Supply

not in both official languages. It is the policy of the House that documents to be tabled must be in both official languages.

Mr. Lee Clark (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of the Environment): Mr. Speaker, perhaps in an effort to be helpful, we might simply note that indeed when the request was made, there was no objection from the House. You might want to defer the request of the Hon. Member to the Speaker on his return. We would certainly, I would assume, be willing to accept that decision. Naturally, I am sure all Members of the House would want to stand by the ruling of the Chair, but there was no objection in the House to the request.

[Translation]

Mr. Boudria: Mr Speaker, I simply wish to reiterate that as far as I am concerned, the document is unacceptable if it is not bilingual whatever the circumstances under which it is tabled. Let me repeat that, and hopefully all Hon. Members are agreed on that. After all, this is an established tradition that should be upheld.

[English]

Mr. Riis: Mr. Speaker, the thought would never occur to table a document in this House that would not be in both official languages. I want to make that perfectly clear. It was the intent of the Hon. Member, when he asked for unanimous consent to proceed with the tabling, that it would of course be tabled in both official languages.

Mr. Boudria: Then it is agreed.

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

[Translation]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Tremblay (Lotbinière)): Is there unanimous consent?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

[English]

Mr. Young: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I want to express my appreciation on all sides of the House for that courtesy. I know it is unusual and therefore much more appreciated.

Mr. Speaker, when the Minister says that he is not sure whether a Government can really make environmental concerns a major part of its agenda, I think there is a good place to start. For example, on some of the reductions in Government programs already, it would be a good thing for the Government to reconsider the actions they have taken which, in my view, will be seriously detrimental to the advances that were made over the years, small though they may be. They would be seriously detrimental to future advancements on the environmental front.

The Hon. Member from Saanich—Gulf Islands listed some of the program cuts the Government has already made which we would like to see reinstated.

Another thing I would like to refer the Government to is a motion that has been put on the Order Paper by my colleague from Mission—Coquitlam (Ms. Langan) which I would recommend for reading to Members on all sides of the House. It refers directly to possible programs that the federal Government could initiate, such as establishing policies to only use recyclable products.

The Hon. Member from Mission—Coquitlam will be speaking directly after me and will address that more fully. But in the interests of doing something in a very concrete way, I would highly recommend to all Members that we take a look at that particular motion.

Mr. Speaker, I see you are signalling to me that my time has practically expired. I will not take up much more of your time.

[Translation]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Tremblay (Lotbinière)): I am sorry, but pursuant to an understanding you had with your colleague from Mission—Coquitlam (Ms. Langan) on the sharing of your time, I do now provide for five minutes for questions, after which I shall recognize another Member. So, five minutes for questions.

[English]

Ms. Langan: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, I believe the procedural discussion cut into the Hon. Member's time to the tune of about four minutes. It would seem that the Hon. Member should have time to finish his speech.

[Translation]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Tremblay (Lotbinière): I regret, but the information I was left with was that the Hon. Member for Beaches—Woodbine (Mr. Young) had ten minutes, which I even let overrun by a few seconds. Again, I will allow the Hon. Member five minutes for questions.