



MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OTTAWA, Monday, June 5, 2023
(35)

[English]

The Standing Senate Committee on Official Languages met this day at 4 p.m., in room B30, Senate of Canada Building, the chair, the Honourable René Cormier, presiding.

Members of the committee present: The Honourable Senators Clement, Cormier, Dagenais, Gold, P.C., Mégie, Mockler and Moncion (7).

Other senators present: The Honourable Senators Gerba and Seidman (2).

Participating in the meeting: Marie-Ève Hudon, analyst, Library of Parliament.

Pursuant to the order of reference adopted by the Senate on Thursday, June 1, 2023, the committee began its consideration of Bill C-13, An Act to amend the Official Languages Act, to enact the Use of French in Federally Regulated Private Businesses Act and to make related amendments to other Acts.

APPEARING:

The Honourable Ginette Petitpas Taylor, P.C., M.P., Minister of Official Languages;

The Honourable Mona Fortier, P.C., M.P., President of the Treasury Board.

WITNESSES:

Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages:

Raymond Thériège, Commissioner of Official Languages;

Isabelle Gervais, Assistant Commissioner, Compliance Assurance Branch;

Pierre Leduc, Assistant Commissioner, Policy and Communications Branch;

Pascale Giguère, General Counsel.

Quebec Community Groups Network:

Eva Ludvig, President;

The Honourable Joan Fraser, Board Member and former senator;

Marion Sandilands, Counsel.

Canadian Heritage:

Isabelle Mondou, Deputy Minister;

Julie Boyer, Assistant Deputy Minister, Official Languages, Heritage and Regions;

Sarah Boily, Director General, Official Languages.

Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat:

Carsten Quell, Executive Director, Official Languages Centre of Excellence, Office of the Chief Human Resources Officer;

Karim Adam, Director, Oversight and Compliance, Official Languages Centre of Excellence, Office of the Chief Human Resources Officer.

Fédération des communautés francophones et acadienne du Canada:

Liane Roy, President;

Alain Dupuis, General Manager.

At 4:02 p.m., the Honourable Senator Moncion took the chair.

Raymond Thériège made a statement and, together with Isabelle Gervais, Pierre Leduc and Pascale Giguère, answered questions.

At 4:45 p.m., the committee suspended.

At 4:49 p.m., the committee resumed.

Eva Ludvig and the Honourable Joan Fraser made a statement together and, with Marion Sandilands, answered questions.

At 5:44 p.m., the committee suspended.

At 5:53 p.m., the committee resumed.

The Minister of Official Languages and the President of the Treasury Board each made a statement and, together with Karim Adam, Sarah Boily, Julie Boyer, Isabelle Mondou and Carsten Quell, answered questions.

At 6:44 p.m., the committee suspended.

At 6:48 p.m., the committee resumed.

At 6:59 p.m., the committee suspended.

At 7:04 p.m., the committee resumed.

Liane Roy made a statement and, together with Alain Dupuis, answered questions.

At 7:54 p.m., the committee adjourned to the call of the chair.

ATTEST:

Angus Wilson

Clerk of the Committee