

the proactive Liberal approach to this crucial issue. They are based on the fundamental premise that pollution is everyone's problem. We must all work together to ensure a healthy and secure environment for future generations.

What is the problem? Why do we have an Opposition Day to debate the Rafferty-Alameda when we have environmental assessment legislation? Why do we have this debate? The government has to be accountable. The Prime Minister has failed to implement a strict, sustainable development regime. It has been severely compromised. That is what the brunt of this whole debate is about.

His ministers have not acted as trustees to the environment, but have instead been the providers of exceptions. The Rafferty-Alameda is an exception to regulations. James Bay is an exception. No environmental assessment is necessary until the people push it to the limit.

Oldman River dam is also an exception. No environmental management is necessary. At Barriere Lake, conservation plans can be ignored. It is obvious that this government has to change the way it approaches the environment.

There are a group of ministers who are obsessed with opinion polls, but despite numerous surveys including the poll released this week, they choose to ignore what the public wants the government to do, which is to clean up its act and to own up to the legislation that is put through this House for the good of the environment and for the good of the Canadian public.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): Questions and comments, five minutes only.

Mr. Peter Milliken (Kingston and the Islands): Mr. Speaker, my question is of a more general nature for the hon. member for Western Arctic.

I want to congratulate her on an excellent speech on environmental concerns. Like so many members on this side of the House, I know she has a genuine concern about the environment. We are very dismayed—I think that is the polite way of putting it—at the lack of action on the part of the government.

Supply

I have in my hand a federal agenda for the environment called "Green Print for Canada" prepared by the Green Print for Canada committee. I know the hon. member has seen this document. I believe it was distributed to all members of this House. I know the hon. member for Broadview—Greenwood, who has been a proponent of environmental improvement in Canada and who organized the World Conference on the Environment in Toronto a year ago last summer has certainly been a proponent of this document.

In her review of it and discussions with government officials, has she noticed that any of the proposals put forward in this document have been implemented by the government? Or has it ignored every single one of them?

Ms. Blondin: Mr. Speaker, I would just like to say that I believe that this particular Green Plan is one that is refuted to belong to the Canadian public, because no one minister should take the ownership and possession of a piece of legislation that is intended for the good of all Canadians.

Having said that, this particular scheme was in the hands of the former Minister of the Environment, the hon. member for Lac-Saint-Jean. I would like to say that there has been no implementation of the recommendations in that particular Green Plan. I think it is one that needs to be shared with the public, and it is one that is under much scrutiny by the public. Certainly it is one that the people in my area of the Western Arctic and the north are intrigued by.

We have the situation in the Northwest Territories that is very serious. In fact, we have been the recipients in a very remote area of PCB pollution. The contamination of our food chain was sure no deal. A study was done on the contamination of mother's milk, for instance, which showed that Inuit mother's breast milk was contaminated. This is a very serious issue for us.

Also, we are looking at the whole impact of what we want to be zero discharge from Alberta pulp mills into the Northwest Territories. The pollution is feeding into the Northwest Territories from Alberta. We await any kind of direct action on this particular Green Plan at this point.

Mr. Jack Shields (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister for International Trade): Mr. Speaker, just a quick question for my hon. friend. When would my hon. friend find it acceptable for agriculture or farmers in southern