

## HOUSE OF COMMONS

## TWENTY-FOURTH ANNIVERSARY OF ELECTION

**Hon. Don Mazankowski (Deputy Prime Minister, President of the Privy Council and Minister of Agriculture):** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. It has been drawn to my attention that there are four hon. members who are today celebrating their twenty-fourth anniversary of their election to this great institution, the House of Commons of Canada. They are the hon. member for Renfrew—Nipissing—Pembroke, the hon. member for Notre-Dame-de-Grâce, the hon. member for Victoria—Haliburton and of course our own hon. member for Annapolis Valley—Hants, who I know we all agree has added a lot of colour and zest to this institution.

Twenty-four years of service as the people's representative in this place is indeed something to celebrate. Their long-standing service is indeed a tribute to the excellent representation which they have provided to their constituents. Having gone through eight elections, it clearly is a demonstration that they have the confidence of the people whom they represent. I am sure I can speak for all members, I know I speak for the members of our party, when I say that all four hon. members are held in very high regard. They have contributed significantly to this institution. They have debated vigorously. They have defended their interests and the things that they believe in. But most of all, they have defended the interests of their constituents, and that is obviously why they have been sent here to represent their people on eight consecutive occasions.

On behalf of my colleagues in government and the members of the Progressive Conservative Party, I want to extend our sincerest and heartiest congratulations to all four members. It is our hope and our wish that they will continue to be with us for many, many more years and contribute in the excellent way they have in the past.

• (1510)

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Hon. Herb Gray (Windsor West):** Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Official Opposition I am pleased to join in the tribute being paid today to four hon. members of this

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House who are celebrating the twenty-fourth anniversary of their first election to the House of Commons.

It is an honour to serve in the House of Commons even for a very limited period, but it is a signal honour to have served as long as the hon. members about whom we are talking way that they have served their constituents, it is a tribute to them for the way they have worked in this House. Their service has obviously been well recognized by their constituents and the applause today indicates how they are held in high regard by members on all sides of this House of Commons.

I am delighted on my own behalf and on behalf of all the members of the Official Opposition to pay tribute to four members of this House who are today celebrating a very important anniversary.

**Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa):** Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the New Democratic Party I rise to join with my colleagues in congratulating the senior members of the House who are continuing to serve their constituents well. I want to say on behalf of my colleagues who have worked with the four members in the past in this Chamber or in committee, we have always respected their hard work and the contribution they have made on behalf of their constituents.

I think it is the case that no matter what the party tendency for votes might be in a particular constituency, for a man or a woman to serve for this period of time in the House of Commons must mean that he or she has brought a particular contribution to that constituency or the member simply would not have been re-elected so many times. I say that as a New Democrat.

As an individual to my two Liberal and Conservative colleagues, let me congratulate them on their past work.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Broadbent:** I wish them well in the years ahead, but I hope all four will be defeated by a New Democrat in the next election.

**Mr. Len Hopkins (Renfrew—Nipissing—Pembroke):** Mr. Speaker, I want to thank you for giving me this moment. Prime Minister for his very kind remarks today, as well as the House Leader of the Official Opposition