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CANADIAN HERITAGE

Canada Periodical Fund

Question by:

The Honourable Claudette Tardif

Wednesday, May 2, 2012

THE SENATE

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[*Translation*]

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Hon. Claudette Tardif (Deputy Leader of the Opposition): Honourable senators, to follow up on the question asked by my colleague, I know that I asked the Leader of the Government this question last week. The Leader of the Government said she would get back to me with an answer. I would like to revisit the matter and ask her again to ask the heritage minister to support this request, since this is a problem facing several minority French-language newspapers.

Could the Leader of the Government ask the minister to acknowledge that the new funding formula currently being used for the Aid to Publishers component of the fund puts minority French-language newspapers at a serious disadvantage, because it does not take their specific needs into account? This program is

replacing a previous program, the Publications Assistance Program.

[*English*]

Senator LeBreton: I thank the honourable senator for the question. I will pass on the direct question to the Minister of Canadian Heritage. I do believe, and I think it is fair to say, that the Minister of Canadian Heritage, James Moore, is a very committed and dedicated minister who has worked very hard to implement the Roadmap for Canada's Linguistic Duality. This has been a very successful program and it has had very positive feedback from minority language groups, not only from francophone language groups in provinces other than Quebec but also from anglophone groups in the Province of Quebec.

With regard to the honourable senator's specific question, I will be very happy to get a written response from the Minister of Heritage.
