

# HOUSE OF COMMONS

Tuesday, September 30, 1986

## SECOND SESSION--THIRTY-THIRD PARLIAMENT

[English]

The Parliament, which had been prorogued on the twenty-eighth day of August, 1986, met this day at Ottawa for the election of a new Speaker.

The House met at three o'clock, the Speaker in the chair.

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### NOTICE OF RESIGNATION OF SPEAKER

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. The House will understand if I begin today by expressing my personal best wishes to Madam Killens and Mr. Rodriguez, welcoming them back on behalf of all of us.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Speaker:** I wish to inform the House that I wrote to the Clerk of the House on September 5, 1986 declaring my intention to resign my position as Speaker of this House upon the election of my successor on October 1, 1986. Since the House by proclamation was reconvened at an earlier date, I wrote again to the Clerk of the House on September 25, 1986, altering the effective date of my resignation to September 30, 1986. I am now tabling copies of both letters.

[Translation]

For nearly two years I have had the very great privilege of being the Speaker of this House.

[English]

This is the most important institution in Canada and to occupy this chair is the highest honour a parliamentarian can ever receive. You must know, therefore, how deeply, deeply grateful I am to all of you for the experience of these last two years.

[Translation]

Like all my predecessors I am convinced that nothing else in the world will ever surpass such distinguished honour.

[English]

I must also express my heartfelt gratitude to the Officers of the House, to all our employees and, in particular, to the Clerk. Perhaps only a Speaker can know how truly well served we are.

[Translation]

We are about to live through a historical moment in the evolution of the speakership.

[English]

The House has asked the Government to give to the House complete authority over the selection of the Speaker, and the Government has agreed. Every Member here knows that greater authority carries with it greater responsibility. Sometime later today someone else will stand here. Whoever it is will receive from me and I am sure from every parliamentarian here, the complete support and understanding that our Speaker needs and deserves. To the new Speaker, congratulations, may God bless you and this House. To all of you—

[Translation]

—my most sincere thanks.

[English]

Thank you very, very much.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

[Translation]

**Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to inform the House that Her Excellency the Governor General has seen fit to authorize this Chamber to proceed with the election of a Speaker.

\* \* \*

[English]

### ELECTION OF SPEAKER

HON. JOHN A. FRASER, MEMBER FOR THE ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF VANCOUVER SOUTH

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 2, the House will now proceed to elect a Speaker. Order, please. It would be helpful today, please, if the Chair could have full attention.

In accordance with the Standing Orders, an alphabetical list of names of all Members who notified the Clerk in writing that they did not wish to have their names stand for candidacy, together with a list of names of those Members who are not eligible to be considered, has been placed on each Member's desk. For the benefit of Hon. Members, a list of names of those Members who are eligible to be considered for election to