



**THIS IS EXHIBIT "9"
REFERRED TO IN THE
AFFIDAVIT OF WARD P. WEISENSEL
SWORN BEFORE ME
THIS 19th DAY OF JUNE, 2007**



A Notary Public in and for the
Province of Manitoba





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Speaker: The Honourable Gilbert Parent

Government Orders

Corporations Act and the privacy protection act, especially as it relates to electronic commerce.

These initiatives are helping to create a positive environment for Canada's private sector and the small business community. Many of the government's new policies and programs are already paying off in terms of surging economic growth. The need to access capital remains a critical issue for small business growth in addition to the importance of a positive business environment. The Small Business Loans Act can help provide that access in a way that no other instrument can or does at the time.

Therefore I ask my fellow members of the House of Commons to pass this legislation on which they are about to vote for the benefit of Canada's small business community. It is what Canada needs. It is what the small business community needs.

Hon. Ralph E. Goodale (Minister of Natural Resources and Minister responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board, Lib.): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order pertaining to the votes we will take in a few minutes on Bill C-4.

There have been certain discussions among all the parties in this House about the possibility of removing from the draft bill those detailed provisions which deal with additions to or subtractions from the Canadian Wheat Board's current mandate on the condition that members consent to the tabling now of a new provision in the law that would ensure that no minister responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board could attempt to change the wheat board's existing mandate either to enlarge it or to reduce it without first having conducted a democratic vote among the relevant producers and also having consulted with the wheat board's new board of directors.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask that you seek the unanimous consent of the House to allow such a proposal, which I have discussed with each opposition critic, to be deemed to have been duly moved and seconded and ordered to be voted on along with all the other amendments we are about to consider in a few moments.

The Deputy Speaker: The House has heard the proposal of the Minister of Natural Resources. Does the House give its consent that the minister may put the motions before the House at this time?

Some hon. members: No.

The Deputy Speaker: There is no consent.

Mr. Peter Stoffer (Sackville—Eastern Shore, NDP): Mr. Speaker, I will be asking this question for the third time today. I know from talking to Liberal backbenchers behind the curtain that many of them are opposing this bank merger. With great respect, does the hon. member oppose the merger of the Royal Bank and the Bank of Montreal?

• (1825)

Mr. Lynn Myers: Mr. Speaker, I thank the member for the question. I want to reiterate what I said in my speech. The process the government is taking with respect to small business loans and the act proceeding is very important on behalf of small business and for the economy of Canada as a whole.

I think it is important that we proceed accordingly and in a manner that fits with what we are doing for the overall benefit of the economy. It is important to note. We should do so expeditiously.

Mr. Steve Mahoney (Mississauga West, Lib.): Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the member for his remarks and for his understanding of the small business loan process.

We heard comments in this place earlier today that the maximum amount of \$250,000 for a small business loan should be reduced. I do not know that there was a suggested figure. It seemed somewhat arbitrary. I think it was the Progressive Conservative position that the act is okay but the amount is too much. I understand also that the average loan is in the neighbourhood of \$65,000 which is obviously dramatically lower than the maximum.

I wonder if the member might have some comments about the importance of leaving a flexible level as high as \$250,000 given that these loans can only be used for a capital acquisition such as property or equipment that has actual value. They cannot be for debt consolidation or things where there is no fixed value to the asset that is added to the business.

Mr. Lynn Myers: Mr. Speaker, I thank the hon. member for the point. It is an important one. There should be flexibility inherent in this loan system. I think that needs to be underscored to ensure that small business and Canadians who rely on this kind of legislation are able to work in a way consistent to enable the flexibility to be part and parcel of what they have to do in the course of what their business entails.

I think it is very important that flexibility be maintained. I think Canadians want it and certainly small business people want it.

Mr. John Herron (Fundy—Royal, PC): Mr. Speaker, with reference to the comment made by the hon. member, I want to help clarify my earlier comment which arises from the fact that 30% to 40% of the loans that are actually approved under the Small Business Loans Act, as pointed out by the auditor general, would have been approved in the first place without the public guarantee under the small business loans act.

The point is that for the most part those sorts of loans are usually loans of the higher magnitude. They are not the average loans required by the small business sector.

I referenced this quote during my remarks earlier in the day. My point is that there should be a loan guarantee for small business, not a loan guarantee for banks.