

S. O. 31

[English]

ETHICS PACKAGE

Mr. Ronald J. Duhamel (St. Boniface): Mr. Speaker, we said we would do it in the red book and we have done it.

[Translation]

We have delivered the goods.

[English]

Today the Prime Minister announced the following:

The appointment of the first ethics counsellor in the history of this great nation.

[Translation]

Second, the strengthening of the Lobbyists Registration Act.

[English]

The clarification and strengthening of the conflict of interest code.

[Translation]

And that is not all. This Parliament will develop a code of conduct for members of Parliament and senators. We have met our commitments and more.

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[English]

CANADA-UKRAINE PARLIAMENTARY INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Mr. Morris Bodnar (Saskatoon—Dundurn): Mr. Speaker, today I wish to thank the Foundation of Ukrainian Studies, the sponsor of the Canada-Ukraine Parliamentary Internship Program.

Because of the hard work and financial support of this foundation, seven young students from Ukraine are now in Ottawa participating in the program. This is the third year of the program. If the demand for these industrious and personable interns is any indication, this program will continue for many years.

I have the privilege to share the time of Alex Lysenko, one of the interns. Alex will be travelling to my constituency in Saskatoon where I am sure everyone will mutually benefit from this exchange.

I am of Ukrainian heritage and many of my constituents are proud descendants of the hard working and stalwart pioneers from Ukraine.

This program is one that will ensure a close working relationship with the new Ukraine as it evolves into a strong and viable entity in the global community.

• (1410)

[Translation]

REFERENDUM ON QUEBEC SOVEREIGNTY

Mr. François Langlois (Bellechasse): Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs stunned everybody this week when he stated that the federal government itself could organize a referendum on Quebec sovereignty. What contempt for Quebecers, for their National Assembly and for their sacred right to self-determination!

This right belongs positively, legitimately and unquestionably to the people of Quebec and to nobody else. This was recognized by the Conservatives and the New Democrats. It was even recognized by the federal Liberals as well as by the Prime Minister when they took an active part in the 1980 referendum in Quebec.

Officially, this government says it does not want to talk about the Constitution. Yet, in secret, they are preparing a new constitutional offensive. This double talk does not fool anybody. Quebec has now realized that the rest of Canada no longer wants to offer anything to Quebec. It is "take it or leave it". It will soon be up to Quebecers to draw their own conclusions.

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[English]

ARTS AND CULTURE

Mr. Monte Solberg (Medicine Hat): Mr. Speaker, we have an industry in our country called Canadian culture. It is run by bureaucrats, financed by subsidies, yet virtually unaccountable to the government from which it gets its funding.

This explains why we have what looks like a pile of carpet underpadding on display in our National Gallery and boxes of Brillo pads stacked up to the roof. It is why for years we have subsidized the homosexual theatre group, Buddies in Bad Times, despite the fact that this group advertises violent sado-masochism seminars featuring abduction, guns, knives, forced confinement, blood sports and rape play.

For those of you who say art must be subsidized in order to survive, read your history. The finest theatre in the English language was produced by Shakespeare. His plays were considered popular art at the time, as were Chaucer, Dickens and endless others.

The finest painters or sculptors had patrons, but they at least were accountable. Not in Canada though. Slap something on a canvass, call it Canadian, make friends with the bureaucrats and you will get your funding.

Let us leave these funds in the hands of taxpayers so they can—