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Unsuccessful Attempts to Gain Employment at North Slave Correctional Centre

MR. RAMSAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to use my Member's Statement today to tell my colleagues in the government about an individual who is an employee at North Slave Correctional Centre. This story, Mr. Speaker, epitomizes the concern that many have, that something is definitely wrong with the way in which human resources are handled at North Slave Correctional Centre.

I have heard the Minister of Justice stand up in this House time and time again and defend his department and insist that nothing is wrong. He is still not ready to admit that there are problems at North Slave Correctional Centre.

The story begins with this individual who has been a casual at North Slave Correctional Centre for three years. This person is one of the few casuals who work at the centre who has an education in the field, and they have a diploma in law enforcement from a recognized college.

They have applied for a full-time position on two separate occasions. The first time they applied, the department said sorry, you failed your interview. They appealed the decision and, to their surprise, they were denied the appeal. The individual then went on to write the entrance exam for the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. On that exam, they scored 92%, Mr. Speaker. Normally only 25% of applicants even pass that RCMP exam.

Another job competition then comes for a full-time position. Again, the individual applies on the position. This time, whether or not his previous appeal had anything to do with it or not, they didn't even get an interview. What they did get was a six question aptitude test. They were informed that they could not get to the interview stage because they failed the first question on that aptitude test. The first question, Mr. Speaker, on that aptitude test was "Why are you here today?".

---Laughter

Mr. Speaker, I don't understand how human resources could fail anybody on that question.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Shame, shame.

MR. RAMSAY: This employee then went on to his interview for entrance into the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and, Mr. Speaker, they passed that personal interview with flying colours.

How can the Minister of Justice still maintain that there are not problems in human resources at the North Slave Correctional Centre? This individual I'm speaking about is deemed worthy of protecting the interests of national security, however, they cannot get a full-time position at North Slave Correctional Centre, even after three years of service as a casual.

The person was away and unable to be interviewed for the current review that's underway for the human resource issues at North Slave Correctional Centre. Mr. Speaker, this is an example of what is wrong. It has to be told, Mr. Speaker, and the Minister has to finally admit that he has some serious issues at North Slave Correctional Centre to deal with. Thank you.