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Standing Committee on National Defence

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41st PARLIAMENT

EVIDENCE

Thursday, September 27, 2012

—
Chair

Mr. James Bezan

Standing Committee on National Defence

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• (1535)

[English]

The Clerk of the Committee (Mr. Leif-Erik Aune): Honourable members, I see a quorum.

The meeting is convened pursuant to Standing Order 106(1). Pursuant to Standing Order 106(2), the chair must be a member of the government party. I'm now prepared to receive motions for the position of chair.

Mrs. Cheryl Gallant (Renfrew—Nipissing—Pembroke, CPC): I move that James Bezan stand for chair. He lost the arm-wrestling match.

The Clerk: Is it the pleasure of the committee to adopt the motion?

(Motion agreed to)

The Clerk: Before inviting Mr. Bezan to take the chair, are there any motions, by unanimous consent, to handle anything else?

Mr. James Bezan (Selkirk—Interlake, CPC): I move that through unanimous consent we go to the election of the vice-chairs.

The Clerk: It is agreed by unanimous consent that we proceed to the election of the vice-chairs.

Some hon. members: Agreed.

The Clerk: Are there any motions?

Ms. Christine Moore (Abitibi—Témiscamingue, NDP): I propose Mr. Jack Harris as vice-chair.

The Clerk: Are there any other motions?

Mr. James Bezan: I propose John McKay as vice-chair for the Liberals.

The Clerk: Do you mean for second vice-chair?

On Mr. Harris as first vice-chair, is it the pleasure of the committee to adopt the motion?

(Motion agreed to)

The Clerk: On Mr. Bezan's motion that Mr. McKay be second vice-chair?

(Motion agreed to)

The Clerk: Mr. Bezan.

The Chair (Mr. James Bezan (Selkirk—Interlake, CPC)): Thank you, Mr. Aune, for carrying out the elections, and thanks

again for the confidence the committee has shown in me continuing on as your chair.

Even though we have nothing else on the agenda, I'd like to ask for unanimous consent that we go in camera to deal with some committee business. Do we have unanimous consent to go in camera?

Mr. Jack Harris (St. John's East, NDP): I see a list of attached stuff here. We didn't really come here prepared to deal with it.

The Chair: If there's no unanimous consent, can I have a motion to adjourn?

Mr. Jack Harris: Can we adjourn to a steering committee meeting or something?

The Chair: I'd have to call that with proper notice.

Hon. John McKay (Scarborough—Guildwood, Lib.): Mr. Chair, before your motion to adjourn and the dispersal of the committee, I just want to offer up these books to committee members: *FOB Doc: A Doctor on the Front Lines of Afghanistan*, and *A Line in the Sand: Canadians at War in Kandahar*, by Dr. Wiss.

As you know, Minister MacKay, Jack, and I sponsored an event on the Hill with the film *If I Should Fall*. Dr. Wiss was very helpful to us. He's made these books available for those who are interested in things military. I think they would be of interest to anybody on the committee. If, in fact, a donation came the way of the Military Families Fund, that would be of no harm. Otherwise, the books are entirely free, and they're here to be picked up. My staff will give them to anybody who is interested. They're wonderful.

The Chair: I've read both books and they're fantastic accounts. They are diaries of a Canadian doctor who went back into the military and went for three tours through Afghanistan as a forward operating base doctor. It's an incredible story from his perspective.

Madame Moore.

Ms. Christine Moore: Are they available only in English, or do you have some French versions?

Hon. John McKay: They are just in *anglais*, as far as I know. I don't think they are *en français*.

The Chair: He is francophone, so there could be books—

Hon. John McKay: It may be, but he only gave us copies in English.

The Chair: He's an Ontario francophone from Sudbury.

Seeing nothing else, the meeting is adjourned.

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