



## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OTTAWA, Thursday, November 23, 2023  
(78)

[English]

The Standing Senate Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology met this day at 11:30 a.m., in room B45, Senate of Canada Building, the chair, the Honourable Ratna Omidvar, presiding.

*Members of the committee present:* The Honourable Senators Bernard, Burey, Cordy, Jaffer, McPhedran, Mégie, Moodie, Omidvar, Pate, Petitclerc and Seidman (11).

*Other senators present:* The Honourable Senator Cormier (1).

*Participating in the meeting:* Laura Blackmore, Analyst, Library of Parliament.

Pursuant to the order of reference adopted by the Senate on Thursday, June 1, 2023, the committee began its study of Bill S-235, An Act to amend the Citizenship Act and the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act.

### WITNESSES:

The Honourable Senator Mobina S. B. Jaffer, sponsor of the bill;

The Honourable Senator Kim Pate.

### *Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada:*

Pemi Gill, Assistant Deputy Minister, Citizenship and Passport;

Uyen Hoang, Acting Director General, Citizenship Policy;

Gayle Leith, Senior Policy Analyst, Citizenship;

Alexis Graham, Director General, Family and Social Immigration;

Anna Turinov, Counsel, Legal Services Representative.

*Canada Border Services Agency:*

Richard St Marseille, Director General, Immigration and External Review Policy, Strategic Policy Branch.

The Honourable Senators Jaffer and Pate each made a statement and answered questions.

At 12:15 p.m., the committee suspended.

At 12:18 p.m., the committee resumed.

Pemi Gill and Richard St Marseille each made a statement and, together with Uyen Hoang and Anna Turinov, answered questions.

At 1:23 p.m., the committee adjourned to the call of the chair.

*ATTEST:*

Emily Barrette

*Clerk of the Committee*