

*Routine Proceedings*

## COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

• (1620)

**Mr. Robert D. Nault (Kenora—Rainy River):** Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure today, pursuant to Standing Order 36, to present four petitions all on the same subject from my constituents of Kenora—Rainy River, specifically Ear Falls, Dryden, Emo, Rainy river and of course Fort Frances.

These petitioners humbly pray that the Parliament of Canada will reject the imposition of a wage freeze and will consider the importance of the collective bargaining process in this country and how fragile it can be for all Canadians.

While I am on my feet, I would like to take the opportunity to congratulate the minister on the job well done yesterday, for getting both parties back to the bargaining table and giving them an opportunity to get a collective agreement that will make everyone happy and help us to make this country as great as it can be.

**Mr. Rey Pagtakhan (Winnipeg North):** Madam Speaker, I too would like to present, pursuant to Standing Order 36, over 800 signed petitions from my constituency of Winnipeg North and from across Canada.

The petitioners call upon Parliament to reject the imposition of wage controls and reaffirm its support for the principle of collective bargaining now enshrined in law for all Canadian workers.

Like my colleague from Kenora—Rainy River, I would like to congratulate the President of the Treasury Board for eventually agreeing that the government will sit down at the bargaining table with the Public Service Alliance of Canada on behalf of its members. I am glad that the government has listened to the demand of the opposition led by my leader in this House.

I am proceeding with the presentation of this petition to safeguard the interests of all public servants, especially the women workers who also cry for pay equity, particularly in view of the votes of just a few minutes ago. Therefore the parliamentary sword of Damocles still hangs over Canadian workers.

## NORTH THOMPSON RIVER

**Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops):** Madam Speaker, it is an honour to present a petition pursuant to Standing Order 36 from a number of residents of Avola, Clearwater, Little Fort and Kamloops who are concerned about a proposal to dam the North Thompson River at a community named Vavenby in order to divert water into the San Diego, California area through a series of canals and pipelines and river systems.

They remind us of the NAWPA proposal, which is of course to divert Canadian rivers into the United States and northern Mexico. They are simply calling upon the government to indicate categorically to the Americans that it will not permit our fresh water rivers to be dammed and diverted into the United States and to state clearly that Canadian rivers are not for sale.

## ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

**Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops):** Madam Speaker, I have petition on another matter to present on behalf of a number of constituents from a variety of communities in my constituency and elsewhere.

They are concerned of the possibility of still further cutbacks to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and are simply calling upon the Government of Canada to ensure that proper funding is provided to the RCMP to enable it to fulfil its mandate as expected.

## COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

**Mr. Peter Milliken (Kingston and the Islands):** Madam Speaker, I am pleased to rise to present a petition today signed by hundreds of Canadians from across Ontario, particularly from Mississauga, Burlington, Caledon East, Brampton, Osgoode, Cornwall, Kitchener, and other places closer to Ottawa.

These petitioners humbly pray and call upon Parliament to reject the imposition of wage controls and reaffirm their support for the collective bargaining process in Canada. I am sure they are delighted with the outcome of the negotiations yesterday and are pleased that we will not be proceeding with the bill, at least pending the resolution of the current labour dispute.