



House of Commons  
CANADA

# **Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development**

---

AANO • NUMBER 016 • 1st SESSION • 39th PARLIAMENT

---

**EVIDENCE**

**Tuesday, September 26, 2006**

—  
**Chair**

**Mr. Colin Mayes**

Also available on the Parliament of Canada Web Site at the following address:

**<http://www.parl.gc.ca>**

## Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development

Tuesday, September 26, 2006

• (0905)

[English]

**The Clerk of the Committee (Mr. Roger Préfontaine):** Honourable members, *les honorables membres du comité*, I see a quorum.

We can now proceed to the election of the chair. I am ready to receive motions to that effect.

**Mr. Rod Bruinooge (Winnipeg South, CPC):** I would like to nominate Mr. Colin Mayes for the position of chair.

**The Clerk:** It has been moved by Mr. Bruinooge that Mr. Mayes be elected as chair of the committee.

Are there any further nominations? Seeing none, I declare Mr. Colin Mayes elected as chair of the committee and offer him congratulations from the clerk.

**Some hon. members:** Hear, hear!

**The Clerk:** Before inviting Mr. Mayes to the chair, we will proceed to the election of the vice-chairs.

Are there any motions to this effect?

Monsieur Lévesque?

**Mr. Yvon Lévesque (Abitibi—Baie-James—Nunavik—Eeyou, BQ):** No, not yet.

**Hon. Anita Neville (Winnipeg South Centre, Lib.):** I nominate Nancy Karetak-Lindell, who is ill today.

**The Clerk:** It has been moved by Madame Neville that Nancy Karetak-Lindell be elected as vice-chair of the committee. Are there any further motions to this effect?

**Some hon. members:** No.

**The Clerk:** There being no further motions, I declare Nancy Karetak-Lindell, *in absentia*, elected as first vice-chair of the committee.

**Some hon. members:** Hear, hear!

**The Clerk:** We will proceed to the election of the second vice-chair of the committee. Are there any motions to this effect?

Mr. Lemay.

[Translation]

**Mr. Marc Lemay (Abitibi—Témiscamingue, BQ):** I nominate Madam Jean Crowder.

**The Clerk:** It is moved by M. Lemay that Madam Jean Crowder be elected vice-chair of the committee.

Are there any further motions to this effect?

[English]

**Some hon. members:** No.

**The Clerk:** There being no further motions to this effect, it is my pleasure to declare Madame Crowder as vice-chair of the committee.

**Some hon. members:** Hear, hear!

**The Clerk:** I now invite the chair to take the chair.

• (0910)

**The Chair (Mr. Colin Mayes (Okanagan—Shuswap, CPC):** Thank you for the opportunity to serve once again as your chair.

We have some procedural issues right now. We need to adjourn this meeting, have about a 10-minute break, and then reconvene. We'll then have a new meeting to hear the witnesses. They have to do what's called an "events capture"; it's a procedural thing in order to make sure that we can continue and hear the witnesses.

Regarding the issue we have about visiting the school, the clerk has been advised that we can't have a meeting. Basically, they just don't have the room for us all to be in one room together. They suggested that we could possibly do a walkabout; we'll be separated, but we'll all be able to participate and see what's happening at the school.

The suggestion of the clerk is that we arrange to have taxis pick us up in front of the Justice Building, go over there next Tuesday morning at nine o'clock, and then do a walkabout. Arrangements can be made to have translators for Mr. Lemay and Mr. Lévesque.

Could I ask the clerk for a comment, please?

**The Clerk:** Thank you, Mr. Chair.

The problem with the school is that they don't physically have a room big enough to have a console installed plus an interpretation booth in order for it to be an official committee meeting. They simply don't have a room big enough to accommodate us.

They'd be happy to have the committee members come next Tuesday morning for a walkabout, as the chair mentioned, but it won't be possible to have an official meeting.

**The Chair:** What is the pleasure of the committee? Do you want to proceed with that?

**An hon. member:** *Oui*.

**The Chair:** Okay, we'll ask the clerk to make those arrangements, and we'll leave at nine o'clock sharp for the north end of the Justice Building.

The other order of business we have is our list of witnesses, and we need to review those at steering committee. So we need to set a meeting time as quickly as possible for the vice-chairs and the chair to sit down and review the witness list.

Go ahead, Madam Crowder.

**Ms. Jean Crowder (Nanaimo—Cowichan, NDP):** Could I suggest that at the end of this meeting, the vice-chairs quickly get together and select a date—maybe select two to fly by Nancy, since she's not here.

**The Chair:** Certainly.

**Ms. Jean Crowder:** Make it at 11 o'clock so we don't take up the committee's time to set a meeting date.

**The Chair:** Right. Well, maybe because there's a meeting right after this and we can't stay, we'll just advise the clerk to contact us and see if he can work something out on our calendars and get us together as soon as possible.

Madam Crowder.

**Ms. Jean Crowder:** This is on another matter. When we were talking about the committee agenda for the next few weeks, we neglected to talk about estimates. The estimates have to be done by November 10, and I'm sure that most committee members would like an opportunity to examine the estimates. I know that's not in our schedule, because we didn't raise it.

On a second matter—and this is of an urgent nature—I wonder if we could ask the chair to write a letter to the minister on the matter of residential school survivors, because I think a number of us are getting letters saying that some people are not eligible for the early payment, the early \$8,000, because of a lack of records. We believe that INAC is now saying, or the minister is now saying—I'm not sure who—that they are waiving some of the circumstances, but we haven't been able to confirm that. So I wonder if the chair could just send a letter to the minister to confirm that the early payment is coming to people with more relaxed standards than were initially allowed, because records were missing.

**The Chair:** Would it be acceptable to refer that to the parliamentary secretary and have him report at the next meeting?

• (0915)

**Ms. Jean Crowder:** Sure, that would be fine. I think it's just a confirmation that this has changed.

**The Chair:** Mr. Bruinooge, would it be appropriate for you to do that?

**Mr. Rod Bruinooge:** Yes, that's fine.

**The Chair:** Do you know what the issues are?

**Mr. Rod Bruinooge:** Yes.

**The Chair:** Okay. Thank you for bringing that to our attention.

**Ms. Jean Crowder:** Thanks.

**The Chair:** Okay, we'll adjourn this meeting.

---







**Published under the authority of the Speaker of the House of Commons**

**Publié en conformité de l'autorité du Président de la Chambre des communes**

**Also available on the Parliament of Canada Web Site at the following address:  
Aussi disponible sur le site Web du Parlement du Canada à l'adresse suivante :  
<http://www.parl.gc.ca>**

---

**The Speaker of the House hereby grants permission to reproduce this document, in whole or in part, for use in schools and for other purposes such as private study, research, criticism, review or newspaper summary. Any commercial or other use or reproduction of this publication requires the express prior written authorization of the Speaker of the House of Commons.**

**Le Président de la Chambre des communes accorde, par la présente, l'autorisation de reproduire la totalité ou une partie de ce document à des fins éducatives et à des fins d'étude privée, de recherche, de critique, de compte rendu ou en vue d'en préparer un résumé de journal. Toute reproduction de ce document à des fins commerciales ou autres nécessite l'obtention au préalable d'une autorisation écrite du Président.**