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Président : Peter Brannan

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ATTENDANCE AT THE FIRST ANNUAL CONFERENCE
OF THE HANSARD ASSOCIATION, QUEBEC CITY, AUGUST 21-23, 1974

Peter Brannan	Ontario
Ernie Hemphill	Ontario
Don Cameron	Ontario
Georges Rubinstein	Ontario
Douglas J. Blain	Northwest Territories
Peggy Argue	Manitoba
Honorius Lacombe	Ottawa
Doug Baker	Ottawa
Pat Robinson	British Columbia
Maurice Chazottes	British Columbia
David M. Greer	British Columbia
Gordon Price	British Columbia
Garth Gislason	British Columbia
Betty Bishop	Alberta
Katherine Murphy	Newfoundland
J.E.R. Doxsee	Saskatchewan
Ralph S. Morton	Nova Scotia
Garfield Hendrickson	Nova Scotia
Roland Héroux	Québec
Allan Ford	Québec
Jean-Jacques St-Onge	Québec
Benoît Massicotte	Québec
Gaston Bisson	Québec
Yvon Thériault	Québec

verbatim report

**The first annual conference
of the Hansard Association**

August 22nd, 1974

(Nine hours fifty-five minutes)

The President (Mr. Peter Brannan): My name is Peter Brannan and I am with the Ontario delegation.

I would first like to welcome you all to our Second Conference of this Hansard Association, particularly the new delegates who were not with us last year.

We are much gratified at the obvious good health of our one year-old infant, and look forward to a valuable exchange of ideas and information.

I would like to mention one lamentable gap in our ranks. Those of you who were present at our inaugural conference in Ottawa last year will remember with affection our amiable host and organizer, Lucien Guertin, and I am sure most of you have also heard that Lou died very suddenly and unexpectedly within two months of that inaugural meeting. He will be sadly missed at this and all future Hansard Association meetings.

Our first item of real business this morning concerns the recording of our business sessions. Benoît Massicotte, the Quebec chief and our host and vice-president, has, as you see, made arrangements for our deliberations to be recorded and transcribed, if this is the wish of the meeting. I know some members have not been particularly keen to have this done, although it does somehow seem ludicrous that the Hansard Association, of all organizations, should not place its activities on record. The transcript of these recordings would be made available to the various full members of the Association of Hansard chiefs, and I personally can see where this recording would be useful to us. It may mean that delegates will have to moderate their observations somewhat, but this is not always a bad thing.

However, before we proceed any further, I do need some indication of your feelings generally, and would appreciate any expressions of opinion, if some of you feel strongly for or against whether we should continue recording.

Would somebody like to make any observation, or may I have any suggestions or a resolution?

Mr. Douglas Baker (Ottawa): I propose that we record the sessions of the conference. That is the name of the game, with Hansard.

Mr. Brannan: Would you please give your name, proposer?

Mr. Baker: Douglas Baker.

Mr. Brannan: This is Doug Baker, of Ottawa, proposing and Maurice Chazottes, of British Columbia, seconding that the recording continue. Is there any discussion? None to the contrary. Then, may I have all those in favour of recording, please,

say aye. Any opposed? The proposal is carried unanimously. The recording will then continue.

Mr. Benoît Massicotte (Quebec): When recording, may I ask that when you start to speak, you identify yourself first, so that our technician can give proper identification of the one who spoke.

Mr. Brannan: Fine. We are always urging our own people to do this, so we should not have too much difficulty, and I have already commented that there is no one here who will strike the microphone with their water glass while they are filling it, because we know what this does to the ears of the transcribers.

We have a couple of very important things we must clear up. The first is lunch on the two days. Mr. Massicotte would like an indication as to whether you want to have lunch "en masse" some place or whether you are just going to break up into groups. There is a cafeteria right in this building where we can go without any difficulty and have a sandwich lunch. But if you want something more substantial, then you have to go off somewhere. If you want to go in a large group, he would like to know so he can get his secretary to make any reservations. I do not want to be the dictator, as I was last year, but it seems to me that we have so much to get through and so little time, that the cafeteria is a good idea.

Mr. Massicotte: I think we could go to the cafeteria. We do not need any reservation. We have the cafeteria in the same building complex here. If we go to a restaurant, it would be wise to make a reservation.

Mr. Brannan: I see you all want to go to the cafeteria. That is good!

I should mention first that this evening, we are very fortunate in that we are to be the guests of the President, the Speaker of the National Assembly, and he has, through Mr. Massicotte, extended an invitation to all delegates and their wives and/or husbands, and so, this evening's dinner is all taken care of.

Tomorrow evening, Mr. Massicotte has made a proposal which I think is excellent. Tomorrow evening, he suggests that we go to the Vieux Moulin on the Ile d'Orléans. That sounds like a very good idea too. If we go there in a group, we have to have an indication now of the numbers, I guess. So, perhaps we should decide here and now whether that is acceptable. How many people will be coming? If you are coming with your wife, will you please put up two hands, and if you are coming on your own, will you please put up one hand? We shall get a count. This is for tomorrow evening, Friday evening.

Mr. Massicotte: Very well then, there will be thirty-one of us.

Mr. Brannan: The time?

Mr. Massicotte: I suggest eight o'clock. Is eight o'clock alright for everyone? It means that we will leave at a quarter past seven. Not later than that.

A Voice: From where?

Mr. Massicotte: From the Château, by car. Do you like to go to the Vieux Moulin too? If you prefer another place... The Vieux Moulin is on Ile d'Orléans.

Mr. Brannan: Any more ideas? I think the Vieux Moulin is great and eight o'clock is fine. Some people may have to leave Friday night, and if we make it any later, that will make it difficult for them to get away. Any other point? Are we settled on that? We have about 31 people.

On Friday evening, after we have finished the study sessions, we will reconvene this business meeting briefly to make a decision on where the conference will go in 1976. You may remember we had already decided at last year's conference that we will be in Victoria, British Columbia, for next year's conference, and our final act will be to elect a new president for the forthcoming year. We can do that on Friday evening.

I just want one final point to be made. We have a very busy agenda and very little time. I would urge you, please, to be punctual at all our gatherings. We will start punctually with or without you, I am sorry to say. So, please, be punctual so that we can get as much packed in as we possibly can.

I should thank Mr. Massicotte for this very kind display and for the arrangements that he has made here. It is an incredible improvement on our first struggling attempts last year, and I would like to thank Mr. Massicotte very much for these arrangements. He is now going to take us on a conducted tour of the Quebec Hansard facilities.

Are there any questions before we adjourn? Everybody is clear? Everything is fine. Thank you very much, ladies and gentlemen.

I declare this meeting adjourned.

Mr. Massicotte: We shall follow the production line of the Debates. Mr. Ford will explain one part, Mr. Saint-Onge the other one. If you have questions when we go around, go ahead. If you prefer to wait for questions when we come back here, it is up to you to decide.

(Meeting adjourned at 10 h 6)

Resumption of the meeting at eleven hours and fifty-five minutes

The President (Mr. Brannan): May we have order for a few moments? There are a couple of things I thought we could clear up while we are waiting here.

The first is the minutes of the last meeting. I have distributed a few copies of these around the table and I hope you have had time to look at them. In my enthusiasm, I have distributed the original, so if any of you has an original typed minutes of the meeting, I would appreciate having it back. In the meantime, could I have a proposal that we adopt these minutes and sign them as an accurate record of what went on last year?

Mr. Ralph Morton (Nova Scotia): I propose that the minutes be adopted.

Mr. Brannan: Fine. Mr. Ralph Morton, of Nova Scotia, has proposed the adoption. Can we have a seconder, please?

Mr. Ross Doxsee (Saskatchewan): I second.

Mr. Brannan: Mr. Ross Doxsee has seconded. All those in favour? Fine, thank you very much. We shall sign the minutes then.

Arising out of the minutes, we should have a slight change to our rules. We suggested that the eligibility should be the Chief of each provincial Hansard and the Chiefs of the federal groups. Since then, I am happy to report that we have Mr. Douglas Blain, on my immediate left, from the Northwest Territories, present here today. I think we should amend our constitution to include the Territories. We have not been able to persuade Yukon to come along yet, but I am sure they might go to British Columbia perhaps next year.

May I have a resolution or a proposal that we extend membership to include the Territories?

Mr. Massicotte: Aye.

Mr. Brannan: Fine. Proposed by Mr. Benoît Massicotte. Seconded by Mr. Honorius Lacombe, of Ottawa.

Aside from that, we do not have any other business, but I believe Mr. Massicotte has something for us.

Mr. Massicotte: Yes. I will ask Mr. Thériault to give you some explanations about Index and References. Just short explanations. If some of us are interested, Mr. Thériault will be at your disposal to answer questions. After that, we will go for lunch. If you like, we can walk and listen, for a few minutes, to the Burundi Tambourinaires. They are just...

Mr. Jean-Jacques Saint-Onge (Quebec): In the backyard.

Mr. Massicotte: In the backyard, here. Just lis-