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homes will at least be able to continue living closer to their communities.

Through this agreement the federal government is responsible for two-thirds of the capital cost of the new beds, and Veterans Affairs Canada will pay a daily co-payment fee to the province for each veteran occupied bed.

If I may, I quote from Mr. Jansen: "This agreement represents a major improvement in the level of service to veterans—and demonstrates the strong co-operation between the provincial and federal governments on matters concerning veterans."

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HEALTH CARE

Ms. Joy Langan (Mission—Coquitlam): Madam Speaker, the time has come for this government to live up to its mandate and show leadership in the health care delivery system in Canada.

When a country is faced with hospital crisis from coast to coast to coast; when deaths of cardiac patients are being reported in major centres because of shortages of acute care beds, nurses, or technicians; and when children with life-threatening illnesses are being turned away from children's hospitals because of acute bed closures, the Tory government must rethink its fiscal responsibilities and priorities.

The Minister of National Health and Welfare must ask himself: "Is this the time to be putting a lid on federal health care support?" He must then, on behalf of all Canadians, those Canadians who trust and rely on him, convince the Minister of Finance that federal belt-tightening is weakening Ottawa's presence in health care and threatens the universal system set out in the Canada Health Act.

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NATIONAL ACCESS AWARENESS WEEK

Mr. Brian O'Kurley (Elk Island): Madam Speaker, June 10, 1990 marked the beginning of the third National Access Awareness Week in Canada.

This week we celebrated the achievements of persons with disabilities and worked toward the elimination of remaining barriers to their full economic and social integration.

Governments at all levels have programs and services which benefit persons with disabilities. Many of these are related to areas that were highlighted during Access Awareness Week: transportation, housing, employment, recreation, and education. As a result we may tend to think of these in terms of specific government initiatives. However, during the past week it helped to give attention to other aspects of the disabled's integration into our communities.

• (1110)

I hope National Access Awareness Week provided all of us with the occasion to become informed about the events which are ongoing in our communities. By sharing in these activities we will not only gain in awareness but also find new ways of helping to meet the challenges faced by disabled Canadians.

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CANADA DAY

Mr. Mac Harb (Ottawa Centre): Madam Speaker, in a couple of weeks, on July 1, we will celebrate our country's one hundred and twenty-third birthday.

For such a young nation, we have a lot of which to be proud. We are very lucky to be Canadians. Our country is one of the best places in the world in which to work and to live. Other countries look to Canada as a leader in world co-operation and development. Those of us who have travelled outside the country can appreciate how very fortunate we are.

[*Translation*]

Now is the time to get together to celebrate everything we share as a people. Our natural resources, our fundamental rights, our diverse cultures and our tolerance are what makes Canada a country that is appreciated throughout the world.

[*English*]

For the last 123 years Canadians have worked together to make our country what it is now. I am confident that this same spirit will carry us into the next decade and indeed into the next century. This is the land of compassion. This is a land of opportunities.