CANADIAN POLISH CONGRESS

Mr. Jesse Flis (Parkdale—High Park): Madam Speaker, the Canadian Polish Congress, an umbrella organization representing some 240 Polish Canadian organizations across Canada, is here in Ottawa today to give its response to shaping Canada's future together.

The Canadian Polish Congress, among many excellent suggestions, recommends that the preamble to the Constitution should note that all segments of Canada and every individual, apart from guaranteed rights and privileges, also have some obligations toward the state and the Canadian community.

A stronger emphasis should be placed on the need for a commitment to Canada on the part of every citizen, irrespective of where he or she resides. It is obvious that this commitment is lacking in some parts of our population.

Too many Canadians are asking not what they can do for their country but rather what their country can do for them. The prevalent attitude seems to be to get more for less and to look after number one.

Canadians of Polish descent believe that the time has come to address the other side of the individual rights and freedoms and equally the individual duties and responsibilities.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY ACT

Mr. Walter Van De Walle (St. Albert): Madam Speaker, this government believes that we can address economic issues while improving the environment. Bill C-41, the Energy Efficiency Act, illustrates this government's commitment to sustainable development because it recognizes the importance of future alternate energy resources.

These are ethanol and ethanol enriched gas. Ethanol added to gasoline will improve octane levels while reducing the use of harmful additives such as MMT and benzene.

The production of ethanol has important economic benefits. It would have the effect of boosting slumping grain prices, providing Canadian farmers with millions of dollars in revenue to bolster the farm economy.

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I call on the government to consider all avenues possible to promote the use of ethanol enriched gasoline. It is good for the farm economy. It is good for the environment and it is good for Canada.

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Mr. Len Taylor (The Battlefords—Meadow Lake): Madam Speaker, when the government implemented the goods and services tax, it took steps to ensure that goods purchased by Indian bands and delivered for use on the reservations would be exempt. In doing so, the government noted that goods delivered by mail would qualify as exempt as long as the post office was on the reserve.

However there are few post offices on reserves in Canada. Therefore bands purchasing goods like books for use in a band operated school, goods which are shipped by mail to a post office off the reserve, must pay the GST on these goods which otherwise the government says are exempt. This is wrong.

I have brought this to the attention of the Minister of Finance on an earlier occasion and he acknowledged the implementation process is inconsistent, but he refuses to correct that inconsistency.

I think we would be better off without the GST, but as long we have it and as long as this government is exempting goods purchased by and delivered to Indian bands, I call on it to be consistent and exempt—

Madam Deputy Speaker: I am sorry but the hon. member's time has expired.

OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY

Mr. Ken Hughes (Macleod): Madam Speaker, investment in Canada should be treated both fairly and equally without regard for the sector in which an investment is made. Regrettably investment in the oil and gas industry is still subject to restrictions by Investment Canada.

These restrictions make no sense for Canada. Restrictions result in lower total investment in the industry, less economic activity and less security of energy supply for Canada.