

PARLIAMENTARY COUNSEL'S OFFICE — RECRUITMENT

1004. Mr R.S. Love to the Attorney General:

I refer to the Department of Justice's 2022/23 annual report which states, "The Parliamentary Counsel's Office partnered with an international recruitment company to conduct an extensive search and recruitment campaign for qualified legislative drafters", and I ask:

- (a) How many drafters (by FTE) are currently employed by the Parliamentary Counsel's Office;
- (b) How many drafters (by FTE) have been employed since the tabling of the annual report;
- (c) Does the Parliamentary Counsel's Office continue to engage contract drafters which are made of retired legislative drafters;
- (d) How many Bills are currently the subject of drafting instruction;
- (e) How many regulations are currently the subject of drafting instruction; and
- (f) Is the Government's legislative program continuing to challenge the Parliamentary Counsel office's resources?

Mr J.R. Quigley replied:

- (a) 22 FTE.
- (b) 4.6 FTE.
- (c) Parliamentary Counsel's Office continues to engage suitably qualified contract drafters as needed, including former legislative drafters.
- (d) As at 26/03/2024, PCO is drafting 66 Bills.
- (e) As at 26/03/2024, there are 167.
- (f) While PCO's recruitment activity is ongoing, the recruitment of additional experienced drafters has resulted in a significant increase in PCO's drafting capacity.