

*Routine Proceedings*

[Translation]

## PETITIONS

## PROPOSED GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

**Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa—Vanier):** Mr. Speaker, it is my duty to table some 20 petitions this morning, most of them from my constituents in Ottawa—Vanier, but also from others, who came here during the summer. These people would like to express their opinion on the goods and services tax, this 9 per cent tax that the Government wants to impose or would like to impose in January 1991. These people not only find this tax unfair and regressive but they also find that it imposes an unjustifiable additional burden on small business and in this petition, Mr. Speaker, they say that in their opinion, the House should refuse to implement such a bad tax.

[English]

## ROUGE RIVER VALLEY

**Mrs. Pauline Browes (Scarborough Centre):** Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to present to the House today a petition concerning the Rouge Valley in metro Toronto. This is 5,000 acres of beautiful wilderness that the Speaker toured on Saturday to see first hand the beauty of this Rouge River Valley.

The petitioners state that protecting the Rouge, the endangered wildlife and the wilderness area is in the national interest. The interim report of the Royal Commission on the Future of the Toronto Waterfront, which is headed by the Hon. David Crombie, has also recommended that the Rouge valley be protected as a natural heritage park. The mayor of the city of Scarborough and the federal Minister of the Environment are supporting this endeavour, as well as the Save the Rouge Valley Organization and thousands of volunteers.

The petitioners call upon the government to work with the province of Ontario to establish the Rouge River valley as a Canadian heritage land or a provincial park.

[Translation]

## PROPOSED GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

**Mrs. Shirley Maheu (Saint-Laurent—Cartierville):** Mr. Speaker, it is my honour and pleasure, pursuant to Standing Order 36, to present 14 petitions from corner store owners in my riding who strongly object to the imposition of the goods and services tax because it will create a costly burden for small businesses.

[English]

**Mr. Iain Angus (Thunder Bay—Atikokan):** Mr. Speaker, I have a number of petitions that I would like to table this morning. The first petition is signed by 838 residents of northwestern Ontario. They signed this petition while they were attending the Hymers Fall Fair on the Labour Day weekend.

The petitioners discuss the proposed goods and services tax and because of its lack of regard for taxpayers' ability to pay. They go on to point out that they want Parliament to reject the current proposal and to reform the taxation system so that there is an effective minimum tax on wealthy individuals and corporations.

## POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

**Mr. Iain Angus (Thunder Bay—Atikokan):** Mr. Speaker, I have another petition signed by 201 residents of northwestern Ontario who are primarily native students. They are recording their concerns about the government's approach to native post-secondary education.

The petitioners call upon Parliament to exercise its rightful obligation and duty by withdrawing the draft policy and begin a process of consultation with First Nations and First Nations students who will be most affected by the said policy.

## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

**Mr. Iain Angus (Thunder Bay—Atikokan):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to present a petition from 30 residents of Thunder Bay, primarily regarding the proposed changes to the unemployment insurance system. The petitioners call upon Parliament to reject these cuts in the unemployment insurance system, to propose more meaningful reforms and to concentrate on a labour force development strategy combined with a full employment policy, and an effective regional development policy.