

on what matters a referendum may be called, who may initiate such a procedure, what the rules would be, how best to ensure that the public is satisfactorily informed of what is at stake—

**Mr. Kindy:** Oh, stop talking!

**Mr. Saint-Julien:** The hon. member for Calgary Northeast tells me to stop talking! No member from Western Canada is going to tell a Quebecer to stop talking in this House, because it is my privilege, Mr. Speaker!

As I was saying— I see the hon. member for Calgary Northeast who tells me to shut up, but I remember he ran twice in Quebec and was beaten twice. He ran in Western Canada where he won, but he always lost in Quebec. And he will not prevent us from talking in this House!

We must also consider how best to ensure that the public is satisfactorily informed regarding the issues at stake, and whether a majority is required in each of Canada's regions as well as a national majority, and any number of other issues as well.

Mr. Speaker, I also think it is important to consider this question within the broader context of the constitutional amending process. The Prime Minister, the Right Hon. Brian Mulroney, said on June 23 and repeated on August 25 in Gaspé, and I quote: "Before initiating further constitutional reform, we will have to identify a new constitutional amending process". This new process will be what Canadians want it to be, and that is more open, more transparent and broader in scope.

The Prime Minister also indicated that we should always look for better ways to amend the Constitution, ways that reconcile the need for public involvement and democratic action with the legal constraints that exist in our Constitution.

In concluding, Mr. Speaker, I would like to say that I am in favour of finding ways that will provide for greater involvement of Canadians in the business of Parliament. However, to vote for the motion tabled in the House today would be to proceed piecemeal, without having analyzed all the aspects of these issues and without consulting the public.

*S. O. 31*

[English]

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois):** The time provided for the consideration of Private Members' Business has now expired.

[Translation]

Pursuant to Standing Order 96(1), the order is dropped from the Order Paper.

It being two o'clock, the House will now proceed to Statements by Members pursuant to Standing Order 31.

## STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S. O. 31

[English]

### THE LATE RENÉ HIGHWAY

**Hon. Lloyd Axworthy (Winnipeg South Centre):** Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Manitobans, native Canadians and patrons of the performing arts across Canada, I would like to mark the passing and pay tribute to one of Canada's great young artistic talents. René Highway died last Thursday of meningitis at the age of 36.

Born in northern Manitoba, René Highway will be remembered for the imagination and innovation he brought to his choreography and dance. He will also be remembered as a talented film and television actor.

Together with his older brother Tomson, René Highway explored the clash of cultures between white man and native through theatre and dance. His work celebrated his pride in his heritage and people.

To his family in Manitoba, may I offer my deepest condolences. Canada has lost a young and vibrant inspiration.

In memory of René Highway donations will be gratefully accepted by the Native Earth Performing Arts Inc., Lower Level, 37 Spadina Avenue, Toronto, Ontario.

I hope members will join me in mourning a serious loss to this community and to this country.

\* \* \*

### GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

**Mr. Bruce Halliday (Oxford):** Mr. Speaker, on October 15, we tabled our negotiating position in Geneva on GATT.