

Appendix 11: statement issued by Minister of Science and Technology Gary Goodyear,
June 5, 2009

Danis, Joanne

From: Yasmeen, Gisèle
Sent: June 7, 2009 8:33 PM
To: Charette, Carmen
Subject: Extremely urgent

Marilyn, Craig, Trevor et moi avons discuté vendredi après midi. Je t'appelle a la maison dans qq minutes pour te faire part de nos idées. G

-----Original Message-----

From: Charette, Carmen
To: Yasmeen, Gisèle
Sent: Sun Jun 07 20:00:17 2009
Subject: Fw: Extremely urgent

Je viens tout juste de voir ce courriel! Je l'ai manqué vendredi. Ursula vient de confirmer que c'est bien sorti. My timing for this trip turned out to be bad. I should have followed my instincts and stayed back... Je pense prochaines étapes. Il faudrait s'en parler plus vite que plus tard. Première chose demain matin ou même ce soir?? Tu peux m'appeler 513 286 9759. Merci.

-----Original Message-----

From: Lynn, Trevor
To: Gaffield, Chad; Charette, Carmen
CC: Gobel, Ursula
Sent: Fri Jun 05 13:46:46 2009
Subject: Extremely urgent

Hi, Industry Canada will be releasing the following statement forthwith. I spoke to Phil and he indicated that this is an appropriate statement and they do not wish to change it at all. He said that this is a serious issue and was so serious that it will make it hard for the Minister to recommend increased funding for SSHRC in the next budget. He said the Minister respects peer review 100% but thinks that it is appropriate to publicly ask us to consider a second peer review. If you want to speak with Phil call 943 7602. This is going out very soon.

Statement from the Hon. Gary Goodyear

OTTAWA, June 5, 2009 - The following is a statement from the Hon. Gary Goodyear, Minister of State for Science and Technology, on the conference at York University entitled, "Israel/Palestine: mapping models of statehood and prospects for peace".

"Our government is committed to the principle of academic independence and the independent, arms-length, peer review process for assessing applications for research grants.

"It has come to my attention that following a recommendation of a peer review board earlier this year, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council provided \$19,750 under its Aid to Research Workshops and Conferences Program to a conference at York University entitled "Israel/Palestine: mapping models of statehood and prospects for peace".

"Approval of this funding was based on an initial proposal that did not include detailed information on the speakers at the conference. Since funding was provided, the organizers of the conference have added a number of speakers to their agenda.

"Several individuals and organizations have expressed their grave concerns that some of the speakers have, in the past, made comments that have been seen to be anti-Israeli and anti-Semitic. Some have also expressed concerns that the event is no longer an academic research-focussed event.

"Therefore, I have spoken to the president of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council to bring these concerns to his immediate attention and asked that Council give them full consideration. In particular, I asked that the Council, once they have seen this information, to consider conducting a second peer review of the application to determine whether or not the conference still meets SSHRC's criteria for funding of an academic conference."

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Trevor Lynn

Manager | Gestionnaire

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