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Chair

Mr. Anthony Housefather

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•(1530)

[English]

The Chair (Mr. Anthony Housefather (Mount Royal, Lib.)): Welcome back, colleagues. It's great to have all of you together again. Happy new year to everyone.

I am delighted to welcome Mr. Rankin back to our committee.

Mr. Murray Rankin: It's great to be back, Mr. Chair. Thank you.

The Chair: It's great to welcome Mr. Van Kesteren to a meeting of our committee, even if he's not yet a permanent member. Who knows what might happen one day?

The only item on the agenda of the public meeting is the election of the second vice-chair from the NDP. Mr. Rankin formerly occupied this illustrious post, then gave it up for greener pastures. Now he's back and happy.

Hon. Rob Nicholson (Niagara Falls, CPC): Could I nominate him, Mr. Chair, please?

The Chair: I'd be more than delighted to have you nominate him.

Mr. Randy Boissonnault (Edmonton Centre, Lib.): Can I second it?

The Chair: Seconded by Mr. Boissonnault.

Is there something you have to read, Julie?

The Clerk of the Committee (Mrs. Julie Geoffrion): I can read it, if you like.

The Chair: Just to be formal.

[Translation]

Madam Clerk, perhaps you could read it, simply to have it on the record.

[English]

An hon. member: I'd be happy to make a speech.

Hon. Rob Nicholson: Please don't encourage him, Colin.

Mr. Randy Boissonnault: I second it on condition that there's no speech.

Hon. Rob Nicholson: Perhaps you could send his bio to us here via an email.

The Clerk: Thank you, everyone.

Pursuant to Standing Order 106(2), the second vice-chair must be a member of an opposition party other than the official opposition.

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

The Chair: Mr. Nicholson has proposed and Mr. Boissonnault has seconded.

The Clerk: It has been moved by Mr. Nicholson that Mr. Rankin be elected second vice-chair of the committee. Is it the pleasure of the committee to adopt the motion?

(Motion agreed to)

The Chair: Excellent. Now I will turn it over to Mr. Rankin for his speech.

Mr. Murray Rankin: I'm delighted to be back. I'm very excited about the work you're doing on the jurors study, which as you may remember, I was involved in initiating. I've heard good things about it from Alistair MacGregor, who sends his regrets. He's moved on to literally different fields—agriculture, to be precise. I'm really happy to be back, and thank you.

The Chair: Excellent. We're all happy to have you, and we'll all miss Alistair too, because he was a great member.

Now we'll suspend and go in camera.

[Proceedings continue in camera]

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