

*Tributes***NATIONAL UNITY**

Mr. Ian Waddell (Port Moody—Coquitlam): Mr. Speaker, in February of this year the municipal council of Belcarra, a beautiful village in my riding, passed a resolution on national unity. It is intended simply to convey support to those in Quebec favouring a renewed federalism. The resolution was passed on to other municipalities and over 70 municipalities in British Columbia have endorsed it.

Last week acting mayor Jamie Ross of Belcarra, presented it to Claude Ryan on the steps of the Quebec National Assembly. I am pleased to read it in the presence of a group of young Voyageurs here from my riding and from the Montreal riding of Notre-Dame-de-Grâce who are in the gallery now.

The resolution says this:

That the Municipality of Belcarra, in the Province of British Columbia:

(1) Encourages all citizens to remember all that we have already accomplished and what we can accomplish in the future;

[Translation]

(2) Expresses the sincere desire that the Province of Quebec choose to remain a valued partner in this great nation that we share.

[English]

(3) Conveys its best wishes and best regards to its counterparts in Quebec.

That is a powerful message on national unity. Come on Canadian politicians, listen and get on with the job.

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[Translation]

IMMIGRATION REFORM

Mr. Jean-Marc Robitaille (Terrebonne): Mr. Speaker, today I would like to commend the minister of immigration for the immigration reform initiative presented this week.

First of all, this bill is good news for all Canadians, since it will enable the government to better manage immigration and achieve our economic objectives.

Furthermore, while preserving our country's humanitarian tradition, this reform will give us a more efficient, less costly system that will process applications more quickly and above all discourage fraud.

Ours is a welcoming country and will continue to be so. With this reform, we will be able to unclog the system and eliminate abuses, as the Canadian people want.

Even more important, this reform will give us the ability to control our immigration so that it works in the interest of all Canadians, as well as all those who benefit from it.

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ASSOCIATION FRANCO-YUKONNAISE

Hon. Audrey McLaughlin (Yukon): Mr. Speaker, the *Association franco-yukonnaise* plays a vital role in preserving and promoting the French language and culture in the Yukon.

Last week, the federal government reduced its financial assistance to this organization by \$80,000. This cut forced the association to stop publishing the Yukon's only French language newspaper, *L'aurore boréale*, eliminating two jobs and ending its cultural promotion programs.

At a time when promoting Canadian unity is so important, francophone communities throughout the country see the funds allocated to them reduced.

Therefore I urge the Secretary of State to restore the funding to the *Association franco-yukonnaise* so that it can continue its work in the Yukon's French speaking community.

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[English]

IMMIGRATION

Mrs. Louise Feltham (Wild Rose): Mr. Speaker, many people in my riding over the years have expressed their concerns regarding the immigration process.

They are concerned about the expense incurred by Canadians when people are allowed to enter Canada illegally and remain here through a lengthy deportation process.

I would like to take this opportunity to express appreciation to the Minister of Employment and Immigration for taking the views and concerns of the people of Canada into consideration with his latest initiative and proposals for change.