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FINANCE

MONETARY POLICY FRAMEWORK RENEWAL

Question by:

The Hounourable Diane Bellemare

Wednesday, November 24, 2021

THE SENATE

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[Translation]

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Hon. Diane Bellemare: I have a question for the Government Representative in the Senate, Senator Gold, and I congratulate him on his reappointment.

My question has to do with the five-year agreement between the Bank of Canada and the Government of Canada. As you know, there is no in-depth review by parliamentary committees before the government signs an agreement with the Bank of Canada on specific monetary policy. This agreement has a significant influence on the country's economy and public finances, but it is free from any scrutiny by parliamentarians. December is fast approaching, and the agreement has yet to be renewed. That is unusual, since past agreements have generally been submitted in October. When can we expect to see this agreement, and when will we be able to question the Minister of Finance on the content of this agreement here in the chamber?

Hon. Marc Gold (Government Representative in the Senate): Thank you for the question. I have inquired but have not yet received an answer from the government. I will share the answer as soon as I receive it.

As for when we will have an opportunity to question the Minister of Finance, I hope that this chamber will continue regularly inviting ministers for question period. The parliamentary groups will be discussing this topic in the coming weeks. I also hope that we will soon be able to invite ministers, including the Minister of Finance, to answer this question and any others that come up.