

Routine Proceedings

"Statements by Members", followed by "Oral Questions" and the remaining order of business as provided for Mondays.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Does the hon. member have the unanimous consent of the House to move the motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The House has heard the terms of the motion. Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The hon. member for Regina—Lumsden on a point of order.

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POINT OF ORDER

REMARKS OF MINISTER

Mr. Les Benjamin (Regina—Lumsden): Mr. Speaker, I believe that the precedents and the requirements for any kind of withdrawal or apology to the House of Commons must be unequivocal and straightforward with no qualifications. I do not believe that the remarks of the hon. minister who just tried to make some kind of an apology and withdrawal meets those requirements.

Hon. Paul Dick (Minister of Supply and Services): Mr. Speaker, I thought I was very clear in withdrawing those unparliamentary words which have been so frequently used in this place and at the same time pointed out that perhaps they should speak the truth fully.

Mr. Benjamin: That's a qualification.

Mr. Murphy: That's not acceptable.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Chair accepts the words of the minister.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[*English*]

BILL C-62

TABLING OF GOODS AND SERVICES TAX TECHNICAL PAPER

Hon. Michael Wilson (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I rise today, pursuant to Standing Order 32(2), to table, in both official languages, a document entitled "Goods and Services Tax Technical Paper".

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PETITIONS

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

Mr. Albert Cooper (Parliamentary Secretary to Government House Leader): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 36(8), I have the honour to table, in both official languages, the government's response to 59 petitions.

[*Editor's Note: See today's Votes and Proceedings.*]

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EMPLOYMENT EQUITY

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Hon. Robert de Cotret (President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, I rise today with what I know will be welcome news for all those members of this House who share this government's commitment to the principle of equal pay for work of equal value.

As members may recall, in the Speech from the Throne in 1984 the Prime Minister committed this government to achieving equal pay for work of equal value in the federal Public Service as an integral step leading to the full economic equality of women.

[*Translation*]

In line with this objective, the government has already introduced many measures to achieve employment equity, such as increasing the percentage of women in the federal government and its agencies, boards and commissions, and ensuring that women are involved in decision-making at all administrative levels.