

S. O. 31

STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S. O. 31

[Translation]

NATIONAL ACCESS AWARENESS WEEK

Ms. Nicole Roy-Arcelin (Ahuntsic): Mr. Speaker, since this is National Access Awareness Week, I would like to invite hon. members to urge all Canadians who are responsible for organizing special activities in their ridings to use a progress report.

A progress report helps communities to monitor change. By using the report, organizers will remember the purpose of National Access Awareness Week which is to enhance the economic and social integration of the disabled.

Mr. Speaker, I am sure this special week will be very successful in bringing the government closer to its goal of building a better and more just society for all Canadians.

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[English]

WESTERN DIVERSIFICATION

Mr. Geoff Wilson (Swift Current—Maple Creek—Assiniboia): Mr. Speaker, yesterday Impact Packaging broke sod for its \$25 million wastepaper molding plant in Swift Current. The plant will use recycled paper to produce grocery trays which are biodegradable and fully recyclable.

Western Economic Diversification has made a \$5,055,000 million repayable contribution to this project which will initially provide 85 new jobs. These are permanent jobs based on the leading edge of environmentally sound technology. Most important of all, these jobs are totally unrelated to agriculture and represent genuine diversification in an area so dependent on export wheat.

I join all residents of Swift Current and southwestern Saskatchewan in congratulating Impact Packaging and the three levels of government on this important initiative. New product, new market, new technology, new jobs in rural western Canada; that's what western diversification is all about.

NATIONAL LIBERAL TASK FORCE ON MUNICIPAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Mr. Mac Harb (Ottawa Centre): Mr. Speaker, after several months of touring towns and cities across Canada, the member for Nepean and myself, as co-chair of the National Liberal Task Force on Municipal Infrastructure, released a report yesterday, on behalf of the Liberal Party of Canada.

The facts are astonishing. Right now, 90 per cent of the raw sewage east of Ontario is being released into our rivers and waterways without proper treatment. In Newfoundland, over 80 per cent of the population do not have properly treated drinking water. We now learn that 10.3 per cent of carbon dioxide emissions come from automobile travel. We also know that travelling on roads which are in poor condition uses even more fuel and does more damage to our environment.

We call on the government to re-assume its responsibility for these environmental dangers and work with the municipalities and provinces to establish national criteria for infrastructure. Setting national criteria guidelines will ensure environmental protection and will provide uniform levels of service for all Canadians. This is a vital first step if we are going to halt further damage to our environment.

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THE ECONOMY

Mr. Howard McCurdy (Windsor—St. Clair): Mr. Speaker, yesterday we learned that 334 more Canadian workers have lost their jobs because of this government's bungling of the economy.

Fruehauf Canada is closing its Brantford trailer plant in the face of intense competition from U.S. trucking firms; competition that Fruehauf's president says is rigged against us by our high dollar policy, our high interest policy, our high tax policy and other policies too despicably low to mention here.

Meanwhile, Canadian truckers, the natural market for Canadian-made trucks, are reeling from the deadly one-two punch of free trade and deregulation, unable to get even their most basic grievances addressed unless they blockade a bridge in the process.