

[Translation]

### SAINTE-MARGUERITE HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT

**Mr. Claude Bachand (Saint-Jean, BQ):** Mr. Speaker, after all the criticism directed by Cree Chief Matthew Coon-Come against the James Bay agreement and Hydro-Québec, it was encouraging yesterday to hear what was said by Montagnais Chief Élie Jacques Jourdain in Washington, where he explained the benefits of the Sainte-Marguerite hydroelectric project for his community.

The agreement between the Montagnais and Hydro-Québec will boost the economy and employment in the region. According to Chief Jourdain, the agreement will protect the way of life and culture of the Montagnais, since the Montagnais' two conditions were met, namely that the agreement will not adversely affect their ancestral territorial rights and will make them equal partners.

I also wish to commend Chief Jourdain and negotiator Konrad Sioui for having the courage to say in public what many aboriginal people think: a real partnership between Quebec and aboriginal peoples is feasible.

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[English]

### HEALTH CARE

**Mr. Elwin Hermanson (Kindersley—Lloydminster, Ref.):** Mr. Speaker, on paper we have a health care system that sounds great. The Minister of Health and the Prime Minister are always talking about the five principles in the Canada Health Act—lots of talk with little action.

Our health care system, successfully pioneered in a regional health district in Swift Current, Saskatchewan, is crumbling. On paper health care in Canada is accessible. In reality the waiting lists for major surgery are growing. On paper health care is universal; however, different provinces cover different services and prescriptions in their health plans.

As the population ages, demand for health services is rising while the proportion of people paying for services is dropping. Debt servicing costs are rising while federal health funding is falling. How long will this have to continue before the government takes action rather than reading a paper called the Canada Health Act?

On paper Canada has a world class health care system. In reality when Canadians are sick or injured they have the right to be put immediately on a world class waiting list.

S. O. 31

[Translation]

### NATIONAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK

**Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry—Prescott—Russell, Lib.):** Mr. Speaker, this week is National Emergency Medical Services Week. We want to take this opportunity to stress the vital role played by health professionals in emergency medical services.

Anyone who has ever had to use these services will appreciate what is done by the people who work in this area.

[English]

I wish to commend and congratulate the Canadian Confederation of Ambulance Service Associations and its president, Mr. René Berthiaume, for their devotion and enthusiasm as well for their involvement in national emergency medical services week.

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### CANADIAN VOLUNTEER ADVISORS TO BUSINESS

**Mr. John Cannis (Scarborough Centre, Lib.):** Mr. Speaker, I rise today to inform the House about an act of generosity that was rendered by a citizen of Canada and a constituent of mine. Mr. Brian Oxley of Scarborough travelled to Romania to help and advise local manufacturers engaged in glass production.

Mr. Oxley was a volunteer advisor working overseas for Canadian Volunteer Advisors to Business, otherwise known as CESO. Since it was founded in 1967, CESO has been providing Canadian volunteer advisors to businesses and organizations in Canada's aboriginal communities, developing nations and emerging market economies in central and eastern Europe.

CESO volunteers are skilled Canadians, men and women, usually retired, who willingly share their lifetime of practical experience with those who need it most.

This merits congratulations to all concerned. I congratulate Mr. Oxley for his outstanding contribution.

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### AGRICULTURE

**Mr. Leon E. Benoit (Vegreville, Ref.):** Mr. Speaker, yesterday I asked the minister of agriculture whether farmers who deliver grain to the elevator before July 31 will have to pay the full freight rate for their crop if it is not shipped out of the elevator until after August 1.

• (1415)

The minister confirmed that farmers who sold their grain to the Canadian Wheat Board and delivered it to the elevator