

We must remain vigilant in order to preserve and purify the air on our planet. That is the message these young people asked me to pass on to you, urging us to act to prevent heedless and irresponsible attacks on the environment which in the end will destroy our present way of life.

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[English]

TRANS-LABRADOR HIGHWAY

Hon. William Rompkey (Labrador): Mr. Speaker, people in my riding are pleased to see the federal government finally demonstrating the will to fulfil the long-term goal of many Labradorians, the completion of the Trans-Labrador Highway.

In his budget statement of December 2, the Minister of Finance announced that his government would set aside certain funds for work on the Trans-Labrador Highway. At that time, he did not specify exactly how much money would be involved nor did he indicate when work would begin.

However, the people of Labrador hope that it will be a sufficient amount soon enough to make substantial progress on improving and extending the road system in Labrador. I trust that the minister will soon make a specific commitment both in terms of money and in terms of time.

With its enormous social and economic potential, Labradorians are anxious to see the completion of the Trans-Labrador Highway from Labrador west through to the straits.

I call upon the government to see the value of this project and commit itself to a budget and a timetable as soon as possible.

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BILL C-333

Mr. Bill Blaikie (Winnipeg Transcona): Mr. Speaker, private member's Bill C-333 will be debated in the House of Commons this week. This is a bill that fire-fighters and police officers want because it would establish uniform protocols for infectious diseases notification.

In the course of saving lives, police and fire-fighters are often exposed to individuals with infectious diseases.

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Notification about possible exposure to an infectious disease would allow emergency response personnel to obtain early treatment and reduce the possibility of further transmission.

Bill C-333 would ensure that the provinces establish these lines of communication while maintaining the confidentiality of the patient.

On behalf of the NDP caucus, I call on government members to support referral of this bill to the standing committee on health and welfare for study and recommendations.

Police and fire-fighters should be supported on a matter of such fundamental personal and public safety.

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SMALL BUSINESS

Hon. Alan Redway (Don Valley East): Mr. Speaker, last week, as a result of the determination, persistence and commitment of the Minister of State for Small Businesses, the government announced that the ceiling under the Small Businesses Loans Act would be increased to \$250,000, that it would work to broaden the application of the act to include some forms of working capital, that the Small Business Financing Program would be extended to the end of 1994 and that it would expect Canada's banks to make a special effort to play a constructive role in ensuring the success of the program.

Now that is terrific news, but remember that the measures to assist small business which were announced in the February budget still have not been enacted into law. The minister tells me he hopes to pass enabling legislation at all stages this Friday.

It is time for all members of this House to show the same commitment as the minister to help small business. The actions of this House on Friday will speak much louder than any words.

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HON. MEMBER FOR SKEENA

Mr. Jerry Pickard (Essex-Kent): Mr. Speaker, last week I was made aware of a visit to my riding by the hon. member for Skeena. Residents of Essex-Kent expect truth and honesty from MPs. The MP from Skeena failed to meet these standards. Instead, he offered his unfounded—