

**Meeting with Richard Nadeau**  
**Wednesday, September 5, 4:30 p.m.**  
**430, boul. de l'Hôpital, Gatineau**

<b>Question</b>	<b>MP's Answers</b>
<p><b>Quality public services</b>            How can the MP intervene so that the negotiations between the government and PSAC in the public sector do not result in a confrontation? Is he willing to raise this matter in the House if negotiations do not go well?</p> <p>Is the MP in favour of abolishing pay zones for employees and operational services?</p> <p><b>Negotiations at the House of Commons</b>            Conciliation is getting underway. Is he willing to lend a hand once again if the need arises?</p>	<p>Mr. Nadeau said he was willing to help the union to move the bargaining process forward and to create awareness of the issues. He is in favor of improving the working conditions of Public Service employees.</p> <p>As for pay zones, he will forward this information to the Bloc MP responsible for labour relations, Carole Lavallée. He is willing to support the union demand before a House Committee or offer his cooperation to help the negotiations along.</p> <p>Mr. Nadeau sent a letter to the Speaker of the House of Commons requesting that Parliament Hill employees enjoy the same rights and privileges as other workers. Once again, this is one of his colleague's files (Carole Lavallée), but he is willing to work with her on this case.</p>

<p><b>Public Private Partnerships</b>  Is the MP in favor of Public-Private Partnerships? Is he willing to support the PSAC campaign against these partnerships?</p>	<p>There is absolutely no doubt that the MP for Gatineau favors the public sector. However, he fears that turning to the private sector is detrimental to services to the public, as is the case with the health care sector in Quebec. In certain fields, such as when municipal infrastructures such as arenas are being built, the private sector does have its place but not in important sectors such as in health care. In his view, the provinces are increasingly turning to the private sector, because the government has not restored the funding of the health care system to previous levels, which was 50% of its expenses. As a result, provincial governments must demand that we go back to a 50-50 sharing of funding with Ottawa.</p>
<p><b>Placement agencies</b>  The federal government is making excessive use of temporary placement agencies. It is of great concern in our area where more than 60% of these hires take place. It is the MP in favour of having tighter control over how often these agencies are used?</p>	<p>In Mr. Nadeau's opinion, the government is using temporary placement agencies to bring down the cost of benefits paid to regular employees. This places workers on shakier ground with their employer. Turning to agencies does have an impact on the quality of services provided and this is unacceptable.</p>

<p><b>Sale of federal buildings</b>  PSAC is opposed to the sale of federal buildings to the private sector. We organized a demonstration on June 12 on Sparks Street. Is the MP in favour of selling off federal buildings?</p>	<p>The MP for Gatineau, like the Bloc Québécois, is against the principle of selling federal buildings. The Bloc obtained a moratorium in committee with the support of opposition parties, but the government did not heed the results of the vote. According to Mr. Nadeau, the sale of federal buildings will result in a financial loss in the medium and long term. He pointed out that the Auditor General had expressed some reservations about this operation and that sales of this nature are not in the interests of taxpayers.</p>
<p><b>Greater justice in the taxation system</b>  Is your party in favour of quality public services accessible to all, which are funded and delivered by the public sector? What does your party intend to do to make our taxation system fairer to reduce the increasing spread between the rich and the remaining population and to ensure that there is enough money in our collective piggy bank to maintain our public services?</p>	<p>Mr. Nadeau believes that the Conservatives' approach to the taxation system is creating a US-style imbalance in Canada. He believes that the level of services provided is tied to taxation levels and that it is misleading to promote tax cuts while at the same promising to maintain services. In his view, income taxes must be used to meet the public's needs to improve quality of life. He cited the example of reducing the GST by one percentage point. He believes that we would have been better off transferring this money to the provinces and having them provide more funding for essential requirements such as public transit.</p>

<p><b>Pay equity with separate employers</b> Is the MP in favour of a quick resolution to pay equity matters with certain separate employers? These include the Canada Post, the Office of the Auditor General, the Canadian Security Intelligence Service, the Communications Security Establishment, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, the Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions, the Statistical Survey Operations in the Canadian Institutes of Health Research.</p>	<p>The MP is providing his full support on this issue. He does not understand why, after the pay equity issue was resolved for Treasury Board employees, agencies and separate employers have been slow to rectify this problem.</p>
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<p><b>North American Security Partnership</b> Is the MP in favour of these discussions that are held in camera and outside Parliament on such fundamental issues that affect Canada's security and economy?</p> <p>How does he intend to intervene to ensure that citizens are consulted and that they have their say on the matter?</p>	<p>Mr. Nadeau believes it is important that issues discussed at summits such as the one held in Montebello be raised in Parliament so that MPs can discuss them. He provided the example of some summits where opposition MPs are invited to discussions, not only as representatives of the government. He is concerned that issues such as drinking water are dealt with in secret.</p> <p>He believes that for security issues and when the establishment of exceptional measures is required, Parliaments should incorporate sunset clauses which call for time limits. Thus, when the need is no longer there, these measures become obsolete, but now, they remain in place long after that the threat has passed.</p> <p>The Bloc Québécois is in favor of holding an inquiry on the role of police at demonstrations surrounding the Montebello Summit.</p>
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**Other issues:** With respect to the move of the Transport Development Centre from Montreal to Gatineau, Mr. Nadeau believes that this is not in keeping with the spirit of having 25% of federal employees on the Quebec side. In his view, a 75%-25% issue must be resolved with Ottawa, not by transferring jobs from Montreal.

As for the anticipated move of the Passport Office mailroom from the Hull sector to Gatineau, the MP will attempt to obtain more information on this case, as it is the first time he is heard of it.

When asked about the National Day Care Service the Conservatives replaced with an allowance to be paid to parents, MP Nadeau pointed out that the Bloc is against it and is fighting to have funding provided for day care centers in all provinces. He believes that the provinces should manage their day care systems, as Quebec does, and that the federal government should simply transfer the required funds to the provinces.

Finally, he stated that he is against the budget cuts to Status of Women Canada. In his view, an ideological issue prompted the Conservatives to cut budgets, particularly for research. The Bloc spoke out against this move by the government and is working with women's federations in Quebec to restore the funding.