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Speaker: The Honourable Geoff Regan

Infrastructure

Ms. Dianne L. Watts (South Surrey—White Rock, CPC):

Mr. Speaker, the only reference to PPP Canada in Bill C-15 states that the Minister of Infrastructure can dispose or sell off assets and shares of PPP Canada. Yet when I was in the House last week and asked whether the minister plans to sell off PPP Canada, he refused to answer the question.

Therefore, I will ask it again. Will the Minister of Infrastructure and Communities tell the House whether the Liberals are planning to sell off this crown corporation, yes or no?

Hon. Amarjeet Sohi (Minister of Infrastructure and Communities, Lib.):

Mr. Speaker, we have no intention of changing the mandate of PPP Canada or selling off the assets of PPP Canada. We respect the local economy. We respect the decision of the local councils on how they procure their infrastructure and how they build the infrastructure, which they do on behalf of their communities, and we will continue to respect that. The hon. member understands that. As a former mayor, that is what she requested in the past, and that is what we have delivered on behalf of mayors across the country.

Ms. Dianne L. Watts (South Surrey—White Rock, CPC):

Mr. Speaker, that was not my question.

Last week, the Minister of Infrastructure and Communities stated:

...I feel confused.... There are so many buckets of infrastructure money within the federal government....

Although the minister is confused, Liberals clearly have the money, so among his many buckets of money, where is the \$1.25 billion Conservatives left for PPP Canada that is not mentioned in the budget?

Hon. Amarjeet Sohi (Minister of Infrastructure and Communities, Lib.):

Mr. Speaker, the amount the hon. member is referring to is within PPP Canada, and that is where it should be and that is where it is now. The buckets the member makes reference to were actually created by the previous government in multiple areas that we are actually trying to put together, so we can deliver results to Canadians in the way that Canadians expect us to do, to deliver the kind of infrastructure they need for public transit, for social housing, for green infrastructure, to build strong, sustainable communities.