

## S. O. 31

## THE MONARCHY

**Mr. Bill Vankoughnet (Hastings—Frontenac—Lennox and Addington):** Mr. Speaker, today marks the 40th anniversary of the accession of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II to the throne in 1952. Our Queen unites Canadians of every ethnic background or origin.

Her Majesty has reigned over Canada longer than any other monarch since Confederation. How lucky we are to have, as Queen of Canada, a figure who has truly become the first lady of the world.

When leaving California for British Columbia in 1983, the Queen told an American reporter: "I am going home to Canada tomorrow." The Queen will again be home in her capital of Canada to preside at the 125th anniversary of Canadian Confederation on July 1.

As loyal Canadian subjects of Her Majesty, it is appropriate for members of this House to join with Canadians in all walks of life to take note of this auspicious anniversary of Her Majesty's accession.

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## EASTERN TOWNSHIPS

**Mr. David Berger (Saint-Henri—Westmount):** Mr. Speaker, tomorrow is the 200th anniversary of the opening up to settlement of the eastern townships in Quebec.

On February 7, 1792 the Lieutenant-Governor of the newly formed colony of Lower Canada rose in the Parliament in Quebec City and announced that the Crown lands in that area would be surveyed and divided into townships. In the next year, surveyors began work and produced the map which we know today with, because of the context of the time, English name places like Ascot, Orford and Eton.

Professor John Rittenhouse, historian at Bishop's University, remarked recently that in contrast to the French and American revolutions, the proclamation of the townships is an example of how our country was built. "In Canada, we do it administratively", he said. "It was a question of trying to put together a country."

It is also worth noting that despite its English beginnings, English and French speaking persons have lived together harmoniously in the townships, or *l'Estrie* as some prefer to say, for 200 years. That is a good example for all Canada at this time in our history.

Like many Montrealers, I have the privilege of getting to the townships from time to time, so it gives me particular pleasure to highlight the 200th anniversary of the establishment of the townships.

I know that all members join me in extending best wishes to the townshippers.

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## EDUCATION

**Mr. Steve Butland (Sault Ste. Marie):** Mr. Speaker, the headlines in *The Toronto Star* today read: "Ontario schools doing poorly in testing". Canadians will now look to find fault somewhere if not everywhere. When our students fail we all fail.

Beth McGuire of the Ontario Federation of Home and Schools says: "This is not the time to be bashing the education system, we should instead be celebrating the success of some of our outstanding students."

I am proud to rise in the House to recognize two of our outstanding graduates, both of whom were born, raised and educated in Sault Ste. Marie.

Roberta Bondar was the first Canadian woman to travel into space aboard the NASA space shuttle and completed her experiments with consummate skill and professionalism.

Dr. Robert Korneluk, as head of a research team, has isolated the genetic defect believed to be the cause of muscular dystrophy, a most significant medical breakthrough.

Let us praise, let us promote, let us respect the accomplishments of Roberta Bondar and Robert Korneluk, two scientific pioneers who have contributed not only to a better Canada but to a better world.

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[Translation]

## INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT WEEK

**Mr. Jean-Guy Guilbault (Drummond):** Mr. Speaker, from February 3 to February 7, International Development Week gives us an opportunity to learn more about the developing world. Various activities are being organized across the country by schools, non-governmental organizations and community groups, to make us better