

*Routine Proceedings*

## INDIAN AFFAIRS

**Mr. Robert E. Skelly (Comox-Alberni):** Madam Speaker, I have a petition from a number of people in the communities of Victoria, Port Alberni, Nanaimo, and Qualicum Beach, British Columbia who express concern about the way the federal government conducted the negotiations with the people at Oka during the crisis this summer.

The petitioners stated that they expect the Government of Canada to immediately act upon its authority and responsibility and deal in a just manner with the struggle of all aboriginal peoples in Canada to have their land claims and rights properly addressed. Inaction on the part of the federal authorities will only continue to antagonize race relations in Canada, and provoke dangerous and ignorant acts of racism.

This petition is circulated by the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs and the Manitoba Coalition Organized Against Apartheid.

## VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS

**Mr. Ron MacDonald (Dartmouth):** Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure today to again present petitions from two volunteer fire departments in Nova Scotia; one from Stellarton, Nova Scotia, and the other one from the Hantsport Fire Department in Hantsport, Nova Scotia.

The petitioners say that since fire departments provide a vital service in protecting lives and property of all citizens, and whereas the federal Department of Communications has imposed huge fee increases for radio telecommunications which include radio licence fees, and since these prohibitive costs could place a severe burden on these fire departments, and since these fire departments are operated by volunteers who give freely of their time to protect the community, they call upon the government to see the folly of its ways and to live up to a commitment made back in 1986 by the then Minister of Communications to exempt fire departments. They are asking that these fire department exemptions be reinstated as was promised by the former Minister of Communications.

## GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

**Mr. Ron MacDonald (Dartmouth):** I have another set of petitions. It is appropriate that these are being presented today. Again these are petitions from my riding of Dartmouth. Many people in the Dartmouth-

Halifax area are fundamentally, absolutely, 100 per cent irrevocably opposed to this government's crazy goods and services tax.

They are petitioning this government to come to its senses and scrap the tax and not do what it was going to do perhaps today or tomorrow, and that is to use the tyranny of the majority in the other place to push forward this unpopular tax.

**Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops):** Madam Speaker, it is my honour to present a petition pursuant to Standing Order 36, regarding the proposed goods and services tax.

The petitioners make two points, one that the government ought to reconsider proceeding with this unfair regressive tax and also to point out that the Liberals in the Senate had a number of occasions when they could have actually defeated the tax, but for some mysterious reason, chose not to do so. Presumably they wish to give the impression that they are opposing it. On five different occasions they could have defeated the tax, but they chose not to.

\* \* \*

## QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

**Mr. Albert Cooper (Parliamentary Secretary to Leader of the Government in the House of Commons):** Madam Speaker, the following questions will be answered today: Nos. 389 and 400.

[Text]

## SOLICITOR GENERAL FOREIGN TRIPS

Question No. 389—**Mr. Nunziata:**

Since February 23, 1990, has the Solicitor General taken any foreign trips and, if so (a) what was the itemized cost of each trip including (i) airfares (ii) accommodations (iii) car rentals, taxis/limousines (iv) hospitality (b) was the Minister accompanied by (i) members of his staff (ii) officials from the Ministry of the Solicitor General (iii) family members (iv) others, and if so, who were they (c) what were the dates of departure/return from/to Canada (d) what was the purpose of each trip (e) was a follow-up meeting held to discuss the results of the trip (f) was a written report produced on the results of the trip?

**Hon. Pierre H. Cadieux (Solicitor General of Canada):** As of October 22, 1990, the Solicitor General represented Canada on two foreign trips since February 23, 1990.