

EVIDENCE

TUESDAY, March 14, 1961.

The JOINT CHAIRMAN (*Mr. Grenier*): Now we have a quorum, and we will start the meeting. Before coming to business I would like to thank you for the honour you have conferred upon me by electing me as co-chairman of this committee. I am sure it will be a pleasure to work with you and I am sure, also, that with your good cooperation we will get our work done.

Before going any further I would like to mention that we have the honour to have this morning the minister, who would like to say a few words concerning the summary of submissions to the joint committee on Indian affairs.

HON. ELLEN L. FAIRCLOUGH (*Minister of Citizenship and Immigration*): Mr. Chairman, and members of the committee, I am sorry that it is going to be impossible for me to stay this morning, but I have a cabinet meeting very shortly, and so I must leave. But I particularly wanted to refer to the summary of submissions to the committee over the past two years, which has been prepared by the Indian affairs branch, in English and in French. These are available this morning for distribution to you at this, the start of your deliberations for 1961. I hope they will be useful to you and probably save you some time in delving for information through the many voluminous records which have accumulated during the past two sessions.

I am sure you also hope that it will be possible this year to wind up the work of this committee and submit a final report. The members of the committee have had a great deal of experience over the past two years, and I am sure you would all agree it has been a rewarding experience and extremely interesting.

As the committee continues to meet, I propose to attend as often as I can, because I want to hear as many of these submissions as possible, and the discussions which take place on the submissions. So you can look forward to seeing me frequently. I would like to be here at all times, but, of course, that is impossible. However, my main reason for speaking to you this morning is merely to draw attention to these documents which, Mr. Chairman, are now available. The officials will be glad to distribute them to members, or you can pick them up when you leave, whichever you wish.

If you will excuse me now, I must be on my way. Thank you very much indeed, for all of your work on this committee. Congratulations, Mr. Chairman, on your appointment; and I suppose I should re-congratulate the Senator. This is the first time that a joint committee of both houses has been privileged to have an Indian as one of its chairmen, and particularly one who can give to the committee such valuable service as Senator Gladstone has given, and continues to give.

I am sure your deliberations this year will be just as rewarding as they have been in the past two years, and I should like to extend to all my very best wishes in this valuable work you are doing.

The JOINT CHAIRMAN (*Mr. Grenier*): The membership of the steering committee is composed as follows: Hon. Senators Gladstone and Ferguson, and Messrs. Baldwin, Charlton, Leduc, Howard and myself.

I should like to ask the clerk to read the report of the sub-committee on agenda and procedure.