

## S. O. 31

## GREAT WHALE PROJECT

**Mr. Rod Murphy (Churchill):** Mr. Speaker, Quebec cabinet minister Lise Bacon's angry statements in regard to the Cree of northern Quebec have not been constructive. Her remarks, along with those of others, tend to inflame both anti-native feelings and anti-Quebec sentiments.

Many natives and other residents of Quebec and the rest of Canada are concerned about the Great Whale Project. They, like the supporters of this hydro development plan, should be expressing their opinions.

The Cree, individually and collectively, are affected directly by this project. They have an obvious right to state their case and to state it forcefully.

I understand the issue being debated because I come from the region of Manitoba where there have been massive hydro projects, some of which have not been popular among native people. I would encourage all who are involved in the public debate on these and other major projects to restrain their rhetoric and to focus their comments on the merits and demerits of the specific development.

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[Translation]

## YOUTH PARLIAMENT

**Mr. Gilles Bernier (Beauce):** Mr. Speaker, once again Beauce is setting a record, this time by bringing together the largest number of people for a youth parliament in a non-metropolitan region of Quebec, since such parliaments have been held in our province.

I am very pleased to point out the massive involvement of Beauce youth in political affairs that concern them closely, such as parliamentary reform, privileges for native people, euthanasia, reduced defence spending and so on.

It is comforting to note that our young people are smart and seek new knowledge so that they can look at society, make a diagnosis and suggest remedies for the public good.

I would like to congratulate these young people on their interest in political affairs. To the organizers, Sylvie Poulin, Julie Bédard, Marie-Claude Poulin, Hélène Roy,

and all the participants, I say the future begins now and they are the future.

[English]

## POTATO INDUSTRY

**Mr. Joe McGuire (Egmont):** Mr. Speaker, the P.E.I. potato industry is being held hostage by the federal Minister of Agriculture. The minister's refusal to exercise his responsibility to apply federal phyto-sanitary regulations equitably to all provinces has left the potato growers of P.E.I. disillusioned and bitter.

Since the original discovery of PVY-N in P.E.I. the province has been subjected to the most stringent testing program of any potato producing area in the world. We have now proven that we have less PVY-N than any other province; yet other provinces are being allowed to arbitrarily refuse entry of P.E.I. seed.

There is now absolutely no scientific basis for Agriculture Canada or the provinces to prohibit the sale of P.E.I. seed within Canada.

This is a case of outright discrimination against Canada's smallest province. The minister must use the authority of his office to put an end to it. This is the responsibility of the national government.

How can we expect the U.S. to open its market when the minister allows provinces to keep theirs closed without any scientific reason to do so?

Does this mean that from now on provinces are free to erect phyto-sanitary barriers against other products as well? Who is running Canada's Department of Agriculture—the minister, the provinces or the USDA?

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## FISHERIES

**Mr. Garth Turner (Halton—Peel):** There are not many cod in Halton—Peel, Mr. Speaker, but there are a lot of people who support the brave efforts of the east coast fishermen who are trying to save their industry.

I, for one, was proud to see Canadian maple leaf flags floating over the nose and tail of the Grand Banks as a symbol that people in this country are standing up to foreigners who wantonly deplete our fish stocks. Losing the cod stocks would be to Newfoundland what losing the automobile industry would be to southern Ontario.