

Routine Proceedings

[Translation]

EDUCATION

Mr. Ronald J. Duhamel (St. Boniface): I have a second petition today from residents of Saskatchewan.

[English]

They reflect the sentiments of Canadians throughout the country when they ask the government to review its policies on education. They condemn the government for having applied the 3 per cent tax on student loans and particularly the latest measure where it added another six months' interest to student loans.

They really believe that the loans program is inadequate and that it has to be revised. They are really quite afraid of the new proposal coming from the government where the banks will become involved. They are wondering who will set the eligibility criteria, what the role of the banks will be and whether or not that will diminish access to post-secondary education.

[Translation]

I support them because I think this is an excellent petition.

[English]

MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE TEST KIT

Hon. William Rompkey (Labrador): Mr. Speaker, about a year ago Mrs. Wanda Quigley of Wabush, Labrador, circulated a petition across Canada which attracted over 25,000 signatures with regard to the production of a test kit for meningococcal disease. She lost a child to that dreaded disease.

This petition is presented on behalf of a large number of people in the province of Nova Scotia who call upon Parliament to urge the government to obtain ownership of the test kit and to have the situation with Health and Welfare Canada resolved so that the test kit can be on the market and available to Canadians.

SERIAL KILLER BOARD GAME

Mr. Chris Axworthy (Saskatoon—Clark's Crossing): Mr. Speaker, in accordance with Standing Order 36, I have the privilege to present a petition to this House dealing with violence on television.

Many studies have shown a link between violence in entertainment and desensitization to violence in our society. Hundreds of children, women and men are

killed and are subject to inhumanities as a result. In particular, part of the culture of violence is the serial killer board game that comes with a bag of 25 babies. The point of it is to murder as many defenceless children and adults as possible.

The laws do not deal with this at the moment. The petition signed by over 80 people from Saskatoon asks Parliament to consider amending the Criminal Code so that violent and degrading materials such as the serial killer board game can be kept from being distributed in Canada.

MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE TEST KIT

Mr. Joe McGuire (Egmont): Mr. Speaker, I wish to join my colleague, the hon. member for Labrador, in presenting a petition concerning meningococcal disease which has taken the lives of many children in Canada.

I am reminded of the death of young Islanders to this dreaded disease that gives almost no warning and no time really for treatment. The government should do whatever it can at the Department of National Health and Welfare to make this kit available that tests all types of meningitis at its early stages.

The names on this petition are from Summerside, basically Prince and King's counties, Prince Edward Island. I encourage the government to respond very quickly to this petition.

• (1515)

NORTH AMERICAN FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

Mr. David D. Stupich (Nanaimo—Cowichan): Mr. Speaker, the petition I have is signed by a number of people on Vancouver Island. It draws attention to the fact that the proposed North American free trade agreement has resulted in even greater trade concessions being demanded of Canada.

This agreement would cause Canada to lose more good jobs. If implemented, this trade agreement will result in further restrictions being placed on the ability of Canada's federal, provincial and territorial governments now and in the future from assisting Canadian industries, conserving Canadian natural resources for Canadian benefit and advancing needed social progress.

The petitioners call upon the House to reject the proposed North American free trade agreement and to recommend to the government that it use the termination clause to end the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement.