

S. O. 31

Canadians want democracy. Canadians want strong and effective gun control.

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THE STUDENTS' COMMISSION

Mr. Ken James (Sarnia—Lambton): Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of all members and indeed all Canadians a national students' conference entitled "The Students' Commission". It will bring together four grade 10 and 11 students from all 295 federal ridings to one of our national workshops in Fredericton, Montreal, Toronto or Saskatoon during May and June of this year.

Thereafter, 96 representatives will travel to Ottawa to hammer out one final set of recommendations which will be presented to the Prime Minister on July 1.

The Students' Commission will be a viable forum through which our youth can express their ideas on a number of important issues facing our country today, such as national unity, the environment, the transition from school to work, drug abuse, the job market, as well as problems and promises of education, all as seen through the eyes of a cross-section of young people.

In particular, the commission offers our youth an opportunity to tell us, members of their federal government, what type of Canada they would like to see and what direction our country should take.

I know that all members will want the youth of their ridings to have every opportunity to know about The Students' Commission and to let it know of their interest and support.

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HUNGER

Mr. John Manley (Ottawa South): Mr. Speaker, no problem can be more immediate yet at the same time have such lasting consequence as the inability of a growing number of people in our society to find enough food to eat.

While permanent solutions to this human suffering lie in the creation of a lasting world peace, investment in the individual, and environmentally sustainable development, we must find the time and the means to address

the fact that today and every day in Canada and around the world people are going hungry.

On Saturday, April 6, we in Ottawa South are organizing the second annual "Stop Hunger—Fast", a non-partisan hunger awareness event that features a 24-hour liquid only fast. Over this day we hope to collect food, pledges and volunteers for the Ottawa Food Bank and UNICEF. "Stop Hunger—Fast" will be held at the Herongate Mall in Ottawa, and we are hoping that our residents will take the time to learn about how we can stop hunger.

Hunger need not exist. Children need not be denied their future for a lack of food and senior citizens, for all their years of work and care, should not have to live in poverty today.

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NATIONAL UNITY

Mr. Terry Clifford (London—Middlesex): Mr. Speaker, Canadians are facing the question of national unity. Now is the time for all good people to come forward and speak up for Canada.

One such patriot who has and continues to speak up for Canadians is Don Cherry. I am please to inform you, Mr. Speaker, that Mr. Cherry is here in the House today witnessing our democracy in action.

The pride we take in hockey, our home game, is a reflection of the pride we have for Canada. Don Cherry has recognized this fact and is vocal about his feelings.

The upcoming Stanley Cup finals and the Canada Cup are fine examples of Canadian spirit. If Canadians could put as much effort into issues of national unity as they do their hockey, our country could stand together.

As Mr. Cherry says: "Unity is like a bunch of grapes; disunity is the pits".

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KUWAIT

Mr. George Proud (Hillsborough): Mr. Speaker, last week the federal government announced further measures for Canadian companies to participate in the reconstruction of Kuwait.