SENATE
COMMITTEES DIRECTORATE



SÉNAT
DIRECTION DES COMITÉS

CANADA

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OTTAWA, Thursday, November 5, 2026
(61)

[*English*]

The Standing Senate Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs met this day at 10:34 a.m., in room B30, Senate of Canada Building, the deputy chair, the Honourable Denise Batters, presiding.

Members of the committee present: The Honourable Senators Batters, Clement, Dalphond, Dhillon, McBean, Miville-Dechêne, Osler, Oudar, Prosper, Simons and Wells (*Alberta*) (11).

Participating in the meeting: Julian Walker and Laura Blackmore, Analysts, Library of Parliament.

Pursuant to the order of reference adopted by the Senate on Thursday, March 12, 2026, the committee continued its consideration of Bill S-241, An Act to amend the Criminal Code and the Indian Act.

WITNESSES:

Whitecap Dakota Nation:

Darcy Bear, Chief (*by videoconference*).

Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs:

Kyra Wilson, Grand Chief (*by videoconference*).

Mental Health Research Canada:

Michael Cooper, Vice President.

Thunderbird Partnership Foundation:

Carol Hopkins, Chief Executive Officer (*by videoconference*).

Chief Darcy Bear and Grand Chief Kyra Wilson each made a statement and answered questions.

At 11:29 a.m., the committee suspended.

At 11:37 a.m., the committee resumed.

Michael Cooper and Carol Hopkins each made a statement and answered questions.

At 12:33 p.m., the committee adjourned to the call of the chair.

ATTEST:

Emily Barrette

Clerk of the Committee