

Question Period Summary for Tuesday, September 29, 2020/Sommaire de la période de questions du mardi 29 septembre 2020

From: "Filson, Aaron (HC/SC)" <aaron.filson@canada.ca>
To: Parliamentary Business / Travaux Parlementaires (HC/SC) <hc.parlbusiness-travauxparle.sc@canada.ca>
Cc: "ministresc, Minister / Ministre hcminister (HC/SC)" <hcminister.ministresc@canada.ca>, "MacKnight, Aisling (HC/SC)" <aisling.macknight@canada.ca>
Date: Tue, 29 Sep 2020 20:08:04 +0000

Good afternoon,

Please see below a summary of today's Question Period.

-
-

Questions Addressed to the Minister of Health:

There were 2 questions addressed to the Minister of Health today.

Michelle Rempel Garner (Calgary Nose Hill - CPC): Referenced rapid testing and at-home testing in other countries, and inquired about the kind of testing that will be available in Canada.

Hon. Patty Hajdu (Minister of Health): Replied that the Government has been working diligently in order for Canadians to have access to rapid point of care testing. Testing at home is more complex and it is a challenge everywhere around the world. She noted that the Government would continue to work hard, so that safe and accurate testing is available in Canada. In addition, the federal government is working with industry partners, so that when tools become available the Government is able to ensure quick accessibility for every Canadian.

Pierre Paul-Hus (Charlesbourg—Haute-Saint-Charles - CPC): Asked the Government to accelerate access to rapid testing in Canada.

Hon. Patty Hajdu (Minister of Health): Replied that the Government is working to make technology available in Canada. The Government will continue to research new and safe tools in the market to ensure that Canadians have access to safe rapid testing. In addition to the health transfers provided to PTs, the Government has accelerated processes at Health Canada so that when new tools are available they are approved.

-

Questions of Interest to the Health Portfolio:

There were 4 question of interest to the Health Portfolio today.

Allain Therier (La Prairie - BQ): Asked for Quebec to receive additional health transfer funding.

Rt. Hon. Justin Trudeau (Prime Minister - LPC): Replied that the Government is taking action this week. The Government has provided \$19 Billion to PTs to help fight the pandemic. Since the beginning of the pandemic, the federal government has been there for every province, and the Government promises to help all PTs further. In addition, the Government has spoken to the Premier of Quebec and the federal government will help Quebec every way possible.

Claude Debellefeuille (Salaberry—Suroît - BQ): Expressed her solidarity for the people in the regions of Quebec that have had to lockdown, and asked for reoccurring investments in health care by the federal government.

Hon. Pablo Rodriguez (Honoré-Mercier - LPC): Replied that the Government has provided \$675 million to increase tests and PPE supplies, and \$270 million for mental health and vulnerable populations. The Government will continue to collaborate and work with the province of Quebec in order to fight the pandemic.

Niki Ashton (Churchill—Keewatinook Aski - NDP): Referenced an outbreak at York Factory, a First Nation indigenous community in northern Manitoba, and asked the Government to help indigenous communities deal with COVID-19 outbreak.

Hon. Marc Miller (Ville-Marie—Le Sud-Ouest—Île-des-Soeurs - LPC): Expressed the Government's solidarity for the York Factory community and expressed the Government's concerns with the outbreak. The federal government will continue to monitor the situation in the region. The federal government has shipped five shipments of PPEs to the community and has increased additional nurses, with 2 arriving yesterday. The Government is closely working with the government in the region to help deal with the outbreak. The Government will continue to monitor the outbreak in the region.

Luc Thériault (Montcalm - BQ): Referenced the amount of money the Government has transferred to Quebec, and asked the Government to increase health transfers.

Hon. Pablo Rodriguez (Honoré-Mercier - LPC): Replied that the Government has been working with Quebec since day one, whether in regular discussions between first ministers or otherwise. The federal government has also provided concrete assistance. Millions of dollars have been provided for testing and \$112 million invested for mental health. He noted that the federal government has always been there for Quebec, since day one, and will remain so.

Main Issues Raised During Question Period:

Most members focused their questions on services available to Canadians during the second wave of the pandemic.

Issues Raised:

Issues raised by the Conservative Party:

- Commercial Rent Relief Program
 - WE Charity
 - Budgetary Appropriation
 - Parliamentary Procedure
 - Unemployment Rate
 - Prorogation
 - Public Transit
 - Forestry Sector
 - Service Canada System
 - Temporary Foreign Workers
 - Businesses in Northern Communities
 - Rural Broadband Communications
 - Small Business Loans
-

Issues raised by the Bloc Quebecois:

- Federal Deficit
-

Issues raised by the New Democratic Party:

- Corporate Pandemic Profiteering
 - Second Wave Impact on Businesses
 - Rural Broadband Communications
-

Issues raised by the Liberal Party:

- Student Assistance
 - Municipal Support
 - Homelessness
-

Issue raised by the Green Party:

- Treaty Rights
-

Issue raised by an Independent:

N/A

Members' Statements in the House of Commons:

There were 0 Member's Statement of interest to the Health Portfolio today.

There were no Member Statement during Question Period today.

The official transcript (Hansard) will be available on the next business day by visiting the following link:

<http://www.parl.gc.ca/HouseChamberBusiness/ChamberSittings.aspx?View=H&Language=E>

Le compte rendu officiel (Hansard) est disponible le prochain jour ouvrable en visitant le lien suivant:

<http://www.parl.gc.ca/HouseChamberBusiness/ChamberSittings.aspx?View=H&Language=E>

Regards,

Aaron Filson

A/Policy Analyst | A/Analyste de politiques

Cabinet & Parliamentary Affairs | Division des affaires du cabinet et parlementaires

Policy Coordination and Planning Directorate | Direction de la coordination et de la planification des politiques

Strategic Policy Branch | Direction générale de la politique stratégique

Health Canada | Santé Canada

Brooke Claxton Building | 70 Colombyne Driveway, Tunney's Pasture

aaron.filson@canada.ca | tel: (613)297-8199