

Routine Proceedings

The first is related to the Young Offenders Act. There are a number of petitions including the names of over 2,000 people in the communities of Sherwood Park, Fort Saskatchewan, Bruderheim, Tofield, Nisku, Beaumont, Ardrossan and in and around the Edmonton area.

The petitioners call upon Parliament to strengthen the Young Offenders Act or replace it with legislation that will be a stronger deterrent to youth crime. They are most concerned with repeat violent young offenders and recommend harsher penalties, including work camps. In cases of dealing with theft or property damage they suggest financial repayment to the victims.

UKRAINIAN CANADIANS

Mr. Brian O'Kurley (Elk Island): Madam Speaker, my second petition deals with the acknowledgement and redress for injustices committed by the Government of Canada against Ukrainian pioneer settler communities during and following the First World War.

It includes the names of approximately three dozen petitioners from the Edmonton area. They call upon Parliament to give a succinct timetable for resolving this important redress issue.

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

Mr. Brian O'Kurley (Elk Island): Madam Speaker, there are two final petitions. One is on behalf of Mr. Alec Saruk of Lamont who calls upon Parliament to provide for a referendum on the Official Languages Act.

This would allow a referendum that is binding on Parliament to accept or reject two official languages, English and French, for the government and the people of Canada. The second petition is from a number of people in the Edmonton area and it is with regard to the same issue.

• (1530)

UKRAINIAN CANADIANS

Mr. Stan J. Hovdebo (Saskatoon—Humboldt): Madam Speaker, it is my honour and duty to present a petition on behalf of a number of constituents.

The Prime Minister indicated in October 1992 the intention of the government to settle the claim of

redress to the mutual satisfaction of both the government and the Ukrainian community.

These petitioners call upon Parliament to urge the government to act on the unanimous motion of the House of Commons of September 27, 1991 and settle the acknowledgement and redress issue to the satisfaction of the Ukrainian Canadian community and the government.

TAXATION

Mr. Ronald J. Duhamel (St. Boniface): Madam Speaker, I have the honour to present a petition on behalf of several petitioners.

They ask the government to review its tax regulations and laws, particularly as it affects parents who have special needs children. These parents are often directed by their family physicians to place them in special facilities that incur additional costs.

These parents feel, and I support their request, that there are often significant additional costs which they cannot deduct from their income. They want the government to review the situation.

[*Translation*]

I think that is an entirely legitimate request.

[*English*]

SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES RESEARCH COUNCIL

Mr. Ronald J. Duhamel (St. Boniface): Madam Speaker, the second petition I have the honour to present is from petitioners who point out that our greater challenges in Canada are really our social problems. These problems include inequity, poverty, unemployment, et cetera.

They point out that we need strong social science research to determine the causes and propose solutions. They feel that the current arrangement of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council is an appropriate one.

They ask that this proposed merger be set aside and that the government study this question, consider the implications and then decide at some future date.

[*Translation*]

That is another legitimate request I support.