

Adjournment Debate

In the area of equal pay, it is the law at the federal level, as provided by the Canadian Human Rights Act, that men and women be paid equal pay for work of equal value. In addition, Labour Canada has an equal pay program to ensure that equal pay is implemented in the private sector. The Treasury Board, as well, has a large scale joint union-management project under way to identify and correct any pay deficiencies in the Public Service. The government is committed to the principle of equal pay for work of equal value.

The hon. member will know that the government is committed to eliminating sexual discrimination from all areas of federal jurisdiction. The position of the government is that employment and advancement in the federal Public Service and in all government services are equally available to all individuals without regard to their sexual orientation. The government is examining the issues that arise in these circumstances because we know they are of concern to Canadians.

The government is committed to amending the Canadian Human Rights Act to incorporate the principle of reasonable accommodation. Consideration is being given to the best way of doing this. The government is examining this and a range of other issues relating to the Canadian Human Rights Act, including suggestions made by the Canadian Human Rights Commission.

The government is moving as quickly as it can to complete its review of these matters. The government continues to demonstrate its commitment to the principles of equality and social justice and to give effect to these principles on a pro-active basis.

[*Translation*]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): The motion that the House do now adjourn is deemed to have been adopted. This House therefore stands adjourned until 11 a.m. tomorrow, pursuant to Standing Order 24(1).

The House adjourned at 7.24 p.m.