

The Government and the people of Canada support nuclear disarmament. Now Canada is playing a leading role in the study of seismic detection of underground tests of nuclear weapons. Dr. Peter Basham, an Energy, Mines and Resources seismology expert, is chairing a group of international scientists from 25 different nations around the world working on seismic verification and developing a world-wide system of rapid data exchange to support a test ban.

This is just one of the significant contributions that Canada is making in increasing the hope and confidence of achieving a workable test ban and nuclear disarmament.

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THE ENVIRONMENT

ROUGE RIVER VALLEY—HERITAGE PARK

Mr. Derek Lee (Scarborough—Rouge River): Mr. Speaker, the House has heard a number of exhortations from Hon. Members from the great City of Scarborough in support of the creation of an environmental heritage park in the Rouge River Valley and table lands.

The proposed parklands comprise about 5,000 acres inside Scarborough of which 80 per cent are government-owned, and an additional 4,000 of protectable land surrounding the river's headwaters to the north in York region. Through fate or miracle, these lands still contain much of their original endowment of vegetation, wildlife, clean water and fish.

The Rouge lands are not just a piece of real estate. They are still an ecosystem recognized as a critical and unprotected natural area by the World Wildlife Federation, the Nature Conservancy of Canada, and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources.

The present and past Ministers of the Environment have committed themselves publicly to the initiative to develop these proposed parklands. I want to record my impression of our pitiable record as a society of coexisting within the context of our current environment. What will it take to wrestle the ethics of industrial development and growth to the ground in favour of environmentally sustainable development?

Oral Questions

If we cannot save this precious ecosystem from the bulldozer when it is so obviously saveable, just maybe we will show ourselves incapable of saving any ecosystem, including that of all mankind.

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NATIONAL REVENUE

ZERO TOLERANCE DRUG POLICY

Mr. Geoff Wilson (Swift Current—Maple Creek—Assiniboia): Mr. Speaker, it has been reported recently that the Minister of National Revenue (Mr. Jelinek) is considering the adoption of a zero tolerance drug policy as part of the Government's war on drugs. Such a policy would enable Canada Customs to seize cars, planes and boats in which illegal drugs are transported.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my support for the adoption of this policy. Yes, it is a strong measure. But strong measures are necessary when we are dealing with a serious problem.

The fact is that drug use in Canada has reached epidemic stages which require the adoption of stricter and more diligent drug enforcement policies. It is imperative that we take steps now which will force smugglers to think twice about bringing drugs into our country.

This is why I now implore all Members of the House, regardless of Party affiliation, to support the Minister in the adoption of the zero tolerance policy. Such a policy will make Canada's future drug-free.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

THE BUDGET

SOCIAL PROGRAMS

Mr. Douglas Young (Gloucester): Mr. Speaker, since the Budget was dropped on us, people from all across the country in all walks of life are asking a question. That question is this. What happened between November, 1988 and May, 1989?

The Minister of Finance and the Prime Minister are no longer singing the same tune that they sang last fall. Thus—

Mr. Charest: The time for statements is over.