Mr. Axworthy (Winnipeg South Centre): It is amazing that the Minister for the homeless is so sensitive. Now he is saying that somehow the Council of Canadians, which has an individual membership of 3,000 or 4,000 people, is comparable to Alcan, American Express, or the BCNI who have enormous corporate treasuries and a tax-exemption status to draw upon. We go back to that basic standard. Do they understand what is going on in the country? Do they have any comprehension of what is taking place? The Minister has not the slightest understanding that there is a difference between groups of private citizens in this country coming together in terms of voluntary association and the power of many corporations with vast treasuries dictating and determining what is going on in this country. That is not surprising. That is why we understand what the trade deal is all about. The trade deal is a way of establishing and incorporating that power and that privilege as far as the governing structure of this country is concerned.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Axworthy (Winnipeg South Centre): This election, in defining clearly some new issues, talked about the concentration of power and how it is now being irresponsibly used to effect political decisions. It also points out the real damage we have done to this country in terms of its entrepreneurial and economic opportunity. We are beginning to see the denial of many small businesses and regions in being able to share in the wealth of this country. The impact and consequence of this agreement will be to further consolidate power in terms of the magnetic field of the market-place. It will not ensure a fair sharing throughout this country. That is a total denial of the history of Canada.

I go back to Mr. Grant's book, the conservative philosopher, who said that in a way Canada is an exception to the rules of economics and geography, working against those rules. It has been a political entity. It has been shaped by decisions of people through their own publicly-elected, democratically-elected institutions. People have had to exercise real will to decide what kind of country they want. It is that institutional opportunity that we are surrendering and giving up.

We as a group believe we have a continuing mandate in this issue, not confined just to Bill C-2 or to this particular trade agreement, but to maintain an ability to offer a different opportunity, a different set of views and values to this country. We think they are far more in keeping with what Canadians want.

We believe that in the next four years this Government will have to look over its shoulder every step of the way, because there will always be a Question Period. There will always be a demand that it show accountability and responsibility for the act which it is incorporating in this legislation. If government Members have the slightest illusion that this is the end of the debate, that they are home free, then I say they had better go home and have a few more dreams of plum trees and Christmas trees. This is just the beginning.

We believe we have come out of this election as a stronger Party with a better definition and better able to offer Canadians a real alternative and choice for the future. We are placing this Government on notice that this is what it will face in the House.

We hope the Government recognizes that we are trustees for many Canadians who say they want Canada to come home again. They want to end the divergent, destructive course that this Government has initiated by moving into foreign waters and down pathways that it does not belong. We want to bring the country back to its roots and back to its historical traditions. We want to provide a real opportunity for all the young people who were foreign to this election, who realized for the first time they had to make a choice of what kind of country they wanted. They made a choice in large majority for the Liberal Party of Canada.

That is where young people were voting. It is that generation which will provide the next impetus, initiative, and sense of force as to where this country will go. That is why we have confidence and are fully committed to continuing to offer the kind of trusteeship for that generation to ensure the group opposite will pay the price and suffer the consequences of their actions. They will be faced with a group of people who have come here armed with far more Members and stronger voices to be able to offer that kind of comment.

By way of conclusion on this third reading, it has been a privilege for me to be a part of this debate, to help shape some points of view and to ask the questions. In light of the debate we have been through and the fact that Canadians have been denied the opportunity to have their voice heard, I would like to move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Ottawa—Vanier (Mr. Gauthier), that the motion be amended by striking out all words after the word "That" and by substituting the following: