

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL
AFFAIRS ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S PORTFOLIO**

Program: General/Attorney-General's Department

Question No. AE17/102

Senator Bilyk asked the following question at the hearing on 28 February 2017:

1. What was the total cost (GST inclusive) of all gifts purchased for use by departmental officials in calendar year 2016?
2. Can an itemised list of gifts and costs thereof (GST inclusive) please be provided?
3. Who was the recipient of each gift?
4. For what purpose was each gift given?
5. What was the total cost (GST inclusive) of all gifts purchased for use by Ministers in the portfolio in calendar year 2016?
6. Can an itemised list of gifts and costs thereof (GST inclusive) please be provided?
7. Which Minister gave each gift?
8. Who was the recipient of each gift?
9. For what purpose was each gift given?

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

1. \$2 694.55 (GST inclusive).

2-4. See table 1 below.

5. \$164.94 (GST inclusive).

A number of other gifts were purchased for presentation by portfolio Ministers by the Ceremonial and Hospitality Branch in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet – questions on these gifts should be directed to that agency.

6--9. See table 2 below.

Table 1 – Gifts given by departmental officials (including in the Australian Government Solicitor)

The following gifts were purchased by the department for the purpose of (a) thanking external presenters for speaking at continuing legal education seminars and other departmental events and forums, and (b) to present to foreign officials either during their visits to Australia or as part of protocol exchanges during overseas visits by department officials, as is customary:

| Gift(s) | Cost |
|------------------|-------------|
| Small glass bowl | \$138.00 |
| Bottle of wine | \$20.00 |
| Bottle of wine | \$20.00 |
| Bottle of wine | \$20.00 |
| Bottle of wine | \$20.00 |
| Macarons | \$10.05 |
| Macarons | \$10.05 |
| Macarons | \$10.05 |
| Macarons | \$10.05 |
| Macarons | \$10.05 |
| Macarons | \$10.05 |
| Bottle of wine | \$22.30 |
| Large glass bowl | \$180.00 |
| Bottle of wine | \$35.00 |
| Bottle of wine | \$35.00 |
| Bottle of wine | \$35.00 |
| Bottle of wine | \$35.00 |
| Bottle of wine | \$20.00 |

| Gift(s) | Cost |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Bottle of wine | \$20.00 |
| Bottle of wine | \$20.00 |
| Bottle of wine | \$38.00 |
| Bottle of wine | \$20.00 |
| Bottle of wine | \$20.00 |
| Bottle of wine | \$35.00 |
| Bottle of wine | \$35.00 |
| Bottle of wine | \$35.00 |
| Bottle of wine | \$46.94 |
| Bottle of wine | \$46.94 |
| Boomerang-Hand painted Hardwood 'Dot' | \$35.00 |
| Aboriginal Artwork -on small stones, framed | \$40.00 |
| Glass paperweight | \$40.00 |
| Coasters – Jukunpa Arts, set of 6 boxed | \$15.00 |
| Coasters – Jukunpa Arts, set of 6 boxed | \$15.00 |
| Aboriginal Artwork-Painting 'Murra Walka' | \$40.00 |
| Painted Aboriginal Boomerang | \$35.00 |
| Australian-themed coffee table book | \$45.00 |
| Painted Aboriginal Coasters x 10 | \$100 |
| Painted Australian Blue-Gum Leaf | \$30.00 |
| Australia-themed coffee table book | \$30.00 |

| Gift(s) | Cost |
|---------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Australian-themed coffee table book | \$50.00 |
| Vase | \$129.00 |
| Bowls (Aboriginal artwork) | \$99.87 |
| Children's books x 3 | \$21.00 \$28.00 \$32.00 |
| Commemorative coins | \$67.50 |
| Australian-themed book and Aboriginal clap sticks | \$133.85 |
| Commemorative coins | \$67.50 |
| Decorative dish | \$26.00 |
| Australian leaf art/framed | \$50.00 |
| Aboriginal art | \$75.00 |
| Coasters | \$100.00 |
| Australian tea and Australian coasters | \$40.00 |
| Australian bush tea x 28 | \$250.00 |
| Australian made wooden bookmark x 13 | \$142.35 |

Table 2 – Gifts given by portfolio ministers

The following gifts were purchased by the department for the purpose of presenting to foreign officials during their visit to Australia, as is customary:

| Gift(s) | Cost |
|------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Australian-themed coffee table books x 3 | \$80.00 |
| | \$24.99 |
| | \$59.95 |