

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday, March 11, 1992

The House met at 2 p.m.

Prayers

STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S. O. 31

[*English*]

TERRY FOX ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Mr. David Dingwall (Cape Breton—East Richmond): Mr. Speaker, the Terry Fox Achievement Award honours an individual or group that best exemplifies the spirit, dedication and determination for which Terry Fox will always be remembered.

Tonight this national award is being presented to Joey Saccary, a grade 12 student from Glace Bay High School, a victim of spina bifida.

Joey has been active at Glace Bay High with the Circle of Friends and is the founder of the Disability Awareness Group.

He is a volunteer with the IWK Telethon and a camp for disabled children. He was a member of the first Youth Focus Group sponsored by the Nova Scotia Youth Secretariat.

Joey has served on the University College of Cape Breton task force on problems pertaining to the disabled and has worked with the Department of Tourism in studying accessibility of buildings for those who are blind or wheelchair bound. He is a member of the Spina Bifida Society and The Wheelchair Sports Association.

Mr. Speaker, I want to express through you to him how proud I am of this courageous and determined young Canadian. Congratulations, Joey.

SALMON FISHERY

Mr. J. W. Bud Bird (Fredericton—York—Sunbury): Mr. Speaker, I wish to commend the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans and his colleague in Newfoundland for their responsible and forthright conservation decision announced last week to close commercial salmon fishing in Newfoundland.

This virtually completes the closure of commercial salmon harvesting throughout Atlantic Canada, except for Labrador, following earlier bans in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia over past years. This recent decision must be recognized as a particularly difficult one in view of the cod tragedy now being experienced in Newfoundland waters. Therefore, the accompanying joint government proposal to purchase salmon licences for permanent retirement is both a compassionate short-term measure to provide relief to the financial burdens of many fishermen, as well as a sound long-term investment in the conservation of the Atlantic salmon resource. Slowly but surely we all are learning the hard lessons about conservation in Canada. The Atlantic salmon will ever be an important symbol of our environmental mission. Let us ensure that we build that resource on the moves now made and that we permit no other challenge to impair its conservation.

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[*Translation*]

CONSTITUTIONAL RENEWAL

Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton—Melville): Mr. Speaker, I was disappointed yesterday when I heard the Minister of National Defence criticize the three-party report on a renewed Canadian Constitution. The Prime Minister of Canada supported the report in Quebec, but where are the other 12 cabinet ministers from that province? Who speaks for a renewed Canada in Quebec? It is high time the other 12 spoke up as well.