

Hon. Gordon O'Connor, P.C., M.P.
Carleton-Mississippi Mills

February 24, 2010

Mr. Rodger Cuzner, M.P.
Chief Opposition Whip
434-N Centre Block
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6

Dear Mr. ,

I would like to respond to the various points raised in your February 10, 2010 letter regarding the next session of Parliament.

With respect to changes to the House Calendar, you will find attached the motion that we will introduce to allow for the sitting of the House during the weeks of March 15th and April 12th, 2010. While both your party and the Bloc Québécois have stated support for this proposal, the New Democratic Party has yet to indicate their position.

With respect to the next session of Parliament:

- It is our position that all committees, including the Special Committee on the Canadian Mission in Afghanistan be reconstituted quickly, upon the return of the House. I have attached for your and the other Whips' consideration, motions in this regard.
- We will follow the rules governing supply days as outlined in the Standing Orders.
- Ministers will be encouraged, as they always are, to appear at committees in support of their respective estimates.

That being said, I note that your party held a series of meetings over a three-week period, talking to yourselves. Curiously, your meetings have not continued through the Olympics. I assume the meetings were held to make it appear to Canadians that you were at "work" while our Government was not. The reality is quite the contrary.

We have been governing and continue to govern during the constituency break as demonstrated by the attached list, which is by no means exhaustive and does not include the majority of MPs' constituency events.



This list focuses on:

- Our meetings with Canadians to listen to their views on the economy;
- Important Economic Action Plan investments to protect and create jobs; and
- Our Government's actions representing Canada's global interests.

It is our intention to make the next session of Parliament a productive one. We look forward to working with you and the other opposition parties to ensure that the interests of Canadians are well served.

Yours truly,



Hon. Gordon O'Connor, P.C., M.P.
Minister of State and Chief Government Whip

c.c. Mr. Michel Guimond, Whip of the Bloc Québécois
Mr. Yvon Godin, Whip of the New Democratic Party

Attachments