

Routine Proceedings

These petitioners say that the RCMP has a long and honourable tradition known and admired around the world. They are not discriminating, Mr. Speaker. These petitioners humbly pray and call upon Parliament to preserve the distinctive heritage and tradition of the RCMP by retaining the uniformity of the dress code with all the recognized colour and trappings that have such great historical value for our country.

All these petitions have been certified.

EXTRADITION

Mrs. Barbara Sparrow (Calgary Southwest): Mr. Speaker, I have a group of petitions containing 5,895 names from people of the area of Calgary southwest. These petitioners call upon the government of Canada to revise its extradition laws. I am pleased to join with these people who humbly pray and call upon Parliament to revise the laws of Canada relating to extradition to allow the Minister of Justice of Canada to order the extradition of alleged or convicted criminals at any time after their apprehension in Canada, even during their period of incarceration, for crimes committed in another country.

VIA RAIL

Ms. Margaret Mitchell (Vancouver East): Mr. Speaker, I would like to present a petition on the great concern of people from the Vancouver region and my riding of Vancouver East, people who today will be appalled at the announcement regarding VIA Rail, and who call on Parliament to maintain the VIA network and to upgrade VIA Rail rather than cutting it.

PROPOSED GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Hon. Ralph Ferguson (Lambton—Middlesex): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to lay these petitions before the House today on behalf of the residents of southwestern Ontario and my own constituency in particular. These petitioners humbly pray and call upon Parliament to reject the proposed goods and services tax and to provide a remedy.

NATIONAL ARTS CENTRE ORCHESTRA

Mrs. Sheila Finestone (Mount Royal): Mr. Speaker, under Standing Order 36 I rise to present the concerns of many Canadians about the present crisis in the negotiations of the National Arts Centre with the National Arts Centre orchestra, some of it because the Centre has been held at zero budget growth for five

years. On this its twentieth anniversary these petitioners would ask for a demonstration of good faith by an immediate return to the bargaining table, a call which I hope the government will do this day while wishing the National Arts Centre a happy twentieth anniversary.

VIA RAIL

Mr. Joe Comuzzi (Thunder Bay—Nipigon): Mr. Speaker, I have the privilege this afternoon to table a petition from the required number of signators from Belleville, Ontario. These signatures were gained while we were travelling on VIA Rail. They pray that this government will rescind its orders regarding the closures of VIA Rail.

PROPOSED GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Mr. Lawrence MacAulay (Cardigan): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to present a petition signed by a large number of my constituents from Cardigan, P.E.I. My constituents call upon this Parliament to reject the goods and services tax. This is a hidden tax. My constituents believe this will be unfair and disastrous to the economy of Prince Edward Island.

Mrs. Diane Marleau (Sudbury): Mr. Speaker, I am tabling before you today a petition against the goods and services tax. There are people from my riding of Sudbury who are asking that they be heard by this government. They are extremely anxious that this government go back to the drawing board and come back with a fair and equitable tax.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Eugène Bellemare (Carleton—Gloucester): Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to present a sixteen-page edition—

[*English*]

—from Canadian citizens from various municipalities against the proposed goods and services tax. This particular tax will be damaging to small businesses because of its complicated tax system. It will also be hurting the economy by reducing the purchasing power of Canadian citizens by the percentage points presented by the government.

Mr. Stan Keyes (Hamilton West): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour and duty pursuant to Standing Order 36 to present to the House a petition signed by some 83 constituents in the riding of Hamilton West who humbly pray and call upon Parliament to reject the proposed goods and services tax.