

CO-OPERATIVE HOUSING

Mr. Mike Breough (Oshawa): Mr. Speaker, today 12 different housing interest groups are on Parliament Hill lobbying for continued support for co-operative housing by the federal government.

They want the federal government to make a commitment now to continue direct sponsorship of the index-linked co-operative housing program in 1991 and beyond. The income mix as it now exists in housing co-operatives has been developed over the past 20 years and allows people from different economic and social backgrounds to build strong, healthy communities together. The index-linked mortgage has significantly lowered the cost of developing non-profit, co-op housing. The current program costs 58 per cent less in the first year and almost 20 per cent less over a project's life than the previous program.

As the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Big Cities Mayors Caucus has put it, it urges "the federal government to maintain the federal non-profit co-op housing program with the existing income mix component".

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THE NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Mr. John Nunziata (York South—Weston): Mr. Speaker, more on NDP hypocrisy.

I am deeply concerned about both the Ontario New Democratic Party and their federal cousins here in Ottawa. It seems that they are unable to decide in which direction they are headed. Simply put, they do not know which end is up.

One example is the Ontario government, headed by back-flip Bob, who have reneged on a majority of election promises. Now these self-annointed environmentalists have proposed to extend the already overburdened Keele Valley Dump site, thus threatening the Oak Ridges Marine.

What makes this situation comical is that the federal NDP is putting forth a candidate claiming to be an environmental engineer, if you can believe it, in the York North by-election where the dump is located. This type of confusion is consistent with NDP policy-making.

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After all, the party to my left is where Big Bad Bob received his political training.

A second example of confusion politics is the NDP stand on constitutional reform. It has managed to cover all of its bases with a federal leader who states that she is a federalist, her entire Quebec caucus which believes in sovereignty-association, and a provincial leader who has absolutely no idea where he stands.

Yes, Mr. Speaker, I am truly worried about the NDP.

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PERSIAN GULF

Mr. Peter L. McCreath (South Shore): Mr. Speaker, the gulf crisis is not an issue over which Canadians should seem to be divided.

It would seem that it has become the pattern of politics in the country that the opposition is not prepared to agree with the government even on the time of day or the weather forecast.

But Canadians cannot seem, nor should they be, divided on the actions of a Saddam Hussein. We cannot seem to be divided over the actions of a nation that arbitrarily invades its neighbours, or a leader who is prepared to use his nations' children as cannon fodder, or to gas his own troops.

The world is united against such actions and is preparing to send the message that such behaviour will not be tolerated, indeed will be repelled with force, if necessary.

Canada must stand unequivocally with our allies on this issue, and Canadians should stand united.

I urge all members of the House to put Canadian and world interests first, to lay aside their partisanship, and show Saddam Hussein and his ilk that their actions are totally unacceptable to Canadians.

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AGRICULTURE

Mr. Jean-Luc Joncas (Matapédia—Matane): Next week, Mr. Speaker, the representatives of 100 countries will meet in Brussels, Belgium, to seal the fate of international trade. For Quebec farmers and dairy producers, this round of GATT negotiations is one of the major indicators of the economic future of the whole agricultural community in Quebec. Since the mid 1980s