

*Routine Proceedings***BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE**

DESIGNATION OF ALLOTTED DAY

Hon. Harvie Andre (Minister of State and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons): Mr. Speaker, I would like to designate tomorrow as an allotted day, an opposition day.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[*English*]

CANADA MORTGAGE AND HOUSING CORPORATION

TABLING OF SUMMARY OF CORPORATE PLAN

Hon. Alan Redway (Minister of State (Housing)): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 32(1),

[*Translation*]

—I have the honour to table, in both official languages,
[*English*]

copies of a report entitled “Summary of the 1991–95 Corporate Plan of Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation”.

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PRIVILEGE

COMMENTS DURING QUESTION PERIOD

Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry—Prescott—Russell): Mr. Speaker, a few moments ago I, and several other of my colleagues, heard the chief government Whip refer directly to comments made by the hon. member for Willowdale as being untrue.

I believe the word he used was “liar”. He repeated the word on a number of occasions.

Some hon. members: Shame.

Mr. Boudria: Of all people in this House, the chief government Whip should know that such language is unparliamentary according our rules and according to the citations of Beauchesne. I would urge the hon. government Whip to withdraw the comments he made, which of course are contrary to citations 319 and 320 of Beauchesne.

Mr. Jim Hawkes (Calgary West): Mr. Speaker, I do not remember the hon. member who has just spoken being on his feet.

If I offended anybody in the Chamber with my use of the word, I would be happy to withdraw it. If some member, in particular, felt that their honour had been impugned, I would appreciate it if they would rise in the Chamber and complain. Then we could be a little more specific.

In the future, if we do insult one another, I think we have the responsibility to stand in the Chamber and indicate that we feel insulted.

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COMMONWEALTH DAY

SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY

Hon. John C. Crosbie (Minister for International Trade): Mr. Speaker, 60 years ago the Commonwealth was born.

In 1931, under the Statute of Westminster, Canada and the other dominions, which included at that time Newfoundland, gained full independence as members of the Commonwealth of Nations “equal in status and in no way subordinate to one another though united by a common allegiance to the Crown”.

Today, Monday, March 11, we take pride in the accomplishments of a much expanded, multi-racial Commonwealth as we mark the 15th annual observance of Commonwealth Day across Canada and in 49 other member countries embracing over one-quarter of the earth’s population.

The Commonwealth has been central to the growth of Canada’s role in the world and remains a key element of its external political, trade, and aid relations. Through a common language and shared heritage and loyalty to common ideals, it has enriched our partnership in many countries in Africa and Asia and has reinforced our historic ties with the Caribbean. It has also provided inspiration for shaping that other great language family to which Canada can claim a birthright—the franco-phone community of states.

The Commonwealth is dedicated not only to a basic set of values—democracy, the rule of law, fundamental human rights and equality for women—but has given moral and practical leadership in some of the major issues of the day: condemning racism, dealing with debt,