

*Routine Proceedings***REHABILITATION PROGRAMS**

Mrs. Jane Stewart (Brant): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Solicitor General.

Recently the Minister of Justice tabled amendments to the Young Offenders Act and a sentencing reform bill that clearly indicated that this government will support increased community based crime prevention and rehabilitation strategies.

I am concerned however about earlier decisions to change federal funding to our local partners, like the St. Leonard's Society, that may jeopardize their ability to help us meet this goal.

Would the Solicitor General please review these funding strategies and assure this House that our local partners will be able to maintain and enhance their community based custodial and non-custodial criminal rehabilitation programs?

• (1500)

Hon. Herb Gray (Leader of the Government in the House of Commons and Solicitor General of Canada): Mr. Speaker, like the hon. member I believe that organizations such as the St. Leonard's Society in places like Brantford and Windsor and many other parts of the country do very good work.

I want to assure the hon. member that Correctional Services Canada will be working with voluntary agencies across the country over the next number of months to review and refine funding structures as well as standards of service delivery. I would be happy to have her suggestions as to how this review can be carried out in the best interests of these organizations and the communities they serve.

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[Translation]

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. Jean Landry (Lotbinière): Mr. Speaker, the Liberal Party of Canada teamed up with the previous government on the late Charlottetown Accord. The Liberal government, for its part, has still not said whether it intends to reimburse Quebec for the \$26 million taxpayers paid twice for this referendum. That is probably the new type of harmonization this government carries out on the backs of the provinces.

Does the Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs not admit that, before getting into a new, hypothetical referendum scenario to put Quebec in its place again, the federal government should pay off its debts before anything else?

Hon. Marcel Massé (President of the Queen's Privy Council for Canada, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs and Minister responsible for Public Service Renewal): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to reaffirm that the federal government takes its

responsibilities by trying to reconcile its views with those of the provinces every time it is required.

The Canadian debt problem must be solved in co-operation with the provinces, and we will continue our efforts to solve this problem with the kind of co-operation shown in the past.

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[English]

GASOLINE PRICES

Mr. John Solomon (Regina—Lumsden): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Deputy Prime Minister.

Recently the people of Saskatchewan and other Canadians saw a dramatic and unexplained increase in the price of gasoline. Gasoline prices have gone up despite no tax increases, despite no increases in inflation, despite no increase in the price of crude year over year, and despite the fact that major oil companies announced substantial increases in profits.

Given the above, has your government referred my requests for an investigation into gasoline pricing—

The Speaker: Order. The hon. member would please put his question to the Chair.

Mr. Solomon: Mr. Speaker, my question through you to the Deputy Prime Minister, has the Government of Canada referred my request for an investigation into gasoline pricing to the bureau of competition policy? If so, when will it be reporting back to Canadians on this matter? Will you consider setting up an energy price review commission to review all gas price increases in all regions of Canada to protect Canadian consumers—

The Speaker: Order. The hon. Minister of Natural Resources.

Hon. Anne McLellan (Minister of Natural Resources): Mr. Speaker, let me say in response to the hon. member's first question that I have not referred that question to the bureau of competition. That is a question I will ask the Minister of Industry to take under advisement.

Let me say in response to the second question of the hon. member that the answer is simply no.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO PETITIONS

Mr. Peter Milliken (Parliamentary Secretary to 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 19 petitions.