

For the first time for Ontarians a healthy environment is considered a right in law. No longer will Ontarians be stopped at the court-house doors when we try to halt the slow destruction of the water we drink, the air we breathe or the land that sustains us.

The Ontario New Democrats have opened the doors of government. Now we have a say in the decisions that shape the world we pass on to our children. Thanks to the environmental bill of rights Ontario employees will have the right to blow the whistle on employers who abuse the world we live in. While the federal Tories dither with a green plan that is more PR than plan, the Ontario government is empowering the people.

All Canadians want the same sort of environmental rights their cousins in Ontario are going to have. How long are they going to have to wait?

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#### PATRONAGE

**Mr. Peter Milliken (Kingston and the Islands):** Madam Speaker, as this tired, old government drones on toward an overdue election the list of promoted hacks and bagmen grows ever longer, and so does the odour of nepotism, patronage and pay-offs.

In recent days we have witnessed an orgy of Tory patronage that defies imagination. Just this morning the defence minister's Toronto fund raiser got appointed to the board of Atomic Energy of Canada Limited for three years. The Minister of National Defence and the Minister of the Environment like to say they do not know about this kind of Tory patronage, but both of them were there at the cabinet table agreeing to this and other such appointments, like those for the Prime Minister's barber, the barber's wife and the baby-sitter.

In 1984 the Prime Minister liked to say that leaders have an option on patronage but that was before the election. The people of Canada have an option too and on election day they will exercise this option by giving the chop to the hon. members opposite and their colleagues.

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#### LOBBYISTS

**Mr. Felix Holtmann (Portage—Interlake):** Madam Speaker, I was honoured to present to this House a report, *A Blueprint for Transparency*, earlier today. Simply put, this committee report, if accepted, would bring professional lobbying activity from the grey and dark areas into the daylight.

For any new Prime Minister and future government not to accept these recommendations is to suggest that the *status quo* is satisfactory. Most Canadians want more integrity from their elected officials and much more openness about who and how policy and procurement have been influenced.

I urge the minister to support the recommendations of this committee which all Canadians now demand.

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#### THE SENATE

**Miss Deborah Grey (Beaver River):** Madam Speaker, I would like to make a statement regarding the recent patronage Senate appointments. The Prime Minister has chosen to help his friends into the trough while the getting is good.

The decision to appoint yet another group of senators, with several more appointments to come, for nothing more than reasons of patronage is an obscene affront to the Canadian people and to democracy. It just goes to show the extent to which the Tories are really concerned about parliamentary reform and the so-called politics of inclusion. What a lot of bunk.

Even more alarming, however, is the blatant hypocrisy shown by the members to my right, the Liberals. They somehow managed to criticize the Prime Minister while at the same time accepting his offer of Senate appointments. Do they think the Canadian people are stupid? It would appear so. This Prime Minister, when he is done, will have appointed more than half of the entire Senate. Canadians, especially those in Beaver River, continue to report to this Parliament: Triple-E or bust.