

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**  
**Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice**  
**Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearings November 2013**  
**Communications Portfolio**  
**Australian Broadcasting Corporation**

**Question No: 124**

**Program No. ABC**

**Hansard Ref: Page 48 (19/11/2013)**

**Topic: Q&A**

**Senator Fawcett asked:**

**Senator FAWCETT:** That is fine. Who came up with the idea for *Q&A* to host an audience with David Suzuki?

**Mr Scott:** That will be the *Q&A* production team, the same people who put together the panel every week.

**Senator FAWCETT:** Was he paid to appear on the program?

**Mr Scott:** I do not believe so. I will correct that if I am told otherwise, but I do not believe we pay any guests for *Q&A*. I am certainly not aware of it.

**Senator FAWCETT:** Do you pay for his flights, accommodation or any other expenses?

**Mr Scott:** I am not aware of any of that. I believe he was in the country. This is what *Q&A* often does with a good eye to taxpayer value. Often the international guests we get are already in the country, and we piggyback on expenses paid by others to get them on the program.

**Senator FAWCETT:** Sure. If you could just clarify with the committee on those two points.

**Mr Scott:** Sure. I will clarify that on notice for you.

**Senator FAWCETT:** Likewise, did you have any particular requests or demands that the ABC had to provide or comply with as part of his agreement to appear on the program?

**Mr Scott:** I am not aware of that, but I will answer it on notice for you.

**Answer:**

No fee was paid to David Suzuki for appearing on the program and the ABC did not pay for any of David Suzuki's travel or accommodation expenses.

David Suzuki did not request any special conditions in relation to his appearance on *Q&A*.