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[English]

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Mr. Bob Kilger (Stormont—Dundas): Mr. Speaker, the anti-GST phone-in petition sponsored by the Liberal party is receiving a tremendous response from Canadians across this country. Over 50,000 calls have been received thus far. In fact, the demand has been so intense that we have had to add another line to register the calls and we have extended the phone-in campaign to 11 p.m. EST on Sunday night.

The people of Canada are certainly taking advantage of this opportunity to reach out and touch an out of touch government and ring their bell so that they will know that the GST is totally unacceptable.

Canadians dialing 1-900-720-6051 or 1-900-720-6052 know that the Liberals care about the views of the people.

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FISHERIES

Mrs. Coline Campbell (South West Nova): Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans knows that the fishing industry has no confidence in that department's policies. If he wants to restore some lost confidence, I recommend the following actions.

Commit the department to a complete reassessment of traditional stocks in the Scotia-Fundy region. As it now stands, the department's data does not correspond with what the fishermen are seeing in the waters, since they cannot catch it.

Second, he should institute the mesh size recommendations made by the inshore for all sectors of the fishery: inshore, offshore and foreigners. That would allow the escapement of juvenile fish and it would be an automatic conservation method.

He should further reassert the department's traditional role in market development, substantially increasing the government's marketing budget from the \$1.9 million spent in 1989. He would then have some funds to go into the under-utilized species as incentives for the offshore trawlers and for all those empty fish plants, rather than letting the foreigners catch it.

As well, as a matter of good faith, he should review the practice of allowing the Cape North to fish the traditional stock of pollock in our waters. That contract is up in January and he should give notice to the owners that it should not be within our inshore.

I believe these actions would certainly improve the confidence the inshore would have in the minister.

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ABORIGINAL RIGHTS

Mr. Ray Funk (Prince Albert—Churchill River): When the First Ministers Conference on aboriginal matters fell apart in 1987 the Prime Minister said: "There shall be a price to be paid for our failure. Unfortunately, those called upon to pay the larger share of that price shall be those least equipped to pay it, namely the aboriginal peoples".

Those words have a bitter ring to them today since it is the Prime Minister's own government that is extracting that price. This morning the Assembly of First Nations released an analysis of the recent budget they labelled: "The Budget in Grief".

It shows that per capita expenditures for Indian people in this country have actually dropped 11 per cent over the last five years. It shows that the incomes of Indian people are a pitiful 54 per cent of those of other Canadians. Yet, at the same time the Prime Minister's own government has treated Indian governments as if they were like the wealthy provinces of Alberta, British Columbia and Ontario and capped their budgets.

Maybe the Prime Minister needs to be reminded of the rest of his 1987 statement when he said: "The aboriginal people have paid an unfair price for an unfair share of time".

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CANADIAN UNITY

Mr. Peter L. McCreath (South Shore): Mr. Speaker, to paraphrase one of the founders of this nation: "A Canadian I was born and as a Canadian I wish to die". I am also a Nova Scotian and an Atlantic Canadian.

There are forces at work in this country today that naively think that although fostering inter-regional, inter-linguistic and inter-cultural misunderstanding, they will not fracture or otherwise harm Canada, not to