

Routine Proceedings

Mr. Vic Althouse (Mackenzie): Mr. Speaker, a great many residents of Arborfield, Saskatchewan have sent this petition for consideration by the Parliament of Canada.

They note that there have been many instances by this Conservative government of direct attacks against the rural way of life: cuts to communications systems, whether it is VIA Rail, the branch lines or CBC.

However, they are most immediately concerned that the government reverse its policy on the closure of rural post offices, maintain the rural post offices and postal services and, through this means, accentuate rural life in Canada.

FISHERIES

Ms. Margaret Mitchell (Vancouver East): Mr. Speaker, this is the third petition I have presented on this subject. They have been certified under Standing Order 36. It comes from hundreds of people in the Chinese Canadian community of British Columbia, many of them in my riding of Vancouver East.

The petitioners are very concerned with the decreasing supply of live rock cod fish, a fish which is of high cultural and economic value and provides food for some 200,000 Asian Canadians. It is a staple food for families, restaurants, and tourists.

The petitioners are concerned that the federal government's negligence and mismanagement have limited the supply of live cod to a three-month season, while sport fishers are allowed an unfair quota. Of course this is diminishing the supply of very necessary food.

Therefore the petitioners demand that the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans recognizes the special value of these fish to the Asian community and to visitors to Canada and immediately initiates management action which will ensure that a year-round supply of live codfish is available. This must include adequate federal attention to the long-term sustainable management of these fish and fair allocation.

CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

Mr. Steven W. Langdon (Essex—Windsor): Mr. Speaker, I have both the pleasure and the pain to present to the House today part of a total of over 40,000 petitions from the citizens of Windsor and Essex county protesting to this government the cutbacks in the CBC which have

led to the suspension of our local CBC station in the city of Windsor.

These petitions are signed by people who request Parliament to do everything possible to see to it that the CBC is given the sustenance and support to be able to carry forward its important task of providing local programming for the people of Windsor, Essex county, Sarnia, Lambton county—the people of that entire district who as a result of these cutbacks have been deprived of any local news service whatsoever.

In this country that is like cutting Windsor off and sending it to join the United States.

Mr. Howard McCurdy (Windsor—St. Clair): Mr. Speaker, I have several thousand signatures on petitions from Windsor to present.

I would like to say that today, just today, 41,000 signatures have been presented from Windsor from all sides of this House. We appreciate the alacrity of the clerk of petitions in processing some 33,000 petitions overnight. That was wonderful, and it benefits the people of Windsor.

In addition to the 41,000 that are actually being tabled in this House today, 6,000 were tabled yesterday and some 10,000 or 15,000 have already been delivered to the House of Commons, and the people of Windsor still continue to sign.

The reason for this is that Windsor is a microcosm of what is happening to Canadians right across this land, as their institutions are alienating them from their own country.

I would like to quote clearly what the people of Windsor, Essex county, Kent county, and Lambton county are saying to this government. Wherefore we the undersigned, your petitioners, humbly pray and call upon Parliament to take all necessary measures to preserve local CBC television broadcasting in Windsor and in all areas deprived of such service by the Mulroney government cutbacks and by the decisions of CBC management.

These are people who are talking from their hearts and from their very souls to be allowed to remain Canadian in the face of American dominance.

PERSIAN GULF

Mr. Simon de Jong (Regina—Qu'Appelle): Mr. Speaker, I also rise, pursuant to Standing Order 36, to introduce to the House a petition signed mainly by