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Liaison Committee

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Thursday, October 22, 2020

Chair: The Honourable Judy A. Sgro



Liaison Committee

Thursday, October 22, 2020

• (1835)

[English]

The Clerk of the Committee (Mr. Robert Benoit): Honourable members of the committee, I see a quorum.

I must inform members that the clerk of the committee can only receive motions for the election of the chair. The clerk cannot receive other types of motions, entertain points of order or participate in debate.

We can now proceed with the election of the chair. I am ready to receive motions for the chair.

Mr. Ron McKinnon (Coquitlam—Port Coquitlam, Lib.): I move Judy Sgro as chair.

Hon. Wayne Easter (Malpeque, Lib.): I would too—

Go ahead.

The Clerk: Mr. Easter, I think you were....

Hon. Wayne Easter: I was one of the ones in the mix. I moved Judy Sgro, but so did someone else on there. It doesn't matter.

Ms. Yasmin Ratansi (Don Valley East, Lib.): I did too.

The Clerk: Okay, we'll go with Ms. Ratansi.

Ms. Ratansi.

Ms. Yasmin Ratansi: Yes, I propose the name of Judy Sgro for the chair.

The Clerk: It has been moved by Ms. Ratansi that the Honourable Judy Sgro be elected as chair of the committee.

Are there any further motions?

Seeing none, is it the pleasure of the committee to adopt the motion?

(Motion agreed to)

The Clerk: I declare that the Honourable Judy Sgro is now the chair of the liaison committee. I invite Ms. Sgro to take the chair.

The Chair (Hon. Judy A. Sgro (Humber River—Black Creek, Lib.): Thank you all very much for that tremendous vote of confidence. I will do my best to not keep you at any meetings too long and too often, unless totally necessary.

Hon. John McKay (Scarborough—Guildwood, Lib.): I'm in favour of that.

The Chair: If the committee is in agreement, I will invite the clerk to proceed with the election of the vice-chair.

Ms. Yasmin Ratansi: Yes.

Mrs. Salma Zahid (Scarborough Centre, Lib.): Yes.

The Chair: Mr. Clerk.

The Clerk: Thank you, Ms. Chair.

I am now ready to receive motions for the vice-chair.

Mrs. Kelly Block (Carlton Trail—Eagle Creek, CPC): Madam Chair, I would like to nominate David Sweet for vice-chair.

The Clerk: It has been moved by Mrs. Block that Mr. Sweet be elected as vice-chair of the committee.

Are there any further motions?

Seeing none, is it the pleasure of the committee to adopt the motion?

(Motion agreed to)

The Clerk: Mr. Sweet is the vice-chair of the committee.

The Chair: Congratulations, David. We've done lots of work together. We'll have another opportunity.

Mr. David Sweet (Flamborough—Glanbrook, CPC): Thank you.

The Chair: If the committee is in agreement, we will now adopt the routine motions.

Ms. Ratansi.

Ms. Yasmin Ratansi: Thank you, Madam Chair, and congratulations on your appointment.

My first motion is to create a subcommittee on committee budgets. It reads:

That, pursuant to Standing Order 107(6), a Subcommittee on Committee Budgets be established to approve committees' budget requests and that the membership of the subcommittee be composed of the Chair and the Vice-Chair of the Committee, as well as three other Government members, and one other member of the Official Opposition, as appointed by their respective whips.

Do you want to take a vote on it, or shall I proceed to my second one?

The Chair: Why don't we vote on that one and do them individually?

Ms. Yasmin Ratansi: Okay.

The Chair: All those in favour of the motion moved by Ms. Ratansi on committee budgets?

(Motion agreed to)

Ms. Yasmin Ratansi: Okay. The next one reads:

That the Clerk of the Committee be authorized to make the necessary arrangements to provide working meals for the Committee and its subcommittees provided that members have confirmed their physical presence for the meeting.

The Chair: Is there a member who's prepared to move the motion on working meals specifically?

• (1840)

Hon. John McKay: No virtual eating.

Ms. Yasmin Ratansi: No virtual eating. That's true.

I am physically moving it.

The Chair: Okay.

(Motion agreed to)

Ms. Yasmin Ratansi: The next one is as follows:

That the Committee retain, as needed and at the discretion of the Chair, the services of one or more analysts from the Library of Parliament to assist it in its work.

The Chair: All those in favour?

(Motion agreed to)

Ms. Yasmin Ratansi: Madam Chair, that brings me to the end of my routine motions.

The Chair: Do I now have agreement that the committee proceed to sit in camera to discuss committee business? Is everyone okay with that?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

The Chair: Okay.

You all have another password. The clerk will send us a link. Please go to that link as soon as you find it and put in the second password that you had.

Is everyone okay with that?

The Clerk: Madam Chair, it's part of the same email. In the email there was a portion for the public part of the meeting. Underneath that is the in camera link and password

The Chair: Okay.

Let's see how long it takes us to do this.

Ms. Yasmin Ratansi: Madam Chair, could you ask the clerk if it's the same link and we just choose another password?

The Clerk: No.

Ms. Yasmin Ratansi: I don't have another link.

The Chair: Is it the same link with just a different password, Mr. Clerk?

The Clerk: No. It's a different link and a different password.

The Chair: Okay.

I'll suspend the meeting to the call of the chair.

[*Proceedings continue in camera*]

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