

# Canadian Policy Agendas Data: Oral Questions

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Stuart Soroka, McGill University

This pdf file accompanies the following datasets:

Soroka, Stuart N. 2005. *Oral Questions, Canadian House of Commons, 1983-2004*.

Soroka, Stuart N. and Kelly Blidook. 2005. *Government Bills, Canadian House of Commons, 1968-2004*.

The *Oral Questions* dataset includes 43,426 cases, coded for topic and subtopic, date, length, MPs asking and answering questions, etc.

This file includes the following:

1. A brief description of the Oral Questions data (pg 2)
2. A brief description of the Government Bills data (pg 3)
3. The Policy Agendas codebook for Canada (pg 4)
4. *A Beginner's Guide to the Oral Question Database Program*, the training manual used for the Oral Questions project (pg 31)

These data have thus far been used in the following papers (published, under review, and conference papers):

Stuart Soroka, Erin Penner, and Kelly Blidook. 2009 "Constituency Representation in Parliament," forthcoming (Sept 2009) in the *Canadian Journal of Political Science*.

Stuart Soroka, Erin Penner and Kelly Blidook. 2006. "Legislative Priorities and Public Opinion: The Representation of Partisan Agendas in the Canadian House of Commons," *Journal of European Public Policy*.

Stuart Soroka. 2007. "Agenda-setting and Issue Definition," in Michael Orsini and Miriam Smith, eds., *Reconfiguring Policy Analysis: Contemporary Canadian Approaches*, University of British Columbia Press.

Stuart Soroka, Erin Penner, and Kelly Blidook. 2006. "The Nature of Representation in Canada, Part II," paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Canadian Political Science Association, Toronto.

Erin Penner, Kelly Blidook and Stuart Soroka. 2005. "The Nature of Legislative Representation in Canada.," paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Canadian Political Science Association, London, ON.

Any questions about these data can be sent to Stuart Soroka at McGill University.

## Oral Questions, Canadian House of Commons, 1983-2004

The Oral Questions database includes all questions asked in the Canadian House of Commons from 1983 to 2004, coded by major topic and subtopic, and including information on who asked and answered the question, and so on. It is intended to allow users to track issue salience for parties, or even individual legislators, over time.

All variables are labelled in the file. For information on coding, see the *Topic Codebook* and *Beginner's Guide* that follow.

Variables are as follows:

qpid	Question Period Question ID (from Access)
Question1_Name	Full name of first person to ask question
Question1_Lastname	Last name of first person to ask question
Question1_Party	Party of first person to ask question
parliamentariancode	Parliamentarian Code for first person to ask question
constituencyname	Constituency Name (text)
constituencycode	Constituency Code (from Census)
Year	Year
Month	Month
Day	Day
eyear	Election Year
parsession	Parliamentary Session
parnumber	Parliament (Number)
qnumber	Number of question in that Question Period (first question, second, etc)
Topic_1	Major Topic Code
Subtopic_1	Subtopic Code
accountability	Accountability Frame (binary)
topicdesc	Topic Description (text)
length	Length of question (column cms or words)
dailylength	Total daily length (column cms or characters)
Answer1_Name	Name of first person to answer first question
Question2_Name	Name of person who asked second question
Answer2_Name	Name of person who answered second question
Question3_Name	Name of person who asked third question
Answer3_Name	Name of person who answered third question
Question4_Name	Name of person who asked fourth question
Answer4_Name	Name of person who answered fourth question
Question5_Name	Name of person who asked fifth question
Answer5_Name	Name of person who answered fifth question

## Government Bills, Canadian House of Commons, 1968-2004

The Government Bills database includes all Government Bills from the 28th to the 27th Parliament. Bills are coded by major topic and subtopic (indeed, up to four subtopics if applicable). The dataset also includes information on the dates of the first, second and third readings, and Royal Assent, for each bill.

Again, all variables are labelled in the file. For information on coding, see the *Topic Codebook* and *Beginner's Guide* that follow.

Variables are as follows:

listid	ID
parliament	Parliament
session	Session
parlsitdays	Number of Days the House sat in current session
partygovt	Party in Govt
startdate	Start of Session
minority	Minority Govt (dummy)
govttoopp	Govt to Opp Seat ratio
oppparties	Number of Opposition Parties
billnumber	Bill Number
topic1	Policy Agendas Topic
subtopic1	Policy Agendas Subtopic
subtopic2	Policy Agendas Subtopic, second, where applicable
subtopic3	Policy Agendas Subtopic, third, where applicable
subtopic4	Policy Agendas Subtopic, fourth, where applicable
houseone	Date of First Reading in House
housetwo	Date of Second Reading in House
housethree	Date of Third Reading in House
Housecttee	House Committee to which Bill is sent, if applicable
royalass	Date of Royal Assent
statute	Statute

# Canadian Policy Agendas Topic Codebook

(completed May 2005)

Stuart Soroka, McGill University  
[stuart.soroka@mcgill.ca](mailto:stuart.soroka@mcgill.ca)

This codebook is based on coding schemes developed by Frank Baumgartner (Penn State) and Bryan Jones (Washington), and available through the Policy Agendas Project at the University of Texas, Austin. Examples of topics have been changed to reflect the Canadian context, and entirely new codes have been denoted with asterisks.

The codebook was originally designed for use in a content-analytic database of Oral Questions in the Canadian House of Commons. Those data were gathered for a project entitled “Examining Question Period: Representation and Policymaking in the House of Commons” (Stuart Soroka, Principle Investigator); data were gathered from 2003 to 2005, funded by a Standard Research Grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

## Major Topic Codes

- [1. Macroeconomics](#)
- [2. Civil Rights, Minority Issues, and Multiculturalism\\*](#)
- [3. Health](#)
- [4. Agriculture & Forestry\\*](#)
- [5. Labour, Employment, and Immigration](#)
- [6. Education](#)
- [7. Environment](#)
- [8. Energy](#)
- [9\\*. Fisheries](#)
- [10. Transportation](#)
- [12. Law, Crime, and Family Issues](#)
- [13. Social Welfare](#)
- [14. Community Development and Housing Issues](#)
- [15. Banking, Finance, and Domestic Commerce](#)
- [16. Defence](#)
- [17. Space, Science, Technology and Communications](#)
- [18. Foreign Trade](#)
- [19. International Affairs and Foreign Aid](#)
- [20. Government Operations](#)
- [21. Public Lands and Water Management](#)
- [23. Culture and Entertainment](#)
- [24. Provincial and Local Govt Administration](#)
- [25\\*. Intergovernmental Relations & Trade](#)
- [26\\*. Constitutional and National Unity Issues](#)
- [27\\*. Native Affairs](#)

## Subtopic Codes

### 1. Macroeconomics [\[return to index\]](#)

100: General Domestic Macroeconomic Issues (includes combinations of multiple subtopics) ; Examples: the administration's economic plans, economic conditions and issues, economic growth and outlook, state of the economy, long-term economic needs, recessions, general economic policy, promote economic recovery and full employment, demographic changes, population trends, recession effects on state and local economies, distribution of income

101: Inflation, Prices, and Interest Rates ; Examples: inflation control and reduction, anti-inflation programs, calculation of inflation statistics and price index statistics, consumer price index, food prices, cost of living, interest rates, bureau of labour reports on inflation, effects of inflation on business, general economic statistics

103: Unemployment Rate ; Examples: unemployment and employment statistics, economic and social impact of unemployment, national employment priorities, employment and labour market development, bureau of labour reports on unemployment See also: 502, 503 solutions to unemployment problems

104: Monetary Supply, Federal Reserve Board, and the Treasury ; Examples: monetary policy issues, Federal Reserve's yearly monetary policy reports, Department of Treasury and Federal Reserve Board expenditures, credit availability, national savings rate, relationship between fiscal and monetary policies ; See also: 1808 exchange rates; 1501 Canadian Banking System and Financial Institution Regulation

105: National Budget and Debt ; Examples: administration's yearly budget proposals, budget process, federal debt and deficit, deficit reduction and management proposals, budget projections, increases in the public debt limit, concurrent budget resolutions, impact of budget reductions on industries, states and communities

107: Taxation, Tax policy, and Tax Reform ; Examples: taxation of income, provincial and local income taxes, clarification of tax code, tax code reform, luxury and excise taxes, estate and gift taxes, corporate income taxes, collection procedures for federal taxes, administration tax proposals, income tax reform, tax treatment of charities, federal tax code reform and simplification, revenue acts, impact of taxes on business, GST, harmonizing provincial and federal taxes, child tax credit; See also: 2009 Revenue Canada administration

108: Industrial Policy ; refers to general, non-labour related policy. Examples: manufacturing strategy, technological capacity of industry, national industrial policy, industry revitalization and growth, decline in Canadian industrial productivity, plant closings and relocation, industrial reorganization, commission on productivity; See also: 1806 international business competition; 1403 economic development programs, 531 Canadian Industries (labour related issues)

110: Price Control and Stabilization ; Examples: economic stabilization programs, wage-price control and freezes, administered pricing programs, emergency price controls

199: Other

### 2. Civil Rights, Minority Issues, and Multiculturalism\* [\[return to index\]](#)

200: General (includes combinations of multiple subtopics) ; Examples: civil rights violations, , equal employment opportunity laws, , expenditures for civil rights-related programs, civil rights enforcement, , employment discrimination involving several communities (age, gender, race, etc. in combination),

201: Ethnic Minority and Racial Group Discrimination ; Examples: minority set aside programs, minority contracting and business development, appointment of minorities to judgeships, Government/bureaucracy hiring and promotion of minorities, race-based crimes, hate crimes, investigation of racist individuals/ organizations (e.g., Holocaust deniers) ; See also: 603 Education of Underprivileged Students, 2600\*

Constitutional Issues, 2700\* Native Affairs, 21\*0 Preservation of French Language and Culture, 212\*:  
Charter of Rights and Freedoms

202: Gender and Sexual Orientation Discrimination ; Examples: gender and sexual orientation  
discrimination in the military, social security inequities affecting women, employment barriers to women,  
female salary inequities, sex discrimination regulations. See also 212\*:  
Charter of Rights and Freedoms

204: Age Discrimination ; Examples: age discrimination in employment, mandatory retirement ages,  
retirement age policies. See also 212\*:  
Charter of Rights and Freedoms

205: Handicap or Disease Discrimination ; Examples: discrimination against the disabled, employment of  
persons with disabilities, insurance discrimination of blind people, civil rights of institutionalized persons  
and the mentally retarded, travel problems of the handicapped. See also 212\*:  
Charter of Rights and  
Freedoms

206: Voting Rights and Issues ; Examples: discriminatory barriers to voting registration (e.g., during  
Quebec referendum), banning literacy tests, voter registration, voting age

207: Freedom of Speech ; Examples: freedom of speech issues relating to the Charter of Rights and  
Freedoms, religious freedom, physical desecration of the flag, school prayer, protection of women's  
abortion rights, religious speech protection, anti-obscenity legislation

208: Right to Privacy ; Examples: privacy of consumer and worker records, employee drug and polygraph  
testing, computer access and security, police wiretapping, privacy of medical records, access to  
government records and information, disclosure and confidentiality standards for government information,  
Access to Information Act and Privacy Act, security and privacy of criminal arrest records

209: Anti-Government Activities ; Examples: theory and practice of Communism, internal security laws,  
investigation of student unrest at various universities

210\*: Preservation of French Language and Culture ; Examples: sign laws in Quebec, bilingualism See also  
610 French Language Education (Outside Quebec)

211\*: Multiculturalism Issues ; Examples: discussion of multiculturalism, multiculturalism programs, most  
programs under Culture Heritage and Recreation services

212\*:  
Charter of Rights and Freedoms ; general discussion of the Charter, implementation, effects,  
protection and promotion of English community in Quebec, multiple issues (for specific single-issue  
questions, put in relevant 200 subtopic code).

299: Other

### 3. Health [\[return to index\]](#)

300: General (includes combinations of multiple subtopics) ; Examples: Expenditures by Health Canada --  
for health care general health issues, regulations for health care services, Medicare, women's health care;  
See also: 1300 general Health Canada expenditures

301: Health Care Reform, Health Care Costs and Availability ; Examples: spending on health care, cost  
control in health care, health care reform proposals, rural health care availability, catastrophic health care  
costs, availability of health care, inflation of health care costs; See also 302 Health Care Funding  
Arrangements

302\*:  
Health Care Funding Arrangements ; Examples: federal-provincial agreements on health care  
funding, such as Established Programs Financing (EPF) and Canadian Health and Social Transfer  
(CHST). See also 2501\*:  
Fiscal Arrangements-Social Programmes.

306: Regulation of Prescription Drugs, Medical Devices, and Medical Procedures ; Examples: drug approval process, drug patents, prescription drug cost increases, regulation of medical devices, generic drugs, prescription drug counterfeiting, pacemaker regulation, prescription drug labeling, over-the-counter drug safety, Government approval of contraceptive devices, allocation of human organs for transplant, safety of the blood supply, fatal allergic reactions to drugs, drug abuse in nursing homes, vitamin, mineral and diet supplements, regulation of drug marketing procedures, approval of drugs to combat specific diseases ; See also: 1520 business competition in the drug industry

307: Health Facilities Construction and Regulation, regulation of medical laboratories and clinical drug labs, medical lab reliability issues, hospital construction ; See also: 311 nursing home regulation

309: Mental Illness and Mental Retardation ; Examples: misuse of federal funds for mental health care, mental health services, review of hospital psychiatric programs, federal role in providing services to the mentally ill, quality of care for mentally ill, mentally ill and handicapped children, specialized housing for mentally retarded

310: Medical Fraud, Malpractice, and Physician Licensing Requirements ; Examples: dispute resolution for medical malpractice claims, unfair sales practices in the diet and medical industries, liability protection for federal physicians, medical malpractice insurance coverage, physician recertification, faulty cholesterol screening, sale of fraudulent medical degrees

311: Elderly Health Issues ; Examples: regulation of the sale of long-term health care to the elderly, long-term care insurance improvement, court appointed guardianships for the elderly and infirm, health care problems of the elderly, preventative health care for the elderly, private sector elderly care assistance, drug price cost and the elderly, health care delivery problems affecting the elderly, research on aging, problems in financing long-term care, community alternative to institutional care, approaches to long-term care for the elderly, certification of long-term health care facilities, comprehensive home health care, nursing home standards and regulation ; See also: 303 elderly and Medicare; 1303 elderly assistance programs

312: Infants, Children, and Immunization ; Examples: comprehensive child immunization act, reduction of infant mortality, promotion of breast feeding, prenatal care programs, child health care, sudden infant death syndrome, childhood malnutrition, fetal alcohol syndrome, child dental care

313: Health Manpower Needs and Training Programs ; Examples: health manpower training, medical personnel shortages, nurse training, public health training grants, physician training, medical libraries

315: Military Health Care ; Examples: veteran's health care programs, military mental health care programs, army nurses training, pay increases for military physicians, disabled veterans rehabilitation, VA hospitals and quality of care, post-traumatic stress disorders, nursing home care for veterans, military medical malpractice, military medical care accessibility, Agent Orange research

331: Drug and Alcohol Treatment ; Examples: extension of drug and alcohol abuse prevention programs, health coverage of drug and alcohol abuse treatment programs, drug and alcohol abuse prevention programs in schools, drug and alcohol abuse in the armed services, juvenile alcohol and drug abuse, entertainment industry efforts to curb drug and alcohol abuse ; See also: 332 alcohol abuse and treatment; 334 illegal drug abuse and treatment

332: Alcohol Abuse and Treatment ; Examples: implementation of the national minimum drinking age act, alcoholic beverage advertising act, alcohol abuse among the elderly, prevention of adolescent alcohol abuse, health insurance coverage of alcohol abuse treatment, drunk driving victims protection, drunk driving enforcement aid for states, alcoholism prevention programs ; See also: 331 drug and alcohol abuse



333: Tobacco Abuse, Treatment, and Education ; Examples: cigarette advertising and regulatory issues, ban on smoking in federal buildings, increase public awareness of smoking health risks, smoking prevention education programs, health effects associated with smoking

334: Illegal Drug Abuse, Treatment, and Education ; Examples: drug abuse education and prevention programs in schools, community based anti-drug programs, federal prison substance abuse treatment availability act, methadone treatment program, drug abuse treatment programs and insurance coverage, drug abuse by military personnel ; See also: 1203 drug trafficking and control; 306 regulation of prescription drugs

349: Specific Diseases ; Examples: federal response to AIDS, breast cancer treatment, skin cancer, Alzheimer's disease victims, treatment of osteoporosis, health effects of arthritis, renal disease, treatment of high blood pressure, Legionnaire's disease, communicable disease control, sickle cell anemia prevention, polio, venereal diseases, Center for Disease Control funding

398: Research and Development ; Examples: medical research and regulatory issues, sleep disorders research, biomedical research, fetal tissue transplant research, health policy research programs, medical applications of biotechnology research, research on increased life expectancy, human genetic engineering research, biomedical and behavioral research

399: Other ; Examples: rehabilitation needs of persons with head injuries, life-sustaining treatments for the terminally ill, nurse midwifery, health consequences of a nuclear attack

#### **4. Agriculture & Forestry\***      [\[return to index\]](#)

400: General (includes combinations of multiple subtopics) ; Examples: Agriculture (and Agri-Food) Canada expenditures, Canadian Wheat Board, general farm bills, farm legislation issues, economic conditions in agriculture, impact of budget reductions on agriculture, importance of agriculture to the Canadian economy, national farmland protection policies, agriculture and rural development expenditures, family farmers, state of Canadian agriculture, farm program administration, long range agricultural policies

401: Agricultural Trade (international)\* ; Examples: reform or abolishment of Canadian Wheat Board, inspection of imports, agriculture export promotion efforts, agricultural trade promotion programs, tobacco import and export trends, agricultural export credit guarantee programs, impact of imported meats on domestic industries, country of origin produce labeling, agricultural export initiatives, value added agricultural products in Canadian trade, establish coffee export quotas, effects of US produce importation, international wheat agreements, livestock and poultry exports ; See also: 2503 Inter-Provincial Trade-Agricultural, 1800 general foreign trade; 1502 agricultural commodities trading.

402: Government Subsidies to Farmers and Ranchers, Agricultural Disaster Insurance ; Examples: Net Income Stabilization Account (NISA), Agricultural Income Disaster Assistance (AIDA), Grain Transportation subsidies (for inter-provincial trade), Crop Insurance, Advance Payments program, Assurance-stabilisation des revenus agricoles (ASRA), agricultural price support programs, crop loss assistance, agricultural disaster relief programs, subsidies for dairy producers, farm loan and credit issues, direct subsidy payments to producers, evaluation of the supply and demand for various agricultural commodities, beef prices, agricultural subterminal storage facilities, financial problems of farm banks, agricultural transportation subsidies ; See also: 1404 farm real estate financing

403: Food Inspection and Safety (including seafood) ; Examples: Canada Food Inspection Agency, Food Safety Assessment Program, monitoring of animal drug residues, consumer seafood safety, budget requests for food safety programs, food labeling requirements, grain inspection services, regulation of health and nutrition claims in food advertising and labeling, sanitary requirements for food transportation, regulation of pesticide residues on fruit, regulation of artificial food coloring, contamination of food supplies, meat

grading standards, meat processing and handling requirements, improvement of railroad food storage facilities, shortage of grain storage facilities, food packaging standards, food buyer protection ; See also: 401 inspection of food imports

404: Agricultural Marketing, Research, and Promotion ; Examples: research, and consumer information act, commodity promotion programs, wheat marketing problems, livestock marketing, fruit and vegetable marketing, industrial uses for agricultural products, meat promotion program.

405: Animal and Crop Disease and Pest Control ; Examples: regulation of plant and animal mailing to prevent the spread of diseases, control of animal and plant pests, pork industry swine disease eradication program, virus protection for sheep, grasshopper and cricket control programs on farmland, eradication of livestock diseases, brucellosis outbreak in cattle, integrated pest management program, toxic contamination of livestock, fire ant eradication program, predator control problems, biological controls for insects and diseases on agricultural crops, eradication of farm animal foot and mouth diseases ; See also: for pollution effects of pesticides see 704; for pesticide residues on foods see 403

406\*. Forestry, general ; Examples: regulation of logging industry, forestry management programs, trade factors and disputes affecting Canadian timber exports.

498: Agricultural Research and Development ; Examples: condition of federally funded agricultural research facilities, nutrition research activities, agricultural research programs, regulation of research in agricultural biotechnology programs, organic farming research, potential uses of genetic engineering in agriculture, agricultural research services, research on aquaculture

499: Other ; Examples: methodologies used in a nationwide food consumption survey, agricultural weather information services, federal agricultural census, designate a national grain board, home gardening, redefinition of the term "farm "

## **5. Labour, Employment, and Immigration**      [\[return to index\]](#)

500: General (includes combinations of multiple subtopics) ; Examples: Human Resources Development Canada expenditures, assess change in labour markets, decline in the number of manufacturing jobs, national employment priorities, EI administration financing, current labour market developments

501: Worker Safety and Protection ; Examples: Canadian Centre for Health and Safety, mine safety regulations, lead exposure risks during construction activities, improving safety and health programs, petrochemical plant worker safety, repetitive motion illnesses in the workplace, penalties and procedures for violations resulting in employee death or disability, construction safety standards, improve procedures for occupational health hazards identification, identification of high-risk diseases in the work place, drug and alcohol abuse in the work place, compensation for occupational diseases, safety at nuclear facilities

502: Employment Training and Workforce Development ; Examples: job opportunities and basic skills training programs, federal aid for job retraining, elderly workers and job re-training, displaced homemakers vocational and education assistance, work incentive programs, manpower development and training , public service jobs for unemployed

503: Employee Benefits ; Examples: underfunded pension plans and pension plan protection, emergency unemployment compensation, retiree health benefits, guarantees of retirement annuities, employee stock ownership plans, fraud and abuse in employee sponsored health insurance programs, health benefits for employees, pension benefit guarantee corporation, voluntary employee leave sharing program, tax treatment of employee fringe benefits, disability insurance legislation, railroad employment benefits ; See also: 2004 federal employee benefits, 507\* Canadian Pension Plan

504: Employee Relations and Labour Unions ; Examples: labour-management relations in the coal industry, striker replacement legislation, national rail strike, federal agency guidelines for worker dispute

resolution, unions and collective bargaining problems, regulation of flight attendant work and rest periods, federal mediation of railway employee strike, fair labour standards, labour law reform and unfair labour practices, terms of office for local labour union officers, harbor workers compensation act, investigation into the causes of labour disputes, notification of plant closures or layoffs, [includes government interventions in employer-employee disputes] ; See also: 1926 International Labour Organization; 1202 illegal activities of labour unions

505: Fair Labour Standards ; Examples: minimum wage regulation for federal contracts, increase the minimum wage rate, enforcement of wage and hour standards, require contractors to pay wages at the rate in locality where the construction occurred, fair labour standards act, penalties on employers for overtime work requirements ;

506: Youth Employment and Youth Job Corps Programs ; Examples: youth employment through conservation projects, increase youth participation in job training centers, youth employment regulation and protection, voucher system to promote youth service programs, youth involvement in community service programs, summer youth education and employment programs, job training for disadvantaged youths ; See also: 501 child labour safety

507\*: Canadian Pension Plan (CPP) (also Quebec Pension Plan, QPP) ; discussion of establishment, funding, state of, or reforms to the CPP. For Old Age Security, see 1303.

508: Parental Leave and Child Care ; Examples: family and medical leave act, child care assistance programs, child care for low and moderate income families, meeting the child care needs of working parents, affordability of insurance for day care centers, parental and medical leave, child care placement assistance for working parents

529: Migrant and Seasonal workers, Farm Labour Issues ; Examples: migrant and seasonal worker housing, national office for migrant farm workers, improvement of migrant living and working conditions, social and economic problems of migrant workers, migrant workers and their effect on Canadian labour, migratory labour bills, health clinics for migratory farm workers, farm labour supply programs

530: Immigration and Refugee Issues ; Examples: immigration of refugees to Canada, refugee resettlement expenditures, immigration and public health, expenditures and policies relating to the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada and Citizenship and Immigration Canada, Immigration and Refugee Protection Act, enforcement of immigration laws, legalization procedures for illegal immigrants, education issues for immigrants, denial of visas to political refugees, political refugees in the Canada, deporting criminals, extradition issues; See also: 1524 tourism; 1929 passport issues

531\*: Canadian Industries - general and labour related; discussion of / concerns about Canadian industries ; for specific industries, see 532 Automotive, 400 Agriculture, 406\* Forestry, 900\* Fishing, 108 Industrial Policy (non-labour related issues)

532\*: Canadian Automotive Industry ; discussion of the automotive industry in Canada ; See also 1800 Foreign Trade

599: Other ;

## 6. Education [\[return to index\]](#)

600: General (includes combinations of multiple subtopics) ; Examples: federal education programs, state of education in Canada, education programs development, education quality, national education methods, impact of education budget cuts, conferences on education; See also 2500 Intergovernmental Relations and 2501 Fiscal Arrangements-Social Programs

601: Higher Education ; Examples: student loan programs, higher education student financial aid programs, loan programs for graduate students, student loan fraud and default, veterans education

assistance, foreign students at Canadian universities, rising costs of operating higher education institutions, improving the quality of higher education ; See also: 1611 military education

602: Elementary and Secondary Education ; Examples: federal elementary and secondary education programs, school funding disparities, education choice programs, high school dropout intervention programs, certification standards for public school teachers, impact of federal budget cuts on school districts, elementary and secondary school student discipline problems, the safe schools act, school lunch programs, construction assistance for school facilities, high school scholarship programs

603: Education of Underprivileged Students ; Examples: teaching disadvantaged students, education needs of natives. Bilingual education needs, grants to improve skills of economically disadvantaged students, adult literacy programs, combating adult illiteracy in Canada, education for children from low income homes, enrichment programs for disadvantaged secondary school students ; See also: 201 Ethnic Minority and Racial Group Discrimination, 2602 Native Affairs

604: Vocational Education ; Examples: expenditures for vocational education programs, federal aid for vocational training, technical and vocational education programs, vocational aid program requirements, impact of proposed budget cuts on vocational education, vocational and occupational education

606: Special Education ; Examples: education programs for the deaf, DOE grants for early intervention services for disabled infants and toddlers, expenditures for Education of the Handicapped Act, progress in implementing program for learning disabled youth, handicapped education, free public education for the handicapped, education assistance for the blind

607: Special Secondary Education Programs ; Examples: promotion of excellence in education, promotion of science and math education, education standards and testing, improvement of science education facilities, increase language competency in schools, programs to promote teacher excellence, grants for improving computer education in schools, establish centers for gifted and talented students, use of telecommunications to share teaching resources, grants for library construction, federal library program developments, public library facilities

609: Arts and Humanities ; Examples: Expenditures for Canada Council for the Arts, arts development programs, federal role in funding arts programs, conferences on the arts and humanities ; See also: 1707 public broadcasting

610: French language education (outside Quebec)

698: Research and Development ; Examples: education research and development programs, research on education technology

699: Other ; Examples: retirement and lifelong learning

## **7. Environment**     [\[return to index\]](#)

700: General (includes combinations of multiple subtopics) ; Examples: Environment Canada, Meteorological Service of Canada budgets, implementation of the Clean Air Act, review of Health Canada environmental regulations, Canadian policies and international environmental issues, requirements for pollution management programs, pollution control programs, environmental protection and energy conservation, adequacy of Environment Canada staff for implementing pollution control legislation

701: Drinking Water Safety ; Examples: Clean Water Act, pesticides in groundwater, lead contamination of drinking water, drinking water safety programs, comprehensive program to assess the quality of the nation's groundwater, drinking water availability, dioxin levels in drinking water

703: Waste Disposal ; Examples: interstate waste disposal, solid waste management, federal management of municipal waste, municipal sewage problems, recovery of energy from municipal solid waste

704: Hazardous Waste and Toxic Chemical Regulation, Treatment, and Disposal ; Examples: hazardous waste sites cleanup, hazardous materials transportation, international movement of hazardous waste, insurance company liability for cleanup costs of hazardous waste sites, hazardous waste landfills, possible sites for nuclear waste repositories, toxic substances control and regulation, advance notice of hazardous of hazardous material storage for firefighters, pesticides regulation

705: Air pollution, Global Warming, and Noise Pollution ; Examples: Clean Air Act, air quality issues affecting national parks, regulation of chemical plant emissions, costs and effects of chronic exposure to low-level air pollutants, ambient air quality criteria, global warming, national action plan for reducing greenhouse emissions, ozone layer depletion, national program to control acid rain, effects of chlorofluorocarbons on the ozone layer, regulation of automobile emissions, noise control programs

707: Recycling ; Examples: recycling contaminated materials, beverage container recycling, state and local recycling efforts, promotion of recycling as a means of reducing solid waste, resource conservation and recycling

708: Indoor Environmental Hazards ; Examples: Health Canada programs aimed at awareness of environmental hazards (e.g., radon), indoor air quality, lead exposure reduction, childhood lead poisoning prevention, management and control of asbestos, programs relating to indoor air contamination, airliner cabin air quality, health effects of exposure to low level radiation from video display terminals, regulation of indoor disinfectants

709: Species and Forest Protection ; Examples: Endangered Species Act, gray wolf restoration, protection of spotted owls, exotic bird conservation, protection of performance animals, regulation of trapping devices, bald eagle protection, regulation of laboratory animals, fish and wildlife protection and management programs, marine mammal protection, [fisheries protection, fishery conservation and management, salmon conservation issues – now 901\* Fish stocks], sport fish restoration programs, protection scientific findings on late-successional forest ecosystems, old growth forest protection, wilderness refuge protection, control of illegal trade in animals and plants ; See also: 406\* Forestry; 1902 international agreements on resource/wildlife conservation; 2101 national parks; 2103 public lands management

710: Coastal Water Pollution and Conservation ; Examples: preservation of wetlands, regulation of ocean dumping, pollution from cruise ships, marine plastic pollution control, marine sanctuaries expenditures, protection of coral reef systems, coastal barrier improvement, coastal erosion and management, toxic pollution in the great lakes, regulation of the incineration of hazardous wastes at sea, oil spills ; See also: 900\* Fisheries, 2104 water resources development

711: Land and Water Conservation ; Examples: land and water conservation fund amendments, soil conservation promotion (e.g., National Soil Conservation Week), soil conservation for watershed projects, topsoil conservation standards, water supply problems, beach erosion, conservation reserve program ; See also: 2104 water resources development

798: Research and Development ; Examples: environmental research and development programs, research and development expenditures, global climate change research, ocean research using satellite technology, marine biotechnology research

799: Other

## 8. Energy [\[return to index\]](#)

800: General (includes combinations of multiple subtopics) ; Examples: National Energy Board, Natural Resources Energy Sector expenditures, Canadian energy goals, Canadian energy supply and conservation, regulation of natural gas and electricity, impact of taxation on national energy policy, global energy

needs, emergency plans for energy shortages, promotion of energy development projects, long-range energy needs of Canada, energy advisory committees ; See also: 2104 for energy and water development projects

801: Nuclear Energy and Nuclear Regulatory Commission Issues ; Examples: Atomic Energy of Canada expenditures, CANDU reactor development, nuclear power licensing reform, nuclear power plant fire safety legislation, nuclear power policy, safety of nuclear facility storage tanks for high level radioactive waste, revise the claims system for nuclear accidents, standardized design for nuclear power plants, new technologies for safer nuclear reactors, need for international nuclear safety standards, state of the atomic energy industry, atomic energy patents ; See also: 501 nuclear worker safety; 1614 defence related nuclear waste; 704 nuclear waste

802: Electricity and Hydroelectricity ; Examples: expenditures on electricity and hydroelectricity through Natural Resources Canada, electric power plant construction, hydroelectric project licensing, hydroelectric power development, utility payment reform, electric utility rate reform and regulation improvement, regional shortages of electric power, electric utilities financial problems, regulation of electric power plants use of natural gas, vulnerability of Canadian electric power systems to accidents, increase in rural electric rates, emergency sales of electric power, impact of inflation and recession on the electric utility industry

803: Natural Gas and Oil (Including Offshore Oil and Gas) ; Examples: natural gas regulation, natural gas pipeline safety issues, pipeline development, northern natural gas and oil exploration, estimates of natural gas reserves in Canada, offshore gas and oil leasing, collection and dissemination of information on winter heating fuels, oil prices and demand, gasoline price increases, OPEC crude oil prices, oil shortages, increase in world oil prices, long-term outlook of the world oil supply, oil imports and foreign commission payments, oil imports and energy security, foreign oil production and consumption, oil shale mining claims and regulation, estimating domestic oil production, petroleum storage facility fire prevention and safety, strategic petroleum reserve ; See also: 2103 public lands management (including mineral resources of the outer continental shelf); 710 oil spills

805: Coal ; Examples: clean coal programs, clean coal technologies, regulation of coal slurry pipelines, extent and recoverability of Canadian coal reserves, regulation of land leases for the extraction of coal, federal standards for surface coal mining, coal imports

806: Alternative and Renewable Energy ; Examples: hydrogen and renewable energy programs, promotion of solar and geothermal power, promotion of alternative fuels for automobiles, issues of ethanol gasoline, biomass fuel and wind energy programs, ocean thermal energy research, solar energy development program, loans for alcohol fuel research

807: Energy Conservation ; Examples: energy efficiency in government, home energy efficiency programs, energy conservation in cities, energy conservation standards for household appliances, establish building energy performance standards, diesel fuel and gasoline conservation, promotion of carpooling, daylight savings time extensions, motor vehicle fuel efficiency

898: Research and Development ; Examples: national energy research and development policy, Natural Resources energy technology research and development, energy storage research and development programs, role of national laboratories in energy research and development

899: Other

**9\*. Fisheries**     [\[return to index\]](#)

900\*: Fisheries, general; For water pollution, see 710: Coastal Water Pollution and Conservation

901\*: Fish stocks ; depletion of, management of fish stocks

902\*: Economic problems ; Examples: unemployment and economic difficulties, particularly in Atlantic Canada

903\*: Foreign fishing ; Examples: problems with foreign boats, particularly East Coast cod fishing, Pacific salmon fishing; See also

999\*: Other

## 10. Transportation [\[return to index\]](#)

1000: General (includes combinations of multiple subtopics) ; Examples: Canadian Transportation Agency or Transport Canada requests and expenditures, surface transportation programs, national transportation policy, rural transportation needs, adequacy of transportation systems, Interstate Commerce Commission policies and procedures, highway and mass transit programs, transportation assistance programs, highspeed ground transportation systems ; See also: 1003 Airports, Airlines, Air Traffic Control and Safety

1001: Mass Transportation and Safety ; Examples: mass transit grant programs, development of new urban public bus system, financial condition of the inter-city bus industry, emergency subsidies to urban mass transportation programs, metro-rail safety, public transportation

1002: Highway Construction, Maintenance, and Safety ; Examples: Transport Canada expenditures, federal aid for highway construction, highway safety and design, highway trust fund surplus, national maximum speed limit laws, federal funding for bridge maintenance projects, highway user taxes, infrastructure development, bridges

1003: Airports, Airlines, Air Traffic Control and Safety ; Examples: Canadian Transportation Agency (air), Canada Air Transport Security Authority, aviation safety issues, financial condition of the airline industry, uses of satellite technology in aviation, development of new commercial aircraft, commercial air service restrictions, airline compliance with safety regulations, nationwide airport expansion needs, regulation of aircraft noise, air traffic controller standards, airlines fares and services, airplane crash liability standards, problems with airline computer reservation systems, air traffic control computer failures, rates and fares of foreign air transportation, federal airport construction aid

1005: Railroad Transportation and Safety ; Examples: Canadian Transportation Agency (rail), CN expenditures, federal railroad safety inspection and enforcement programs, development of high speed passenger rail transportation, growth of regional railroads, sales of short line and regional railroads, passenger safety issues, freight rail industry regulation, railroad deregulation

1006: Truck and Automobile Transportation and Safety ; Examples: trucking industry regulation, establish a national system of licensing for truck and bus drivers, truck safety audit and investigation procedures, prohibition of tandem trucks, size and weight limitations for trucks on interstate, impact of federal regulations on independent truckers, long and short haul trucking provisions, regulation of freight forwarders, regulation of the trucking industry, motor vehicle safety issues, auto industry development of airbags, motor vehicle information programs, automobile safety belt usage, automobile crash testing and standards, economic status of automobile manufacturing, all-terrain vehicle safety, trucking industry deregulation, efforts to reduce drunk driving ; See also: 705 automobile emissions regulation, automobile CAFE standards

1007: Maritime Issues ; Examples: Canadian Coast Guard expenditures, cargo liability limits and the carriage of goods by sea, cargo preference laws, revitalization of the maritime industry, commercial fishing vessel safety, navigation safety issues, cruise ship safety, commercial shipbuilding industry, financing construction of merchant ships, maritime freight industry regulation, regulation of ocean shipping rates, Great Lakes pilotage, small boat safety, navigation rules on inland waterways ; See also: 1902 international fishing and wildlife agreements; 2104 port development and construction

1010: Public Works (Infrastructure Development) ; Examples: expenditures for public works and civil works projects, transportation infrastructure improvements, civil works and energy projects, public works

investment needs, local public works employment projects, See also: 800 energy project; 2104 water resources development

1098: Research and Development ; Examples: surface transportation research and development, DOE requests for transportation research and development funding, research and development in ground transportation

1099: Other, example: taxi and limousine licensing

## **12. Law, Crime, and Family Issues**     [\[return to index\]](#)

1200: General (includes combinations of multiple subtopics) ; Examples: emerging criminal justice issues, administration of criminal justice, revision of the criminal justice system

1201: Agencies Dealing With Law and Crime ; Examples: RCMP, CSIS, judiciary, Department of Justice, law enforcement assistance programs, border crossing guards, port police; See also: 1800 Canada Customs and Revenue Agency

1202: White Collar Crime and Organized Crime ; Examples: Asian organized crime activities in Canada, racketeering control, organized crime, organized crime in labour unions, white collar crime, credit card counterfeiting and fraud legislation, corporate criminal liability, prosecution of organized crime labour racketeering cases, cigarette bootlegging ; See also: 1203 drug related money laundering

1203: Illegal Drug Production, Trafficking, and Control ; Examples: RCMP Drug Enforcement and Drug Awareness programs, cooperation in drug control border drug interdiction, international narcotics control strategy, Coast Guard drug confiscation and search policies, drug trafficking and money laundering, money laundering detection and penalties, federal seizure of drug related property, legalization of drugs, the relationship between drug trafficking and crime, criminal penalties for drug trafficking, smuggling

1204: Court Administration ; Examples: Judiciary / Supreme Court expenditures, Federal Court of Canada, Supreme Court of Canada, Tax Court of Canada expenditures and administration, reorganization of federal courts, reducing the workload of the Supreme Court, reforming jury procedures, time limits for federal criminal cases, capital punishment, criminal fine collection efforts, conditions for pre-trial release, bail guidelines and bail reform ; See also: 1205 parole issues; 1210 criminal sentencing requirements and civil suit guidelines

1205: Prisons ; Examples: Prison and Reformatory Act, prisons expenditures, halfway house contracts, alternatives to traditional incarceration for criminal offenders, prison overcrowding, prison construction plans and policy, prison violence, shortcomings of the correction system, reform of the present parole system, national correction standards

1206: Juvenile Crime and the Juvenile Justice System ; Examples: violent crime involving youth, juvenile justice and delinquency prevention, juvenile court system, youth criminal activity, homeless and runaway youth assistance programs, crime and violence in schools, adolescent drug use and related criminal activity, juvenile delinquency prevention programs, correlation of unemployment and the crime rate for youth, alternatives to juvenile incarceration, detention and jailing of juveniles

1207: Child Abuse and Child Pornography ; Examples: child abuse prevention, national child search system, regulation of child pornography, violence against children, sexual exploitation of children, problems and incidence of missing children, federal efforts to relocate missing children, sexual abuse of children in day care homes, parental kidnapping of their children

1208: Family Issues ; Examples: court-ordered child support, battered women and child custody legislation, state of child welfare services, adoption and foster care programs, domestic violence, federal family planning programs, impact of drugs on children and families, aid for abandoned infants and



children, teenage pregnancy issues, teenage suicide prevention, family services support for adoption, family economic problems, consequences of divorce, elderly abuse, domestic violence

1209: Police, Fire, and Weapons Control ; Examples: Federal financial assistance to provincial and local law enforcement, rights of police officers during internal investigations, police misconduct, neighborhood crime reduction programs, arson prevention, handgun control, revise federal gun control laws, control of explosives

1210: Criminal and Civil Code ; Examples: general or multiple revisions of the criminal code (for specific single-issue questions, put in relevant 1200 subtopic code), crime sentencing disparities, hate crimes sentencing, judicial sentencing in narcotics cases, sentencing in capital cases, criminal penalties for assaults on firemen and policemen, death penalty proposals.

1211: Riots and Crime Prevention ; Examples: programs to prevent crimes against women, crimes against the elderly, deterring auto theft, violent crime control, federal criminal diversion programs, compensation programs for victims of violent crime, causes of urban riots and civil disturbances ; See also: 1208 domestic violence

1212\*: Specific Criminal Cases ; popular cases for which are given considerable discussion in Parliament.

1299: Other, example: non-cigarette non-drug related smuggling

### **13. Social Welfare**     [\[return to index\]](#)

1300: General ; Examples: Health Canada general spending and budget requests (pertaining to social welfare more generally), welfare reform proposals, effectiveness of federal and provincial public welfare programs, social services proposals, general social services cuts, public assistance programs, effects of economic and social deprivation on the psychology of underprivileged persons, social security and welfare benefits reforms ; See also: 300 Health Canada expenditures; 600 Department of Education expenditures specific to education

1301: Food Stamps, Food Assistance, and Nutrition Monitoring Programs ; Examples: childhood hunger relief, child nutrition programs, consumer nutrition awareness, school breakfast/lunch programs, malnutrition problems among the elderly, food assistance for low income families, food assistance for the elderly; See also: 349 the role of diets in disease prevention

1302: Poverty and Assistance for Low-Income Families ; Examples: antipoverty programs, programs to alleviate long-term welfare dependency, needs of disadvantaged children from low-income families, mandatory work and training programs for welfare recipients, promotion of economic self-sufficiency for single mothers, child care for welfare recipients ; See also: 508 child care; 1204 legal assistance for the poor

1303: Elderly Issues and Elderly Assistance Programs ; Examples: Old Age Security, Guaranteed Income Supplement, social services for the elderly, problems and needs of elderly women, cost of living adjustments, impact of budget cuts on the elderly, needs of rural elderly ; See also: 311elderly health issues; 507 Canada Pension Plan; 1301 elderly nutrition assistance programs; 1408 elderly housing.

1304: Assistance to the Disabled and Handicapped ; Examples: disability benefits, revision of aid to handicapped, technologies for assisting disabled persons, grants for persons with chronic disabilities, needs of the elderly blind, rehabilitation assistance for disabled, programs for the deaf and hearing impaired, independent living programs for the handicapped, federal aid for the mentally ill and retarded, aid to physically handicapped ; See also: 205 handicapped access to federal buildings

1305: Social Services and Volunteer Associations ; Examples: domestic volunteer service programs, youth volunteer programs, community volunteer programs, providing volunteer services for the elderly, management of volunteer services, national meals-on-wheels programs, provincail social services programs, boy scouts ; See also: 1929 Peace Corps

1399: Other

#### 14. Community Development and Housing Issues [\[return to index\]](#)

1400: General ; Examples: Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) expenditures, housing and the housing market, CMHC policy goals, building construction standards, future of the housing industry, national housing assistance legislation, administration and operation of national housing programs, housing safety standards

1401: Housing and Community Development ; Examples: housing and community development programs, Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program, neighborhood revitalization efforts, neighborhood development and preservation, housing and urban development, National Housing Act ; See also: 1403 urban economic development; 1405 rural economic development

1403: Urban Economic Development and General Urban Issues ; Examples: urban enterprise zones, urban revitalization, economic problems in various cities, effects of budget cuts on cities, federal role in dealing with urban decline, reducing urban sprawl, economic development needs of urban areas, such as Toronto, Montreal, or Winnipeg (i.e., urban affairs not implicating regional issues, like economic problems of fisheries and employment levels in Cape Breton).

1404: Rural Housing and CMHC Housing Assistance Programs ; Examples: management of CMHC rural housing assistance program, shortages of low-income rural housing, housing credit needs in rural areas, CMHC management problems, agriculture real estate loans, farm loans ; See also: 1405 rural economic development

1405: Rural Economic Development ; Examples: credit assistance and availability for rural economic development, investment in rural areas, rural conditions, rural development oversight, economic and social problems of rural Canada, rural community development, rural telephone assistance, Aboriginal housing programs ; See also: 802 rural electric development

1406: Low and Middle Income Housing Programs and Needs ; Examples: housing affordability problems of low and moderate income families, federal housing assistance programs, low-income housing shortages, condominium conversion trends and housing affordability, rent control, deficiencies in public housing projects, tenant-management initiatives in public housing projects, security in public housing, neighborhood preservation, slum clearance and related problems, multifamily housing projects, housing affordability and availability ; See also: 200 fair housing initiatives and discrimination in housing; 1408 elderly housing

1407: Veterans Housing Assistance and Military Housing Programs ; DELETED

1408: Elderly and Handicapped Housing ; Examples: Home Adaptation for Seniors Independence, Elderly housing needs, housing shortages and the elderly, alternative approaches to housing for the elderly, condominiums and the elderly, housing facilities for the elderly and handicapped, adequacy of federal response to housing needs of older Americans

1409: Housing Assistance for Homeless and Homeless Issues ; Examples: permanent housing for the homeless, federal aid for the homeless, lack of housing for homeless and low-income groups, use of emergency assistance funds for housing for homeless families, extent and causes of homelessness in the Canada ; See also: 603 education of homeless children

1410: Secondary Mortgage Market ; Examples: CMHC mortgage insurance fund, mortgage marketing and mortgage credit, examine the secondary mortgage market for industrial mortgages, mortgage foreclosure procedures ; See also: 1504 consumer mortgages

1499: Other ; Examples: architectural competition, cellulose home insulation

## 15. Banking, Finance, and Domestic Commerce [\[return to index\]](#)

1500: General ; Examples: Department of Finance and Treasury Board expenditures, financial system structure and regulation, federal regulation of the economy; See also: 1800 Foreign Trade

1501: Canadian Banking System and Financial Institution Regulation ; Examples: bank mergers, Regulatory burden on financial institutions, banking regulation reform, need for financial service industry restructuring, financial institution fraud investigations, savings and loan crisis, financial institution deregulation, interest rate regulation on savings accounts, national credit union administration, See also: 104 federal reserve board issues; 1202 prosecution of financial institution crimes; 1525 Consumer Safety and Consumer Fraud

1502: Securities and Commodities Regulation ; Examples: regulation of commodity markets, federal securities regulations, securities laws violations, regulation of commercial bank involvement in the securities market, regulation of corporate bonds, examine stock market volatility problems, municipal bond market regulation, commodity futures trading commission, growth of money market mutual funds, pension fund investment policies, RRSP investments, protection for securities investors, regulation of mutual fund investment companies, financial services industry reform

1504: Consumer Finance, Mortgages, and Credit Cards ; Examples: mortgage financing reform, consumer credit protection, real estate settlement procedures, consumer access to credit records, consumer information on credit card interest rates, consumer information on mortgage settlement costs, fraud and abuse among credit repair agencies, adjustable rate mortgages, regulation of credit card solicitations, inaccurate credit bureau information reporting procedures ; See also: 1410 government mortgage programs, financing housing purchases (for example, with RRSPs) is coded under the relevant 14 subtopic.

1505: Insurance Regulation ; Examples: fraud and abuse in the insurance industry, insurance industry financial status, effectiveness of state regulation of insurance companies, insurance company failures, automobile insurance affordability and availability, no-fault motor vehicle insurance, life insurance industry regulation, sales of commercial life insurance on military bases, product liability insurance rates ; See also: 1523 flood and earthquake insurance

1507: Bankruptcy ; Examples: reform of consumer bankruptcy laws, professional fees in bankruptcy cases, bankruptcy code reform, depositor treatment in bankruptcy proceedings of uninsured financial institutions, bankruptcy regulation for farm families ; See also: 1204 bankruptcy courts

1520: Corporate Mergers, Antitrust Regulation, and Corporate Management Issues ; Examples: unfair competition in the tourism industry, meatpacking industry concentration, intellectual property antitrust protection, price fixing agreements, monopoly problems in regulated industries, limited partnership regulations, corporate management structure, hostile corporate takeovers ; See also: 1501 banking deregulation; 1003 airline deregulation; 1005 railroad deregulation; 1006 trucking deregulation; 1706 telephone deregulation; 1526 sports regulation; 803 oil industry deregulation; 1505 insurance industry regulation

1521: Small Business Issues ; Examples: Industry Canada expenditures promoting small business exports, Small Business Loans Administration, small business credit availability problems, government assistance to small business, loans to small businesses, impact of deregulation on small businesses, promotion of women in small business, impact of product liability costs on small business, increases in small business failures, impact of federal regulations on small business, access to capital for small business, government competition with small business ; See also: 201 minority business programs; 1523 small business disaster loan programs

1522: Copyrights and Patents ; Examples: Canadian Intellectual Patent Office administration and expenditures, copyrights and telecommunication, biotechnology patent protection, intellectual property rights, copyright infringement remedies, industrial design protection, patents for inventions made in space, copyright protection for computer software, music copyrights, piracy of intellectual property, patent application procedures, trademark use and clarification, home recording of copyrighted material, performance royalties, patent office fees

1523: Domestic Disaster Relief ; Examples: Office Of Critical Infrastructure Protection and Emergency Preparedness administration and expenditures, aid for flood disasters, ice storms, earthquake preparedness, disaster planning and relief operations, disaster loans, interest rates on disaster loans, emergency credit extension to farmers in disaster areas

1524: Tourism ; Examples: promotion of tourism in Canada, using tourism to promote development of rural economies, problems for foreign visitors, status of Canadian tourism industry, national tourism programs, regulation of travel agents ; See also: 530 immigration and refugee issues; 1929 passport issues

1525: Consumer Safety and Consumer Fraud ; Examples: Consumer Safety Branch of Health Canada, Financial Consumer Agency of Canada administration and expenditures, deceptive mailings and solicitations, consumer reporting reform, auto repair fraud, consumer protection standards, standards for product liability, child car seat safety, infomercials and consumer protection, deceptive ads in the diet industry, telemarketing fraud, debt collection and consumer abuse, penalties for consumer product tampering, the consumer protection advocacy movement, labeling of alcoholic beverages, cosmetic safety, false and misleading advertising ; See also: 708 protection from indoor radiation hazards; 1504 fraudulent land sales

1526: Sports and Gambling Regulation ; Examples: regulation of greyhound racing, health and safety standards for boxing, promotion of professional standards for boxing, regulation of gambling on vessels, regulation of horse racing,

1599: Other, e.g. concerns or legislation about pyramid schemes

## 16. Defence [\[return to index\]](#)

1600: General ; Examples: Department of National Defence (DND) expenditures, DND operations and maintenance, status of the national military establishment; See also: 1701 CSA issues

1602: Canadian and Other Defence Alliances ; Examples: NATO strategy and Canadian military presence in Europe, mutual security acts, changes in the Soviet Union and the future of NATO, NATO defence capabilities in Europe, Warsaw Pact status, Soviet Union and China defence and economic development needs, Soviet strategic force developments, Canadian military commitments to NATO, NATO military equipment

1603: Military Intelligence, CSIS, Espionage ; Examples: foreign economic espionage, Canadian intelligence reorganization, leaks of classified defence information, estimates of Soviet defence spending, foreign intelligence electronic surveillance, Canadian defence strategies, national security acts, threats to Canadian interests, Soviet Union and China military capabilities

1604: Military Readiness, Coordination of Armed Services Air Support and Sealift Capabilities, and National Stockpiles of Strategic Materials ; Examples: efforts to improve defence communication systems, national defence stockpiles, strategic force modernization requirements, integration of military traffic management and military sealift command, Canadian military readiness, DND combat readiness programs, fleet readiness, test and evaluation of the armed forces, shortages of essential materials, stockpiling of critical materials, disposal of various stockpiled materials, military air transportation readiness ; See also: 803 strategic petroleum reserves; 1616 defence industry

1605: Arms Control and Nuclear Nonproliferation ; Examples: Nuclear and Chemical Disarmament Implementation Agency (DFAIT/IDN) expenditures, nonproliferation of weapons of mass destruction, destruction of nuclear weapons in the Soviet Union, North Korean nuclear program, U.S. arms control policies, nonproliferation of chemical weapons, nuclear testing moratorium, arms reduction agreements between NATO and the Warsaw Pact, international ban on chemical weapons, global spread of chemical and biological weapons, conventional forces reduction, violation of arms control agreements, nuclear proliferation in developing countries, implication of INF treaty for NATO, Soviet Salt II treaty violations, UN report on nuclear proliferation, arms trade in the western hemisphere, EURATOM agreements, atomic weapons research and development ; See also: 1803 chemical and advanced technologies export control

1606: Military Aid and Weapons Sales to other Countries ; Examples: military assistance to other countries, conventional arms sales policies, commercial military sales, donation of an obsolete aircraft carrier, proposed sale of weapons,; See also: 1901 for economic and military aid

1608: Manpower, Military Personnel and Dependents (Army, Navy, Air Force) ; Examples: military personnel issues, child care programs at military installations, armed forces staffing requirements, DND morale, welfare, and recreation programs, benefits for military retiree spouses, special pay to encourage personnel retention, survivor benefit plans, recruiting and retention of military personnel, life insurance for military personnel, retired military personnel issues ; See also: 315 military health care; 601 GI Bill and military academies

1609: Veterans' Issues ; veterans programs budget requests, veteran's benefit claims, veteran's job training, illness of Persian Gulf veterans, disabled veterans compensation, military retiree benefit plans, See also: 315 veterans health care; 601 veterans' education benefits; 1407 veterans' housing; 1409 homeless veterans

1610: Military Procurement and Weapons System Acquisitions and Evaluation ; Examples: DND expenditures for procurement of weapons, DND procurement process, DND aircraft procurement, shipbuilding and conversion programs, weapons system testing and evaluation, DND contracting for support services, DOD purchasing and control of military supplies, contracting ; See also: 1604 adequacy of supplies; 1617 oversight of defence contractors and contractor fraud

1611: Military Installations, Construction, and Land Transfers ; Examples: military construction expenditures, military construction programs, disposal of military property, construction of military academies, DND real estate acquisitions

1612: Reserve Affairs ; Examples: reserve officer personnel management, army reserve force structure, reserve pay, status of reserve facilities, promotion system for reserve officers

1614: Military Nuclear and Hazardous Waste Disposal, Military Environmental Compliance ; Examples: environmental crimes at rocky flats nuclear weapons facility, radioactive and chemical contamination at nuclear weapons facility, disposal of defence related wastes, cleanup of old American bases that were in Canada, hazardous waste identification at military bases, navy shipboard waste disposal policy, nuclear site decontamination ; See also: 704 nonmilitary hazardous waste disposal

1615: Civil Defence (war related) ; Examples: radiological emergency planning, civil reserve air fleet, effects of limited nuclear warfare, federal fallout shelter construction, civil defence for national survival, civil air patrol ; See also: 1523 domestic (weather related) disaster relief

1616: DND Civilian Personnel, Civilian Employment by the Defence Industry, Military Base Closings ; Examples: assist workers affected by defence spending cuts, assist communities affected by DND facilities closures, base closure recommendations, defence industry employment, protection of DND civilian employees

1617: Oversight of Defence Contracts and Contractors ; Examples: management and pricing of DND defence contracts, overpricing by DOD contractors, defence procurement fraud, DND inventory control system problems, defence contractor financial data reporting requirements, DOD contract award procedures

1619: Direct War Related Issues ; Examples: expenditures for military operations, closing of overseas bases ; See also: 1620 settlement of war related claims against the Canadian Government

1620: Relief of Claims against Canadian Military: ; Examples: refunds or settlements for military dependents, relief of citizen injuries caused by the military, refunds for veterans, return of confiscated property, settlement of damage claims caused by war, foreign claims settlement

1698: Research and Development (R&D) ; Examples: DND expenditures for research and development, advanced materials research, laser technology, R&D on aerospace plane

1699: Other ; Examples: army helicopter safety, environmental consequences of nuclear war, military commemorative legislation ; See also: 2101 military parks and memorials

## **17. Space, Science, Technology and Communications**    [\[return to index\]](#)

1700: General ; Examples: Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) administration and expenditures; National Research Council of Canada science-related expenditures; science and engineering personnel requirements for the 1990s, technology policy, CRTC regulation of multiple subtopics (TV, telephone, cable, etc.) ; See also: 1798 NSERC research funding

1701: Canadian Space Agency (CSA), Space Exploration ; Examples: CSA expenditures, CSA administrative issues, international space policy, CanadArm, NASA-CSA space programs

1704: Commercial Use of Space, Satellites ; Examples: international competition in space launch services, status of private investment in space activities, solar power satellite research, earth resources technology satellite program, communication satellites See also: 1707 satellite TV broadcasting; 1708 weather satellites

1705: Science Technology Transfer, International Scientific Cooperation ; Examples: technology transfer improvements, Federal Partners in Technology Transfer, technology transfer barriers and limitations, science cooperation between Canada and U.S., Canadian policies of cooperation with foreign countries on science and technology, international science cooperation, technology transfer from the Canadian government to private industry, university and industry cooperation for technological advancements; See also: 1803 restrictions on exports of high technology

1706: Telephone and Telecommunication Regulation ; Examples: national communications infrastructure, mobile communications, telephone network reliability, unauthorized switching of consumers to long distance carriers, international communications regulation, telecommunication development in rural areas, regulation of telephone rates, review CRTC awarding of licenses, telecommunications research and policy development, CRTC regulatory practice in telecommunications ; See also: 208 telephone privacy; 1525 telephone marketing fraud

1707: Broadcast Industry Regulation (TV, Cable, Radio, and Publishing) ; Examples: CBC / Radio Canada expenditures, CRTC regulation of cable, allocation of radio frequencies, CRTC regulation of radio, regulation of violence on TV, closed caption regulation of TV, competitive problems in the cable industry, requirements for transferring radio/TV broadcast licenses, CBC radio financial problems, Canadian Content, exporting and protecting Canadian culture/cultural products, TV and movie rating system, newspaper industry regulation

1708: Weather Forecasting and Related Issues, Oceanography ; Examples: Meteorological Service of Canada (MSC) expenditures, modernization of the weather service, weather forecasting and warning

technologies, global change research, Water Survey of Canada, ocean research, geological surveys of Canada, tornado forecasting and detection, earthquake prediction and research, ocean and marine resources programs, marine and atmospheric science programs, arctic weather reporting stations ; See also: 710 protection of marine environments.

1709: Computer Industry and Computer Security ; Examples: high-performance computer development, computer viruses, superconductivity research, security standards for government computers, lease of computer software, all internet related issues.

1798: Research and Development ; Examples: NSERC spending, mission of NSERC, alleged abuses of federal research grants to universities, federal cooperation with universities for science research, electric and magnetic field research, telecommunications equipment research, metals research and development, improving research facilities for science in Canadian universities, robotics research

1799: Other

## 18. Foreign Trade [\[return to index\]](#)

1800: General ; Examples: Canada Customs and Revenue Agency, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade trade-related administration and expenditures, various tariff and trade bills, Canadian foreign trade policy, Canadian trade relations with US and other countries, tax and trade regulations, customs court issues ; See also: 401 foreign agricultural trade, 2503\*: Inter-Provincial Trade-Agricultural, 2504\*: Inter-Provincial Trade-Other.

1802: Trade Negotiations, Disputes, and Agreements ; Examples: north American free trade agreement (NAFTA), Canadian job market implication of NAFTA, GATT final agreement, Canadian-EC meat trade disputes, foreign claims settlement award system, multinational trade negotiations, energy trade between U.S. and Canada, U.S.-Canada Free Trade Agreement, APEC summits

1803: Export Promotion and Regulation ; Examples: export development administration, Export Development Canada (EDC), export promotion programs, oil export controls, regulation of waste exports, tax incentives to encourage exports, encourage formation of export companies

1804: International Private Business Investment ; Examples: foreign acquisition of Canadian owned companies, foreign direct investment in Canada, improve coordination of information on foreign investments in Canada, reciprocal foreign investment protections, promotion of Canadian business investment in developing countries, activities of Canadian multinational corporations abroad, foreign investment and Canadian jobs, removal of tax barriers as an incentive for increased foreign investments, trade fairs, Team Canada / Canada Trade Missions

1806: Productivity and Competitiveness [and Independence] of Canadian Business, Canadian Balance of Payments ; Examples: Canadian industrial/technological trade competitiveness, federal role in supporting hi-tech competitiveness, Canadian international economic competitiveness, foreign competition in the banking industry, international competitive status of Canadian electronics industry ; See also: 108 domestic industry productivity

1807: Tariff and Import Restrictions, Import Regulation ; Examples: violation of country of origin documentation to avoid import quotas, steel import restrictions, country of origin labeling requirements, countervailing duty waivers, aviation tariff charges, duty-free entry, various tariff proposals, meat import restrictions, antidumping and import restrictions, cross-border shopping.

1808: Exchange Rates and Related Issues ; Examples: Dept. of Finance exchange rate policy, international financial policy, currency manipulation and foreign exchange rates, exchange value of the dollar, impact of exchange rates in Canadian trade, international monetary reform, eurocurrency monetary control.  
DELETED, see 104.

1899: Other

**19. International Affairs and Foreign Aid** [\[return to index\]](#)

1900: General ; Examples: Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade expenditures, Canadian foreign policy in view of recent world political developments, Canadian post cold war foreign policy, Canadian foreign policy and national defence issues, international tax treaties, international development and security, role of the diplomatic corps in foreign policy development and administration, foreign operations expenditures

1901: Foreign Aid ; Examples: Canadian Foreign Aid, Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), Foreign Assistance expenditures, emergency food assistance program, foreign assistance and foreign aid programs, international health assistance activities, migration and refugee assistance, international disaster assistance

1902: International Resources Exploitation and Resources Agreement ; Examples: Antarctic environmental protection, prevention of high-seas drift net fishing, Canadian territorial sea boundaries, international agreements on fishing, Antarctic minerals policy, Canadian policy regarding the International Whaling Commission, regulation of exploration and recovery of international seabed hard minerals, north pacific seal fur treaty between the U.S, Canada, Japan, and the Soviets, UN conference on the law of the sea, attempts to outlaw whaling ; See also: 700 domestic environmental protection. For foreign fishing in Canadian territorial waters, see 903.

1905: Developing Countries Issues (for financial issues see 1906) ; Examples: developing countries population problems, global hunger and food availability, impact of AIDS on children in developing countries, homeless children in developing countries, international family planning, role of environmental degradation in causing famine, assess elementary and secondary education programs in developing countries, effect of economic development projects on public health in developing countries, infant nutrition education practices, world population growth and its impact on natural resources, ; See also: 1911 famine in Africa

1906: International Finance and Economic Development ; Examples: International Monetary Fund (IMF), World Bank, multilateral development bank loans, Inter-American development bank, third world debt problems, private sector development in Africa, Canadian financial contribution to the IMF, European development and the Canadian economy, promotion of economic development in Latin America, Paris economic summit issues, international financial management systems improvement, strategies to alleviate third world debt, world economic situation and Canadian economic policies, international debt and implications for international financial institutions, east-west economic relations, international energy development assistance programs ; See also: 1901 Canadian foreign aid

1907: China ; Examples: Canadian policy towards China, 1989 Chinese student demonstrations, the return of Hong Kong to China, recent political repression in China, Canadian policy regarding China and Taiwan

1908: Soviet Union, Former Republics, Communist Expansion, Former Communist Bloc ; Examples: current agricultural situation in Russia, human rights abuses in former communist Russia, financial implications of Soviet economic reform, economic conditions in Russia, safety of Soviet Union nuclear plants, Soviet trade and economic policies, use of Soviet propaganda to influence world opinion, Soviet Union treatment of certain religious groups, assessment of Soviet activities in Asia, treaties between Canada and the Soviet Union, Soviet activities in Cuba, military and political rivalry between the U.S. and the Soviet Union, Soviet political leadership and implications for Canadian foreign policy, containing Soviet aggression ; See also: 1605 Soviet arms agreements; 1901 Canadian foreign aid to republics of the former Soviet Union



1909: Eastern Europe ; Examples: foreign aid, conflict between Bosnia and Serbia, break-up of Yugoslavia, Kosovo, environment and energy issues in Eastern Europe, Canadian relations with East Germany, political changes in East Europe, Yugoslavia earthquake and foreign relief assistance, status of nations under communist control, investigation of communist takeover of Hungary, Poland, Lithuania, and Slovakia

1910: Western Europe, Common Market Issues ; Examples: Canadian relations with Europe, 1990 German reunification, political and economic conditions in Europe, tax convention with the UK, Western European union, treaty of friendship and cooperation with Spain, Canadian policy toward Portugal, labour market policy in Sweden, British entry into the Common Market and its implications for the Canada, civil conflict in Northern Ireland

1911: Africa ; Examples: Southern African drought and implications for Canadian policy, AIDS epidemic in Africa, crisis in Somalia, civil war in Liberia, political developments in Mozambique, Canadian policy toward Zaire, famine and civil unrest in Sudan, Somalia, and Ethiopia, prospects for improving food development in Africa, health and refugee problems in Africa, foreign aid, political situation in Rwanda

1912: South Africa ; Examples: economic sanctions against South Africa, South African war with Namibia, administration policies on apartheid, restrictions for Canadian business in South Africa, world court decision on South Africa's racist policies

1914: Latin America (South America, Central America, Mexico, Caribbean Basin, Cuba) ; Examples: political developments in El Salvador, democracy and reconciliation in Nicaragua, Guatemala peace negotiations, democratic reform in Peru and Canadian policy, promotion of democracy in Cuba, Canadian policies and interest in Latin America, Canadian policy toward Central America, political situation in Haiti, Canadian relations with Honduras, prospects for democratic government in Chile

1915: Panama Canal Issues and Other International Canal Issues ; Examples: strategic importance of the Panama Canal, Panama Canal treaty issues, Panama Canal traffic and capacity, maintenance and operation of the Canal, development of new transoceanic canal

1919: Asia, Pacific Rim, Australia, and Japan ; Examples: Canadian policies in the South Pacific region, Canadian Asia economic relations, Canadian policy toward Hong Kong, Canadian economic embargo on North Vietnam, Canadian policy toward Burma, political developments in the Philippines, Canadian relations with Cambodia, Canadian relations with newly industrialized Asian countries, Canadian relations with New Zealand and Australia, implications of the Union Carbide accident in India, Japanese income tax system, declining political status of Taiwan, Canadian-Japanese relations, Indochina refugee assistance program, humanitarian problems in Korea, political situation in Thailand, Canadian policy toward Afghanistan

1920: Middle East ; Examples: political developments in the Middle East, restoration of the Kuwaiti government after the Persian Gulf War, Canadian and international policy toward humanitarian aid to Iraq, Asian responses to Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, peace process in the Middle East, Canadian relations with Iran, dispute over the West Bank, hostages in Lebanon, Islamic fundamentalism and implications for Canadian interests in the Middle East, Arab-Israeli conflict

1921\*: United States / U.S. / US ; Example: Canada's relationship with US, diplomatic relations, cultural differences, general policy-related conflicts. See also 1605 Arms Control; 1705: Science Technology Transfer; 1802: Trade Negotiations.

1925: Human Rights ; Examples: Human rights abuses in Latin America, human rights abuses in Middle East, war crimes tribunal hearings for Serbs, Canadian international human rights policy, Helsinki Accords human rights agreements, UN report on human rights in Cuba, Soviet human rights issues, government use of torture, human rights violations in Indonesia, worldwide religious persecution

1926: International Organizations other than Finance: United Nations (UN), UNESCO, International Red Cross ; Examples: U.N. conference on environment and development, management of the U.N., international labour organization, U.N. peacekeeping forces, international games for the disabled, international criminal court, UN food and agricultural organization, UN activities in response to Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, review of Canadian role in the U.N., planning preparation for Olympics in Montreal and Calgary, U.N. position on major policy issues, International Health Agency, U.N. report on international housing, relevance of the UN

1927: Terrorism, Hijacking ; Examples: antiterrorist measures, security of nuclear plants from terrorist attacks, impact of international terrorism on travel, legal mechanisms to combat terrorism, political killings in foreign countries and the international response, West Germany's political response to terrorism, international aircraft piracy

1929: Canadian Diplomats, Canadian Embassies, Canadian Citizens Abroad, Foreign Diplomats in Canada, Passports ; Examples: management of Canadian embassies, Canadian citizens living abroad, regulation of travel for Canadian citizens, restrictions on foreign diplomatic immunity, reform the foreign service personnel system, Canadian citizens imprisoned abroad, passport fraud problems, training of foreign affairs personnel ; See also: 1603 espionage

1999: Other

## **20. Government Operations**     [\[return to index\]](#)

2000: General (includes expenditures for multiple departments and agencies) ; Examples: budget requests for various agencies and independent commissions, budget requests for legislative branch programs, supplemental appropriations, expenditures for the Treasury Board Secretariat, and general government expenditures, government information plans and policies

2001: Intergovernmental Relations ; DELETED - SEE 2600

2002: Government Efficiency and Bureaucratic Oversight ; Examples: quality improvement strategies, restructuring the public sector, agency jurisdiction overlap and reform, financial soundness of government corporations, need to improve government printing practices, government management problems, use of advisory committees, internal accounting standards, effort to reduce paperwork, legislative oversight of federal agency programs, government waste and abuse, government reorganization plans, conflicts of interest in regulatory agencies, applying economic analysis to public programs, Auditor General ; See also: expenditures for departments and agencies see topical field, 2032\*: Government accountability and corruption issues

2003: Postal Service Issues (Including Mail Fraud) ; Examples: Canada Post expenditures, need for additional postal facilities, oversight of Canada Post operations, Canada Post budgetary and cost issues, performance of Canada Post first class delivery, increase in overseas postal rates, operation and organization of the postal rate service, postal worker injuries, postal worker stress disorders, Canada Post efforts to automate mail processing, regulation of mail solicitations, commemorative stamps, early retirement of postal employees, day care centers for postal employees, training for postmasters, regulation of obscene mail ; See also: 2008 construction of post office buildings

2004: Government Employee Benefits, Civil Service Issues ; Examples: federal employee collective bargaining rights, civil service retirement benefits, federal agencies use of temporary employees, federal and military wage policies, federal personnel awards, reform of federal employee health benefits, early retirement program for federal workers, government personnel training programs, personnel performance appraisal system, payroll deductions for federal employees, civil service pension fund and interest earnings, pension plans, per diem travel allowance ; pay equity, incompetence or corruption of civil

servants. See also: 200 discrimination in the federal government employment; 2003 postal employees; 2012 political activities of federal employees

2005: Nominations and Appointments ; Examples: nominations and appointments for all departments and agencies, problems with appointees, problems with patronage appointments

2006: Currency, Commemorative Coins, Medals, Royal Canadian Mint ; Examples: expenditures for the Royal Canadian Mint, minting of commemorative coins, replacement of one dollar bills with coins, provincial commemorative coins, design of new Canadian currency, increasing coin production. ; See also: 104 monetary policy, 1699 military medals

2007: Government Procurement, Procurement Fraud and Contractor Management ; Examples: Professional Services Procurement Directorate expenditures, procurement policies, government procurement system, arbitration of service contract disputes, timeliness of federal payments to private vendors, efforts by federal agencies to circumvent the competition in contracting act, federal contract auditing policies, fraud in federal procurement programs, untendered contracts, federal consulting service contracts, commission on government procurement ; See also: 1610 military procurement; 1617 military contractor oversight

2008: Government Property Management ; Examples: federal facilities construction, management of public building leases, capital improvement programs, restrict smoking in federal buildings, government office space contract management, property sale authorization, relocation assistance and property acquisitions, foreign service buildings, post office buildings, naming federal buildings

2009: Revenue Canada Administration ; Examples: Revenue Canada tax system modernization, Revenue Canada employee misconduct, taxpayer assistance and treatment, settlement of disputes between tax payers and Revenue Canada, Revenue Canada collection of delinquent income taxes, Revenue Canada benefit plans regulations, Revenue Canada internal management and quality of service, Revenue Canada processing of income tax returns, reorganization of the Revenue Canada ; See also: 107 taxation

2010: Presidential Impeachment & Scandal ; DELETED. See 2031 Government accountability and corruption

2011: Federal Government Administrative Issues, Parliamentary Operations ; Examples: constitutional roles of the House and Senate, non-constitutional reform of the House or the Senate (for constitutional change, see 2600), limits on powers of Cabinet, continuity of federal government during an emergency, reorganization of Parliamentary committees, honoring retiring House members, TV broadcasts of Question Period, House proceedings, House rules for debate, resignation of federal officers, the governor general,

2012: Regulation of Political Campaigns, Political Advertising, Voter Registration, Government Ethics ; Examples: expenditures for Elections Canada, federal election campaign reform, calling an election, lobbying regulations for former federal employees, regulation of political campaign ads, televising debates on political issues, regulation on foreign corporation lobbying, campaign finance reform, political activities of federal employees, financial or business interests of government employees, lobbying regulation and general lobbying issues, polling, regulation of the political activities of federal employees

2013: Census ; Examples: Statistics Canada census expenditures, Census population estimates, census data collection techniques, management of the census, federal statistics collection

2014: Capital Region Affairs ; Examples: National Capital Commission (NCC) expenditures, NCC fiscal problems, planning issues, management, administration.

2015: Relief of Claims Against the Canadian Government ; Examples: Refunds and settlements for individuals and corporations

2030: Federal Holidays

2031\*: Crown corporations and government enterprises; Examples: Canada Hibernia Holding Corporation, Old Port of Montreal Corporation, Jacques Cartier and Champlain Bridges Incorporated, and other companies wholly or partly owned by Government. See also 2008 Government Property Management, 1707 Broadcasting Regulation; for Canada Post, 2003 Postal Service Issues.

2032\*: Government accountability and corruption issues; includes violations of campaign promises, party politics (party squabbles), conflict of interest issues, reactions to Auditor General's report, ministerial responsibility See also 2002: Government Efficiency and Bureaucratic Oversight – Auditor General. NOTE: This code should be used only when there is no substantive issue discussed. If there is a substantive issue, code for the issue and use the additional accountability and corruption switch.

2099: Other ; Examples: commemorative legislation

## **21. Public Lands and Water Management**    [\[return to index\]](#)

2100: General ; Examples: Expenditures for Natural Resources Canada, resources planning

2101: National Parks, Memorials, Historic Sites, and Recreation ; Examples: Budget requests for Parks Canada, various federal museums, park protection legislation, threats to national parks, national park management issues, river systems recreation assessment, recreational boating safety, historical site designation, designation of scenic trails, maintenance on monuments and memorials, military parks and memorials, land conveyance for national parks or national memorials ; See also: 2103 public lands management

2102: Native American Affairs ; DELETED See 2700.

2103: Natural Resources, Public Lands, and Forest Management, ; Examples: Expenditures for the Canadian Forest Service, Natural Resources Canada Minerals and Metals Section, national forest timber sales programs, timber supply stability, forest health and clear-cutting, wilderness area designation, management of Pacific-Northwest old forest growths, mine reclamation, public lands legislation, forest fire prevention and control, modification of public land boundaries, management of livestock grazing on public lands, public land conveyance bills, enforcement of mining standards, deep seabed mineral resources, development of mineral resources on public lands, mineral exploration and development, protection of archeological resources on public lands; See also: 709 animal and forest protection; 803 oil and gas leasing; 805 coal leasing; 1611 military land conveyances; 2101 land conveyance for national parks/monuments

2104: Water Resources Development and Research ; Examples: Expenditures for Fisheries and Oceans civil works programs, expenditures for energy and water development projects, water resources development, expenditures for dam construction, flood control programs, energy and water development projects, watershed projects, deep water port construction, safety of dams and other water storage and control structures, various reclamation projects, reservoir construction, navigation and flood control projects ; See also: 711 water and soil conservation; 900\* Fisheries; 802 hydroelectricity; 1007 navigation and maritime issues

2105: U.S. Dependencies and Territorial Issues ; DELETED.

2199: Other

## **23. Culture and Entertainment**    [\[return to index\]](#)

2300: Culture and Entertainment ; Examples: book, movie, music, art, and theater reviews, news about entertainment figures, sports results, hobbies (chess, bridge, fishing), cooking, restaurant reviews, interviews with chefs, travel stories, fashion stories, obituaries, architecture, home improvement,

gardening, religion, church activities, charities, fund-raising events, photos or illustrations (with no discernible topic), miscellaneous other topics.

2301\*: National Culture and Heritage Issues: Secretary of State of Canada, Department of Canadian Heritage expenditures and operations. See also: 1707 Broadcast Industry Regulation.

2302\*: Sports: for example, preparation for attending or hosting the Olympics, Olympic athlete issues, status of amateur sport in Canada, PanAmerican Games, Paralympic Games. See 1526 Sporting regulation.

#### **24. Provincial and Local Govt Administration** [\[return to index\]](#)

2400: Provincial and Municipal Government Administration ; items relating mainly to provincial and/or municipal administrations (for relationships between federal & provincial governments, See 25); Examples: provincial and municipal candidates, campaigns, and elections, budget and tax issues, ethical issues about provincial and municipal officials, provincial and municipal buildings, museums, parks, landmarks, historical locations, state and local procurement and contracts, urban planning (zoning, land use, competition between cities to attract businesses, city boundaries), provincial and municipal services (water supply, street cleaning), provincial and municipal statutes and ordinances, legislative action, speeches by the mayor or premier, partisan politics in the legislative arena, nominations to provincial courts. See also

2500\* Intergovernmental Relations, 2600\* Constitutional Issues, 2700\* Native Affairs, 1403: Urban Economic Development and General Urban Issues.

#### **25\*. Intergovernmental Relations & Trade** [\[return to index\]](#)

2500\*: Intergovernmental Relations ; General. Examples: First Ministers' conferences, state of relations between federal and provincial governments. See also 2600 Constitutional Issues, 2601 Quebec Issues,

2501\*: Fiscal Arrangements-Social Programmes ; the funding of large general transfer programmes relating to education, health care, social security ; Examples: Canada Health and Social Transfer(CHST), Established Programmes Financing (EPF), Health Reform Fund, general jurisdictional squabbles. See also 302\*: Health Care Funding Arrangements

2502\*: Fiscal Arrangements-Other ; Territorial Formula Financing (TFF), the Equalization Program

2503\*: Inter-provincial trade-agricultural; See also 402 Grain Transportation subsidies (for inter-provincial trade); See also 18 Foreign Trade.

2504\*: Inter-provincial trade-other (not agricultural); See also 18 Foreign Trade.

2505\*: Regional Development Arrangements and Programs.

2599: Other

#### **26\*. Constitutional and National Unity Issues** [\[return to index\]](#)

2600\*: Constitutional Issues ; issue relating generally to the division of powers, the patriation of the Constitution, or various elements of the Constitution (e.g., amendments procedures); Examples: Meech Lake Accord, Charlottetown Accord.

2601\*: Quebec Issues; constitutional issues relating to Quebec separation, Quebec referenda, and various policy issues relating to transferring power from the Federal Government to the Quebec Provincial Government. Examples: Quebec referenda on sovereignty; Quebec separation; Quebec disputes with the federal government; Quebec withdrawal from First Ministers' conferences.

2699\*. Other; Examples: triple-E Senate, other proposals

**27\*. Native Affairs**     [\[return to index\]](#)

2700\*: Native Affairs ; General. Examples: conferences, First Nations organizations, socio-economic conditions of First Nations, crime on reserves, law enforcement jurisdiction, cultural preservation, Native education issues.

2701\*: Treaties and negotiations ; Examples: negotiations regarding the Indian Act, self-government, land treaties, etc.

2799\*: Other.

# A Beginner's Guide to the Oral Question Database Program

(completed October 2003)

Stuart Soroka, McGill University  
[stuart.soroka@mcgill.ca](mailto:stuart.soroka@mcgill.ca)

This guide was written for training purposes, for coders working on a content-analytic database of Oral Questions in the Canadian House of Commons. It describes how to enter data in the Access database used for coding. The database is now obsolete — the final data are held either in Excel, SPSS or STATA format. The training manual is included here, however, as it makes clear our decision rules about what exactly is a ‘new’ question, how to attribute a topic code, and so on.

The data were gathered for a project entitled “Examining Question Period: Representation and Policymaking in the House of Commons” (Stuart Soroka, Principle Investigator). Data for this project were gathered from 2003 to 2005, and was funded by a Standard Research Grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

1. Begin the coding process by placing your coder identification number in the first available field. Then enter the parliamentary session number in the next field titled 'parliamentary session (pp.s).' The session number is located on the outside binding of the Hansard books or in the front pages. When entering the session number it should resemble the following: parliamentary.session. For instance, if it is the 35 parliament and if it is the first session, then you should type in the number as 35.1.
2. After entering the parliamentary session number, insert the date of the oral question period which you are coding. The date should include the day, the month, and the year in the format of DD.MM.YYYY. For example if you are coding February 12, 1995, then you should enter the date as 12.02.1995. Make sure the numbers are separated by periods and not commas.
3. It should be noted that up until this point, the data entered in these first three fields will be identical to that of the previous record you have entered. To make for a more efficient coding process, use control plus apostrophe [ctrl + ' ] in the cell to repeat the information of the previous record. For example instead of retyping your coder number, the parliamentary session, and the date, simply type [ctrl + ' ] and the information typed in the previous cell will appear. This will work for every single cell, not just the first three mentioned above. Another way to increase efficiency is to use the tab button to go to the next field, instead of clicking box.
4. After recording the coder number, the parliamentary session, and the date, the next information that is recorded is the question number that you are coding. When coding oral question period one of the more ambiguous tasks is identifying when one question ends and another begins. This is made particularly difficult as the way in which supplementary questions are used (and identified) changes over time. It is essential to use a temporally-consistent, standard definition of a question:
5. A question may be defined as the dialogue between the MPs and the cabinet members concerning *a single issue*. The starting point of a question is indicated by a new question heading in bold face print and ends when the major topic or subtopic of the question



changes. Note that this change may come at the end of the section, and so will be followed by another heading in bold face type. If an additional question is asked within the same bold subject heading, and this question is on a different topic, regardless of whether it is the same questioner or not, and regardless of whether there is another bold heading, this is counted for our purposes as a supplementary question.

6. Hansard typically identifies the subject change in the content of a question by placing a new topic heading in bold face print. To reiterate, questions start from one heading and carry on to the next heading, with numerous people asking other questions relating to the same issue and numerous people answering them. As long as the content of the question falls under the same subject matter indicated by the bold face print topic heading, then it is to be coded as one question, despite that many questions are being presented. Keep this in mind throughout the coding process, especially when measuring the question and when recording the persons asking and the persons answering.
7. As previously stated more than one question can fall under a bold face print topic heading. These questions are commonly, but not consistently, labeled as supplementary questions. When reading Hansard you will notice that MPs may refer to their question as a supplementary question by stating "I have a supplementary question" and then proceed to ask their questions. These questions are a majority of the time a continuation of the original question being asked and should therefore be treated as such. (Do not include it as another question or as a supplementary question if it is about the same issue. Measure such questions as part of the original question, under the same question number, topic, and subtopic. If the emphasis of the question is different but it belongs in the same subtopic, it is considered part of the "bigger" question and therefore not a supplementary. You may wish to note the emphasis in the notes (see below).
8. Occasionally there are supplementary questions which blatantly change topics and should therefore be recorded as a new question with a new question topic. Questions such as these should be numbered as a decimal of the original question under the topic heading and should look like this: Q#.1, Q#.2, Q#.3 etc. For example, if you are coding the first question under the first question heading and there is a supplementary question that changes topic, the supplementary question should be entered in as a new record, with the

question number labeled as 1.1. It should be noted that multiple questions that change topic may be found under a single question heading. Some are explicitly stated as supplementary questions and some are not, so it is essential to carefully read through the dialogue between the MPs and the ministers in order to differentiate between subject changes. To recap, a new question is counted in oral question period when there is a change in topic, which is indicated by the bold face question headings and should be numbered as integers (i.e. 1, 2, 3, 4. . .). However, there are instances where there can be a change in topics under the same topic headings, and should therefore be indicated as decimals (i.e. 1.1; 1.2; 1.3 . . .).

9. In short, new questions are defined and numbered as follows:
  - a. A new heading in bold face type is always a new question. These questions are numbered in whole numbers (e.g., 1.0, 2.0, 3.0. . . )
  - b. A discernable change in topic is a new question. If this change in topic comes mid-section, meaning that it is not preceded by a heading in bold face type, the new question is given a number with a decimal place. If there is one question – question 1.0 – and this is followed mid-section with a change in topic, the new question is 1.1. When there is a new bold heading, the next question is 2.0. See attached examples.
10. After labeling the question number, the next bit of information to record is the issue topic that the question falls under. This cell is labeled as ‘topic 1.’ You can access the issue codes in PDF format from a link provided in the access program labeled as ‘open topic codebook.’ Once you have accessed the PDF format of the issue codes, there will be topic codes followed by subtopic codes. The topic codes are the first piece of information you record when coding the question. There are 27 topic codes which are located on the left hand side of the PDF sheet under bookmarks. After deciding on the correct topic code for the question being recorded, proceed to record the subtopic code of the question. The subtopic codes, which fall under the topic code categories, are easily accessible by clicking on the topic codes listed under bookmarks. Once you have found the relevant subtopic code, record the code number in the field titled ‘subtopic 1.’ A helpful hint when searching

for the relevant issue code is to use [control + F] and perform a key word search in the PDF file of the issue topic codes. For instance, if the question you are coding pertains to inflation, simply press [control + F] which will allow you to search for the word inflation throughout the PDF document. This will allow you to quickly scan every time the word ‘inflation’ is used in the document.

11. Although the topic codes covers a wide variety of topics, some questions might be too obscure where finding a subtopic code can be quite difficult. In this case, leave the subtopic code blank, and highlight the question content in the field titled as ‘topic notes.’ But this should only be done in exceptional circumstances, where no relevant subtopic codes are provided in the topic code book. There will also be instances where a question may cover more than one topic and subtopics. If a question can be designated more than one topic and subtopic codes, assign the predominant topic in the topic and subtopic codes, but note the other topic in topic notes (see #13 below).
12. The nature of Question Period is such that many questions (particularly in recent years) deal with government accountability and corruption issues. These questions typically have a substantive issue (purchasing helicopters, for instance), but the concentration is increasingly on misuse of funds, or corruption, or the lack of accountability, and so on. When this is the case, the topic and subtopic codes should reflect the substantive topic (e.g., military acquisitions), and the subsequent “government accountability and corruption issues” field should be coded “1”. If accountability and corruption issues are not important, this field should be coded “0”.
13. After designating the question with its corresponding topic and subtopic code, the next field titled ‘topic notes’ allows the coder to record questions with confusing elements. The topic notes cell is also a place to record specific information about the question. Since the coding scheme that we are using was tailored specifically to the United States, recording specific information about the question will assist in generating a coding scheme that is more reflective of Canadian issues. For example, if the question pertains to Canadian pension plans, then record the question under employee benefits (#503). Since the question more specifically asks about Registered Retirement Savings Plan (RRSP), in the topic notes field,

type in the RRSP plan. Note that it is not necessary to record every detail of the question, but those questions with obvious examples should be highlighted.

14. The next piece of information to record is the length of the question, which is measured in column centimeters. When measuring the question begin by measuring from the top of where the dialogue between the MP and the Minister begins, but make sure not to include the bold face topic heading. Measure the entire question you have coded in centimeters. See the previous discussion on the definition of a question to ensure that you include the entire question in your measurements. As you measure the entire question you want to record the length of the relevant dialogue and not empty space of filler words placed either before or after the question. For example, if a question begins with the Speaker discussing matters extraneous from the issue at hand, or if the other members are speaking on matters irrelevant to the question, do not include their statements in your measurements. Now this is the case only if such instances occur prior to the question or following the question. Irrelevant dialogue that is intertwined in question cannot help but be included in your measurements.
15. The next step is to record who is asking and who is answering the question. The first person asking the question under the bold faced topic heading should be recorded in the cell labeled as 'question 1-name.' You should insert the last name of the person and their first initial. It should look like the following: [ Martin K ]. After recording the name of the person asking the question, record the person's party affiliation in the next field labeled 'question 1-party.' In the more recent Hansard series the person's party is provided next to their name in bold face print. However, Hansard series published before 2000 does not have the party identification within the content of oral question party. There are two ways to find out the person's party affiliation for the years prior to 2000. One way is to locate the Canadian Parliamentary Index Guide Book for the year that you are coding. If you are coding oral question answer period in the year 1995, then you should find the index guide book for the year 1995, which would provide the party affiliation of members during that time frame. Another way to find out the party affiliation of the MPs is to click on the box labeled as 'guide to the members of the house of commons by parliament [online].' This

provides a link to the Canadian Parliament website, where the party affiliation of every Member of Parliament throughout history can be found.

16. Since multiple questions are being asked under one topic heading, multiple people may be asking and answering the questions. The access program allows room to record up to three persons asking and three persons answering questions centered around one topic. For example, you will notice that within the question being coded there are multiple people asking and answering questions all related to one issue. The person asking the first question is recorded in the cell labeled as 'question 1-name,' while the person answering the first question is recorded in the cell labeled as 'answer 1-name.' Then if there is a second question being asked and pertains to the same issue, the person asking the question is recorded in the cell labeled as 'question 2-name,' while the person answering this second person's question should be recorded in 'answer 2- name.' If there is a third person involved in asking a question, then proceed to record their name in the cell labeled as 'question 3-name' and the person answering should be recorded in the field labeled as 'answer 3-name.' If the number of people asking and answering questions exceeds the number of cells provided, do not record the names of the excess people. Rarely will a situation like this occur within the oral question answer period.
17. After recording the relevant information in the cells provided, click on the arrow to access a clear sheet for entering in the data for the next question. Or hit the tab button until the next page appears. Click on the arrow with the line next to it to jump to the last record that you have entered in.