

April. On top of this, the federal government will not grant this group charitable status.

Now we hear that the Minister of the Environment is promising the electors in Chambly a new park if they vote Tory on February 12. This is the same park that was promised to Chambly in 1988. When asked why he was repeating a two year old promise, the minister said that elections were the time to make promises.

• (1410)

We have learned that lesson in Manitoba as well. We remember that the Prime Minister promised Winnipeg the new International Centre for Sustainable Development in the 1988 election. Since that time, there has not been another word about it from the mouths of the Prime Minister or the Environment Minister, except at international conferences to brag about this non-existent centre. Elections may be the time to make promises about the environment, but for the Tories there is never any time to keep them.

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BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Mr. Peter L. McCreath (South Shore): Mr. Speaker, today marks the beginning of what has been designated as Black History Month across Canada.

It is appropriate that a Nova Scotian rise to draw the attention of this House to this important and symbolic observance, because Nova Scotia has long been the home of a significant and substantial black community. The first black person came to Canada as an interpreter with Samuel de Champlain to Port Royal in 1605.

Others came as loyalists after the American Revolution including, I might say, the ancestors of my black constituents in the town of Shelburne. Black immigrants have continued to come to Canada from all parts of the world.

For 200 years, black Canadians have contributed significantly to our historical development and to our culture. Much of this contribution, I might say, is celebrated at the Black Cultural Centre in Westphal, Nova Scotia. Black Canadians continue to make a significant contribution to the economy and culture of Canada.

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I urge all Canadians to note and to welcome the observance of Black History Month as well as to use as an occasion to reflect upon the need and degree to which this contribution is adequately or inadequately reflected in our mainstream national institutions, both public and private, economic, political and cultural.

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THE ENVIRONMENT

Mr. Jim Jordan (Leeds—Grenville): Mr. Speaker, I commend Dupont of Canada for its recently announced pledge to eliminate toxic emissions from all its operations by the year 1995.

I note that this goal by Dupont demands a performance at levels above all legal requirements and I commend Dupont for that action.

Since Dupont received the gold medal for environmental achievement from the United Nations World Environment Centre two years ago, this new initiative will serve to further enhance Dupont's reputation for environmental awareness around the world.

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[*Translation*]

ROMANIA

Mr. Jean-Pierre Hogue (Outremont): Mr. Speaker, since my statement last November 29 on the situation in Romania, we have had the joy of seeing the Romanian people successfully free themselves from the yoke of Communist tyranny. But despite the appearance of a new team of leaders, the country is still desperately short of medical supplies and food. We are told, for example, that there is one syringe for 20 patients, surgical instruments are rusty and medication of all kinds is greatly lacking.

We can do something to help ease this unfortunate situation if we want to. The International Red Cross in Geneva is accepting donations to provide some of what Romanian health institutions lack. Furthermore, and to conclude, Mr. Speaker, Romanian Canadians in the riding of Outremont which I have the honour to represent may set up a local organization which could send medicine, surgical instruments and food to Romania.