

Strangers  
ordered to  
withdraw

**17.** If at any sitting of the Senate, or in Committee of the Whole, any senator shall take notice that strangers are present, the Speaker or the Chairman (as the case may be) shall forthwith put the question, "That strangers be ordered to withdraw", without permitting any debate or amendment: Provided that the Speaker or the Chairman may, whenever he may think fit, order the withdrawal of strangers, from any part of the Senate.

Government  
bill, etc.,  
Minister  
may be  
invited

**18.** When a bill or other matter relating to any subject administered by a department of the Government of Canada is being considered by the Senate or in Committee of the Whole, a Minister, not being a member of the Senate, may on invitation from the Senate enter the Senate chamber and, subject to the rules, orders, forms of proceedings and usages of the Senate, may take part in the debate.

Order of  
business

**19.** At each daily sitting of the Senate, the Speaker shall call for, in the following order:

- (a) presentation of petitions;
- (b) reading of petitions;
- (c) reports of committees;
- (d) notices of inquiries;
- (e) notices of motions;
- (f) inquiries;
- (g) motions;
- (h) question period;
- (i) orders of the day.

Question  
period

**20.** When the Speaker calls the question period, a senator may ask any questions of the Government Leader in the Senate relating to matters of urgency or importance to the nation or the Senate. No notice of such questions is required. Supplementary questions may be asked.

Precedence  
among  
orders of the  
day

**21.** Unless otherwise ordered by the Senate, Orders of the Day take precedence according to priority as follows:

- (a) orders of the day for the third reading of bills;
- (b) an order of the day which was under consideration at the time of adjournment;
- (c) orders of the day which had not been reached at the time of adjournment;
- (d) remaining orders of the day.