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MINISTRY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

PARTICIPATION OF VETERANS IN SESQUICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

Question by:

The Honourable Yonah Martin

Tuesday, April 4, 2017

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Hon. Yonah Martin (Deputy Leader of the Opposition): Welcome, minister. I've had the opportunity to work with you already on ways that we can support our Korean War veterans. I want to express my appreciation for the work you've done so far.

This is a question I've asked many times, but it is already April, and July 1 is just a few months away. I'm worried about the confirmation of the participation of our key veterans, from various wars and conflicts, in the official Canada Day celebrations. It's important for them to be able to wear their uniforms, their medals and to be part of the main program, to be on that stage and be involved in whatever way.

Your colleague Minister Joly was in our chamber. I didn't get to ask this question but I spoke to her immediately after, and she said that because they were veterans, they would be under your purview. When we had spoken, you had mentioned that there are plans being made by her department. So I'm wondering if your officials and staff and her officials and staff are meeting. Are there details on the participation, the inclusion of our veterans in any of the official Canada 150 ceremonies and events?

Hon. Kent Hehr, P.C., M.P. Minister of Veterans Affairs and Associate Minister of National Defence: Senator Martin, I appreciate your leadership in recognizing the contributions of those who served in the Korean War. It is really admirable the way you've gone about this and passionately advocated for their due recognition, as well as their share of our nation's gratitude and service.
