

*S. O. 21***IMMIGRATION**

## SENATE DELAY IN PASSING LEGISLATION

**Mr. Bob Pennock (Etobicoke North):** Mr. Speaker, we cannot allow our immigration system in this country to deteriorate any further. This is precisely why Parliament was recalled in August to deal with this urgent problem of our refugee determination system, a system under siege.

Everyone agrees that Canada's refugee policy needs an overhaul. The policy of our Government is to increase legitimate immigration; provide a safe haven for genuine refugees; establish a fair and expeditious refugee determination system to eliminate queue-jumping and bogus refugees; and follow the due process of law.

The solution to this problem is obvious—the passage of Bills C-55 and C-84. This seems easy, right? Think again! The Liberal dominated Senate has stalled these Bills in the Upper Chamber because it is motivated by political rather than by humanitarian reasons.

I think it is time the Senate came down off its high horse, respected the will of the elected House, and passed this legislation so that we can begin to rid our country of its antiquated immigration system, its inadequacies, hypocrisy, and long delays.

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● (1415)

**RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS**

## SIKH RELIGION—ANNIVERSARY OF FOUNDATION

**Mr. Robert Wenman (Fraser Valley West):** Mr. Speaker, I rise today because I, like yourself, have come to know and appreciate the very special contribution made by the Indo-Canadian community, particularly in British Columbia and the Fraser Valley.

This special day, April 13, is Baisakh, the first day of the new year for Hindus, Sikhs, Jains, and Buddhists here and around the world.

Baisakh is of particular importance to members of our Canadian Sikh community because on this day in 1699 the Sikh religion or "Brotherhood of the Pure" was created.

The festivities associated with welcoming in a new year are also a reminder of the rich and enduring spiritual heritage of these groups, a heritage that the celebration of a new year strengthens and reaffirms. It is a heritage which encourages strong family ties, community involvement, and peaceful coexistence. Of course these are values understood only too well by Canadians.

Their communities are helping to enrich the country's multicultural identity in many different ways. I would

therefore urge all Hon. Members to join me in extending best wishes for a prosperous and happy new year to Canadian Hindus, Sikhs, Jains, and Buddhists, and to all Indo-Canadians who are part of our diverse Canadian family.

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[*Translation*]**SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

## FUNDING—QUEBEC SHARE

**Mr. Jean-Claude Malépart (Montreal—Sainte-Marie):** Mr. Speaker, yesterday Quebec's External Trade Minister, Pierre MacDonald, published figures clearly showing that under a Conservative Government, Quebec does not receive its fair share of funding for research and high technology projects. The figures show a shortfall of \$1.3 billion. I would like to ask all Hon. Members from Quebec to put pressure on the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) and the Conservative government so that in future, Quebec receives its fair share and also on all Conservative members from Quebec to put pressure on the Prime Minister for him to respect his commitment to have the space agency in Montreal.

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[*English*]**PORTS**

## PORT OF CHURCHILL—NON-ATTENDANCE BY CANADIAN NATIONAL AT ANNUAL CONFERENCE

**Mr. Rod Murphy (Churchill):** Mr. Speaker, this week I attended the forty-fifth annual conference of the Hudson Bay Route Association. This group, composed of representatives of many communities in all prairie provinces, has a long history of working to promote the use of the Port of Churchill.

I was disappointed to discover that CN no longer shares my high opinion of the Hudson Bay Route Association and its commitment to the use of the port. CN, as the railway responsible for the maintenance and use of the Bay Line, the only land based shipping route connected to the port, has been in regular attendance at meetings of the Hudson Bay Route Association throughout most of its existence. By declining to attend the Hudson Bay Route Association conference this year, CN has taken a further step in its campaign to close the Port of Churchill and has closed off contact with a major group which is defending the port.

This action is only the latest in a long series of betrayals of the port which have occurred in the last couple of years. We have seen provincial Tory Governments in Alberta and Saskatchewan cut off funding to the Port of Churchill Development Board. We have listened to Otto Lang, a former Liberal Minister of Transport, malign the port time after time.