

However, let me reaffirm my support for a number of the changes to the Small Businesses Loans Act. There was and in my mind there still is room for improvement to this act. Let us make the most of this opportunity. Let us make the SBLA what it is supposed to be all about, access to needed financing and capital for our small businesses.

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NORTH AMERICAN FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

Mr. David Barrett (Esquimalt—Juan de Fuca): Madam Speaker, it is with grave concern that I rise in the House today to warn Canadians as we head into an election campaign that yes, indeed, this government is finished. There are choices to be made in the next election on precise policies. We know where the government stands on NAFTA and now we know where the Liberal Party stands on NAFTA as well.

Yesterday, as sweepers after the parade of the Leader of the Opposition's speech, the members for LaSalle—Émard and Etobicoke North said that the Liberals would probably sign NAFTA and try to change it later. That is an absolute cop-out. It is a sell-out even worse than what the Tories are doing.

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[Translation]

MEMBER FOR SKEENA

Mr. Clément Couture (Saint-Jean): Madam Speaker, after hearing what the NDP member for Skeena had to say to the Americans about electricity from Quebec and considering his refusal to retract and stop the screening of a video that criticizes the Great Whale project, all Quebecers feel that what he said was uncalled for, unjustified, and not helpful in creating a better environment.

The leader of the New Democratic Party dissociated herself from the statement, calling it excessive. We can assume this means the hon. member for Skeena will have to leave his party and thus will not be able to apologize to Quebecers.

S. O. 31

I therefore want to ask the Leader of the New Democratic Party, the hon. member for Yukon, to apologize to Quebecers on behalf of her party.

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[English]

THE ELDERLY

Mr. Mac Harb (Ottawa Centre): Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my extreme disgust with the continuing attack on seniors by the Ontario NDP government.

The NDP has plans to charge seniors who live in apartment buildings for basic maintenance services such as outside window cleaning and painting.

I find such policies to be reprehensible and inexcusable. The latest attack on seniors involves the NDP decision to remove pay phones from lobbies of seniors buildings. In many cases, high rise buildings with hundreds of seniors have been left without access to a public phone. The rationale for this is that it will save through the whole national capital region \$18,000 per year.

By removing these phones, the NDP is putting the safety of seniors at risk. If the NDP insists on removing these phones anyway, when is it going to put in some sort of a public safety phone for those seniors?

This is just another example of poor NDP government management. There must be a better way—

Madam Deputy Speaker: I regret the hon. member's time has expired.

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THE ECONOMY

Mr. John A. MacDougall (Timiskaming—French River): Madam Speaker, yesterday we had the opportunity to hear the leader of the Liberal Party at the Empire Club in Toronto tell us about his economic plans.

Instead of Canadians being able to sleep well last night, they had nightmares. They had nightmares because they can remember the six and five wage and price controls when the same member was in government. They still remember when he was in power saying the government would not tax gas. What did they do?