

time of national reconciliation and a time for healing. It is also in that spirit that I call on all Members, on behalf of the people of MacLeod, to set aside differences and focus on working together.

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### SOCIAL AFFAIRS

#### MEETING NEEDS OF THE HUNGRY—TRIBUTE TO NORTHUMBERLAND VOLUNTEERS

**Ms. Christine Stewart (Northumberland):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to highlight Article 25 of the United Nations Declaration to which Canada is a signatory. It states:

Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate to the health and well-being of himself and his family, including food, clothing, housing.

Today and throughout this week in Canada there are thousands of Canadians, the majority being children, who are experiencing hunger. Across Canada, food bank volunteers and concerned supporters are struggling to meet the needs of hungry Canadians.

In my own riding of Northumberland, I am grateful to the many volunteers who, for over two years, have given devoted service to providing support to our hungry through such organizations as Fare Share, the Northumberland food banks project.

However, we know the food bank recipients need and want decent job opportunities and adequate affordable housing. They need and want dignity, the opportunity to shop like you and I, for their own basic food needs. Food banks should only be an emergency service.

Policies and programs targeted specifically to providing decent jobs and affordable housing are required. On behalf of the hungry in my riding of Northumberland and throughout Canada, I implore the Government to make a concerted effort to provide all families and individuals their basic right to food, clothing, and housing in 1989.

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### NATIONAL DEFENCE

#### MINESWEEPERS—PORT OF SHELburne SUGGESTED AS BASE

**Mr. Peter L. McCreath (South Shore):** Mr. Speaker, last week the Government announced the purchase of

two auxiliary minesweepers to be put into service during the spring of 1989 by the Canadian Naval Reserve. By 1993 there ought to be 12 such coastal defence vessels, eight assigned to the East Coast. A permanent base must be established for this fleet, and crowded conditions would suggest that the dockyard in Halifax is not an appropriate site.

The Port of Shelburne offers a large harbour, convenient to all East Coast areas. There is a large ship repair facility, space for expansion, and existing military infrastructure.

The town of Shelburne, on Nova Scotia's climatically moderate South Shore, offers pleasant living year-round and a variety of necessary living services. The whole of Shelburne County would benefit significantly from the jobs and economic impact of the reserve and minesweeper bases.

The determination of Shelburne as the site of this unit would serve well both the interests and needs of Canada's naval forces and a region of Nova Scotia in need of a more diversified economy.

Accordingly, I strongly urge the Government to consider this proposal seriously and to locate Canada's new East Coast mine countermeasure fleet in the Port and County of Shelburne, Nova Scotia.

### ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

#### CHARTER OF RIGHTS

##### SUPREME COURT DECISION ON LANGUAGE PROHIBITION IN QUEBEC

**Hon. Warren Allmand (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister or, if he is not here, the Acting Prime Minister, whomever that may be.

Considering that Premier Bourassa intends to move quickly to override the Supreme Court decision on signs in Quebec, and since in the past the Prime Minister said he dislikes the use of the notwithstanding clause, I would like to know if the Prime Minister, or whoever is acting in his place, will call Mr. Bourassa today and ask him to reconsider his position and to respect the federal Charter, the Quebec Charter, and the Supreme Court decision.

As the Prime Minister or the Acting Prime Minister knows, the Supreme Court said it would accept the