

I hope that everywhere in Canada and throughout the world we will never again witness such cruel and aberrant incidents.

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HIVER EN NORD FESTIVAL

Mr. Jacques Vien (Laurentides): A few days ago, Mr. Speaker, eastern Canada was blanketed under the winter's first snow fall. The people of my riding were rejoicing, for it marked the beginning of the new winter tourist season.

This winter Sainte-Agathe-des-Monts will celebrate the 50th anniversary of its festivities. This year's Hiver en Nord festival will be held from January 26 to February 24 next. This festival provides a number of activities for the whole family, regardless of age and personal preferences. This winter feast is organized by a group of very dynamic volunteers who will extend the warmest welcome to all visitors.

I invite all Canadians to come and celebrate Saint-Agathe's Hiver en Nord festival. The Laurentians are well known for spectacular scenery, unrivalled hospitality and proven enjoyment of Canadian winters in northern country.

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[English]

BALTIC STATES

Mr. Jesse Flis (Parkdale—High Park): Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Liberal Party of Canada, I would like to welcome the President of Lithuania who is with us in Ottawa today. My leader and members of our caucus met with the President this morning and were presented with a document of the Joint Session of the Baltic Supreme Councils addressed to the parliaments of the world.

In this document the Supreme Councils, reaffirming their nations' will to restore the complete independence of the three Baltic States and adhering to the fundamental principles of the Helsinki Final Act, appeal to the parliaments of the world to fully employ their influence in helping to assure that the Soviet Union end all threats and begin interstate negotiations with the States on the recognition of their independence.

S. O. 31

We on this side of the House would like to urge the Government of Canada, in keeping with the spirit of the all-party resolution unanimously passed by the House last March, that full consideration be given to this document, as a member of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, to endorse the inclusion of the Baltic States on the future agenda of the executive bodies of the CSCE.

Once again, we would like to welcome President Landsbergis and wish him a successful and fruitful visit in Canada.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

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[Translation]

CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

Mr. Jean-Luc Joncas (Matapédia—Matane): Mr. Speaker, the CBC wants to restructure its operations, and the government wants to cut spending. I have no objections, but if it means closing down all television stations in Eastern Quebec, that is unacceptable and intolerable. It means depriving the people of my riding of their sole means of communicating with the rest of the country.

I therefore want to ask the President of the CBC and the Minister of Communications to review this decision, and to consider the geographical circumstances, the catastrophic state of the economy and the increasingly alarming demographics of this part of the country as grounds for exempting the Gaspé from these vicious cutbacks.

The people of the Gaspé are not asking for miracles. They want the right to be informed. Mr. Speaker, at this stage, a cut in the Senate budget would have been a much wiser decision.

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[English]

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

Mr. Bob Kilger (Stormont—Dundas): Mr. Speaker, I have some great news for hockey fans across Canada. We just learned a few minutes ago that the city of Ottawa has been awarded a National Hockey League franchise.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.