

S. O. 31

stated that the alternatives to eliminating at and east rates that were put forward by the Atlantic Provinces Transportation Commission had not yet been studied. The government has taken its initiative, stopped the program without any consultation, and has not even looked at alternatives presented by the region affected.

Mr. Speaker, I see your signal. It is one o'clock. I would like to continue after 3 p.m..

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): The hon. member will have six minutes remaining in debate on this motion after three o'clock.

It being one o'clock, I do now leave the Chair until two o'clock this day.

At 1 p.m. the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 2 p.m.

STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S. O. 31

[*English*]

WOMEN'S PROGRAMS

Mr. John E. Cole (York—Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, this weekend I had the pleasure of officially opening a job entry program for women of the York region who are presently receiving social assistance but wishing to gain the experience and necessary skills to move into the workforce and be fully contributing members of society.

The program called Alternative Paths for Women is funded by the federal government and operated by Lumbers Cuts of Aurora, helping women in the York region wishing to earn and to learn.

This program provides job training, work habits, life skills and other aspects, such as filling out job applications, acquiring a professional attitude in the workforce and general self-confidence to these women. Basic furniture refinishing skills were chosen as the medium for the employment skills training. However, it is not the intent to provide qualified refinishers but rather to produce qualified workers. Lumber Cuts are already at their maximum number and are having great success in developing the skills necessary for these women to

re-enter the workforce and prepare them for entry level positions in private industry.

This type of program exemplifies the intention of Bill C-21 and I would hope the other place will pass this bill soon so that many more similar programs can be set up throughout the country to produce more qualified workers.

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NATIONAL UNITY

Mr. Eugène Bellemare (Carleton—Gloucester): Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, June 3, some 250 residents of the Fallingbrook community in the Orleans area of the national capital region held a march for a united Canada.

This march was held to show their commitment to a tolerant Canada and a respect for Quebec and its place within Canada.

[*Translation*]

At this gathering, the First Ministers were urged to concentrate on the principles of tolerance, respect and mutual trust that are the very foundation of this country.

Furthermore, these citizens expressed their respect for the people of Quebec and their culture, language and institutions.

Finally, the gathering asked Canadian municipalities to stand together to show their love for their country and their respect for a dynamic Quebec within Canada.

[*English*]

This march had the support of the mayors of eastern Ontario, municipal politicians, especially the members of the Cumberland Township Council.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I strongly congratulate the citizens who organized this spontaneous gathering, which I believe represents the feelings of a growing number of Canadians.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker: I want to thank the hon. member for his comments on a subject that is so important to all members in this House.

[*English*]

I thank very much the hon. member for his intervention which is important, not only to members here, but to our entire country.