

Property rights should be entrenched in the Constitution. The Senate must be reformed. Elected, yes, many want an equal number of senators from each province but abolition has strong support.

One constituent said:

I fully support free trade, GST, deficit reduction, and economic restructuring but you had better frame this card because I doubt you will get many like it.

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THE FAMILY

Mr. Jim Karpoff (Surrey North): Mr. Speaker, this week Canadians learned about the existence of a Tory family caucus which has taken credit for the influencing of the many negative cabinet decisions on policies affecting families.

The reality for families today is that in the 1950s it took an average of 45 hours a week of paid work to support a family. Now it takes an average of 65 to 80 hours. Today two-parent families make up the largest group of families living in poverty. Poverty rates among two-parent families would more than double without the incomes of wives.

• (1110)

New Democrats know that Canadians want a government not rooted in the past but one which will recognize and accept the transition families are going through and seek to provide policies which address the new roles of families; a government which is committed to full employment and which provides training and other necessary support programs; a government committed to improving access to non-profit, universal, quality, affordable child care.

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[Translation]

CO-OPERATIVE HOUSING

Hon. André Ouellet (Papineau—Saint-Michel): Mr. Speaker, I would like to draw the attention of the House to the fact that the Index Linked Mortgage Program to assist the development of co-operative housing projects has been abolished, and that as a result, the number of co-operative housing units will be reduced by 80 per cent. The program, which the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation qualified as low cost and high-performance, should not be cut.

S. O. 31

Mr. André Gariépy, president of the *Coopérative Loge-Uni*, Mrs. Mariette Dunn, secretary, Mr. Guy Simard and Ms. Youance, Desin, Thiboutot, Bédard, Gagné and Simard, all members of the same housing co-op in my riding, have made it clear that they totally disapprove of these regressive measures by the Conservative government, and that is why I ask the government to reverse its decision.

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[English]

HARBOURS

Mr. René Soetens (Ontario): Mr. Speaker, for six years the barge named *The Prince Edward Island* has been tied up at the pier in Whitby harbour. This derelict vessel has been an eyesore, a possible safety hazard and a possible environmental hazard.

It has taken a concerted effort, particularly by the town of Whitby and its municipal council but also by the province and the federal government, to get rid of this thing finally. Just the other day it was towed out of Whitby harbour. The unfortunate part of it all is that it is going some place else.

I call on the federal government to bring forward regulations to prevent this kind of thing from happening at any harbour anywhere in Canada again.

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MANITOBA UNEMPLOYMENT

Mr. Rod Murphy (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, today's unemployment statistics indicate that northern Manitoba has 24.8 per cent official unemployment. This is the highest of any region within any province of Canada. Yet this federal government has refused to renegotiate the northern development agreement, has refused to provide funding for the port of Churchill, has refused to do anything with regard to the hydro development, and has refused to provide adequate training for native Canadians.

My statement in this House is to the effect that the government is ignoring a very important part of this country. It has no concern for the youth. It has no concern for native Canadians. It has no concern for women.

Why does it continue to be the government when it will not do anything to help the people?