

S. O. 31

law equally for all people who are fishing, to ensure that we have a sustainable fishery on the west coast for future generations, and to ensure that what happened on the east coast does not happen on the west coast.

The writing is on the wall. Let us not ignore it.

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HARBOURFRONT CENTRE

Mr. John Solomon (Regina—Lumsden, NDP): Mr. Speaker, when it comes to speaking up for Ontario, the 98 Liberal Ontario members sure are quiet. This is especially true for MPs from the city of Toronto.

The Liberal government has decided to eliminate all funding to Harbourfront, a world class cultural centre set up by the Trudeau government. It was originally set up to run in perpetuity by revenues from the original development but, as with most Liberal plans, it fell through.

The Liberals promised funding for Harbourfront but has left it high and dry. The Toronto Liberal caucus chair will not comment about this latest broken Liberal promise. The entire Liberal caucus will not comment on any of the 20 broken promises to Ontario. Why not? It is embarrassed with its record of broken promises, in particular its betrayal of medicare, education and job creation. Rather than account for its betrayal to Ontario it wrongly blames the NDP government.

The people of Ontario are learning their lesson of false Liberal promises as other Canadians have learned first hand. Liberals, Tories, same old stories.

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CANADIAN CANCER SOCIETY

Ms. Hedy Fry (Vancouver Centre, Lib.): Mr. Speaker, it is April and spring is here, at least in British Columbia. The daffodils are in full bloom and so is the Canadian Cancer Society's fundraising campaign.

Since 1938 the Canadian Cancer Society has tried to eradicate cancer and sought to better the lives of people suffering from this terrible disease. Cancer research has resulted in many breakthrough treatments over the years. In 1979 the five-year survival rate for childhood leukaemia was 17 per cent. Today, thanks to advancements in research and rehabilitation, it is 83 per cent. The Canadian Cancer Society also helped to fund the recent discovery of a breast cancer gene that will enhance prevention.

Despite our small victories, the fight against cancer is not over. In 1995 alone 126,000 Canadians will be diagnosed with cancer and 62,000 will die from the disease.

Therefore, this April I urge all Canadians to give generously to the Canadian Cancer Society volunteer who comes their door. Together we can give not only money but hope to the thousands of Canadians suffering from cancer.

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ONTARIO LIBERALS

Mr. Rex Crawford (Kent, Lib.): Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my legislative assistant for the past seven years, as he won the Ontario Liberal Party nomination in the riding of Chatham—Kent last week.

Mike Ferguson has provided me and the great people of Kent County with loyal and dedicated service. No problem was too big or too small as he worked one on one with my constituents.

Bob Rae is spending \$8 million a day to get re-elected. The NDP's \$10 billion deficit is a sorry example next to seven provinces that now have balanced budgets. The Ontario NDP debt is increasing by \$1 million an hour. We need a practical, common sense, balanced budget approach which Mike and the Ontario Liberals can bring to this province. A Liberal candidate has now been nominated in every riding in Ontario, while the Conservatives must place want ads to find people to represent yesterday's party.

I wish Mike and all Liberals—

The Speaker: The hon. member for London West.

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● (1410)

EQUAL RIGHTS

Mrs. Sue Barnes (London West, Lib.): Mr. Speaker, I feel compelled to respond to sentiments expressed by at least one member of the Reform Party regarding the denial of asylum for females fearing genital mutilation. I spoke last fall at the inter-parliamentary union on this topic. Countries cannot use culture as an excuse to deny women human rights. Women's rights are human rights.

Canada's commitment to equality for women is rooted in the belief that equal rights for women are an essential and inherent component of progress on overall human rights and democratic development.

Female genital mutilation in Canada can be prosecuted under a number of sections of our Criminal Code. Female genital mutilation is a brutal expression of patriarchal power. It is child torture.

Canada should and does lead the world with our gender persecution guidelines. These, like many other issues, require understanding and compassion, not rhetoric.