

They need a roof. They need care. They need support and not just food.

So long as there are homeless Canadians sleeping in the streets we cannot consider ourselves a civilized society. Some people are doing something about it. In my city of Toronto, a hostel called Street City is just about to be opened by the Home First Society.

By contrast, the federal minister has no money, no projects, no programs. When will this government awake to the fact that there could be more than 10,000 Canadians homeless this winter? When will Ottawa help to house the homeless?

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THE ENVIRONMENT

Mr. Simon de Jong (Regina—Qu'Appelle): Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate all those concerned Canadians who have worked so hard for our environment.

The federal government, the federal environment minister and the government of Saskatchewan have finally halted construction on the Rafferty dam. Over the last two years I and my colleagues on this side of the House, especially the member for Winnipeg Transcona, have worked closely with the people who are sincerely concerned about the environment of Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

All we wanted was an independent panel to study the impact of this project, but what a mess the minister has created. An independent panel inquiry should have been conducted when we first called for it. It should have been conducted before the projects began, before the Federal Court spent time and money ruling on two challenges, before 60 per cent of the dam was complete, before the Minister of the Environment had to commit \$10 million to the Government of Saskatchewan.

I wish we knew how the \$10 million is going to be spent. I commend the Minister of the Environment for his decision. I just hope it is not too little too late.

S. O. 31

[Translation]

TRIBUTE TO ANDRÉ BOUCHER

Mr. Guy Saint-Julien (Abitibi): Mr. Speaker, the Voyageur bus accident on January 11 in the Annonciation

area in Quebec might have been a disaster, but for the heroic behaviour of one of the passengers, André Boucher of Val d'Or.

Witnesses stated they would never forget what this young man was able to do during the initial moments after this terrible collision. With great calm and courage, he took charge of the situation and kept people from panicking. He used an extinguisher to put out a small fire and gave first aid to the driver who was seriously hurt.

Unassumingly, André Boucher said: "I didn't do anything special."

Mr. Speaker, I for one think André behaved like a hero and that he deserves all our admiration and respect.

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[English]

NATIONAL DEFENCE

Mr. Joe Fontana (London East): Mr. Speaker, on September 26 the Minister of National Defence told this House that the moving of the 414th Squadron from North Bay would be cancelled because: "There was an additional cost for infrastructure which was not identified at the time of the budget." We concurred with that decision.

The government originally said the cost of moving the Royal Canadian Regiments to CFB Petawawa was \$30 million. Now it looks like the real cost might be closer to \$110 million.

In light of these additional costs, will the minister now acknowledge that the closure of CFB London will not save the taxpayer any money? Will he submit all the costs to the committee on defence?

The Minister of Defence has tried to persuade the city of London that rough estimates exist that demonstrate there are sufficient cost benefits to closing CFB London. Where are these mythical figures? If saving the taxpayer money is the main justification for the base closure, why will the minister not release this key information?