



**HOUSE OF COMMONS
CANADA**

Notice Paper

No. 3

Wednesday, February 4, 2004

2:00 p.m.

QUESTIONS

Q-17 — February 3, 2004 — Mr. Cummins (Delta—South Richmond) —

With regard to the environmental and economic issues posed by the development of salmon farm aquaculture sites in bays and inlets along the coast of British Columbia:

- (a) have guidelines been developed for the siting of open net salmon farm pens that would prohibit placement of salmon net pens in salmon nursery and juvenile rearing areas or migration routes in coastal inlets, bays and fiords and, if so, which of the farm sites presently in operation are in violation of these guidelines and which conform to the guidelines;
- (b) have authorizations or approvals been given for the establishment of salmon farm netpen aquaculture operations in the coastal waters of British Columbia and, if so,

- what are the locations, who is the operator of each approved site and what is the nature or type of authorization or approval given;
- (c) have species other than salmon been approved for these sites, if so what sites and species are involved and are these species now present in any of these approved sites; if so, which ones;
 - (d) have provincial authorities licenced salmon farm net pen aquaculture operations in Canadian coastal waters without Canadian Environmental Assessment Act assessments and, if so, what is the specific location of each licence;
 - (e) how many salmon farm sites are in operation without authorization and are awaiting approval under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, name or identify the sites and operator of each site;
 - (f) what recommendations has the Commissioner for Aquaculture Development or the Office of Sustainable Aquaculture made to expedite Canadian Environmental Assessment Act environmental assessments and have individual site assessments been reduced or eliminated;
 - (g) which of the sites licenced by a provincial authority and presently in operation are within five nautical miles of nursery or juvenile rearing areas or migration routes of wild salmon;
 - (h) what studies or research have been undertaken or funded with regard to diseases and parasites associated with salmon net pen aquaculture, their possible transfer to wild stocks, and what were the findings;
 - (i) what such diseases or parasites have been found at salmon net pen sites in each of the years 2000, 2001, 2002, and 2003, and what was the location of each farm site having these diseases or parasites;
 - (j) has either the Pacific Fisheries Resources Conservation Council or Department of Fisheries scientists ever advised the government of problems with sea lice and disease emanating from salmon sites that threaten wild salmon runs; if so, when, which farms and what wild stocks were involved;
 - (k) has there been baseline research conducted of sea lice infestation on fish stocks on British Columbia's central or north coast;
 - (l) what is the level and composition of waste from net pen salmon aquaculture operations by farm site presently in operation;
 - (m) what is the authorized density of fish at each site, and which of these sites exceed the authorized limits;

- (n) has the Department of Fisheries and Oceans established a carrying capacity for bays and inlets that may have a number of farm sites; if so, what is the carrying capacity by bay or inlet where such carrying capacity has been established and where such limits have been met or exceeded;
- (o) have PCBs been found in farmed salmon, how many times and at what level;
- (p) how many persons presently involved in salmon farm environmental assessments or reviews have been formerly employed by the British Columbia department responsible for aquaculture development and expansion; and
- (q) how many persons presently involved in salmon farm environmental assessments or reviews have been formerly employed by fish farm companies, who are they and which companies were they employed by?