



HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
CANADA

43rd PARLIAMENT, 2nd SESSION

Board of Internal Economy

TRANSCRIPT

NUMBER 019

PUBLIC PART ONLY - PARTIE PUBLIQUE SEULEMENT

Monday, June 28, 2021



Board of Internal Economy

Monday, June 28, 2021

• (1110)

[Translation]

Hon. Anthony Rota (Speaker of the House of Commons): I call the meeting to order.

Welcome to meeting number 19 of the Board of Internal Economy of the 43rd Parliament.

This morning, we will begin with item 1, the minutes of the previous meeting.

[English]

Are there any questions or comments on that? Seeing none, we'll move on to the second item.

[Translation]

We will continue with item 2, business arising from the previous meeting.

Are there any comments?

[English]

Mr. Richards, go ahead.

Mr. Blake Richards (Chief Opposition Whip): There are a couple of things I want to raise quickly here. The first one is that I noticed that the administration has put together a report for us based on the questions that I asked at the last meeting related to human resource issues that we had with losing some of the senior leadership among procedural folks. I note that we do have an item later on the agenda on this. I was going to suggest that it might be helpful for that discussion to take place perhaps without the administration staff, other than the chief human resources officer, who probably should be a part of that, and possibly the law clerk.

I know this is what's typically done when the audits are presented to the board. It might be helpful for us to follow that practice for that particular item. I was going to suggest that, if others see the benefit of that. I think it might be good to be able to have that conversation with just the board members and the one or two pieces of that from administration that would have a direct impact there.

Hon. Anthony Rota: That's a request.

Do I have unanimous consent on that?

[Translation]

Mrs. DeBellefeuille, do you have a comment on that?

Mrs. Claude DeBellefeuille (Whip of the Bloc Québécois): Yes. To answer your question, I agree with Mr. Richards' proposal. We need to have this good discussion together.

Hon. Anthony Rota: Do we have unanimous consent?

I'm getting signals that we do. That's great.

[English]

Thank you.

Mr. Richards, go ahead.

Mr. Blake Richards: I have another one as well, Mr. Chair, if I can.

With regard to the litigation that the government has brought with you named, Mr. Chair, I thought it might be beneficial for us to have an in camera briefing, just to find out a little bit about the litigation strategy that will be followed by the House in defending themselves against the government in the Federal Court procedure. I want to throw that out as an item that we could add to the agenda.

Obviously it's timely, so I don't think it's something that we can leave for a future meeting, but I think it would be helpful for all of us to have some sort of briefing on that. I would suggest that it be in camera.

• (1115)

Hon. Anthony Rota: I believe that's already open and ready to go in camera. I believe we have unanimous consent to go along with that.

Mr. Blake Richards: Further to that, I also wanted to get... I don't know who the appropriate person is to ask for an opinion on this, but I'm sure you can direct it to whomever it's appropriate to answer. With regard to that, obviously we're talking about a situation where it is in fact the government that is taking the House to court in that instance. Obviously, there are members of the board who are ministers in that government. I don't know, but it did occur to me that there's a possibility that there could be a conflict of interest for them to participate in those discussions. I don't know if they've personally given any thought to that, but maybe it would be good to get an opinion on whether it's appropriate for them to be a part of that discussion or not.

Hon. Anthony Rota: If it's okay with the members, maybe we can approach it once we go in camera. We'll have the House of Commons lawyer, Mr. Dufresne, comment on that and then we can make a decision.

Is that fair?

Hon. Pablo Rodriguez (Leader of the Government in the House of Commons): Sure.

Hon. Anthony Rota: Okay. Let's go with that, then. That gives everyone some time to reflect until we get there. There are no decisions made on the spot, and we'll make sure it's the right decision to make.

[Translation]

Mr. Julian will be followed by Mrs. DeBellefeuille.

[English]

Mr. Peter Julian (House Leader of the New Democratic Party): Thanks, Mr. Chair.

I was going to reiterate the same comments Mr. Richards made. I agree that, as part of the in camera, we should be briefed on the court case against the House.

Thank you for that.

[Translation]

Hon. Anthony Rota: Mrs. DeBellefeuille, you have the floor.

Mrs. Claude DeBellefeuille: Mr. Chair, I am not sure whether it will be possible during this meeting, but I would like to be reassured about next fall. The parliamentary session ended with a lack of resources, particularly in terms of interpreters. I would like to be reassured that this summer and fall we will have all the resources that we need to resume our work.

We have had to cancel committee meetings in order to be able to sit in the House of Commons and hold parliamentary committee meetings at the same time. I would like to be reassured on that point, even if it does not happen in this meeting. I would like to make sure that, in the fall, we will have the number of interpreters we require to be able to do our parliamentary work, in the House, in committees and in parliamentary associations.

I don't know whether we were supposed to have news about this today. If not, I would like to see a very clear update at the next Board of Internal Economy meeting on the state of our resources and the state of the situation, which was very worrisome at the end of the session.

Hon. Anthony Rota: Let me turn it over to Mr. Patrice, who can tell you what the situation is and what resources we have.

Mr. Patrice, you have the floor.

Mr. Michel Patrice (Deputy Clerk, Administration, House of Commons): Thank you very much, Mr. Chair.

Yes, we will follow up with all the services involved. We will wait for the dust to settle and evaluate this. We will report back to the Board of Internal Economy on the status. We will be able to provide you with that information in the coming weeks.

Hon. Anthony Rota: That's great.

If there are no further comments on item 2, we will continue with item 3.

[English]

There was a walk-around, an extension of COVID measures. They were extended to September 30.

Is everyone in accordance with the extension and what we have now, to be on the safe side?

Good. We'll move on to item number four.

[Translation]

Item 4 is the 31st annual session of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) Parliamentary Assembly, to be held in Vancouver, British Columbia, in July 2023.

• (1120)

[English]

The presenter is Hedy Fry, and I'll let her take it from here.

Ms. Fry, go ahead.

Hon. Hedy Fry (Director, OSCE PA, Canada-Europe Parliamentary Association): Thank you very much, Mr. Chair.

This is a renewal request. I thank you graciously. The board granted a request for us to host, in July 2020, the summer meeting of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe's Parliamentary Assembly. About 500 to 700 people were to attend. We had prepared for it. Everything was fine. We had done all the work. Then COVID-19 came in March 2020 and we had to cancel. We have not held another summer meeting since. We now have a mix of virtual and in-person meetings.

The OSCE PA, for those of you who don't know, is made up of 57 nation-states. They include Europe, Scandinavia, and the central Asian countries of Kazakhstan, Afghanistan, Russia and so on. It also has about nine observer states from the Middle East that come to the meetings each time. The Holy See is also a member of the OSCE PA.

The last time we hosted a summer meeting was about 23 years ago. I think it's about time for one of the large countries, like Canada, to be able to do this. You kindly gave us permission in 2020. It was cancelled. I'm back to ask you for permission to do this in July 2023. You have, I think, the cost of the meeting. It has gone up a little bit because of inflation and the fact that now everyone is required to do a lot of COVID security, cleaning, etc. That has raised the bar a little bit for costs.

I would be able to answer any questions you would like. We are ready to go. The people who are running this for us, our bureaucratic staff, have been through this already. They were all prepped for July 2020 and then had to cancel. We did not pay any penalties in 2020, because we had a clause that talked about a *force majeure*. We have a similar clause this time in case an act of God says we have to cancel.

Hon. Anthony Rota: Are there any questions for Ms. Fry?

The recommendation is that we go ahead. Is everyone in accordance with the recommendation?

Good. We have consensus.

Thank you, Ms. Fry, and thank you to all the members.

Hon. Hedy Fry: Thank you very much, everyone. I appreciate it.

Hon. Anthony Rota: The next one on our list, number 5, is the 65th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference in Halifax, Nova Scotia, in August 2022. The presenter this morning is Jeremy LeBlanc.

Mr. LeBlanc, go ahead.

Mr. Jeremy LeBlanc (Clerk Assistant and Director General, International and Interparliamentary Affairs): Thank you very much, Mr. Chair.

This request is to transfer funding that had previously been approved for the 65th parliamentary conference to be hosted in Halifax, Nova Scotia. The conference was originally scheduled to occur in January 2021. It was then postponed until August 2021. It has now has been postponed again until August 2022.

[Translation]

The Board of Internal Economy had already approved temporary funding for the conference. We are asking for authority to carry over the approved funding from one fiscal year to the next to coincide with the timing of the conference.

Also, if there are any additional costs because the conference was postponed, we are asking you for permission to use the Joint Interparliamentary Council (JIC) budget to cover those costs, instead of asking for new funding.

In short, this is simply a request to transfer the funding already approved into the next fiscal year and the authority to cover the additional costs from the JIC envelope.

Hon. Anthony Rota: Are there any questions?

You are signalling that it's clear and that you're all in agreement.

We have agreement on that recommendation. Let's continue with item 6.

[English]

This is the 2020-21 year-end financial report and the 2021-22 supplementary estimates. Our presenter will be Daniel Paquette.

• (1125)

[Translation]

The floor is yours.

Mr. Daniel Paquette (Chief Financial Officer, House of Commons): Thank you, Mr. Chair.

I am here today to present the 2020-21 year-end financial report, and to seek your approval for the supplementary estimates (B) 2021-22. This report provides the details of the authorities and expenditures for the 2020-21 fiscal year, as well as comparative information from the previous year. As with the quarterly reports already submitted this year, we are comparing two atypical years. This past year, the pandemic clearly impacted our spending trends,

and the general election was held the year before. Therefore, our comparisons were made with due consideration of the influences on the results of those two years.

For reporting purposes, as of March 31, 2021, approved authorities for that period totalled \$641.9 million, which is an increase of \$124.8 million over 2019-20 authorities. The most significant change relates to an actuarial adjustment to the members of Parliament retiring allowance account and the members of Parliament retirement compensation arrangements account in the amount of \$125.6 million. The adjustment is made as directed by an actuarial report of the MP pension plan. As of March 31, expenditures totalled \$610.1 million, an increase of \$104.4 million over the previous year's expenditures.

[English]

The most significant increase in expenditures relates to the increase of \$126.8 million in the contribution to the members' pension plan, mainly due to the previously mentioned actuarial adjustments. Had there not been this actuarial adjustment, the variance in expenditures would have been a reduction of \$22.4 million.

This decrease in expenditures across the House is due to measures in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, such as the restrictions on travel and gatherings imposed by public health authorities, which contributed to the significant decrease in our travel expenditures. A decrease has also been seen in areas across the whole organization, such as training and hospitality. Also, the temporary closure of some of our food service facilities and printing facilities last year has meant a significant reduction in our costs of materials and supplies.

These reductions were partially offset by the purchase of consumable items such as the face masks and hand sanitizer that were used across the House, as well as by the investments in the virtual House proceedings and committees, including the remote voting system and accommodations for press conference facilities. In addition, there were costs incurred for equipment to enable the administration employees to work remotely during the COVID pandemic.

On the other hand, expenditures for salaries and benefits have decreased, mainly since expenditures in 2019-20 were abnormally high as a result of the payments made in that period for severance payments for members and their employees following the 2019 general election. Also, in that fiscal year there were retroactive payments in respect of economic increases for certain administration employees.

Finally, the report provides a comparison between the 2020-21 and the 2019-20 utilization of authorities. With respect to the non-statutory spending, the utilization has decreased by 5.2%, which is not unexpected given the current situation. It is important to note and to mention that the administration does promote an efficient use of resources and continuously strives to minimize requests for incremental funding whenever possible. The COVID pandemic had a significant impact on the House business, and the magnitude of the financial impact was not apparent early in the fiscal year. Funding decisions were made based on the best information available at various times.

As the pandemic continued to evolve, restrictions continuously had to be put in place, which resulted in lower-than-expected expenditures. As mentioned before, the 2020-21 authorities totalled \$641.9 million, and expenditures totalled \$610.1 million. This leaves us with a \$31.8-million surplus, which corresponds to the lapse that will be represented in the public accounts of Canada. The surplus represents 8.8% of the 2021 main estimates voted authorities. It is customary for government organizations to carry forward a lapsed amount of up to 5% of their main estimates.

Therefore, I'm seeking your approval to include a carry-forward of \$18 million in the 2021-22 supplementary estimates (B), but note that I will return in the fall to inform the members of the final amount to be included in the supplementary estimates based on operational requirements at that particular time, if there is some reason why we don't need to carry over the full amount.

• (1130)

Mr. Chair, this concludes my presentation.

[Translation]

I am available to answer any questions you may have.

Hon. Anthony Rota: Are there any questions?

[English]

Is everybody fine with the recommendation that's proposed?

Mr. Richards, go ahead.

Mr. Blake Richards: Thanks, Mr. Chair.

I have a couple of questions related to resources. The first one is for you. In the House on our final day, I raised a point about some matters of privilege that we have. You made some comments in relation to that and other things. I thought that maybe there was a lack of resources in order to complete some of those things. I guess this is an appropriate place to ask about that. Do you think you have a need for additional resources? Is there a lack of resources available to you at this point?

Hon. Anthony Rota: No. Under normal circumstances, and even under extenuating circumstances, everything works fairly well. As you know, in the last two weeks of the House we were sitting until late. I have to credit the clerks of the House and the table officers on a lot of this work. They start working on it and they go around the clock—I don't think they sleep at night—so that we can get it. Unfortunately, we weren't giving them any time to sleep, so they weren't able to come up with a lot of it, and I didn't have what

I thought was something that was to the quality that we've been accustomed to.

It was my call, but overall I think we do have sufficient staffing in the administration and the clerks. Just don't keep us going until midnight, or until one or two in the morning, every day for weeks on end and we'll be fine.

Mr. Blake Richards: This is the challenge we all face at that time of year, understood.

Hon. Anthony Rota: Exactly. It was an anomaly because of the time of year and everything kind of came.... A number of questions of privilege came at once and that basically was the issue.

Mr. Blake Richards: Okay.

In that same vein, is our law clerk with us at the moment? I'm not certain he's here, but quite often he is.

[Translation]

Hon. Anthony Rota: Mr. Dufresne, you have the floor.

[English]

Mr. Philippe Dufresne (Law Clerk and Parliamentary Counsel, House of Commons): Yes.

Mr. Blake Richards: Excellent, thanks.

I had a similar question for you, in relation to the resources available to you.

With the government making an application to the Federal Court, and a number of requests put to you to help determine the appropriateness of certain documents being released, based on orders of a variety of committees and the House itself, do you have the resources that you need at this time to manage both that Federal Court procedure against the House and those requests for documents?

Are you handling that Federal Court application in-house, or are you going to be engaging outside counsel?

Mr. Philippe Dufresne: Thank you, Mr. Richards.

It's certainly been a busy time for the office, but we have been able to provide the service and the advice. With regard to the litigation matter, we have the resources to deal with it. We have retained outside counsel and we'll be working very closely with them in terms of directing and giving instructions. This is something that I will continue to monitor very closely, but for the moment, and thanks to this board's earlier decision that had increased the resources for my office, I feel that I have the necessary resources to continue to provide the services.

Thank you.

Mr. Blake Richards: Great.

Thank you. I appreciate that update.

• (1135)

Hon. Anthony Rota: Very good.

[Translation]

Are there any other comments? Is everyone in agreement with the recommendation that's been put forward?

[English]

Everybody is in accordance, very good.

We'll move on to number 7, request for exception.

Mr. Paquette, please go ahead.

[Translation]

Mr. Daniel Paquette: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

I am now presenting a request for an exception from a member. In March 2021, the member submitted two external printing claims that exceeded the current policy limit of 5,000 copies.

[English]

You can recall that in spring 2020 there were temporary measures put in place to allow members to use external printers, in collaboration with our printing facility's team, for constituency mail in excess of 5,000 copies. These temporary measures did end on June 30, 2020, and since then the regular policies and use of House printing facilities for constituency mail have resumed.

The member did make use of the House services during this period of time, but given the board's policy in effect at the time when these costs were incurred by the member, in March 2021, the member in this case would be personally responsible for the cost of the copies in excess of 5,000 copies.

Given the current situation, the member has requested that the board make an exception and allow him to charge the full amount to his MOB. We are here to seek the board's direction on this matter.

[Translation]

Thank you.

Hon. Anthony Rota: Mr. Rodriguez, do you have a question?

Hon. Pablo Rodriguez (Leader of the Government in the House of Commons): Yes, Mr. Chair.

I assume that, when our colleague did that at the time, he knew the rules and regulations of what was allowed and what was not allowed.

My concern with requests for exceptions like that is that they can be used by others to break the rules. People could end up saying that so-and-so broke the rules, and all he had to do was go to the Board of Internal Economy and get what he wanted.

To me, the rules are the rules, and people have to follow them. It's unfortunate, but I see no reason for an exception in this case.

Hon. Anthony Rota: Okay, thank you.

Mrs. DeBellefeuille, you have the floor.

Mrs. Claude DeBellefeuille: I agree with Mr. Rodriguez.

There also seems to be some confusion. The document before us indicates that the member did not have his salary taken. In his let-

ter, the member says that it was taken. I would like to have that little confusion clarified.

I think everyone knows the rules. The arrangements for in-house printing and the number of copies allowed are quite clear. For the time being, I'm not really in favour of granting this exception, unless you have other arguments to convince me.

Hon. Anthony Rota: Okay.

Mr. Rodriguez, do you have any other comments? No? Okay.

Are there any further comments or questions?

[English]

Mr. Richards, go ahead.

Mr. Blake Richards: I guess what I can do is just add some additional information. I'm certainly sympathetic to some of the comments that have already been made in terms of having to be careful about making exceptions and making sure that those exceptions are appropriate.

I will just add, for the information of members in making this decision, that I have obviously talked to Mr. Vis about this situation, and my understanding of what happened here from his perspective is essentially that there was some communication with printing and mailing services and his office understood that the exceptions had been lifted for certain types of mailings, but I think they didn't realize that the exceptions had been lifted for the types of mailings they were doing. There certainly was a misunderstanding, and a bit of miscommunication possibly as well. That is kind of his version of what occurred. I thought it would be important for context for members.

Again, I do understand that we have to be very careful about when we make an exception. If that is helpful to members at all in making this decision, I wanted to make sure that Mr. Vis's understanding of the situation was put forward as well.

● (1140)

Hon. Anthony Rota: Are there any other comments or questions?

My understanding, just from what I've heard, is that option 1 is what we go with, the status quo that Mr. Vis is responsible for the extra costs.

Hon. Pablo Rodriguez: I agree.

Hon. Anthony Rota: Very good. Everyone is in accordance, so we'll go ahead with option 1.

Now we'll go on to item 8, "Report to Canadians".

[Translation]

Mr. Robert, you have the floor.

Mr. Charles Robert (Clerk of the House of Commons, House of Commons): The purpose of this presentation is to ask the Board of Internal Economy to approve the Report to Canadians 2021 for tabling in the House of Commons.

[English]

This report to Canadians is an annual update on members' parliamentary activities, along with a summary of accomplishments by the House administration for the same period, 2020-21 fiscal year, based on the priorities laid out in the strategic plan. As you know, this year was exceptional because of the pandemic. The report has been enhanced quite a bit and can be used as a document, really, for constituents and for the groups that come to participate in the conferences that we put on during the course of the year. The format of the report is the same as usual, with messages from the Speaker.

[Translation]

There are also statistics about MPs, descriptions of MPs' activities, highlights from the Hill, and so on.

The purpose of this presentation is really to ask for the board's permission to table the annual report as soon as we return after the summer recess.

[English]

Thank you.

If you have any questions, I'm prepared to answer them.

Hon. Anthony Rota: Are there any questions?

[Translation]

Are there any comments?

[English]

Is everybody okay with the recommendation as stated in our report? Very good, we'll go ahead with it.

Item 9 is the Joint Interparliamentary Council report on parliamentary associations' activities and expenditures for 2020-21. The first one, at tab 9, is the annual report on the activities and expenditures of parliamentary associations for 2020-21. The co-chairs of the Joint Interparliamentary Council have sent a letter noting that the JIC has adopted this report and is submitting it to the board for your information. The form is similar to that of reports from previous years, but due to the moratorium on travel that was in effect all of last year, it instead focuses on the virtual activities of associations.

If there are any questions about the report itself, the clerk of the JIC is available today, or we could invite the House co-chair Mr. Stanton to appear at subsequent meetings. Are there any questions?

The next report for this committee is the annual report, at tab 10. You have before you a letter from the chair of the Liaison Committee, Ms. Sgro, who wishes to inform the board that the Liaison Committee recently adopted and presented to the House its latest annual report on committee activities and expenditures for the 2020-21 fiscal year. Ms. Sgro submitted a copy of the report to the board and has indicated that she would be available to meet with us at a future date if the board desires.

[Translation]

Pursuant to Standing Order 121(4), the Board of Internal Economy shall cause to be tabled in the House an annual comprehensive financial report, outlining the individual expenditures of each committee.

The established practice since 2014 has been for the Liaison Committee's annual report to be approved by the board and tabled by the Speaker in order to comply with the requirements of the standing order. Consequently, if all members are in agreement, I will submit the report as attached to the House as the board's report, pursuant to the standing order. Are there any questions or comments about the report or the process? I see none.

Does everyone agree that I submit the report to the House? I see that you do.

That is great. We will take a two-minute break before moving in camera and continuing with item 11.

● (1145)

[English]

Mr. Holland, go ahead.

Hon. Mark Holland (Chief Government Whip): Thank you, Mr. Chair.

There was an item... I thought there was a report that we had been given with respect to expenditures on MOBs. I'm sorry; I anticipated that this was coming up, but I should have perhaps raised it earlier. We had discussions as whips. It was discussed at the prior meeting, so perhaps I should have raised it in the minutes.

With the leave of the board, I believe we have concurrence among the whips, and we've had conversations, for the item we discussed in the previous BOIE meeting with respect to a professional development program to be run on a pilot basis for members of Parliament. It would be in a reduced amount from what was talked about before, for \$5,000 to run in a one-year period of time.

Perhaps I was remiss in not raising that in the minutes prior, but if possible, I'd like to raise that now, if I can.

Hon. Anthony Rota: I believe that was covered in item 2, but I'll pass it over to Mr. Patrice. He might be able to comment on it, unless someone else is better suited to comment on that item.

Mr. Michel Patrice: I believe it's about the wish of the board to have that discussion now in terms of a measure following the document that was presented by the administration with regard to professional development and training, I believe.

Hon. Anthony Rota: Okay.

How do we wish to proceed?

Mr. Patrice or Mr. Holland, I'm looking for direction here.

Hon. Mark Holland: Well, I think it shouldn't take a lot of time, if the board is willing to return to that item. It's my error for having missed the appropriate time to raise that item. As I said, we have had conversations among the whips and we do have agreement. If there is the opportunity, with the indulgence of the board, to return to that item, then I could forward the discussions we had.

Hon. Anthony Rota: Very good.

Do we have consensus to go back to item 2?

I believe we have consensus. Very good. We'll go back.

Mr. Holland, go ahead.

Hon. Mark Holland: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

There were discussions among the whips. We had discussions some time ago. At the last meeting, Mr. Richards indicated that he wished some additional information, which was furnished. I believe Mr. Richards and the other whips.... I know that we had conversations, so I understand that there is agreement that we would move forward on a one-year basis with a pilot project to be reviewed basically at this time next year, at the end of the next sitting of Parliament, to review the program. It would make available for each MP's office, outside of the MOB, \$5,000 for the purposes of professional development for staff.

Hon. Anthony Rota: Very good. Are there any questions or comments on that?

Does the board agree?

I believe I see no disagreement. Perfect. Very good. That is passed.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Paquette, you have the floor.

[*English*]

Mr. Daniel Paquette: Just in terms of the financial authority, I want to confirm that we're approving that I put aside or make a request for \$1,690,000, at \$5,000 per MP, for this specified-purpose supplement for members.

Hon. Anthony Rota: I'm getting a lot of heads shaking "yes".

Do we have consent for that?

Very good. It's passed.

Mr. Daniel Paquette: Thank you.

Hon. Anthony Rota: We'll now take a two-minute break so that the staff can rearrange everything for in camera. Then we will return.

At 11:54 we'll be back. We'll give it a little extra time. We'll give it five minutes.

[*Proceedings continue in camera*]

Published under the authority of the Speaker of
the House of Commons

SPEAKER'S PERMISSION

The proceedings of the House of Commons and its committees are hereby made available to provide greater public access. The parliamentary privilege of the House of Commons to control the publication and broadcast of the proceedings of the House of Commons and its committees is nonetheless reserved. All copyrights therein are also reserved.

Reproduction of the proceedings of the House of Commons and its committees, in whole or in part and in any medium, is hereby permitted provided that the reproduction is accurate and is not presented as official. This permission does not extend to reproduction, distribution or use for commercial purpose of financial gain. Reproduction or use outside this permission or without authorization may be treated as copyright infringement in accordance with the Copyright Act. Authorization may be obtained on written application to the Office of the Speaker of the House of Commons.

Reproduction in accordance with this permission does not constitute publication under the authority of the House of Commons. The absolute privilege that applies to the proceedings of the House of Commons does not extend to these permitted reproductions. Where a reproduction includes briefs to a committee of the House of Commons, authorization for reproduction may be required from the authors in accordance with the Copyright Act.

Nothing in this permission abrogates or derogates from the privileges, powers, immunities and rights of the House of Commons and its committees. For greater certainty, this permission does not affect the prohibition against impeaching or questioning the proceedings of the House of Commons in courts or otherwise. The House of Commons retains the right and privilege to find users in contempt of Parliament if a reproduction or use is not in accordance with this permission.

Also available on the House of Commons website at the following address: <https://www.ourcommons.ca>

Publié en conformité de l'autorité
du Président de la Chambre des communes

PERMISSION DU PRÉSIDENT

Les délibérations de la Chambre des communes et de ses comités sont mises à la disposition du public pour mieux le renseigner. La Chambre conserve néanmoins son privilège parlementaire de contrôler la publication et la diffusion des délibérations et elle possède tous les droits d'auteur sur celles-ci.

Il est permis de reproduire les délibérations de la Chambre et de ses comités, en tout ou en partie, sur n'importe quel support, pourvu que la reproduction soit exacte et qu'elle ne soit pas présentée comme version officielle. Il n'est toutefois pas permis de reproduire, de distribuer ou d'utiliser les délibérations à des fins commerciales visant la réalisation d'un profit financier. Toute reproduction ou utilisation non permise ou non formellement autorisée peut être considérée comme une violation du droit d'auteur aux termes de la Loi sur le droit d'auteur. Une autorisation formelle peut être obtenue sur présentation d'une demande écrite au Bureau du Président de la Chambre des communes.

La reproduction conforme à la présente permission ne constitue pas une publication sous l'autorité de la Chambre. Le privilège absolu qui s'applique aux délibérations de la Chambre ne s'étend pas aux reproductions permises. Lorsqu'une reproduction comprend des mémoires présentés à un comité de la Chambre, il peut être nécessaire d'obtenir de leurs auteurs l'autorisation de les reproduire, conformément à la Loi sur le droit d'auteur.

La présente permission ne porte pas atteinte aux privilèges, pouvoirs, immunités et droits de la Chambre et de ses comités. Il est entendu que cette permission ne touche pas l'interdiction de contester ou de mettre en cause les délibérations de la Chambre devant les tribunaux ou autrement. La Chambre conserve le droit et le privilège de déclarer l'utilisateur coupable d'outrage au Parlement lorsque la reproduction ou l'utilisation n'est pas conforme à la présente permission.

Aussi disponible sur le site Web de la Chambre des communes à l'adresse suivante :
<https://www.noscommunes.ca>