,000 of the grant is budgeted for salary at \$500 per month for six months (Dec. 1, 1981—May 31, 1982).

4. No.

COMMISSIONER OF RCMP

Question No. 4,308—**Mr. Robinson (Burnaby):**

1. Does the Commissioner of the RCMP report directly to the Solicitor General or through the deputy solicitor general to the minister?

2. Does the Commissioner have the status of a deputy minister?

**Hon. Bob Kaplan (Solicitor General):** 1. The Commissioner of the RCMP reports directly to the Solicitor General of Canada.

2. The Commissioner of the RCMP, for the purposes of the Public Service Employment Act, the Financial Administration Act and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Act, equates to a deputy minister in terms of status, however his title is that of a deputy head rather than deputy minister.

REFURBISHED SEATS FROM AIR CANADA

Question No. 4,355—**Mr. McKinnon:**

With reference to the answer to part 3 of question No. 4,096 which stated that 215 used refurbished seats were being purchased from Air Canada for \$276,860, does this mean that each seat will cost \$1,287.72 and, if so, for what reason are the seats so expensive, considering they are "used"?

**Hon. J.-J. Blais (Minister of Supply and Services):** Refurbished seats from Air Canada will cost a total price of \$276,860 or \$1,287.72 each. This price compares favourably with the following alternatives: (a) New seats of similar design to refurbished seats total cost \$678,700 or \$3,156 each, (b) Refurbishment of existing seats by competitive bid ranged from \$472,122.58 (\$2,195.92 each) to \$655,742.79 (\$3,048.71 each).