

Routine Proceedings

Hon. Elmer M. MacKay (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, my colleague raises a good question.

After consultation with the building and trade associations about four years ago, our department implemented a contract selection process based on a computer generated selection for contracts below \$1 million. We would like to continue to improve the fairness, the transparency and the efficiency of this type of award.

We would welcome any suggestions the member has. It is difficult sometimes to achieve the kind of balance that he wishes, but we would be glad to work with him on it.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister of State for Finance on a point of order.

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POINT OF ORDER**NORTH AMERICAN FREE TRADE AGREEMENT**

Hon. John McDermid (Minister of State (Finance and Privatization)): Mr. Speaker, it is expedient to introduce a measure to implement the North American free trade agreement between Canada, Mexico and the United States of America entered into between the Government of Canada, the Government of the United Mexican States and the Government of the United States of America and signed on September 17, 1992 and in particular (1) to impose custom duties in accordance with chapters three and seven of the agreement, (2) to authorize the imposition of temporary duties on agricultural goods in accordance with chapter seven of the agreement, (3) to authorize the imposition of duties for emergency action in accordance with annex 300-B of chapter three and chapter eight of the agreement, and (4) to revise the provisions in the Special Import Measures Act respecting the imposition of anti-dumping, countervailing and provisional duties relating to goods imported from Mexico and the United States of America.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[Translation]

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO PETITIONS

Mr. Charles A. Langlois (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of State and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 36(8), I have the honour to table, in both official languages, the government's response to 11 petitions.

[Editor's Note: See today's Votes and Proceedings.]

CANADA ELECTIONS ACT**MEASURE TO AMEND**

Hon. Harvie Andre (Minister of State and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons) moved for leave to introduce a bill entitled an act to amend the Canada Elections Act.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): Pursuant to Standing Order 68(2), the motion is deemed adopted.

Mr. Andre moves that the bill be now read the first time and printed.

Pursuant to Standing Order 69(1), the motion is deemed adopted.

Bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

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[English]

BROADCASTING ACT**MEASURE TO AMEND**

Mr. Scott Thorkelson (Edmonton—Strathcona) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-407, an act to amend the Broadcasting Act (religious broadcasting).

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): Pursuant to Standing Order 68(2), the motion is deemed adopted.

Mr. Thorkelson: Mr. Speaker, it is my sincere pleasure to introduce this bill to amend the Broadcasting Act. Over the past few years small religious broadcasting stations have operated in several Canadian communities. These stations were recently shut down by the CRTC,