

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OTTAWA, Wednesday, June 7, 2023 (66)

[English]

The Standing Senate Committee on National Finance met this day at 3:31 p.m., in room W110, 1 Wellington St., the chair, the Honourable Percy Mockler, presiding.

Members of the committee present: The Honourable Senators Dagenais, Duncan, Galvez, Gignac, Loffreda, Marshall, Mockler, Moncion, Pate and Smith (10).

Other senators present: The Honourable Senators Cardozo, Deacon (Ontario), Gerba, MacAdam and Petten (5).

Participating in the meeting: Tracy Amendola, Administrative Assistant, Senate Committees and Shaowei Pu and Sylvain Fleury, analysts, Library of Parliament.

Pursuant to the order of reference adopted by the Senate on Thursday, April 27, 2023, the committee continued its consideration of the subject matter of Bill C-47, An Act to implement certain provisions of the budget tabled in Parliament on March 28, 2023.

APPEARING:

The Honourable Chrystia Freeland, P.C., M.P., Minister of Finance.

WITNESSES:

Department of Finance Canada:

Nick Leswick, Acting Deputy Minister;

Miodrag Jovanovic, Assistant Deputy Minister, Tax Policy Branch;

Julien Brazeau, Associate Assistant Deputy Minister, Financial Sector Policy Branch;

Kathleen Wrye, Director, Pensions Policy;

Judith Hamel, Director General, Financial Services Division;

Charlene Davidson, Acting Director, Financial Crimes Policy;

Michèle Govier, Director General, International Trade Policy;

Rachel Grasham, Senior Director, Housing Finance (by videoconference);

Manuel Dussault, Acting Director General, Financial Institutions Division;

James Wu, Director General, Funds Management Division (by videoconference);

Greg Reade, Director General, Economic Development Branch;

Galen Countryman, Director General, Federal-Provincial Relations Division;

Anne David, Senior Director, Crown Investment and Asset Management.

Global Affairs Canada:

Sara Rose-Carswell, Senior Officer, Climate and Security, Security and Defence Relations.

Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat:

Nicole Thomas, Executive Director, Costing, Charging and Transfer Payments (by videoconference).

Employment and Social Development Canada:

Neal Leblanc, Director, Canada Pension Plan Policy and Legislation, Income Security and Social Development Branch (by videoconference);

Neil Burron, Manager, Strategic Policy and Legislative Reform, Labour Program;

Mona El-Bahar, Director, Individual Payments and Services on Demand, Service Canada;

Benoit Cadieux, Director, Policy Analysis and Initiatives, Skills and Employment Branch;

Stephanie Brodeur, Acting Director, Policy and Partnerships Division, Integrity Services Branch, Service Canada (by videoconference).

Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada:

Jason Hollmann, Director General, Asylum Policy Branch (by videoconference);

Michelle N. Mascoll, Director General, Resettlement Policy Branch (by videoconference);

Salena Brickey, Director, Strategic Planning, Reporting and Risk (by videoconference);

Peter Christensen, Assistant Director, Social and Discretionary Policy and Programs (by videoconference);

Uyen Hoang, Senior Director, Legislation and Program Policy, Citizenship (by videoconference).

Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada:

Alain Therriault, Manager, Policy and Governance.

Transport Canada:

Fabien Lefebvre, Acting Executive Director, Oceans Protection Plan Operations;

Joel Dei, Director, Rail Policy Analysis and Legislative Initiatives;

Amélie Clément, Director, Multimodal Transportation Performance & Capacity Analysis;

Colin Stacey, Director General, Air Policy.

Canada Border Services Agency:

Graeme Hamilton, Director General, Traveller, Commercial and Trade Policy.

National Research Council Canada:

Marcel Turcot, Director General of Policy, Strategy and Performance.

Health Canada:

David K. Lee, Chief Regulatory Officer.

Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada:

Patrick Blanar, Director, Strategy and Innovation Policy Sector.

Health Canada:

Dennis Price, Director General, Consumer and Hazardous Products Safety Directorate;

Lindy VanAmburg, Director General, Policy and Programs, Dental Care Task Force, Strategic Policy Branch.

Public Services and Procurement Canada:

Eugene Gourevitch, Director, Performance and Impact Analysis.

Privy Council Office:

Joël Girouard, Senior Privy Council Officer, Machinery of Government;

Rachel Pereira, Director, Democratic Institutions.

Environment and Climate Change Canada:

Laura Farquharson, Director General, Legislative and Regulatory Affairs.

Department of Justice Canada:

Mark Scrivens, Senior Counsel, Policy Sector, Policy Implementation Directorate.

The minister made a statement and answered questions.

At 4:51 p.m., the committee suspended.

At 5 p.m., the committee resumed.

Anne David, Mark Scrivens, Fabien Lefebvre, Joel Dei, Galen Countryman, Joël Girouard, Colin Stacey, Greg Reade, Stephanie Brodeur, Lindy VanAmburg, Rachel Pereira, Peter Christensen and James Wu answered questions.

At 5:53 p.m., the committee adjourned to the call of the chair.

ATTEST:

Mireille K. Aubé

Clerk of the Committee