

Routine Proceedings

Design, Galaxy Lanes, Superior Cartage, Peran's Music, Hugh Wilson's Body Shop, G&G Esso in Upsala, and Aesthetics by Linda.

They all collectively call upon Parliament to reject the goods and services tax at any per cent.

Ms. Dawn Black (New Westminster—Burnaby): Mr. Speaker, I also rise under Standing Order 36 to present petitions on behalf of my constituents.

These petitions are signed by over 200 people who live in New Westminster and Burnaby, British Columbia. They are very upset about the goods and services tax.

They call upon this Parliament to reject the proposal for a goods and services tax. They say that the tax is a very regressive tax, that it will hurt mostly people in middle and lower incomes, and that the wealthy will pay the same tax on a pair of shoes as the poor will pay on a pair of shoes. They are upset about that.

They call on this government to withdraw the tax and to bring in fair taxation for Canadians.

ROUGE RIVER VALLEY

Mrs. Pauline Browes (Scarborough Centre): Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to present a petition to the House of Commons today. This petition is called "Help Save the Rouge".

This is an extremely important issue that the petitioners are presenting to Parliament and that I have the privilege of presenting. We are talking about 5,000 acres of land in metro Toronto that is presently in a wilderness state, presently in its natural beauty, and we want to protect it. The threats to it are a metro Toronto garbage dump in the Rouge Valley or a 12-lane freeway up through the valley.

The petitioners are outraged. The citizens of Scarborough are outraged with this kind of thinking. Right across Canada the people are concerned about this. We are most encouraged today to see that the federal Minister of the Environment has made a commitment to quadruple by the year 2000 the national park land. This is most encouraging to the petitioners.

The Minister of the Environment has toured the Rouge Valley. This government has committed \$10 million to save the Rouge Valley. The petitioners are

calling upon Parliament to work with the provincial government. The Canadian people own the land through the provincial government, and they want the Government of Canada to work with the provincial government to establish this area as Canadian heritage land or a provincial park.

PROPOSED GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Mr. Lyle Kristiansen (Kootenay West—Revelstoke): Mr. Speaker, I rise pursuant to Standing Order 36 with a petition signed by some 63 persons from the communities of Revelstoke, Nelson, South Slokan, and the other B.C. communities of Golden and Salmon Arm.

The petitioners are upset that the federal government is getting its hands even deeper in their pockets and is now trying to tax reading, haircuts, diapers, coffins and home heating fuels, among other commodities.

The petitioners also call upon Parliament to reform the taxation system so that there is an effective minimum tax on wealthy individuals and corporations, and to ensure that if and when there is broad public consensus on a sales tax measure to replace the manufacturers' sales tax this reform not be an opportunity for the government to impose a massive tax grab.

That is perhaps too much to ask, but the petitioners are upset in any event.

Ms. Joy Langan (Mission—Coquitlam): Mr. Speaker, I rise with two petitions today that have both been certified under Standing Order 36.

The first is in objection to the goods and services tax from people who live in Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam, Pitt Meadows, Mission, and Maple Ridge. They feel very strongly that the suggested goods and services tax will not only affect them as individuals but will dramatically affect the financial viability of the community. The reason for that of course is the impact that the goods and services tax will have not only on small business in the community but on the municipal infrastructure.

RIGHTS OF CHILDREN

Ms. Joy Langan (Mission—Coquitlam): Mr. Speaker, the second set of petitions that I have come from Surrey, Vancouver, my riding of Mission—Coquitlam, as well as Alberta and Ontario.