

Order Paper Questions

(a) International Surveys Ltd., 20 Eglinton Avenue E., Toronto, Ontario; Cost—\$36,000.

(b) A national telephone tracking study to monitor Canadian attitudes, knowledge and opinion with respect to general energy issues and the National Energy Program.

(c) August 1982. Final analysis of the studies is expected to be completed by Statistics Canada by mid-October.

CANADIAN ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Question No. 4,460—Mr. Mazankowski:

Is there a Canadian Environmental Advisory Council and, if so (a) what are its terms of reference (b) who are the members of the Council (c) what, if any, funding is provided by the Government (d) what matters did the Council consider in the fiscal year 1981-82 (e) what was the total cost to the Government of the Council in the fiscal year 1981-82?

Hon. John Roberts (Minister of the Environment): Yes, there is a Canadian Environmental Advisory Council.

(a) Its terms of reference are:

1. To offer advice to the Minister on environmental problems referred to it by him.

2. To review the Programs and Projects of the Department of the Environment in the field of environmental protection and to criticize them to the Minister where he feels this is necessary; and

3. After consultation with the Minister, to conduct investigations and/or public hearings and to release factual reports of its findings on environmental matters of great public concern, in order to inform the public of the issues at stake.

(b) The membership of Council is as follows:

Chairman	Mr. T. Beck
Vice-Chairman	Dr. R. Bergeron
	Members
Ms. S. Holtz	Ms. N. MacPherson
Mr. M. Hummel	Mr. H. D. McRorie
Mr. T. G. Jeanes	Dr. P. F. M. McLoughlin
Professor A. R. Lucas	Dr. P. Meincke

(c) The Government provides an annual budget to cover operating costs of the Council.

(d) Matters which the Council considered during the fiscal year 1981-82 included: environmental toxicology, pesticides and the environment, environmental issues in northern Canada, environmental assessment and review process, public participation in environmental issues and management and protection of ecological sites.

(e) \$240,000.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS CAPITAL COST ALLOWANCES

Question No. 4,466—Mr. Wilson

1. Was Econalysis Consulting Services of Toronto given a contract for \$47,500 by the Department of Communications in May 1982 "to conduct a study analysing refinements and possible alternatives to the capital cost allowances" and, if so (a) for what reason (b) was the proposal for the study initiated by the Department or by the company?

2. Does the Department have responsibility for changes in capital cost allowances or is this matter under the jurisdiction of the Department of Finance?

3. Could the study have been undertaken by the Tax Policy Branch of the Department of Finance and (a) if not, for what reason (b) if so, for what reason was it necessary to engage outside advice?

4. Does the Department of Communications intend to make the study public?

Mr. Jack Burghardt (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Communications): In so far as the Department of Communications is concerned, the reply to the above question is as follows:

1. Econalysis Consulting Services was given a contract for \$47,500 (later amended to \$62,325) by the Department of Communications.

(a) The study was commissioned in order to describe the current impediments to the operation of a successful Canadian film industry and to develop and analyse a package or proposals to deal with these problems. The film industry is in the midst of a very difficult period since traditional sources of financing have dried up and the level of production of films has decreased. A study was necessary in order to evaluate alternative policy strategies, so that aid to the industry can be directed most efficiently.

(b) The proposal for the study was initiated by the Department.

2. The Minister of Communications is responsible for the development of initiatives to stimulate Canada's cultural industries. However, changes to the Capital Cost Allowance must be approved by the Minister of Finance and the Policy Committee of Cabinet. The Minister of Finance has paramount responsibility for the management of the tax system and for short-term stabilization policy. However, as part of the Minister of Communications' over-all cultural responsibilities, he can put forward tax and tariff changes (including remission of tax under the Financial Administration Act).

3. The study could not have been undertaken by the Tax Policy Branch of the Department of Finance because the scope of the study goes beyond tax policy, dealing with other possible incentives to the production of films and videotape in Canada.

4. The Department will be making the study public.

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[English]

QUESTIONS PASSED AS ORDERS FOR RETURNS

Mr. David Smith (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Madam Speaker, if Questions Nos. 2,725, 3,518, 3,797, 3,809, 4,058 and 4,399 could be made orders for