

Federal Court. I urge the new Minister of Justice to re-examine the decision of her predecessor to deny compensation to Ms. Macdonald and to settle this claim fairly without further legal proceedings.

Despite the white-washed conclusions of the Cooper report and its appalling medical underpinning, Canada has a legal, moral and ethical obligation to Linda Macdonald and indeed to all other victims of these cruel government-funded experiments. Justice must be done.

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[Translation]

NORTHERN COMMUNITIES

Mr. Guy Saint-Julien (Abitibi): Mr. Speaker, on February 27 I received an urgent message from the Mayor of Umiujaq, Noah Inukpuk, who told me: "The people of the community of Umiujaq, including myself, are suffering terrible hardship as a result of the high cost of living. The pressure on us is incredible. We, the people of Umiujaq, earnestly request that you give voice to our feelings of alarm.

Here are a few examples: a bag of apples that was sold for \$2.86 now costs \$4.44; bread has gone up from \$1.70 to \$3.88; a can of evaporated milk, from \$1.60 to \$2.60; a five-pound bag of flour from \$6.13 to \$8.36; and pork chops from \$10 to \$13, and they aren't even fresh".

Mr. Speaker, for several months I have been trying to make the Government of Canada realize that its domestic policy of cutting back on financial assistance is unfair as it affects local air services, as I said in the House on October 23 and 25, 1989.

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[English]

THE BUDGET

Mr. Geoff Wilson (Swift Current—Maple Creek—Assiniboia): Mr. Speaker, prior to the recent budget, Canadians indicated they wanted the debt dealt with by cutting government spending, not by tax increases.

The Minister of Finance met the challenge. He responded by cutting and restraining spending in a number of areas, by imposing no new taxes—the first such budget in 22 years. He managed to exempt major transfer

payments to individuals, such as elderly benefits, family allowances, UI and veterans pensions.

Grappling with the legacy of past government over-spending is not easy. Those who preceded us never took the unpopular decisions. Their answer was always to borrow some more, to continue to mortgage the future.

I congratulate the Minister of Finance and the Prime Minister for taking some difficult decisions, for displaying the determination and leadership necessary to face up to the debt problem and to build the kind of financially stable Canada we want for ourselves and for future generations.

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WOMEN

Ms. Dawn Black (New Westminster—Burnaby): Mr. Speaker, this ad, run in one newspaper today in Canada, cost this government \$11,000 for one day. Women's centres are receiving less core funding from this government in an entire year than it is spending on GST advertising. This government's commitment to women is not worth the paper this ad is printed on.

The government is spending \$14 million to advertise the GST. Last year the total budget of the Secretary of State's women's programs for one year was \$11 million. After this budget, it will be closer to \$9 million. The Tories are spending \$14 million on propaganda for a tax that no one wants, a tax that has not passed Parliament. They have cut funding to women's centres right across the country that provide support and information to the women of their communities, to battered and sexually assaulted women, to jobless women and to homeless women.

Instead of attempting to silence the voices of women, instead of cutting women's funding by 100 per cent, the GST advertising should be slashed and the Tory government should also be cut by 100 per cent.

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GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Mr. Ron MacDonald (Dartmouth): Mr. Speaker, the Liberal party continues to stand solidly with Canadians in opposing this government's 7 per cent goods and services tax.