

Because we are no longer giving you money that we can withhold to force you to do that, we are going to take your money for poor children away from you. We are going to withhold your money from the Canada Assistance Plan that is going to feed hungry children in the city of Montreal or we are going to withhold your money for child protection services. We're going to simply say you can stop providing protection services to sexually abused kids, to children who have been neglected because you will not conform with what we want in health care".

There is not a hope of a federal government doing that. That is why it is absolutely vital that transfer payments with cash involved are maintained in EPF.

We have this dichotomy with the federal government talking a nice line that it supports these things, saying that it really believes in increasing our competitiveness through education, through research and development and then on the other hand withdrawing the capability of the provinces to do it, saying that it really believes in a universal, accessible health care system but making it increasingly impossible for the provincial governments to deliver.

I want to talk about two provinces in particular as it relates to the Canada Assistance Plan. One of the things that has happened in the federal government's approach to transfer payments is that it has decided that it is not even going to be unfair to all provinces. It is going to be selectively unfair.

Perhaps when the government introduced the changes it had much more foresight than I thought. Maybe it realized that by the time this was implemented, it would be NDP governments that it would unfairly treat. That should tell us something about what the government anticipates is going to happen in the next provincial election in Alberta, that it realizes that probably there will be a New Democratic provincial government.

What the government has done is arbitrarily, based on no rational criteria, based on no principles, simply said: "We're going to select provinces and hammer them". The reality is that 50 per cent of all income assistance applicants reside in those provinces. Fifty per cent of all kids who live in poverty reside in those provinces.

### S. O. 31

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois):** It being one o'clock p.m., I do now leave the chair until two o'clock p.m., pursuant to Standing Order 24(2).

The House took recess, at 1 p. m.

### AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 2 p.m.

### STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S. O. 31

[*Translation*]

#### THE LATE YVETTE BRIND'AMOUR

**Ms. Nicole Roy-Arcelin (Ahuntsic):** Mr. Speaker, less than two weeks ago, on World Theatre Day, we paid tribute to the people of the stage, all those who make the theatre a favoured mode of artistic expression, the liveliest art. Yvette Brind'amour was one of them. Last Saturday the curtain fell on this great lady of the theatre.

Born in Montreal in 1918, Yvette Brind'amour turned to the theatre fairly early. Around 1948, she founded the Théâtre du Rideau Vert with her close friend, Mercedes Palomino.

Dedicated to light theatre and dramatic comedy, the Rideau Vert gave Quebecers a taste for French theatre while it gave their best dramatists an opportunity to show them in a typically North American context. Ms. Brind'amour had the inspired idea to put on Michel Tremblay's play *Les belles-soeurs*, although it was almost the opposite of the kind of play the Rideau Vert usually presented.

Yvette Brind'amour's theatre is now legendary. The curtain has fallen on an actress by tradition and a brilliant director who made a mark on Quebec theatre. However, the curtain rises again on a heritage that is very much alive, the theatre, to the public's delight.

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[*English*]

#### CROSS-BORDER SHOPPING

**Mr. Jim Jordan (Leeds—Grenville):** Mr. Speaker, recently there was another reported increase in same day