COMMONS DEBATES

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that became the scriptural base of Sikhism. The Guru Arjan Devji was executed for his refusal to renounce the principles of his faith.

More than 100,000 Canadians adhere to Sikhism. Their teachings have since the 16th century stressed the equality of men and women, opposed discrimination in all its forms and emphasized philanthropy, family and the maintenance of a moral, responsible and selfless everyday life.

Sikh Canadians have made, and continue to make, a great contribution to Canada. They hold firmly the noble principles of their faith and their origin. I would like to convey to them my respect and admiration and to join with them in commemoration of this special day of remembrance.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

[Translation]

THE HANDICAPPED

NATIONAL ACCESS AWARENESS WEEK

Mr. Maurice Tremblay (Lotbinière): Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of National Access Awareness Week, I think it would be appropriate to ask ourselves individually and collectively whether we are really doing enough to help disabled people participate fully in community life. The disabled have the same basic needs as the rest of the population. However, obstacles have sometimes hindered their autonomy—in transportation, housing, employment, recreation or education.

To pay tribute to the communities that have done the most to integrate the disabled in each of the five areas that I just named, the Department of the Secretary of State together with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities is sponsoring the Five-Star Community Prize Program. The Five-Star Community Prize is the highest award a community can obtain in recognition of its efforts to integrate the disabled. Mr. Speaker, many organizations in my riding are working on this and I am sure that they all deserve this prize! [English]

AIR CANADA

CANCELLATION OF DIRECT FLIGHT OTTAWA-CHARLOTTETOWN

Ms. Catherine Callbeck (Malpeque): Mr. Speaker, later this month at the beginning of the tourist season on Prince Edward Island, Air Canada will end its direct flights from Ottawa to Charlottetown. This move will add time and money to the cost of doing business on the Island. It will discourage tourists from visiting and it will create an inconvenience for Islanders. It is also insulting that a provincial capital is losing its direct flight from the nation's capital for economic reasons.

Economics is all this Government seems to care about. But 125 years ago when the Fathers of Confederation met in Charlottetown to plan this country, they had a vision for Canada which included more than economics. So I urge this Government to reconsider its transportation policy because the people of Prince Edward Island deserve better.

FISHERIES

"LOBSTER CAPITAL OF CANADA"

Mr. Peter L. McCreath (South Shore): Mr. Speaker, during the past few months there has been some considerable discussion as to which area of Canada truly deserves the title of "Lobster Capital of Canada".

Some have suggested Shediac, New Brunswick because of its long history of participation in this industry. But clearly that participation is dwindling. Some have suggested Yarmouth, Nova Scotia because so many lobsters have been shipped through that historic port.

But surely so distinguished a title can only rightfully be attributed to the place in Canada where the most lobsters are caught, the most lobsters are landed, where the dollar value of landings is the greatest, and that place clear and away is Shelburne County, Nova Scotia.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. McCreath: Accordingly, with the mandate given to me by the people of South Shore, Nova Scotia, I hereby declare and proclaim, without fear of retribution or