

Routine Proceedings

These petitioners join a growing list of literally hundreds of thousands of petitioners. They request that Parliament recognizes that crimes of violence against the person are serious and abhorrent to society.

The petitioners ask that we amend the Criminal Code of Canada, the Bail Reform Act, 1972, and the Parole Act accordingly.

RURAL COMMUNITIES

Mr. Vic Althouse (Mackenzie): Mr. Speaker, I have two sets of petitions to present here today.

The first is from the communities of Semans and Carrot River in the extreme corners of my riding. The petitioners note that recent actions of the government have been a direct attack on rural communities.

They call upon Parliament to support Canada's rural way of life, particularly to support the maintenance of rural post offices and postal services, and to reject the Conservative agenda of cutbacks and closures.

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

Mr. Vic Althouse (Mackenzie): Mr. Speaker, from the Choiceland, Melfort, Gronlid area, I have a petition noting that property taxes are escalating for health care, education, infrastructure replacement, social and leisure services as well as for protective services.

The petitioners call on the federal government to continue to bear at least a 30 per cent interest in maintaining the safety and security of Canadian citizens through the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

HOUSING

Mr. Ronald J. Duhamel (St. Boniface): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present two petitions this morning. One is with respect to housing.

These petitioners point out that constitutional proposals transfer housing to the provinces certainly not necessarily with compensation, including the responsibility for non-profit co-op housing. They point out that co-op housing provides thousands of Canadians with quality, affordable shelter.

These petitioners also point out that certain provinces may be unable to support non-profit co-op housing. They are really quite concerned about that. They want housing as a shared provincial-federal responsibility and they want the maintenance of the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation.

PENSIONS

Mr. Ronald J. Duhamel (St. Boniface): Mr. Speaker, my second petition is with respect to indexed pensions. It comes from the Public Service Alliance of Canada. They are the petitioners.

They point out—and I agree with them wholeheartedly—that indexed pensions are a need not just for a certain segment of the Canadian population but for all Canadians.

They also indicate—and again I am in agreement—that more and more Canadians will retire on fixed incomes unprotected in many instances against inflation. They believe as I do that linking benefits to the increases in the cost of living is really quite necessary.

They lament the fact that the government intends to restrict and remove full inflation protection for federal public servants. They believe, as I do and as I endorse, that the government should in fact be aiming to give everyone, all Canadians, pensions that are protected against the cost of inflation.

TAXATION

Mr. Brian L. Gardiner (Prince George—Bulkley Valley): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased, under the provisions of Standing Order 36, to present a petition today. It is a continuing voice from Canadians, in particular from the Ontario area; Oshawa, Whitby and other communities, calling on the government to ensure that it brings in real tax reforms so that we can have a fair tax system in Canada.

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Mr. Dennis Mills (Broadview—Greenwood): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 36, I have the honour and privilege to rise on behalf of thousands of constituents from my riding of Broadview—Greenwood. They continue to sign petitions asking me to request that the government reconsider its position on the GST and abolish it because the lack of consumer confidence in this country is probably the greatest contribution to the high unemployment and the number of lay-offs that have happened in our country in the last year.

Mr. David D. Stupich (Nanaimo—Cowichan): Mr. Speaker, I have a petition, certified correct under Standing Order 36, signed by a number of residents in my riding which states that whereas the goods and services tax as applied to female sanitary products such as