Statement



Board of Internal Economy Bureau de régie interne

Reimbursement for Large-Volume Mailings

Ottawa – June 12, 2014 – The Honourable Andrew Scheer, Speaker of the House of Commons and Chair of the Board of Internal Economy, has confirmed that the Board determined that 23 New Democratic Party (NDP) Members will be directed to personally reimburse a total of \$36,309 to the Receiver General for Canada for contravening the <u>Members By-law</u> (s. 4(3), 6 and 7) related to large-volume mailings. This amount represents the total direct known costs to the House of Commons.

Directing reimbursement is consistent with past practices where the Board has found evidence of the inappropriate use of House resources and directed that Members or former Members personally reimburse costs to the Receiver General for Canada.

Since the costs related to the use of the Members' franking privileges under the *Canada Post Act* are paid to Canada Post by Transport Canada, the Board will be informing Transport Canada of its decision regarding the improper use of the postal frank and will also be sharing this correspondence with the Chief Electoral Officer.

Facts about the Board of Internal Economy

- The Board of Internal Economy is the governing body of the House of Commons.
- It is created by the *Parliament of Canada Act* and has equal representation from the governing party and the officially recognized parties (i.e. those holding at least 12 seats in the House), apart from the Speaker.
- It is chaired by the Speaker of the House.
- The Board is responsible for establishing by-laws, <u>policies and guidelines</u> relating to expenditures and resources provided to Members in order to carry out their parliamentary functions. This authority is given to the Board by the <u>Parliament of Canada Act</u>.
- The Board is committed to public disclosure and posts its minutes on <u>parl.gc.ca</u>, along with other key documents.

- 30 -

For media information

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