

By having the definition of sustainable development right in the body of the bill, the guidelines for all policy related to the forests of this country are crystal clear.

I think that his constituents and the people of Canada should realize that sometimes even though it may be perceived to be a minor amendment, in actual fact it can have quite a substantive and profound influence on policy development in this country.

I salute my colleague for his work in this particular sector of our economy. It is so important to all of us.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): Is the House ready for the question?

Some hon. members: Question.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to, bill read the third time and passed.

• (1120)

Mr. Layton: Mr. Speaker, I believe there have been consultations among the parties of the House and there may be unanimous consent for the following motion:

[Translation]

That, notwithstanding Standing Orders 132 and 140, the petition for a private bill on the Montreal Board of Trade and the Chamber of Commerce of Metropolitan Montreal, tabled on Thursday, June 18, 1992 and reported by the Clerk of Petitions on Friday, June 19, 1992, be deemed to have been produced within the required time limit and received by the House.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): Does the hon. member have the unanimous consent of the House to move this motion?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

[English]

Mr. Layton: There may also be unanimous consent to deal expeditiously at this time with Bill S-12 at all stages.

[Translation]

Private Members' Business

Mr. Gagliano: Mr. Speaker, I would like to say that we fully agree with this motion and we would like to proceed immediately, after a few remarks, with the passage of Bill S-12.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): Is it agreed?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

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[English]

MONTREAL BOARD OF TRADE ACT

MEASURE TO ENACT

Hon. Bob Layton (Lachine—Lac-Saint-Louis) moved that Bill S-12, an act to amalgamate the Montreal Board of Trade and the Chamber of Commerce of Metropolitan Montreal, be read the second time and, by unanimous consent, referred to Committee of the whole.

He said: Mr. Speaker, we are asked to approve this historic legislation giving effect to the merger of the Montreal Board of Trade with la *Chambre de commerce du Montréal métropolitain*. Both groups have been closely associated with the social, cultural and economic development of Montreal and its regions, including the province of Quebec and Canada as a whole, for over a century.

The decision to combine their strengths by respecting the traditions and heritages of both founding associations sends out a positive signal as to the attitude currently prevailing in Montreal's business community. In fact, the merger decision was unanimously approved by the members of both groups on March 23 of this year.

[Translation]

One aspect of this merger that should be pointed out is that under the official by-laws contained in the enabling legislation, this new structure will operate in Canada's two official languages. At this crucial time in our history, I think that is worth mentioning and worthy of our hearty commendation.

[English]

With the adoption of this legislation the officers, members and staff of both groups will then have in hand the legal means to give full effect to the merger decision. There will be a great deal of work but the results will be well worth it.