

Routine Proceedings

Hon. Harvie Andre (Minister of State and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons): Mr. Speaker, while it is certainly agreed that this is a very beautiful part of Canada, the fact is that there is an EARP screening under way now in terms of potential developments in that area.

It may well be that the screening will indicate the necessity for a full public review under EARP to determine whether there is any significant environmental impact by the proposed developments in that area.

In view of what is going on at this time, I respectfully have to say that we should follow due process as opposed to the exceptional process of unanimous consent at this time.

An hon. member: A point of order, Mr. Speaker.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): There is no further debate. Unless the hon. member for Skeena has something he would like to say in this regard I think there will be another way for him to approach the subject.

Mr. Jim Fulton (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, I understand the remarks of the government House leader and I would therefore simply move the motion, seconded by the member for Lasalle—Émard:

That the government evaluate the benefit to all Canadians of including the Tatsenshini Asek watershed for protection as wilderness, thus allowing the area to become part of the 12 per cent of Canada preserved and protected in its natural state as recommended unanimously by this House on June 17, 1991, and that this simply be placed as is normally allowed.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Members have heard the terms of the motion. Is it agreed?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

Some hon. members: No.

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PETITIONS

PORNOGRAPHY

Mr. John Harvard (Winnipeg—St. James): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 36, it is my duty and privilege to present petitions on behalf of approximately 12,500 Manitobans who are deeply concerned about the serious and harmful effects of pornography. They are

opposed to the production, sale, and rental of hard core and obscene material in Canada.

The petitioners are concerned about the destructive influences leading to sexual assault upon women and children and they rightly point out that men too are victims of pornography. They humbly call upon Parliament to uphold the present laws on obscenity.

These petitioners have my full support.

Mr. Bill Casey (Cumberland—Colchester): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 36, it is my honour and pleasure to present a petition on behalf of 5,975 Atlantic Canadians who are also opposed to the production, sale, and rental of hard core and obscene material in Canada because of the associated negative and destructive influences leading to sexual assault upon women and children and also the negative effects on men.

They urge Parliament to strictly uphold the present laws on obscenity and I too support their position.

Miss Deborah Grey (Beaver River): Mr. Speaker, I too rise pursuant to Standing Order 36 with over 3,100 names from the provinces of British Columbia, Saskatchewan, and from my home province of Alberta as well. Likewise, these people are very concerned about the sale of pornographic material and the rental of videos in this situation as well. I would like to say that this is an incredible number of people. I think what we have seen in the House today is all party support for these people who have come forward saying: "We humbly pray that the government would strictly uphold the present laws on obscenity". Pursuant to Standing Order 36, I am glad to participate in presenting this petition.

Mr. Neil Young (Beaches—Woodbine): Mr. Speaker, I too have petitions with some 13,000 signatures from people in the province of Ontario who state they are opposed to the production, sale and rental of hard core and obscene material in Canada because of the associated negative and destructive influences leading to sexual assault upon women and children, degradation, exploitation and humiliation. Pornography also claims men as its victims through obsession, addiction, moving of criminals and auto-erotic suicides.

These petitioners ask Parliament to strictly uphold the present laws on obscenity.