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Chair

Ms. Raymonde Folco

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Standing Committee on Human Resources, Skills Development, Social Development and the Status of Persons with Disabilities

Monday, November 28, 2005

• (1325)

[Translation]

The Chair (Ms. Raymonde Folco (Laval—Les Îles, Lib.)): Welcome to the 54th meeting of the Standing Committee on Human Resources, Skills Development, Social Development and the Status of Persons with Disabilities, on Monday, November 28, 2005.

There are two items on the agenda. First, committee members, I'd like us to give ourselves a pat on the back because we will be having a conversation entirely in French this afternoon.

Pursuant to Standing Orders 110 and 111, the certification of nomination of S. Len Hong to the position of president of the Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety was referred to the committee on Wednesday, November 23, 2005.

Hello, Eleni.

Can we continue? I know that things are a bit crazy, but we still have to keep going.

Allow me to explain why we are having a meeting on this. Normally, an appointment or the renewal of an appointment is automatic after 30 days. In light of the fact that we don't think we will have that much time, we have been asked to renew the term of office.

If anyone's wondering whether it's proper to proceed this way, I would refer them to the minutes of the committee's 23rd meeting on Thursday, March 10, 2005, where, on a motion of Paul Forseth, it was agreed:

That the Committee waive further consideration of the nomination of Philippe Rabot for appointment to the position of commissioner of Canada Pension Plan (CPP)/Old Age Security (OAS) Review Tribunal.

Obviously, that was a different case, but it's a precedent that establishes that this situation has already come up in this committee and that there's absolutely no problem. So we are well within our rights to continue, if we so desire.

In your documentation, you have a biographical note on Mr. Hong. He wants us to renew his term. He has already been the president and chief executive officer of the Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety. I won't read his résumé because you have it in front of you. He has been working in the field of occupational health and safety since 1976, for 29 or 30 years. He has been active on a number of boards and councils dealing with occupational health and safety.

Unless you have any questions or comments, I'd like to go directly to a motion allowing the committee to waive further consideration of the appointment of Mr. Hong. That would effectively allow the appointment to go ahead and he wouldn't have to wait 30 days for his term to be renewed. We may not be here 30 days from now. Are there any questions or comments?

Mr. D'Amours.

Mr. Jean-Claude D'Amours (Madawaska—Restigouche, Lib.): I move that Mr. Hong's term be renewed.

• (1330)

The Chair: Very well. I'm going to read the exact motion to avoid any problems.

On motion of Jean-Claude D'Amours, it was agreed, — That the Committee waive further consideration of the nomination of S. Len Hong for appointment to president of the Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety.

(Motion carried)

The Chair: It wasn't my intention to propose consideration of another item, but since we were having a meeting today, I wanted to take advantage of the situation. You may recall that one of our subcommittees is looking into the situation of people with disabilities. It so happens that this subcommittee has completed its second report, which we just received a few minutes ago through Ms. Bélisle.

So this is the second report of the Subcommittee on the Status of Persons with Disabilities, regarding the 2004 and 2005 annual report on the administration of the Centennial Flame Research Award Act.

[English]

Those of you who were here last year will recall that we had given to the subcommittee the responsibility of looking into the recipients of the bursary. The time has come for the second half of the bursary to be paid out to Mr. Hains, because he has submitted his report as we had asked him to do. The subcommittee has also awarded the 2005 research award to Ms. Audrey King.

We would like to have a motion by this committee to agree to pay the second half of the sum due to Mr. Hains and to adopt the report. I would then be able to table it in the House this afternoon.

Mr. Todd Norman Russell (Labrador, Lib.): I so move.

The Chair: Do I need a seconder? Monsieur Vincent.

(Motion agreed to [See *Minutes of Proceedings*])

[*Translation*]

The Chair: Very well. It is unanimously adopted.

[*English*]

That is the end of our meeting.

[*Translation*]

Mrs. Carole Lavallée (Saint-Bruno—Saint-Hubert, BQ): Just to satisfy my curiosity, I'd like to know whether August 18...

The Chair: First, let me adjourn the meeting. Then you can ask your question.

Meeting adjourned.

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