

S. O. 31

For the minister to be taken seriously at this conference, the government to have credibility abroad should at last ratify the Law of the Sea. There is little time left and unfortunately there seems to be very little political will on the part of the Government of Canada.

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[Translation]

GUN CONTROL

Mr. Guy Saint-Julien (Abitibi): Madam Speaker, the Canadian Advisory Council on Firearms of the federal Department of Justice will shortly submit its first report on the regulations that will accompany Bill C-17. A number of sources have indicated that the advisory council will recommend relaxing restrictions on cartridge magazine capacity, as far as the five—and ten—bullet limit is concerned, and that the safe storage requirement will also be downgraded.

Now is the time for federal and provincial members, the medical community, municipalities, the police, representatives of the public and all Canadian students to make themselves heard. Madam Speaker, we must all show our support for the coalition for gun control in Canada.

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[English]

CAPE BRETON ECONOMY

Mr. David Dingwall (Cape Breton—East Richmond): Madam Speaker, the recent Tory budget not only promises to privatize the Cape Breton Development Corporation, but plans to amalgamate Enterprise Cape Breton Corporation into ACOA.

Once again, the Conservative government deals a low blow to the island of Cape Breton. The Cape Breton Development Corporation is a major employer on the island, employing approximately 3,000 people. Now all of these jobs are at risk.

To add fuel to this fire of devastation, the amalgamation of Enterprise Cape Breton Corporation into ACOA will remove local control from the island. This means there will be no designated budget for this corporation and little emphasis on promoting economic diversification on the island.

These two manoeuvres will add to the already desperate economic conditions that plague the region.

The Mulroney government is continuously sneaking out of its commitment to this region of the country. The Conservative government has abandoned the people of Cape Breton and the communities that are struggling to survive. The only sense of unity this government has been successful at generating across this country are the feelings of hopelessness and economic desperation.

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CHILDREN AND HOSPITALS WEEK

Mr. Doug Fee (Red Deer): Madam Speaker, this is the thirteenth annual Children and Hospitals Week. The theme this year is commitment to caring. The goal is to increase public, parental and professional knowledge about the need for sensitive and appropriate care for children.

This week includes special activities such as health fairs, hospital tours, school programs, teddy bear or doll clinics and the distribution of resource materials.

Children and Hospitals Week is sponsored by the Association for the Care of Children's Health. It is an international, multi-disciplinary association of health care providers, organizations and parents committed to improving the quality of health care for children and their families.

I applaud the association and its members for promoting their commitment to caring for the well-being of children, and I invite members and indeed all Canadians to participate in local activities.

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THE CONSTITUTION

Mr. Rod Murphy (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, this week-end I and the member for Prince Albert—Churchill River, on behalf of the New Democratic Party, attended the First Peoples and the Constitution conference held in the Parliament Buildings.

The conference was a success in bringing native constitutional concerns to many non-aboriginal Canadians. Métis, Indian and Inuit representatives, including native women, discussed their goals, constitutional objectives and their vision for aboriginal people in our country.