

[Translation]

SENIOR CITIZENS

BUSING PROGRAM ESTABLISHED FOR WINNIPEG
SENIOR CITIZENS

Mr. J. Ronald Duhamel (Saint-Boniface): Mr. Speaker, I have just received a message from Winnipeg informing me that the busing program for senior citizens set up by the last Liberal government will be cancelled shortly.

The cancellation of this program will affect thousands of senior citizens in the province of Manitoba. At this time of the year, when temperatures are hovering around -30° Celsius in Winnipeg, this announcement is hardly welcomed news.

[English]

The cutting of this seniors' program will signal the end of a very important initiative, a highly successful pilot project that had importance for seniors across Canada and contributed significantly to their quality of life.

I am led to believe that the Conservative candidate in Winnipeg South, now a Member of Parliament (Mr. Dobbie) had supported the program during the election campaign, had given it at least qualified support. As well, I am informed that the provincial Conservatives had also supported it. If my memory serves me correctly, the federal Government had previously cancelled support for this program in 1985.

I call upon the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Epp) to find support for the seniors' busing project, to work with the province, the city, and the various volunteer groups, to find a base for the continuation of this worthwhile seniors' busing program.

[Translation]

Senior citizens, the men and women who built—

Mr. Speaker: I'm sorry to have to interrupt the Honourable Member.

S. O. 31

[English]

TOURISM

IMPORTANCE OF CANADA'S ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN

Mr. Ken James (Sarnia—Lambton): Mr. Speaker, Mr. William Rowe, Chairman of the Tourism Industry, better known as TIAC, has expressed concerns that although Tourism Canada's advertising campaign is exceptional, the amount of dollars allocated to advertising is not sufficient to compete with many other tourist destinations.

Australia has done an exceptional job of tourism promotion in the past two years because that country has worked hard to co-ordinate its advertising campaign with its exporters.

As Canada's tourist industry is one of its most important in terms of jobs, I ask that the Government look closely at the importance of tourism advertising as it affects our economy, our jobs, and our relationships throughout the world.

* * *

[Translation]

PUBLIC SERVICE

PARTICIPATION OF PUBLIC SERVANTS IN LAST
GENERAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN

Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa—Vanier): Mr. Speaker, on July 15 last, the Federal Court of Appeal struck down the section of the Public Service Employment Act prohibiting public servants from campaigning on behalf of or against a candidate or party. On November 21 last, public servants were able to do as they wished, despite attempts at intimidation on the part of the Public Service Commission. To my knowledge, the earth did not shake, war did not break out and the sky is still blue, even if the Ottawa region voted red.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that the experience of November 21 shows the government that it must take immediate action and table a bill which will protect public servants who want to participate fully, or however they wish, in the democratic process of electing the Members of the House of Commons.