

[Excerpt]

Debates of the Senate (Hansard)

**1st Session, 41st Parliament,
Volume 148, Issue 65**

**Thursday, March 29, 2012
The Honourable Noël A. Kinsella, Speaker**

Conflict of Interest for Senators

Third Report of Committee Presented

Hon. Terry Stratton: Honourable senators, I rise today to submit the third report of the Standing Committee on the Conflict of Interest for Senators which deals with revisions to the Conflict of Interest Code. However, before I do that, I would like to pay tribute to Mr. Fournier for his service to this chamber.

I have been the Chair of the Conflict of Interest Committee for just a short while, and perhaps Senator Joyal would like to say something after I have, but I would like to take this time to express my thanks because in working with Mr. Fournier I have found him to be very diligent and cooperative. I would say the best word that I can use for him is "persistent" because he made sure I did not forget what we are trying to get done here.

To you, Mr. Fournier, and your wife, I know you are waiting to be able to get out to British Columbia and not come back here, so for that and for your service here over the years to our chamber and for the help that you have given the committee for the time I have been chair, I thank you very much and wish you good health.

[*Translation*]

Hon. Serge Joyal: Honourable senators, I am looking at the Deputy Leader of the Government, and I know that we are not following the *Rules of the Senate* by paying tribute to the ethics officer, Mr. Fournier, at this time.

I would like to tell Mr. Fournier how much we have appreciated his knowledge of the Senate as an institution. In carrying out his duties, he took

on the heavy responsibility of ensuring one of the privileges of this chamber: to maintain discipline within its walls for each and every senator.

I would like to thank Mr. Fournier. I had the pleasure of working closely with him and with committee members, including the Deputy Chair, Senator Andreychuk, Senator Angus, Senator Robichaud and Senator Carstairs. We always did our best to ensure openness and to respect each member's commitment to upholding the highest ethical standards. Mr. Fournier helped us achieve that goal, and we will always be grateful to him for that.

Hon. Claude Carignan (Deputy Leader of the Government): Honourable senators, the tribute may not have been in accordance with the *Rules of the Senate*, but it was certainly in accordance with this chamber's rules of good manners and ethics.

[*English*]

Senator Stratton: Honourable senators, I have the honour to present, in both official languages, the third report of the Standing Committee on the Conflict of Interest for Senators. This report recommends the adoption of the amended Conflict of Interest Code for Senators.

(*For text of report, see today's Journals of the Senate, Appendix A, p. 1010.*)

The Hon. the Speaker: Is it agreed that we accept the presentation of this report at this time, honourable senators?

Hon. Senators: Agreed.

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable senators, when shall this report be taken into consideration?

(On motion of Senator Stratton, report placed on the Orders of the Day for consideration at the next sitting of the