

*Canadian Museum of Oceanography*

[Translation]

**Mr. Eugène Bellemare (Carleton—Gloucester):** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for allowing me to speak on this important motion which reads as follows:

That, in the opinion of this House, the government should consider giving serious study to the establishment of a Canadian Museum of Oceanography in the National Capital Region, which would include among other things a national freshwater and saltwater aquarium containing specimens of all of Canada's aquatic fauna.

I think that is an absolutely essential educational project for Canada, a country that opens on the Atlantic ocean in the east, the Pacific ocean in the west and the Arctic ocean in the north. We have a multitude of big and small lakes, everywhere.

I can understand Government Members wanting to establish, maybe, an aquarium or a museum of oceanography in their region, be it Halifax or Vancouver. If the Hon. Member for Churchill (Mr. Murphy) or for Tuktoyaktuk were here, I imagine he or she would probably want the museum to be located there. All things considered, it is not a matter of a very specific location. Should the museum be in an area here or there to develop what exactly we do not know? Would a museum on the Atlantic ocean be a fair representation of the Pacific ocean? Would a museum on the Pacific ocean, in British

Columbia, be representative of James Bay and the Far North? I do not think so. But I know very well, Mr. Speaker, that the Capital is indeed the City of Ottawa, and that this is where the core, the home of the Canadian Government is, and we should not play and fiddle with it and scatter every activity almost everywhere in Canada when referring to the Capital which should represent everything national and not just local. If we must have a national museum, it should be located in the National Capital Region.

Obviously, Mr. Speaker, it has to be located in a place where there is some land available, and I can assure you that in my riding of Carleton—Gloucester there is indeed available land—

[English]

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski):** I regret to interrupt the Hon. Member, but he will have approximately six minutes left in his debate the next time this private Member's Bill comes up.

It being six o'clock p.m. I do now leave the chair until eight o'clock p.m. at which time the House will proceed to discuss the question of recent events in the People's Republic of China.

At 6.04 p.m. the House took recess.