

Routine Proceedings

[English]

INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. Réginald Bélair (Cochrane—Superior): Mr. Speaker, I would like to present a petition, under Standing Order 36, signed by native residents of my riding of Cochrane—Superior, more specifically from Moose Factory, Long Lake, and Geraldton, Ontario.

On behalf of these 200 natives, I request the federal government to deal in a just manner with the struggle of all aboriginal peoples in Canada to have their land claims and rights properly addressed. Inaction on the part of the federal authorities will only continue to antagonize race relations in Canada and provoke dangerous and ignorant acts of racism.

HAZARDOUS WASTE

Mr. Réginald Bélair (Cochrane—Superior): I have a second petition, Mr. Speaker. I present it on behalf of some 450 residents of Hornepayne, who are asking the federal government to cease all efforts to locate hazardous waste sites in the township of Hornepayne.

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Hon. Warren Allmand (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce): Mr. Speaker, I have a petition signed by a large number of Canadian citizens who protest against the government's attempt to apply the goods and services tax to magazines, books, and newspapers, which they say will inhibit the dissemination of the printed word as a corner-stone of democracy, culture, education, and a literate and productive society.

The petitioners ask Parliament to exempt books, newspapers, and magazines from the said goods and services tax and that the tax be defeated.

Mr. Guy H. Arseneault (Restigouche—Chaleur): Mr. Speaker, I also have the honour to present a petition under Standing Order 36. It deals with the goods and services tax.

The petitioners, all Canadians, ask Parliament to reject this tax on books, magazines, and newspapers as it is a tax on learning. They humbly pray that Parliament will do so.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

Hon. Roger C. Simmons (Burin—St. George's): Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to present a petition,

probably one of the largest petitions or the one containing the largest number of signatures ever presented in the House.

There are about 16,000 names on this petition, representing every one of the seven federal ridings in Newfoundland and Labrador, the five held by members on this side of the House and two held by the gentlemen from St. John's West and St. John's East respectively.

I am grateful to the Secretary-Treasurer of the Fish, Food and Allied Workers' Union for co-ordinating this petition. It is a petition that affects literally tens of thousands of Newfoundlanders, hence the interest in it.

It addresses the issue of the variable entrance requirements and points out the need for the government to introduce such a resolution, a motion to get the requirements back down to 10 weeks. The petition goes on to point out that the change to 14 weeks has occurred at the same time as substantial reductions in fish quotas which have reduced the amount of work available to many thousands of fishermen and fish plant workers.

I believe the petition speaks eloquently for itself and for the 16,000 people who signed it, as well as many other thousands they represent. I have great pleasure in supporting the prayer of the petition and would hope that the government would see fit to act on it, and act on it soon.

FORESTRY

Mr. Brian L. Gardiner (Prince George—Bulkley Valley): Mr. Speaker, I have two petitions to table in the House today. The first is signed by residents from the Lower Mainland area, Maple Ridge and Mission area.

They call upon the government to get moving and sign the forest agreement so that we can promote more effective and sustainable forestry practices, increase spending on reforestation, and promote genuine sustained yield management of our forests.

AIRLINE INDUSTRY

Mr. Brian L. Gardiner (Prince George—Bulkley Valley): The second petition, Mr. Speaker, from the same wonderful communities in British Columbia, is a petition related to deregulation in the airline industry. It is particularly relevant, not just for the lower mainland of British Columbia, but in light of recent announcements by Canadian Airlines reducing their service to northern B.C. I dare them to reduce the service to Prince George.