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Unfortunately, her vision is far from reality. The Montreal massacre of 1989 showed that violence against women is pervasive.

As we approach the second National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women, let us pause to reflect on the damage violence has inflicted upon Canadian women, their families, and society as a whole. Let us resolve today to work toward that vision of true equality because anything less is unacceptable.

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VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Hon. Audrey McLaughlin (Yukon): Madam Speaker, few of us will forget the pain and horror we felt three years ago on December 6, 1989 when 14 young women's lives were taken in the brutal massacre at l'École Polytechnique.

Our nation grieved and from our grief emerged determination not just to remember but to act, to act to put an end to violence against women and to improve the status of women in our society.

Each year in Canada 100 women are killed in domestic violence. Thousands more are abused physically and mentally. A recent survey showed that over 50 per cent of Canadian women are afraid to walk in the streets of their own neighbourhoods at night and that is a fear many of us understand.

[*Translation*]

We must act. Every one of us must act. We must put an end to fear and to these horrifying statistics. The government must show leadership. That is why I ask the government to reverse this decision to cut grants to women's groups. I ask the government to bring back the Court Challenges Program.

[*English*]

Violence is everyone's responsibility, men and women, in every community in this country.

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NATIVE STUDENTS

Mrs. Ethel Blondin-Andrew (Western Arctic): Madam Speaker, on November 29, 1991, the Minister of Indian

Affairs and Northern Development appeared before the Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs and stated that self-fulfilment of the aspirations and the destiny of aboriginal persons in this country required many things including opportunity and encouragement, but education was the most important ingredient of all.

The Minister of Finance's economic statement did not exempt post-secondary education funding for native students. This area is already seriously underfunded.

The Blood tribe of Alberta will be forced to defer 358 native students who are eligible for funding this year alone. This is just one example.

Native students across this country are being denied the opportunity to build a future for themselves.

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SMALL BUSINESSES

Mr. René Soetens (Ontario): Madam Speaker, we all know small business is one of the major areas where employment creation can occur in Canada. I want to congratulate the government in its statement the other day recognizing the important role that small business can play.

I am quite pleased with the increase to \$250,000 in the limit for the Small Businesses Loans Act and particularly the inclusion of a provision that allows for some of that funding to be used for working capital requirements.

That is an excellent step. I congratulate the government for including a waiver of UI premiums for additional employees hired by small business and also for the tax credits for the purchase of capital equipment so important to the modernization and improvement of the competitiveness of business.

This government knows how important small business is to Canada. It has proven it by its statements in the House in the last few days.

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INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

Mrs. Christine Stewart (Northumberland): Madam Speaker, the government's latest budget once again gives the largest cut, proportionately speaking, to our International Development Assistance Program.