SENATE
COMMITTEES DIRECTORATE

SÉNAT
DIRECTION DES COMITÉS

CANADA

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OTTAWA, Monday, November 2, 2026
(30)

[*English*]

The Standing Senate Committee on National Security, Defence and Veterans Affairs met this day at 4:01 p.m., in room W110, 1 Wellington St., the chair, the Honourable Marty Deacon, presiding.

Members of the committee present: The Honourable Senators Cardozo, Deacon (*Ontario*), Dhillon, Hay, Martel, McNair, Pate, Patterson, Ross, Youance and Yussuff (11).

Other senators present: The Honourable Senators Dalphond, Dean, McCallum and Tucker (4).

Participating in the meeting: Anne-Marie Therrien-Tremblay and Andrés León, Analysts, Library of Parliament.

Pursuant to the order of reference adopted by the Senate on Thursday, October 22, 2026, the committee began its examination of Bill C-22, An Act respecting lawful access.

APPEARING:

The Honourable Gary Anandasangaree, P.C., M.P., Minister of Public Safety;

The Honourable Sean Fraser, P.C., M.P, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada.

WITNESSES:

Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada:

Philippe Dufresne, Privacy Commissioner of Canada;

Marc Chénier, Deputy Commissioner and Senior General Counsel.

National Security and Intelligence Review Agency Secretariat:

Lawrence Mangano, Acting Executive Director (Chief Executive and Deputy Head).

National Security and Intelligence Review Agency:

Craig Forcese, Vice-Chair.

Office of the Intelligence Commissioner:

The Honourable Simon Noël, K.C., Intelligence Commissioner;

Justin Dubois, Executive Director and General Counsel.

Department of Justice Canada:

Kimberly Gibner, Deputy Assistant Deputy Minister, Policy Sector;

Anne-Marie Lebel, Counsel, Criminal Law Policy Section, Policy Sector.

Canadian Security Intelligence Service:

Vanessa Lloyd, Senior Deputy Director, Policy and Strategic Partnerships;

Ramzi Nashef, Director General, Policy, Planning, and Accountability.

Public Safety Canada:

Richard Bilodeau, Assistant Deputy Minister, National and Cyber Security Branch;

Shannon Hiegel, Director General, National and Cyber Security Branch.

Royal Canadian Mounted Police:

Marie-Claude Dandenault, Deputy Commissioner, National Specialized Services;

Rick Burchill, Assistant Commissioner;

Sergeant Aaron Gilkes, Acting Officer in-charge, RCMP Lawful Access.

Philippe Dufresne, Craig Forcese and the Honourable Simon Noël each made a statement and answered questions.

At 5:01 p.m., the committee suspended.

At 5:07 p.m., the committee resumed.

Minister Anandasangaree and Minister Fraser each made a statement and, together with Kimberly Gibner, Vanessa Lloyd and Marie-Claude Dandenault, answered questions.

At 6:03 p.m., the committee suspended.

At 6:10 p.m., the committee resumed.

Richard Bilodeau, Anne-Marie Lebel, Kimberly Gibner, Shannon Heigel, Ramzi Nashef, Rick Burchill and Aaron Gilkes answered questions.

At 6:58 p.m., the committee suspended.

At 7:03 p.m., the committee resumed.

Pursuant to the order of reference adopted by the Senate on Thursday, June 11, 2026, the committee continued its examination of Bill S-223, An Act to amend the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Act.

It was agreed that the committee proceed to clause-by-clause consideration of Bill S-223.

It was agreed that the title stand postponed.

It was agreed that clause 1 carry.

It was agreed that clause 2 carry.

It was agreed that the title carry.

It was agreed that the bill carry.

The committee discussed observations.

It was agreed that the chair report Bill S-223, without amendments and with no observations, to the Senate, in both official languages, at the earliest opportunity.

At 7:28 p.m., the committee suspended.

At 7:29 p.m., the committee resumed in camera.

Pursuant to the order of reference adopted by the Senate on Wednesday, October 29, 2025, the committee continued its study on defence procurement in the context of Canada's commitment to increase defence spending.

Pursuant to rule 12-16(1)(d), the committee discussed a draft report.

It was agreed that the committee allow the transcription of the in camera portion of today's meeting, that one copy be kept with the clerk of the committee for consultation by committee members or their staff, and that the audio recording and/or transcript be destroyed by the clerk of the committee when authorized to do so by the Subcommittee on Agenda and Procedure, but no later than at the end of this parliamentary session.

At 7:49 p.m., the committee adjourned to the call of the chair.

ATTEST:

Chantal Cardinal

Clerk of the Committee