

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of Regional Australia, Regional Development and Local Government

Budget Estimates 25 May 2011

**Question: 121**

**Topic: National Memorials Ordinance 1928**

**Asked By: Senator FAULKNER**

**Type of Question: Hansard F&PA 57**

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 8 July 2011**

**Number of pages: 2**

**Senator FAULKNER:** I am asking has it been revised since 1928? Obviously the individuals, the Leader of the Opposition and the Prime Minister, are different individuals from whom they were in 1928. I think we understand that. But the positions ex officio were identified by ordinance then, or named in the ordinance then?

**Ms Beauchamp:** I would have to take that on notice.

**Answer:**

Section 3 of the *National Memorials Ordinance 1928* currently establishes nine members to the Canberra National Memorials Committee (CNMC). The Prime Minister, the Minister responsible for the Ordinance, the Leader of the Government in the Senate, the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate, and the Leader of the Opposition in the House of Representatives have continued to be primary members of the Committee since 1928 by virtue of their position.

Amendments to the Ordinance concerning the CNMC membership, since 1931, have been:

- On 3 December 1931 the position of “Chief Commissioner of the Federal Capital Commission” was amended to the “Secretary, Department of Home Affairs, the Civic Administrator appointed under the *Advisory Council Ordinance 1930-1931*”.

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- On 2 March 1933 the position of “Secretary, Department of Home Affairs, the Civic Administrator appointed under the *Advisory Council Ordinance 1930-1931*” was amended to the “Secretary, Department of the Interior” and another member added to the Committee as “an officer appointed by the Minister”.
- On 29 January 1953 the reference to two other members of the Committee “who are recognised authorities on Australian history” was amended to “who are residents of the Australian Capital Territory”.
- On 11 May 1989, the reference to “Secretary of the Department of the Interior” was amended to a more general reference of “Secretary of the Department”.