



CANADA

Debates of the Senate

3rd SESSION

• 40th PARLIAMENT

• VOLUME 147

• NUMBER 88

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Canadian International Development Agency—
KAIROS Application for Funding

Question by:

The Honourable Claudette Tardif

Thursday, February 17, 2011

THE SENATE

Thursday, February 17, 2011

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY—KAIROS APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

Hon. Claudette Tardif (Deputy Leader of the Opposition):

Honourable senators, on Monday, the minister for the Canadian International Development Agency admitted that the decision not to provide funding to KAIROS was hers, and that a handwritten “not” added to a funding application document was inserted at her direction. She wanted KAIROS and Canadians to believe that it was the CIDA officials who rejected the application, knowing full well that was not true.

This lack of transparency, accountability, responsibility and dignity seems to be the standard by which the government allows its ministers to conduct themselves. Canadians and parliamentarians alike want the truth.

My question is the following: Did the minister for CIDA add the word “not” to the KAIROS funding document at the request of the Prime Minister’s Office?

Hon. Marjory LeBreton (Leader of the Government):
Honourable senators, I will put that question at the top of the ridiculous questions I receive in this place.

It is interesting, honourable senators, that there is now a new definition of scandal, according to the Liberal Party. In their days, when millions of dollars of taxpayers’ money was used, stolen or handed to their friends, that was not scandal. In our case, when a minister takes a decision in the interests of the taxpayer and saves taxpayers’ money, that is a scandal.
