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Chair

Mr. Alan Tonks

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• (1535)

[English]

The Clerk of the Committee (Mr. Eugene Morawski): Honourable members, I see a quorum.

Our first order of business is the election of a chair. I'm prepared for nominations to that effect.

Mr. Mills.

Mr. Bob Mills (Red Deer, CPC): I nominate Mr. Tonks.

The Clerk: Mr. Tonks.

Seconded by Mr. Paradis, the motion is that Mr. Tonks be elected as chair of the committee.

Agreed?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

(Motion agreed to)

The Clerk: Our next item of business is the election of a vice-chair from the official opposition.

Ms. Ratansi.

Ms. Yasmin Ratansi (Don Valley East, Lib.): I nominate Lee Richardson.

The Clerk: Are there any other nominations?

The motion is that Lee Richardson be elected as vice-chair of the committee. Agreed?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

(Motion agreed to)

The Clerk: Our next motion is for the second vice-chair of the committee.

Motion, Mr. Richardson?

Mr. Lee Richardson (Calgary Centre, CPC): I nominate Mr. Bigras.

The Clerk: It's proposed by Mr. Richardson that Mr. Bigras be elected as second vice-chair of the committee.

Agreed?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

(Motion agreed to)

The Clerk: I would invite Mr. Tonks to take the chair.

The Chair (Mr. Alan Tonks (York South—Weston, Lib.)): *Merci.*

When I was elected the chair of the GTA caucus, it was only on the condition that I wouldn't speak, so this would be a strange turn of events.

Thank you to the members of the committee for your confidence. I would like to thank Lee Richardson for chairing the last meeting. I had a family emergency. I understand the meeting went pretty well under the circumstances, but thank you very much for that, Lee.

We have been asking for submissions from members with respect to our Thursday meeting, as we would construct our agenda for this session at our next meeting. We have quite a few suggestions that have been put forward, in addition to a suggested format for dealing with the Commissioner of the Environment's report. She has submitted that. Copies of it should be part of the submissions that you will receive.

I'm also concerned about the CEPA review, and I hope members will give thought to in what form we should go ahead on it, if we should go ahead. It has been suggested to me that we perhaps should constitute ourselves in a subcommittee form and try to develop a scoping paper to present to the committee, in terms of what has been the experience with CEPA, where is that experience coming from, and would that then suggest the kinds of witnesses we would have in? So I'd like you to think about that. I will be presenting some sort of an approach that will form at least one of the building blocks for the review that we can discuss on Thursday.

There isn't anything else on the agenda for today. Does anybody want to bring anything forward?

So we'll meet on Thursday. Hopefully, we'll then construct our agenda for the balance of the term.

Thank you so much.

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