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ronment and Development, more commonly known as the Brundtland Commission, to set aside 12 per cent of land and marine zones with full protection.

Our national park system is only one-half complete after more than a century of considerations in the provinces and territories. Only 21 of the 39 natural bio-regions of Canada have any kind of representation and only two of the 29 natural marine bio-regions have any form of protection at all.

Most members of this House know that the first national park in Canada was created in Banff in 1885, over a century ago. Members are likely aware of where the 12 per cent proposal for land set aside has come from. I will spend some time this morning dealing specifically with why we have to get to at least that minimum figure of 12 per cent.

We must focus on system preservation and linkage of areas for the protection of species when we are talking about the 12 per cent. Areas must be linked whether we are talking about the flight paths of the whooping crane or other migratory birds or many land mammals. Many plant species require that kind of system linkage for their proper protection.

When we speak in this Chamber today and when we take the recorded vote on Monday, we are speaking for all of those in Canada who have no voice. I speak not only of some of the very young in this country and some of those who are unborn, but we must also realize that we speak for those many species that have no voice and yet suffer drastic harm and in many cases extinction at the hands of our species.

We need to keep in mind in this debate that 40,000 children will die today of malnutrition and disease. As the Brundtland Commission so accurately and carefully pointed out, one of the most fundamental building stones that we have to set aside on this planet are these set aside zones of 12 per cent of land and marine zones for a better understanding of this remarkable living planet.

Some 20,000 species will disappear this year, most of them in tropical areas. Some 80 per cent of our bio-diversity on this planet is in tropical areas. As I will point out in my remarks this morning a considerable number

of species have become extinct, at our hands, in this country even during this century.

Between 1885 and 1929 Canada established 15 national parks at a rate of one park every three years. Sadly, in the next 20 years, only four parks were created. We have been in a bit of a stall in the years ever since; only 34 national parks have been created since 1885.

In 1989 the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, more commonly known as the IUCN, identified only 3,500 protected areas around the world in 125 countries. I will also spend some time on why we need to complete the national parks system and to set aside the 12 per cent.

Canadians are light years ahead of the majority view which I believe is still held in this Chamber, although perhaps the vote on Monday will be a resonating, positive yes. In the most recent complete Gallup poll, the 1987 poll, extensive questions were put to the Canadian public, and 96 per cent of Canadians support strong government action to protect wilderness. In 1987 Canadians spent \$5.1 billion on wildlife related activities, and existing national parks contributed \$900 million to the Gross National Product and supported 34,000 person-years of employment.

It is important to note where Canada's national parks are. Let me refer to the rather excellent book called *Endangered Spaces*. In British Columbia there are 6,300 square kilometres of national parks, and those are six parks. In Alberta there are 54,000 square kilometres with 4.8 parks. The reason it is a broken number is that part of Wood Buffalo National Park lies in the Northwest Territories. There is also a transboundary park with British Columbia.

In Saskatchewan there are 4,700 square kilometres which make up two national parks, and in Manitoba there are almost 3,000 square kilometres with only one national park.

In Ontario there are 2,000 square kilometres with five small national parks, and in Quebec there are only 935 square kilometres with three national parks. In New Brunswick there are 445 square kilometres with two national parks. There are 1,300 square kilometres in Nova Scotia with two national parks, and in Prince