

Routine Proceedings

SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES RESEARCH COUNCIL

Mr. Ronald J. Duhamel (St. Boniface): Mr. Speaker, my second petition represents petitioners from Alberta who point out that the merging of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council with the Canada Council is dysfunctional at this particular point in time. They note that Canada's greatest challenges are really in the social sciences area. They identify domestic violence, environmental problems and problems of abuse as those that are best dealt with by the council.

The petitioners ask that this decision be deferred, that there be consultation and then a decision made.

RADIO AND TELEVISION PROGRAMMING

Mr. Ronald J. Duhamel (St. Boniface): Mr. Speaker, my final petition is from petitioners from Manitoba who ask that Parliament monitor very closely the work of the CRTC with respect to the use of foul language on radio and television. They point out it is not necessary for informing or entertaining and that it is often contrary to the basic efforts on the part of the family to raise the children.

YOUNG OFFENDERS ACT

Mr. Jim Edwards (Edmonton Southwest): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present a petition, containing several dozen names, stating the following: "We the undersigned residents of Canada, in memory of Ryan Garrioch, draw to the attention of Parliament the following: That the majority of Canadians support equal treatment of criminal offenders but with legislated age shelters from criminal law for very young adolescents. Therefore, the petitioners request that Parliament revise the laws of Canada to replace the Young Offenders Act with an updated juvenile delinquents act with a lowered maximum age of 13 years."

WATER DIVERSION

Mr. Lyle Kristiansen (Kootenay West—Revelstoke): Mr. Speaker, I rise pursuant to Standing Order 36 to present three petitions. The first petition is signed by some 106 petitioners mostly from my constituency of

Kootenay West—Revelstoke, including all of the cities and many of the villages.

The petition draws attention to an application to divert Canadian waters from the North Thompson River near Belmont to sell in San Diego, California. It points out that under the provisions of the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement the export of bulk water from Canada to the U.S. would enshrine Canada's obligation to maintain such exports even in the event of domestic water shortages.

The petitioners urge the Government of Canada to state categorically that it will not permit our freshwater rivers to be dammed and diverted into the U.S.A. and to state that our Canadian rivers are not for sale.

I should just add those feelings are exacerbated by the recent draw-downs of the Kootenay and Arrow Lakes to make up for water shortfalls south of the border.

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Mr. Lyle Kristiansen (Kootenay West—Revelstoke): The second petition is signed by 58 signatories from communities throughout my constituency. The petitioners point out that the goods and services tax is applied to feminine sanitary products.

The petitioners humbly pray and call upon Parliament to consider removing the goods and services tax from women's sanitary products.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE PREMIUMS

Mr. Lyle Kristiansen (Kootenay West—Revelstoke): Mr. Speaker, my third petition is from 56 petitioners from communities throughout my riding, including Rossland, Edgewood, Nelson and Argenta.

The undersigned residents draw the attention of the House to the following: that there has been a promise from the government to freeze unemployment insurance premium rates for three years; that the recent cumulative increases to UI premiums are unfair and insensitive to small business during hard economic times; that further job losses due to business closures would further impair the chances for a full economic recovery.