

Several people were shocked by her simplistic speech which left little to the judgment of Franco-Ontarians.

This episode confirms that the Minister of Health has become an embarrassment. Let Franco-Ontarians form their own opinion about the Bloc Quebecois. We trust their judgment.

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[English]

### NATIONAL UNITY

**Mr. Allan Kerpan (Moose Jaw—Lake Centre):** Mr. Speaker, sometimes we Canadians are guilty of taking our history for granted. I too have been guilty of this.

This past weekend my wife and I attended two events which made me realize that we must take time to remember our past. The first was the D-Day services honouring our Canadians who died in combat to help preserve our future and our freedom.

The second event was the sound and light show here on Parliament Hill which brilliantly reflected Canada's history, heritage and culture. I was overwhelmed by this magical display radiating over Parliament Hill, our national symbol of democracy and patriotism. I believe that feeling of being Canadian radiates all across Canada, out to each and every little corner of the country. We are all united in our hearts. It is a deeply held feeling to be Canadian.

My wife and I got a very warm feeling as we sat and watched the story of how Canada developed. It touched our hearts and I know all Canadians share this spirit. We must dissolve any threats to our unity vision and put an end to the notion of being anything less than one united nation.

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### TRENT UNIVERSITY

**Mr. Peter Adams (Peterborough):** Mr. Speaker, to mark the 25th anniversary of native studies at Trent University, the oldest native studies program in Canada, three prominent aboriginal Canadians were awarded honorary degrees. One recipient was Mohawk elder Ernie Benedict, who helped found the North American Indian Travelling College which through teaching helped preserve cultural traditions of native peoples. The college is based on Cornwall Island, Ontario.

Douglas Cardinal, the architect for the Canadian Museum of Civilization and many other structures in Canada and abroad also received an honorary degree. He was born in Alberta and spent most of his life there before moving his business to Ottawa.

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The third recipient was Rosemarie Kuptana, president of the Inuit Tapirisat of Canada, the voice of Canadian Inuit. Miss Kuptana worked with the CBC in the north and with the Inuit

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Broadcasting Corporation. She is a major figure in national and international aboriginal affairs.

We congratulate these distinguished Canadians. We also congratulate the native studies department of Trent University on 25 years of academic leadership.

I congratulate the member for Winnipeg South and his wife on the birth of their son.

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### HOUSEHOLDER POLL

**Mr. Tony Valeri (Lincoln):** Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise and report to the House of Commons that I have received hundreds of replies to my householder questionnaire. The views of the residents of Lincoln are important and I want my constituents to know that their representative is listening.

The residents of Lincoln have made it overwhelmingly clear that they want to see deficit reduction as one of the top priorities of government. They want the cost of government operations cut and they want reductions in crown corporation subsidies.

As the representative for Lincoln I too share their concerns and frustrations. I am encouraged by the course the government has charted in promoting fiscal responsibility and prudence.

The government will continue to improve efficiencies in government operations the residents of Lincoln demanded and I will do my part to help achieve our goal of good government. I will continue to solicit the views of my constituents of Lincoln and I look forward to sharing them with my colleagues in the House of Commons.

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### ENVIRONMENT WEEK

**Mrs. Anna Terrana (Vancouver East):** Mr. Speaker, I would like the opportunity to emphasize the fact that on the first day of Environment Week, Sunday, June 5, the federal government released its mid-term progress report on the Fraser River action plan.

The Fraser River is key to the present and future environmental, economic and social prosperity of Canadians in British Columbia. I am pleased to report that the action plan which focuses on sustaining this key ecosystem by cleaning up pollution, restoring productivity, and developing a government system that would ensure the long term environmental health of the Fraser basin is on track and demonstrating real progress in meeting its original objectives.

Nevertheless we must continue to strive for the realization of the goals laid out by the plan. This involves working with our stakeholders in the basin, including First Nations, provincial and local governments, industry and community groups.