



2009 - 05 - 06

**INQUIRY OF MINISTRY
DEMANDE DE RENSEIGNEMENT AU GOUVERNEMENT**

PREPARE IN ENGLISH AND FRENCH MARKING "ORIGINAL TEXT" OR "TRANSLATION"
PRÉPARER EN ANGLAIS ET EN FRANÇAIS EN INDIQUANT "TEXTE ORIGINAL" OU "TRADUCTION"

QUESTION NO./N° DE LA QUESTION Senate 5	BY / DE Honourable Senator Downe	DATE January 26, 2009
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REPLY BY THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF CANADA
RÉPONSE DU MINISTRE DE LA JUSTICE ET
PROCLUREUR GÉNÉRAL DU CANADA

SIGNATURE
MINISTER OR PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY
MINISTRE OU SECRÉTAIRE PARLEMENTAIRE

QUESTION

With respect to the Agent Orange Compensation Package:

On September 12, 2007, the Harper Government announced a disappointing compensation package for people affected by the spraying of Agent Orange at CFB Gagetown, offering payment only to those who served between 1966 and 1967. While campaigning in the 2006 federal election, Stephen Harper stated, "Our government will stand up for full compensation for persons exposed to defoliant spraying during the period from 1956 to 1984."

In order to receive the compensation that was promised to them and force Prime Minister Stephen Harper to honour his commitment, Canadian veterans have had to undertake a class action lawsuit against the Government of Canada.

Could the Government of Canada please provide the total amount of money, including all costs associated with the work of Department of Justice officials, that has been spent to date fighting against our Canadian veterans' class action lawsuit?

REPLY / RÉPONSE

ORIGINAL TEXT TRANSLATION
TEXTE ORIGINAL TRADUCTION

For the period from July 2005, when the first statement of claim was issued in this matter, to December 31, 2008, total litigation expenditures, billed by the Department of Justice to the client, Department of National Defence, was approximately \$2,186,414.06. These litigation costs were expended in respect of one now certified and ten proposed class actions launched in Canada on this subject matter.

TABLED *REPONSE*
In Senate *au Sénat*

6/1/2009
Charles Power
DEPUTY CLERK
SOUS-GREFFIER