

*Routine Proceedings*

[English]

## CANADA POST

**Mr. Robert E. Skelly (Comox—Alberni):** Madam Speaker, I have a number of petitions, first of all from residents of Port Alberni who criticize the unwanted and unfair cutbacks to postal service across the country, including the removing of mail sorting services from the community of Port Alberni against the wishes of residents without offering adequate justification for such a move, resulting in lengthy and unreasonable delays in mail delivery.

The petitioners call upon Parliament to request that the minister responsible for Canada Post authorize the return of mail sorting operations to Port Alberni and other affected communities on Vancouver Island.

Further, the petitioners request that Canada Post Corporation be instructed to halt privatization, cut-backs and centralization of services, and also that Canada Post Corporation be instructed to make efficient service to Canadian households its first priority.

Madam Speaker, I have a second petition from the residents of Ucluelet, also in my riding.

The petitioners call upon the government, whereas the government has cut back millions of dollars to postal services throughout Canada resulting in multimillion dollars loss for B.C. communities, and whereas the consequences of these cuts have been the reduction and erosion of service and the effectiveness of the postal service whereas the results of these cuts has also been the reduction in the number of branch post offices in small and rural communities in British Columbia.

The undersigned petitioners request and call upon Parliament to urge the federal government to restore proper funding to Canada Post so that it can fulfil its mandate and role as the only viable postal service for all communities across B.C.

We, the undersigned—

**Madam Deputy Speaker:** This is getting to be two speeches from the hon. member, instead of presenting a petition.

Further petitions.

## ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

**Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops):** Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to present a petition today on behalf of a

number of residents of Kamloops, British Columbia who have heard rumours that the government plans to not fund the RCMP properly next year.

The residents are circulating petitions to ensure that it will not renege on support for the RCMP and are simply asking the Parliament of Canada to encourage the government to restore proper funding for the RCMP in the future to enable it to fulfil its mandate that we all know.

## MULTINATIONAL RESOURCES

**Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops):** Madam Speaker, I have a petition on another matter which is a very serious issue in British Columbia particularly regarding a company called Multinational Resources.

The petitioners are from Clearwater, Barrier and Vavenby, British Columbia. They point out that a Vancouver firm, apparently with the support of the provincial government, has announced its intention to dam the North Thompson River at Vavenby and divert the river through a whole number of channels to San Diego, California.

The petitioners are asking the Government of Canada to speak out that Canada's rivers are not for sale.

## AIR SERVICE

**Mr. Joe Comuzzi (Thunder Bay—Nipigon):** Madam Speaker, I have the privilege this morning to present, on behalf of the Finnish community in Thunder Bay, a petition requesting that the direct air link between Canada and Helsinki, Finland be maintained.

As you may not be aware, Madam Speaker, outside of Helsinki, the Finnish community of Thunder Bay is the largest Finnish community in not only Canada, but North America.

Since our direct air link will no longer be effective as of November 1, the petitioners request the members of the government to do something to maintain and retain that air charter between the two countries. It is entirely appropriate, too.

## TRANSPORTATION COSTS

**Mr. Joe Comuzzi (Thunder Bay—Nipigon):** Madam Speaker, while I have this opportunity, I would like to present another petition on behalf of those in northern Ontario who are forced to pay such high transportation costs. The cost of transportation from northern Ontario to other parts of the country is absolutely beyond reach