

# HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

The House met at 2 p.m.

Prayers

## STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

[English]

### ONTARIO ELECTION

**Mr. Benoît Serré (Timiskaming—French River, Lib.):** Mr. Speaker, tomorrow Ontarians will be called on to elect a new government.

Mike Harris and his crew are catering to the extreme right by promising unrealistic tax and spending cuts. I call on the Conservative leader to come clean with Ontarians and tell them exactly how these cuts are to affect education, health care and social programs.

I pledge my full support behind Lyn McLeod and her excellent team of candidates. I am convinced that if Ontarians focus on provincial issues and see Mike Harris for what he really is, a Mulroneys clone, they will elect a majority Liberal government.

Mike Harris will cut education and create a two tier health care system. Mike Harris wants to bring us back to the future of the 1950s old boys network where you take from the poor to give to the rich.

Let us move forward with the realities of the 21st century and elect a fiscally responsible—

**The Speaker:** The hon. member for Anjou—Rivière-des-Prairies.

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[Translation]

### MINISTER OF CANADIAN HERITAGE

**Mr. Roger Pomerleau (Anjou—Rivière-des-Prairies, BQ):** Mr. Speaker, the Bloc Québécois awards its prize for the best bungler to the Minister of Canadian Heritage.

After his murky role in the Ginn Publishing affair, his attempt to influence the CRTC's decision regarding a broadcasting licence, his decision to slash the CBC's budget and refusal to admit that he had done it, his embroilment of the CRTC in the

Power DirecTv matter, his less than timely visit to Los Angeles and its impact on the Seagram matter, the minister just keeps on going.

Why should we be surprised that the minister accepted to be the host of a \$2,000 a plate dinner organized by a lobbying firm? Why should we be surprised to see that the minister's office awarded that very firm three contracts?

In light of these revelations, one question comes to mind: Why does the Prime Minister protect this minister who is singlehandedly bringing down the semblance of respectability and ethical conduct that the government has so painstakingly built for itself?

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[English]

### ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS

**Mr. Dick Harris (Prince George—Bulkley Valley, Ref.):** Mr. Speaker, the native blockade at the Douglas Lake ranch has finally come to an end. It was taken down not because the RCMP enforced the law and removed this illegal blockade but apparently because charges against the four Nicola band members that were illegally fishing were dropped. Because the RCMP refused to enforce the law this whole affair has cost the Douglas Lake ranch around \$200,000. Who pays for that?

Now the chief of the band is warning that if progress is not made to their satisfaction more blockades will go up. The RCMP action will undoubtedly result in B.C. being transformed into a blockade battleground this summer.

This whole Douglas Lake affair is clear evidence that a two tier justice system is being actively pursued by the government. So much for equality and so much for equality before the law.

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### ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS

**Mr. Nelson Riis (Kamloops, NDP):** Mr. Speaker, on behalf of members of Parliament I extend congratulations to Superintendent Len Olfert of the RCMP and to other members of the force for their exemplary performance in fulfilling their professional duties of enforcing the court order to remove the blockade erected by the Upper Nicola Indian Band.

The barricade was removed in a peaceful and safe manner. The RCMP demonstrated a cultural appreciation, recognition and sensitivity that enabled a communication channel to be