

ALGONQUIN PARK OBSERVATORY

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is directed to the same Minister. Will he confirm that because of the cuts to the NRC the observatory at Algonquin Park cannot be expanded and therefore will be shut down in the next year?

Hon. Frank Oberle (Minister of State for Science and Technology): Mr. Speaker, I can confirm that, as a result of reorganization or reallocation, the NRC expansion plans for the observatory scheduled for next year will not proceed.

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[Translation]

FINANCE

MINING SECTOR'S DEDUCTIBLE SHARE BUYING PLAN

Mr. Guy St. Julien (Abitibi): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of State (Finance). The flow-through shares system in the mining industry is creating and sustaining employment and helping development in Abitibi-Témiscamingue and across Canada. The system provides the Government with an excellent source of revenue through all kinds of taxes, and the Abitibi region would like this program to continue. My question is as follows: Is there any truth in the rumour reported in a Toronto newspaper and originated by the Government of Quebec, that the Government of Canada intends to abolish the flow-through shares plan in the mining industry?

Mr. Tom Hockin (Minister of State (Finance)): Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the Hon. Member for his question and his interest in the mining industry.

[English]

The Hon. Minister of State for Forestry and Mines and myself are very pleased with the increased activity in the mining sector. As for flow through shares, we are studying them and their use in the context of our broad tax reform. The Minister of Finance will be meeting on November 17 with The Mining Association of Canada on this matter.

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CANADIAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

RESUMÉS OF TRIBUNAL APPOINTEES

Hon. Bob Kaplan (York Centre): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Justice. There are now two different versions of the resumés of recent appointees to the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal. One version has been laundered of all political references, and the Minister has denied any responsibility for that operation. As he is the Minister responsible for

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the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal and for his own office, will he undertake to look into the discrepancy and explain to the House why it happened and who did it?

Hon. Ray Hnatyshyn (Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada): Mr. Speaker, there may be two versions, but there is only one version of the truth. It is simply this—there may be two different resumés which are in existence. The one I sent forward from my office is the copy of the resumés we had in my office, the only ones I have seen. There is another one in the Human Rights Tribunal. They are completely separate and they are not related.

● (1450)

REQUEST FOR EXPLANATION OF DIFFERENT VERSIONS

Hon. Bob Kaplan (York Centre): I ask the Minister, as the Minister responsible for reporting to this House on behalf of the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal, to look into the discrepancy and tell the House why there are two different versions circulating.

Hon. Ray Hnatyshyn (Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada): Mr. Speaker, all I can tell the Hon. Member is that as far as I am concerned I went ahead with the people who have been appointed, the 28 recently appointed in addition to the 71 appointed earlier this spring, on the basis of competence. That is the only criterion I want to have for these people who are going to serve in this very important position. I understand that the Standing Committee on Human Rights will have an opportunity to go through the scrutiny process. I invite the members of the committee to ask whatever appropriate questions they think are germane.

OMISSION OF POLITICAL AFFILIATION NOTATIONS

Mr. Howard McCurdy (Windsor—Walkerville): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Justice. Given that those resumés went intact to the PM's office, to the PMO and to the Justice Ministry and in the next step to the Human Rights Committee were purged of all political affiliations, somebody purged them. Who done it?

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

An Hon. Member: The butler.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Hon. Ray Hnatyshyn (Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada): Mr. Speaker, I do not think this is a humorous thing at all.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Orlikow: You finally agree on something.

Mr. Hnatyshyn: I am simply saying to the Hon. Member that if he is really serious about this matter—

Mr. Broadbent: We are.