

I want to ask the member for Victoria to comment with respect to—

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski):** The period for questions and comments has now expired. I believe the hon. member has made his comments.

**Mr. Andre:** Mr. Speaker, there have been discussions among House officers and I believe you will find agreement to adjourn now by consent the current debate on the motion to appoint Mr. Phillips and to resume the adjourned debate tomorrow during Routine Proceedings on Motions. That debate plus the debate, if there should be one, on the appointment of Mr. Grace to the position of Access to Information Commissioner will be terminated no later than 1 p.m. tomorrow.

• (1630)

**Mr. Milliken:** With one additional caveat. It is understood that members of the opposition alone will be recognized in debate for the two hours. If the government wishes to participate, we requested additional time. There was an indication there would be no government members rising in debate during the two-hour period tomorrow morning.

**Mr. Andre:** Hopefully, you are not expecting that hon. members will not have an opportunity, during the question and answer period, to ensure that the public has an accurate picture and to straighten out the misinformation that is presented during the debate.

**Mr. Milliken:** Mr. Speaker, certainly I was very careful in saying "rise in debate". Of course, I would expect members of the government to try to defend the indefensible and to try to twist around the straight-talking words of the members of the Opposition in putting the truth before the people of Canada. I was very careful in choosing my words, and I think that is the additional understanding in the circumstances.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski):** Is it so agreed?

**Some hon. members:** Agreed.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski):** So ordered.

### *Routine Proceedings*

### PETITIONS

#### GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

**Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops):** Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure to present a petition pursuant to Standing Order 36.

The petitioners are from Kamloops, British Columbia. They point out their concern about the government's intention to proceed with the proposed goods and services tax in spite of the incredible opposition, and state a number of reasons why they oppose this tax.

I know they would want me to mention that they would like to call upon the Liberals in the Senate to do the honourable thing and defeat this tax in the Senate. After all, if the Liberals in the Senate wanted to defeat the GST, they could do so this afternoon. Apparently, they do not want to do that. They would rather vote themselves an increase of \$153 of incentive funds to go to the Senate.

The petitioners are asking Parliament to reconsider supporting this, and they ask the government to go back to the drawing board and start all over.

**Mr. Ron MacDonald (Dartmouth):** Mr. Speaker, today, it is my pleasure to present a petition to Parliament, pursuant to Standing Order 36, signed by residents of Atlantic Canada, and more particularly, from various parts of Newfoundland.

The petitioners stand four-square and opposed to this government's proposed 7 per cent goods and services tax. They join over 750,000 people who have petitioned this Parliament for the same reason, to tell this government that the proposed goods and services tax is a tax that they believe to be unfair. They believe it to be a hidden tax, and they believe to be a gouge and screw tax on the taxpayer.

The petitioners are asking the government to, at once, reconsider this very regressive tax and go back to the drawing board.

**Mr. Fred J. Mifflin (Bonavista—Trinity—Conception):** Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege and honour to rise under Standing Order 36 to join my friend, the hon. member for Dartmouth who presented a petition, and present a petition from my riding. I am going to join him to get the numbers up from 15,000 to 16,000.