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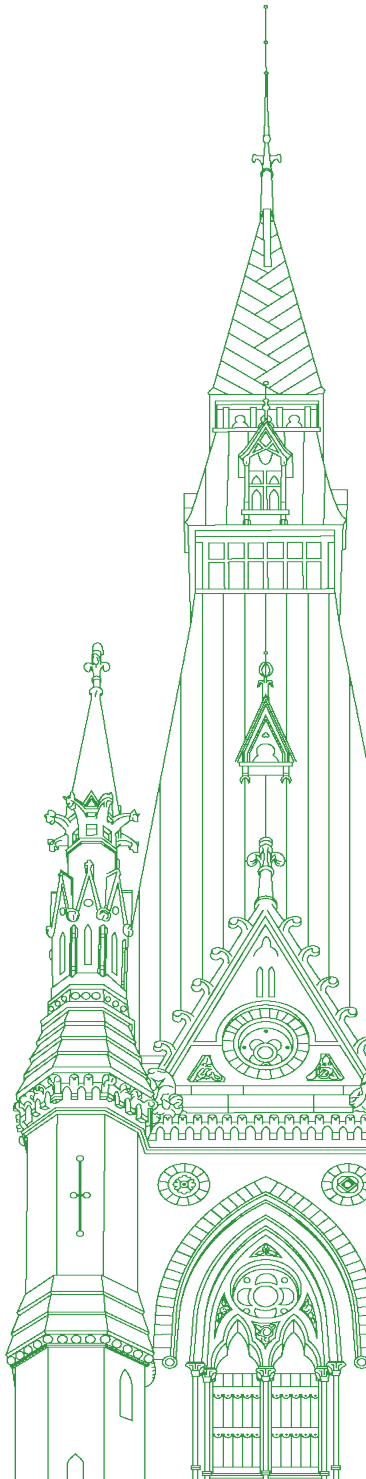
Standing Committee on Public Accounts

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Thursday, October 22, 2026



Chair: John Williamson

Standing Committee on Public Accounts

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● (1100)

[*Translation*]

The Chair (John Williamson (New Brunswick Southwest, CPC)): I now call this meeting to order.

Welcome to meeting number 50 of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Public Accounts.

[*English*]

Today's meeting is taking place in a hybrid format, pursuant to the Standing Orders. Members are attending in person in the room. I don't believe anyone is joining us online, but you're always welcome to do so, of course.

I'd like to remind members to address their comments through me. If you wish to speak, just catch my eye or the clerk's eye.

We're going to return to the debate on the motion by Mr. Hallan that was moved on Thursday, October 8, 2026. I already have the speaking list from that meeting. Mr. Cooper is not here, so I'm going to pass it over to Mr. Hallan. You're being recognized not because you had your hand up first—the committee doesn't operate that way—but because we're operating from the speakers list.

The floor is yours, Mr. Hallan, to resume debate on your motion.

Jasraj Hallan (Calgary East, CPC): Thank you very much, Chair.

As a quick recap of what this motion is about and why it was brought forward, we are all aware of the green slush fund scandal that halted Parliament. It was about millions of dollars shovelled out to what appear to be Liberal-connected insiders. It was a slush fund created for those insiders to benefit from taxpayer funds.

At this moment, what we see is that $34 million in taxpayer funds was given to corporations or individuals ineligible for projects. When the current industry minister was asked about those funds being recovered, she said that it was not in the public interest to do so.

As we all know, and as Canadians know full well, the CRA will fleece everyday hard-working Canadians for every single dollar. They get collection calls. They get all sorts of harassment, sometimes, when they miss a payment, yet these Liberal-connected insiders got a cushy $34-million writeoff because the industry minister says that addressing it is not in the public interest.

Well, to Conservatives and to Canadians across the country, it is in the public interest. Canadian taxpayers want to know why $34 million is being written off for a slush fund that the Liberals created for their so-called buddies. That money is being written off for those people or corporations. We want to know why.

This motion is simple. We are calling on this committee to recognize that receiving those ineligible funds is in the public interest. Along with that, names should be released of the corporations and individuals who got the writeoffs. Canadians deserve to know why $34 million of their hard-earned money was given away as writeoffs to those people specifically.

I hope we can get to a vote quickly. We all know that at the last committee, the Liberals were very quick to try to shut it down and made repeated points of order to shut us down while we were talking. I hope that today the Liberals look at all the facts and respect taxpayers, as $34 million of their money is being written off for absolutely no reason. Taxpayers deserve to know why.

Thank you, Chair.

The Chair: Thank you.

We'll vote on it.

(Motion negatived: nays 5; yeas 4 [*See Minutes of Proceedings*])

The Chair: I will now suspend the meeting.

We're going to move in camera so we can turn to committee work.

This meeting is suspended for just a few minutes.

[*Proceedings continue in camera*]

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