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Questions on the Order Paper



Hon. Roger Gallaway (Parliamentary Secretary to the Leader of the Government in the House of Commons, Lib.): Mr. Speaker, I ask that all questions be allowed to stand.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Bélair): Is that agreed?

Some hon. members: Agreed.



Mr. John Cummins (Delta—South Richmond, CPC): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. Time may be running out. I asked Question No. 11 on February 2 of this year. It was a question that I first asked on October 28, 2003.

I asked Question No. 13 on February 2 of this year, a question that I first asked on September 24, 2003.

Since that time I have gone through access to information, which tells me that the question has already been answered. The government has had the answer to question but has refused to supply it.

On February 3 of this year I asked Question No. 17 and again there has been no answer.

Two of the questions that are outstanding were asked over six months ago. I think it is time that those questions were answered, Mr. Speaker.

   (1715)

 

Mr. Loyola Hearn (St. John's West, CPC): Mr. Speaker, when members put questions on the order paper there is a rule that they have to be answered within a timeframe. I would like the parliamentary secretary or the deputy House leader to tell us how many questions have been answered, because I do not believe any have been answered in this session.

 

Hon. Roger Gallaway: Mr. Speaker, the hon. members opposite ought to know or could possibly know or probably should know that the Standing Orders control this and that, first, any question on the order paper that has not been answered at the time of prorogation dies on the order paper. That is number one.

Number two--

An hon. member: We want our second answer, thank you.

Hon. Roger Gallaway: It would save time if they would read the Standing Orders, but secondly, there are 45 days and if it is not answered within 45 days they know that it is referred to a committee.

An hon. member: Oh, oh.

 

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Bélair): Order, please. We will be tracking the orders and we will report back to the members concerned.

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