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their dependants when he spoke to the Dominion Convention of the Royal Canadian Legion on Monday.

Veterans were told of the improvements to government plans once the appropriate legislation and regulations are in place. Here is a sample of the improvements they can look forward to: regulations will be changed so that spouses of deceased veterans will be provided with certain services under the Veterans Independence Program for a period of up to a year following the veteran's death.

Also, regulations will be changed to increase as of April 1, 1991, income protection for spouses of veterans who are under long-term care.

Legislation will also be introduced to pay interest on veterans' trust funds administered by Veterans Affairs.

Legislation will be introduced to set up a special trust fund for the benefit of needy veterans and their dependants using money left unclaimed on the death of a veteran.

The necessary regulations will be pre-gazetted in the next two weeks and I am sure members of all parties will co-operate as usual in seeing that the upcoming legislation favouring veterans gets speedy and sympathetic consideration.

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## NATIONAL ACCESS AWARENESS WEEK

**Mr. Rey Pagtakhan (Winnipeg North):** Mr. Speaker, today is the fifth day of Canada's third annual National Access Awareness Week.

It is a week of opportunity to celebrate the accomplishments of disabled Canadians, to assess the availability of services and facilities for them, and to plan improvements for the future.

It is also a week of opportunity for us to reaffirm our belief that they should have equal access to transportation, housing, employment, recreation, and education. It is a time for the private and public sectors to rededicate themselves to the continuing integration in society of all people with disabilities.

• (1410)

My wife and I were therefore extremely delighted when, earlier this week, we again visited the Shalom

Residence for disabled people in my constituency to witness firsthand how the residents live integrated with the rest of the community.

Disabled people have aspirations as noble as those of the able bodied. Equal access to basic needs for the disabled is both an aspiration and a basic right.

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[Translation]

## CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

**Mrs. Suzanne Duplessis (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of State (Science)):** Mr. Speaker, last week, when the country was on the verge of breaking apart, we could watch what was happening live, on CBC Newsworld, the English news channel.

The difference between Francophones and Anglophones was more obvious than ever before, since the CBC French network only showed us tapes and only during scheduled news programs.

On behalf of all French Canadians in this country, I ask the CBC and the CRTC to be fair and to set up a French news network, and I ask the Minister of Communications to ensure this is done.

It is a matter of equity: there should not be two classes of Canadians.

**Mr. Young (Gloucester):** Right on!

**Some hon. members:** Hear, hear!

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## MOUVEMENT LES RETROUVAILLES

**Mr. Mark Assad (Gatineau—La Lièvre):** Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to offer special congratulations to the *Mouvement les retrouvailles* in Quebec.

This agency acts with warmth and compassion to help those who are looking for their parents. For the very first time I attended a ceremony in Gatineau yesterday evening, where a son was reunited with his mother, one of several cases that had a happy ending.

I would like to draw your attention to the work being done by Mr. and Mrs. de Repentigny and their committee who approach this important task with love and compassion. I want them to know that their work is appreciated and deserves our recognition.