



Commonwealth Youth Parliament

November 6-10, 2016
Victoria, British Columbia, Canada

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P8

DEBATES OF THE

EIGHTH COMMONWEALTH YOUTH PARLIAMENT

(HANSARD)

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2016

Afternoon House Proceedings



THE HONOURABLE LINDA REID, SPEAKER

**LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH YOUTH PARLIAMENT**

Honourable Rick Hansen, CC, OBC British Columbia, Canada

**SPEAKER
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH YOUTH PARLIAMENT**

Honourable Linda Reid Legislative Assembly of British Columbia

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Jabari Lynch	Trinidad and Tobago	Jenae Whittaker	Cayman Islands
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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2016

The House met at 3:02 p.m.

[Hon. Linda Reid in the chair.]

Routine Business

Introduction of Bills

**BILL 1 — YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP
AND INTERNSHIP ACT**

Hon. Kareina Mohammed presented a message from His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor: a bill intituled Youth Apprenticeship and Internship Act.

Hon. Kareina Mohammed: I move that a bill entitled Youth Apprenticeship and Internship Act be introduced now and read a first time.

Motion approved.

Hon. Kareina Mohammed: Youth Apprenticeship and Internship Act — the purpose is an act to set targets for the reduction of youth unemployment, to establish the Commonwealthland apprenticeship fund and to establish the Commonwealthland internship initiative.

The youth are the leaders of today’s tomorrow. We must provide them with the opportunity to grow, develop and hone their skills. The Youth Apprenticeship and Internship Act provides the opportunity to secure our future.

Hon. Linda Reid (Speaker of the Commonwealth Youth Parliament): Could I have the minister move a motion to place it on the orders of the day.

Hon. Kareina Mohammed: I so move.

Hon. Linda Reid (Speaker of the Commonwealth Youth Parliament): Excellent. The motion reads: “placed on the orders of the day for second reading at the next sitting of the House after today.”

Bill 1, Youth Apprenticeship and Internship Act, introduced, read a first time and ordered to be placed on orders of the day for second reading at the next sitting of the House after today.

[1505]



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Youth Parliamentarians' Statements

WELCOME TO COMMONWEALTH YOUTH PARLIAMENTARIANS

Sky Losier: I rise today, hon. Members, not on behalf of the opposition or on behalf of myself but on behalf of the British Columbia Youth Parliament, which is our local Youth Parliament.

I have been instructed by our Premier, Mr. Chris Coulson, to bring greetings to all of you and to welcome you to British Columbia, this beautiful land, to this legislative chamber in which we do our annual session as well, and to take a moment to thank each and every one of you for travelling so far — some very long journeys — to come and join together in this wonderful place.

ONTARIO AND DIVERSITY

Sheldon Paul: Thank you, Madame Speaker, for granting me this opportunity to speak. I wish to thank you all for granting this time to listen to me.

I want to, first and foremost.... Though I am not a citizen of this province, I am a citizen of this country, and I would like to thank each and every one of you for taking your time to make this long journey to come and take part in this effort.

I come from a part of this country called Ontario. It's a beautiful province — the trillium country, as we call it. It's a land that is characterized by diversity, in terms of ecological, cultural, religious, ethnic diversity. It truly is a microcosm of the world, and I love to see the fact that that similar microcosm is represented right here in this chamber. I'd like to just thank you all for that.

You see, this diversity is very important to who we are as Ontarians and who we are as Canadians. The diversity is also characterized by a very innate care for one another. That care includes the right to free health care, the right to socialized education — the right to equal and fair access to these provisions.

This government has actively attempted, through our stated goals, to bring some of those very values that characterize the land from which I come. I would like to commend the cabinet for this very particular reason. I would further like to raise one point of concern with the opposition.

Ladies and gentlemen, the issue is that the opposition does not have a clear alternative to the roles and the goals that we have laid out. I further want to bring up the mention that we as Commonwealth citizens.... This respect is not simply a respect that we show in this Legislature. It's a respect that translates out to the society.

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PAKISTAN

Sara Aslam: Thank you for the opportunity to be here today and to speak. My name is Sara, and I'm representing Pakistan, which is actually the cradle of civilization.

My primary desire today is actually to dispel a couple of rumours about it, the first being that we are not all Taliban. I don't have any desire to blow this place up or anything like that, despite whatever the media might be portraying.

Secondly, Pakistan is not just a desert. It has lots of ski resorts. It has northern areas. It's one of the largest trading ports in the world. It's the home of K2, which is the second-largest mountain in the world, and it's a stunning holiday destination.

We are also not just the same. The reality is that we have four different provinces, varying cultures. We have borders with four different countries within the world, and that means that we have cultures emanating from all of those.

As you can tell today, women do actually have a voice. We've had a female Prime Minister. We are not all covered. We are not all behind closed doors, either.

I would encourage each and every one of you to actually visit, to enjoy the beauty, variety and culture of this understated gem.

DROWNING PREVENTION

Stefanie Panesar: I'm Stefanie Panesar of British Columbia. I, myself, am from Vancouver, British Columbia, so as you know, I had a long journey yesterday. I was really wiped from it.

What I'd like to bring some attention to is that I work with the Lifesaving Society of Canada. Actually, in Canada.... You would be amazed by how many people cannot swim in this province.

[1510]

B.C. has one of the largest coastlines in the world, really. I have the British Columbia drowning report right here. We started our numbers in 1990. All throughout Canada, what we had was 683 people drowned. That number today is 466.

I'd like to bring some emphasis to the part where these numbers have gone down due to lifeguarding efforts. Only 2 percent of drownings happen in unlifeguarded areas.

What I'm trying to do now is I'm working with the Commonwealth society of life-saving. There is a program for all Commonwealth nations to do Swim to Survive. Swim to Survive can found on line. You do not have to be a lifeguard, and you don't have to be a swim instructor. You can be anybody, and it's on line for you. It's teaching kids how to tread in water, how to float, how



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to avoid the water or how to save somebody else without putting themselves in the water.

Right now, I'm working with Tanzania, the Tanzania Life Saving Society. I went there when I was 17, and I was amazed by what I saw. I was teaching them CPR. They were telling me that they do mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.

As a Canadian from Vancouver, I said I would never do that with a pocket mask. A pocket mask is something you put on your face to protect from another person's germs. Essentially, they're like: "Well, isn't that crazy. I don't think many people in Canada have AIDS." Well, maybe not compared to American nations. But I just thought that was amazing. Here in Canada we're very much concerned with viruses you can get.

But if you guys could all look that up and spread that around. Swim to Survive is about survival swimming, and not how to teach people how to swim but how to teach people the dangers of swimming. Eighty six percent of drownings happen in all our natural lakes and rivers in Canada. They are not in supervised zones. Drowning can be stopped with the education of survival swimming.

INVESTMENT IN YOUTH

Monique Thomas: My name is Monique Thomas, and I'm from the beautiful island of Jamaica. I'm a recent graduate of the Norman Manley Law School. I believe in a vision to see my country and other countries alike invest more in our youth.

I volunteer in the Ministry of Youth in my country and am a part of an organization called Jamaica Union of Tertiary Students. In this organization, I am the first vice-president with responsibility for policy research and development.

Seeing that I represent a cross-section of the youth in Jamaica, I am appreciative of this opportunity. I hope from this exercise to learn all that should be learned here and to improve me as a person and in my profession and that of a leader.

However, before I take my leave I would like to point out that as a child, my mom taught me that without vision, the people perish. So as a nation, I think that the country should invest in our youth, as our youth are our tomorrow. How can the opposition, then, say that the proposed bill here today has no vision? In my view, if the country gives a worthwhile investment, then the return that we receive will be for a better tomorrow.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Jabari Lynch: I rise today to speak. First, let me say that my name is Jabari Lynch. I am from the twin-island state of Trinidad

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and Tobago, the land of the steel pan, calypso and doubles.

I also want to speak about my mentor Mr. Junior Barack, a former senator in the government of Trinidad and Tobago, and the work myself and him are doing and the impact he has had on my life. I also want to talk about a particular philosophy that he has created called the philosophy of survival and prosperity.

[1515]

The five precepts, or the five philosophical propositions, of that philosophy is as said now. The first proposition is that the basic individual interests of all men are identical. It is survival and prosperity. Proposition 2: the fulfilment of the individual interest is the *raison d'être* of community. Three, the individual interest is the criterion for the community's development model. Four, the individual's participation in the community is the extent to which his interest is met. And five, the level of any individual's participation determines the level of community integrity.

I speak about this now to speak about some of the things that we are attempting to create in Trinidad and Tobago, to create a greater level of prosperity for all, even as we look at the U.N.-declared International Decade for People of African Descent. We are beginning to craft new ways of creating solutions for the African community in Trinidad and Tobago and globally — and also the communities of migrants, of indigenous peoples and of the aboriginal communities.

Basically, I want to speak.... Just to cap off, in this 21st century, as we are moving forward, we hope to create a better society for all.

Oral Questions

YOUTH TRAINING

Elise Delpiano: My question is directed to the leader of the government. In relation to the Youth Apprenticeship and Internship Act, how does the government plan to ensure that employers actually sign up to these initiatives when all they'll be faced with is an enormous amount of red tape and no assurance of something to gain?

Point of Order

Hon. Jordan Kerr: Madam Speaker, on a point of order. The opposition leader is asking about legislation in front of the House.

Hon. Linda Reid (Speaker of the Commonwealth Youth Parliament): Point well taken.

Please reframe your question.



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Elise Delpiano: Madam Speaker, I apologize. I withdraw.

Debate Continued

Elise Delpiano: In terms of policy, this government plans to cover everything in red tape, and there is no assurance that any sector has anything to gain. How do they actually plan to overcome these hurdles to make their policies effective?

Hon. Linda Reid (Speaker of the Commonwealth Youth Parliament): Nicely reframed, madam.

Hon. Ashvini Savanthrapadian: Thank you for the excellent question, my esteemed opposition member. It gives me a good opportunity to talk about the plan that we have. We have just been elected, and we have been elected on the basis of our plan and our policies. We have the confidence of the public, and we will implement them.

We are investing highly in the economy, in our people and in infrastructure to support them. We're investing in the future. We are investing in developing our youth and giving them opportunities and giving everybody a chance to participate — regardless of race, religion, gender, age.

We will support high public sector investment. We are considered. We are very ambitious; we acknowledge that. We are ambitious, we are realistic, we are considered, and we are confident. The public has our confidence, and we have theirs. We will implement this, and we won't let them down.

HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

Anne Ogada: My question is to the Minister of Health. Considering that your policy espouses free universal health care within a public delivery system, what measures are you taking to ensure that the residents in Commonwealthland do not pay for the health care services they receive at present.

Hon. Oliver Nacey: All respect to our hon. youth parliamentarian for the question.

Currently Commonwealthland has a universal health care system that there is a small fee to buy into. Ultimately, our goal is to make sure that through the public sector, we can make that health care system even more universal.

[1520]

What I mean by that is that certain services are covered that haven't been covered before, including both health and dental,

which we intend to put into action. It's certainly a point on which we were elected, right? This is Commonwealth's government, and we intend to ensure that Commonwealth has that in play.

By using the public sector and by ensuring that the government puts our assets back into our aging population and towards youth and to our genuine populace, we can ensure that health becomes that universal system that we are so reliant on as a nation. As such, we will continue to seek advice from the public.

As was noted in the Speech from the Throne, there will be a census of the public population to see what it is they want from their health care system and what services they intend to procure from it. As a government, we intend to give back that service to our population — those who elected us — as best we can.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Danish Bhutto: My question is for the ministry of climate change. What is your ocean protection plan for responses to tanker and fuel dispersed in the Pacific, Atlantic and Arctic oceans, given the fact that climate change is taking its toll?

Hon. Laura Elliott: Thank you for the question. Our policies in terms of approach to climate change are not fanciful. They're based on theory, and they're based on fact. This is something that is not going away. If the opposition was willing to get out of private sector pockets, then you would realize that that is where the penalties need to apply.

If you look at our target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and everything else that contributes to climate change, our approach to carbon taxes put a monetary price on the real costs imposed on our economy, our communities and our planet by greenhouse gas emissions and the global warming they cause. We need to effect a change by households, businesses and industries to cleaner technologies, which will increase the demand for energy-efficient products and help spur innovation.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Erin McAuley: My question is directed to the Minister of Health. Does he find it acceptable that young people in this country are left for months — months, as in five, six, seven months — before they are seen for mental health?

Early intervention for mental health is absolutely vital, and on these benches we recognize that. If this government is serious about placing youth at the centre of its country's agenda, then I'd



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advise to start putting their words back into action. Leaving our youth this long gives them the wrong message of respect, and it's certainly not putting them at the centre of their government's agenda.

Hon. Oliver Nacey: To the hon. youth parliamentarian: absolutely, health is certainly something that is very diverse. Certainly, there are different factors that apply to different age groups and different demographics. As a government — one newly elected by the people of Commonwealthland — we do intend to appeal to all of those who have different needs.

Currently, as earlier mentioned, there will be a census of exactly what they need. Wait times and things like that will certainly be a part of it — ways that we can ensure that the services that we're trying to provide can get back to the people who need them. By an expansion through the public sector, as was mandated through the Speech from the Throne, we do intend to provide those services, no matter what the services are.

HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS

Gemma Finn: Commonwealthland currently has an incredibly pressing problem regarding the ever-rising cost of housing and youth homelessness. How does the government plan on dealing with this problem?

Hon. Robert Winspear: Madame Speaker, apologies. Who was that in address to?

Hon. Linda Reid (Speaker of the Commonwealth Youth Parliament): Did you wish to address a particular minister?

Gemma Finn: I'm sorry. That was addressed to the Premier.

Hon. Ashvini Savanthrapadian: Housing affordability is this government's top priority. I'll note that the opposition has offered us no alternatives. However, we will focus on this.

[1525]

YOUTH TRAINING

Danish Bhutto: I have a question for the Minister of Social Development. I want to ask that... You were talking about internships and apprenticeship programs. Are you going to make it sustainable? Are you going to create job opportunity there as well? What are your plans for that?

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Hon. Kareina Mohammed: I love your question. Now, this bill would do wonderful things like that. Once given the opportunity, we will provide all of these opportunities for our youth, and it would indeed be sustainable.

An Hon. Member: Point of order, Madame Speaker.

Hon. Linda Reid (Speaker of the Commonwealth Youth Parliament): Typically not during question period. You must reserve your right to the remainder of the question period.

Any other questions?

Please proceed.

GOVERNMENT POLICIES

Jabari Lynch: A question to the Premier. Looking at your policies, looking at the example that you are showing in terms of your work, in time to come, very shortly, when your policies begin to unravel, are you willing to look at the opposition's and some of the great propositions we have and accept them? Are you willing to work with the opposition?

Hon. Ashvini Savanthrapadian: This is the first bill that our government is putting forward. We have no intention of our policies unravelling. We have complete confidence in them, and we will see them through. We take every voice into consideration when we make our policies — that of the public and of our esteemed opposition as well — and we put forward what we feel is best.

So they won't unravel. Give us time.

HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

Josh Tordiff: My question is directed to the Minister of Health. My question is on the small fee that was attached to our description of the health care services provided in Commonwealthland. How does the government plan on partitioning these fees equally so that there is no discrimination? Also, how does the government plan on equalizing the quality of services available to those citizens of Commonwealthland who have less access to these resources?

Hon. Oliver Nacey: To the hon. youth parliamentarian: I will address your question in two parts, as it was presented.

The first is about this registration fee. Ultimately, our biggest criticisms of our opposition is: "If you intend to make cuts all over the place and in every facet of your plans, where on earth are you

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supposed to improve?” We plan on investing into the health care system, ultimately placing more funds from the public sector into that system so that that fee can hopefully, in the future, be removed. Right?

To look at the second question — about how to spread this out so that it’s available to all — by way of this census, hopefully, that will also provide us statistical data based on rural accessibility and other ways as a way we can ensure that health care is available to all.

By way of the public sector, we can also ensure that, through this government, that health care system is available to all people — rural, of all age groups and demographics. And that is definitely the attitude of this entire government.

Hon. Linda Reid (Speaker of the Commonwealth Youth Parliament): Supplemental?

Josh Tordiff: No, Madame Speaker. I would just like to thank the hon. minister for his response.

Hon. Linda Reid (Speaker of the Commonwealth Youth Parliament): How nice is that?

GOVERNMENT POLICIES

Mark Munnich: My question is to the Premier. Can the Premier outline to the House and update the House on why this government won the election on the party political promises that we took to the election?

An Hon Member: Point of order, Madame Speaker.

Hon. Linda Reid (Speaker of the Commonwealth Youth Parliament): Not till the conclusion of question period.

Hon. Ashvini Savanthrapadian: Thank you for your question. Well, we’ve got the confidence of the public. We have robust policies in place, and they believe that our policies are going to make a better future. The previous government put in place a lot of red tape, and we plan on stripping that back and making all of our policies accessible to everyone as easily as possible.

HEALTH CARE SERVICES AND PALLIATIVE CARE

Stefanie Panesar: This is, again, to the Health Minister. I was wondering: how do you plan to keep our health care workers here

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in Commonwealthland when the NHS was introduced in 1948.

[1530]

We had a huge influx of immigration to Canada from England. How are you going to keep all your health care workers here when the salaries are much brighter elsewhere?

Hon. Oliver Nacey: Thank you once again for your question. The popularity is astounding, and I'm quite boosted by it.

In regards to the question of people in Commonwealthland, this government believes that, ultimately, that needs to be incentivized by a proper quality of life. Ultimately, all of our propositions in relation to all of these assets make sure that the people of Commonwealthland can live happy lives in which they can proceed and attain their goals.

Yes, there are certain reforms that are certainly dated, based on the date you gave of 1948. Looking at the Canada Health Act, which was implemented in 2009, similar options like that about reforming and relating to this can certainly come in the future, based on this survey that we've mentioned that should be conducted in the coming months.

Ultimately, right now this government is without those specific data on exactly what our Commonwealthlanders need and what will keep them this in this nation. So while that is a concern — and, granted, one of importance, especially in relation to a health care system, given that it deals explicitly with individuals of our populace — there has yet to be a concrete investigation as to exactly what those people need. We intend to find that investigation.

Hon. Linda Reid (Speaker of the Commonwealth Youth Parliament): Is the member rising on a supplemental?

Please proceed.

Stefanie Panesar: Back to the Minister of Health. It says here that over 20 percent of our population is over the age of 65, so palliative care is something we need to look into. There are lots of wait-lists for beds. There are people coming into this country on holiday who are getting a bed first. What do you have to say about that?

Hon. Oliver Nacey: The aging population is absolutely of concern. In regards to palliative care, home care, community care and other necessities, these are all things that we will address after, once this data has been collected, to find exactly what numbers we require.

Admittedly, there is a need for beds and things like that.



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But only through investment from the public sector, from this government — from an increase in the health care system and making sure that the net of health care is available and underneath all citizens of Commonwealthland — will that be available regardless.

There is still progress to be made in relation to that. Only by casting out that net and understanding exactly what we need and how to make sure that happens for all different sectors of society will we be allowed to make that happen.

[End of question period.]

Point of Order

Sky Losier: Hon. Speaker, on a point of order. While it is not mentioned in our standing orders, I believe there is a section that admits that if it's not mentioned in our standing orders, we shall refer to the Legislative Assembly of B.C.'s standing orders.

The hon. Minister of Social Development earlier, during question period, referenced the bill that her government has introduced. In mentioning her bill, she has pre-empted the legislative process and broken parliamentarians' privilege. I would ask the hon. minister to do the right thing and apologize to this chamber for this privilege that she has broken. It's unacceptable.

Hon. Linda Reid (Speaker of the Commonwealth Youth Parliament): General reference to a bill is admissible. No apology is required.

Anyone else rising on a point of order?

Sheridan Hawse: I recognize that in the critic for Health's question to the Minister of Health, she referred to "you" in asking "you for your opinion on something." I do believe that in standing orders, it says that we refer to the minister through you. Unless the critic for Health was specifically asking for your opinion about her question, I think that she should apologize to the House.

Hon. Linda Reid (Speaker of the Commonwealth Youth Parliament): No apology required, but I certainly would advise all members — this is day 1 of our debate — to please know it is through the Chair. Absolutely correct.

Any other points of order anyone does wish to raise?

Aaron McDonnell: May I seek a point of clarification, please? I'm asking for a ruling in terms of.... If someone has asked a question and we feel it's out of order at the time and we can't get

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a ruling from you until after question time and you then, perhaps, agree with us and say, “Yes, that was out of order,” and we’ve then let the question go, how is that allowable? With respect.

Hon. Linda Reid (Speaker of the Commonwealth Youth Parliament): That is parliamentary debate at its finest. You are not compelled to answer a question. We often have members who retain their seats and, by that very activity — by that very behaviour — message that they find the question inappropriate.

[1535]

But for the most part, the question period timing is so precious that people take that opportunity to put their message out there, regardless of the question in some instances.

Orders of the Day

Hon. Jordan Kerr: I call that we continue the debate on the throne speech.

Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne *(continued)*

Mackenzie Taylor: My name is Mackenzie, and I represent New Brunswick. I would like to express sincere gratitude to the CPA New Brunswick for enabling me to be among a group of such intellectual, talented and ambitious parliamentarians.

As the session indicates, appreciation for values of democracy and good government are transnational. As former Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau stated: “Our hopes are high. Our faith in people is great. Our courage is strong. And our dreams for this beautiful country will never die.”

In light of this, it is evident that the opposition is disillusioned on the concept of good government, is blatantly out of touch and has no policy alternative. But the Progressive Party has been elected in a majority government because the electorate has indicated strong faith in our policy decisions and indicates that we are the best choice for the future.

Again, I strongly emphasize: no policy alternative and out of touch.

Honeylynn Lisson: My name is Honeylynn Lisson, and I am the representative from Darwin in the Northern Territory of Australia. Where I am from, it is tropical and extremely hot all year round, especially now in the buildup season, where the air is filled with hot humidity. I’d also like to take this chance to just refer to



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something else full of hot air, and that would be the opposition.

So far, all the government has received is admonishment, pessimism and negativity. You refer to a 150th birthday present that you would be giving to Canada, and so far all it seems to be are complaints and nothing constructive.

I myself and the rest of the government look forward to hearing some proactive and constructive things that the opposition can suggest in the near future, and I hope that you will stay tuned for what we will provide.

The opposition asked the government if we would be willing to work with you, and our Premier said that we would. But in return, we need you to work with us. We need less partisanship, and we need more cooperation.

I would now like to use the rest of my time to refer to what I wanted to refer to at the start, which is that I'm a proud Australian and a proud Northern Territorian. An issue that I'm passionate about is legislation around ride-sharing. Uber is probably what a lot of you know it as. We are yet to introduce legislation on that. It's in process, and I believe that's the same here in B.C. It is something that I think is safer, cheaper, utilizes technology and challenges a monopolized industry. I hope that it is introduced extremely soon, and I'd be happy to chat about that in more detail with others.

I look forward to more constructive debate very soon.

Nicholas Hawkes: Good afternoon. I thank the Lieutenant-Governor for his speech. I would like to state, with the strongest resolve, that I support our government's legislative agenda.

The opposition speaks of their desire to broaden the base regarding education, employment and training, but their arguments lack any coherent form. Our government will deliver an affordable and institutionalized framework which will make use of our skilled workforce and provide meaningful and enduring employment to all sectors of society, not least the increasingly disaffected youth, something which our colleagues in the previous administration and the UNI failed to address.

The UNI has no policy, no plan, and their only position is that of opposition to any meaningful change. Their blind partisanship is not in the spirit of this great institution and not in the interests of those which we serve.

Muhammad Owasis: There is a huge emphasis on natural resources, especially the mining and forestry industry, to ensure trade prosperity.

I would just like to ask: how many forests do we need to cut and deplete? How many oil pipelines do we need to build before we realize that this is not the most sustainable, economically viable option, and that we need to focus especially on economic diversification into the manufacturing industry? We don't need more oil pipelines.

Jamie Murray: Thank you, Madame Speaker, for this opportunity to speak. I'd like to also thank the hon. Lieutenant-Governor for his Speech from the Throne.

I'd like to also take this opportunity to say that it's a great honour for me to come here to the Commonwealth Youth Parliament to represent Scotland.

I'd like to echo, at this time, the hon. Lieutenant-Governor's words. Our government has an agenda which is clear as well as focused. We have a duty as a parliament to ensure residents have the universal health care system. Unlike our opposition, the government doesn't believe in private sector involvement. We know that in public hands, our health care system is safe, and it will always be available at the point of need. The opposition criticizes our work, but they don't always offer a realistic alternative. They have no plan.

It's clear from the Speech from the Throne that post-secondary education and training are crucial. Our government's plan for increased spending is vital to ensuring that the future, for everyone's sake, is in safe hands.

Finally, our government's high public sector investment in infrastructure programs will — and I stress the word “will” — stimulate our economy, enhance job opportunities and build a better place for all to live in peace and prosperity.

I am baffled, quite frankly, by the opposition's inability to agree. If your plans and proposals outweighed my government's in terms of public opinion, you would be sitting here, where we quite rightfully sit.

Danish Bhutto: I rise to respond to the Speech from the Throne. It's good to hear that rhetoric that we have been hearing so far. But let me also say that whatever the policy of the government is, it's more like overly ambitious and impractical. If we talk about free health care, universal health care, do you think it is humanly possible and practical, if we are not going for a public-private partnership? I would suggest that as an alternative.

Then free universal education — post-secondary and tertiary education for everybody. Where are we going to get plumbers and masons and mechanics? Are we going to outsource all of them



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from different countries? You have to look at the aptitude of the individual to ensure that they are applicable and are going to be suitable for higher education or tertiary education.

Then they are talking about an equal emphasis on foreign relations. How can you forget and overlook countries that have mutual interests with your country? How can you forget countries that have got common ground to be explored and to be worked upon? You cannot simply ignore that and have equal emphasis on foreign relations with each country.

If we talk about the doable, applicable things.... Let us talk about actionable things and not just rhetoric.

Sheridan Hawse: I wanted to first begin by bringing us all back to the quote from the Speech from the Throne which says: “Environmental protection and a strong economy go hand in hand.” I am incredibly proud to be a part of government. Coming from Centenary City itself, I know that we have a beautiful coastline here that I don’t want to see riddled with oil tankers polluting our coast.

I think that our environmental policy, which looks at pollution and climate change and our continued dependence on fossil fuels, is to make sure that we’re making real changes to adjust to a world increasingly dependent on fossil fuels. I think that we have a duty and responsibility to ourselves and our future generations to make sure that this carbon tax and everything else that we’re looking at with our environmental legislation come to fruition. So I am incredibly honoured to be standing today with my government.

Jabari Lynch: I rise to reply to the Speech from the Throne.

I concern myself with the economy. Presently, after sustaining particular growth, I do not believe that the government’s policies for development of the economy are sustainable. There’s a common saying that the walls have ears. I believe the walls in this hallowed building also have tongues.

[1545]

Right outside there, you will see the words. Without economy, none shall be rich. With it, none shall be poor. Yet we are seeing a particular policy by the government to create for the development for the rich, to create labour but not also to create entrepreneurs, new blood, new businessmen and women.

It is the opposition’s decision to give the government further examples of our policy for them to adapt. We are saying that after the creation of a labour camp — to help and to improve the very low employment rate in this country for youth.... It must be a means to access the individuals that can be trained to become

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entrepreneurs, to create new businesses either from the cottage industry or from the service industry, which is on the rise.

Before we spoke about the bureaucracy. We want to say that it is our goal, as the opposition, to help the government to reduce the bureaucracy in this country. Also, in terms of our ability, we spoke to the Premier before, in this hallowed House, and said to her that we are willing to work with her. But the olive branch can soon turn into cedar.

Mark Munnich: Just in reply to the throne speech, there are a few things that I wanted to point out. There are government.... We're partnering with aboriginal communities to close the socioeconomic gap between aboriginal and non-aboriginal people of this country in order to support cultural traditions and, of course, provide our citizens with real opportunities to participate in economic growth and prosperity.

In elaborating on that.... I come from Australia — Darwin, Northern Territory. We have a very strong aboriginal culture back home. A lot of these things that we as a government have proposed are certainly something that we should be doing to address and enhance the cultural values within indigenous communities — throughout the economy, throughout health, throughout a lot of various avenues. A lot of the times we see — personally, coming back from my constituents — a lot of the disadvantages that we still face as aboriginal people.

I certainly agree with this government supporting indigenous people for the prosperity of the future generations.

Hon. Farrah Hussain: I wish to reply to the Speech from the Throne.

We on this side of the House are optimistic about the future of Commonwealthland. We have hope, and we have plans to tackle the root causes of poverty: poor education, poor access to good health care and a weakened economy after years of a lack of investment by the party opposite. We have plans to tackle youth unemployment, which has blighted our country for far too long. We wish to improve access to health care for everybody — for mental health care, dentistry and things that, for far too long, we have forgotten about.

Internationally, we look to promote human rights internally and externally and work with our partners to ensure that we have good trading relationships with our neighbours. We are here on this side, elected by the people of Commonwealthland, to make our country a better place. I hope that the opposition will come with us on this journey and, instead of being divisive and partisan, will recognize



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that we have a strong mandate on this side and work with us to make this country better.

Jenae Whittaker: In reply to the Speech from the Throne and the government's agenda, I actually like the direction that they're moving in with tackling various issues that affect our economy and our community. I find that this is a good thing. Right now where we are as a people and as this country, there are things that need to be addressed, but I just think, from the opposition's side, that there's a lot more clarification as to how they would do it.

[1550]

My question is in regards to environmental protection and pollution. I am from the Cayman Islands, and being from an island in the Caribbean, all seems surrounded by water. Now, it says here, in the throne speech: "This country is currently not on track to meet legislated targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions." I can understand that, because it is a hard task to tackle pollution as a whole and try to reduce it. Obviously, it's going to take us some time.

But the time that we have is limited. We know that sea levels are rising. Climate change is affecting our environment. In order for us to move in the direction to try and tackle that....

We say that we are investing in our youth because they are our future. I agree. We are the future. We here are youth. We are all here for a reason. But in regards to the pollution and the environmental protection, will we have a planet in the future for our youth to still run and still protect our people and our beliefs? That is my question.

On behalf of the opposition, I do hope that in regards to our discussions, we can still move in the direction and work together to actually tackle these issues instead of fighting back and forth with each other.

Hon. Kareina Mohammed: I thank the CPA for the opportunity to represent my country of Trinidad and Tobago here at CYP8.

I'd like to say, in response to the throne speech, that it's an excellent speech. It's an exquisite speech. And I dare say that we, the government, think it is indeed a workable speech and a mechanism for change.

Quoting, I'd like to reiterate: "Our youth are the single best investment that we can make in the future." This one line says that we will build bridges and fill gaps, thereby providing the mechanism of change for all. There can be no development without social development.

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Sonniel Pickering: I would like to reiterate or add to what I said earlier in terms of the response to the throne. I do believe, as the Minister of Social Development said, it is a good initiative. I wouldn't dare to say "exquisite" but...

Hon. Linda Reid (Speaker of the Commonwealth Youth Parliament): Hon. Member, I'm reluctant to interrupt you, but apparently you've already spoken in reply to the throne.

Sonniel Pickering: Yes, ma'am.

Hon. Linda Reid (Speaker of the Commonwealth Youth Parliament): First-time speakers we will hear from.

Sonniel Pickering: My apologies.

Hon. Linda Reid (Speaker of the Commonwealth Youth Parliament): I appreciate you filling the void, though.
Anyone else on their feet?

Hon. Connor Mycroft: First, I would like to say that I'm a proud member of this cabinet, and I believe that the plan that we have put forward ensures that the youth have a future that they can look forward to, as opposed to one that they're worried about.

We will ensure that they have an education that's worth it and jobs that that education can actually get. We'll make sure that our allotted health care system can continue on, that the environment will be preserved and protected and that a positive relationship can be built with our indigenous peoples.

I would like to take this time to clarify our position on defence. We believe that it is necessary to return to our much-respected and sought-after role as a traditional peacekeeping nation — something that has, quite unfortunately, been missing under the previous administration.

To succeed, we must form strong, multilateral coalitions with not only our traditional partners but also non-traditional partners, as we can develop more comprehensive solutions to these complex problems that mar today's world.

Hon. Dikeledi Sekese: Free education gives us a lot of benefits — power to live a decent life, power to earn income, power that brings you respect and dignity. When you acknowledge the wisdom, the power for many things, why should it be restricted to a few, a few who have to be advantaged to wealth?

[1555]

Knowledge needs to be free — an advantage to everyone. The

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best, simple way is to disseminate knowledge to all those who deserve it — all through a free education.

Sheldon Paul: Thank you very much for providing me this opportunity to speak on the throne speech. I specifically am speaking about a very similar issue — the issue of free education. Education has been described by social theorists as the vehicle of social mobility and the upliftment of entire communities. Coming from a background which has been marred by colonialism, I personally understand the high value placed on a well-valued education system for working families.

I would like to applaud the government's position on free education, which will really help to alleviate poverty in a lot of underprivileged communities and move the education system towards one based on merit, rather than one based on class. Continuing to place education, particularly post-secondary education, in private hands — rather than in the public hands, rather than being paid for by working and paying into it together as a society for our future — keeps those who deserve to be in those institutions out, simply because they cannot afford it, and makes our academic community dominated by status quo, wealthy elites rather than by true intellectuals from every corner of the society.

My question to my hon. friends across the aisle is: can they set aside partisanship and petty rivalry to do the right thing? This government's hands are open to you.

Sky Losier: It's a true honour to rise today in reply to this Speech from the Throne, although I do wish I could be supporting this speech more fully. Unfortunately, in the Speech from the Throne from this new government, we saw a lot of talk, a lot of big talk, a lot of big ideas, but we saw no plans on how to deliver on these big ideas.

The citizens of Commonwealthland deserve better. They deserve plans from their government. They deserve actions. They deserve a detailed expenditure report on how they're going to pay for all this. This government is acting like money grows on trees. While it used to be printed on paper here, it no longer is. It doesn't grow on trees. In fact, it is a petroleum-based product.

This government is shunning our energy industry. They're going at it with a willy-nilly approach of saying: "We're going to tax everything, and we're going to impose big restrictions." It is unacceptable. We need to be working with industry, and we need to be working with our partners who keep our lights on, who bring us the fuel to drive our cars, who bring the fuel for the planes that all the members in government came here on. We need to work

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with these partners rather than push them into the dark.

The government boasts: “Oh, our climate target is fantastic.” Well, the fact is that this government has no concrete plans to address the growing problem of climate change. We need to work with our industry partners to ensure that our citizens and our future citizens — my children, your children, the members’ grandchildren — have a future where we can breathe clean air in this province. The only way we will achieve that is by working with industry to ensure that our future generations can prosper from what we have in the past.

Abbas Sanni: Madame Speaker, distinguished colleagues, I’d like to agree to the point that to ensure our economy remains strong, we must diversify. We must diversify.

To show you that this government lacks plans: diversify into what? I’d like to say that the throne speech is just a sojourn of the English language printed on a paper.

[1600]

Christine Ndiritu: The government has a plan. I pray the opposition....

Interjection.

Christine Ndiritu: Madame Speaker, I pray for your protection.

The government has a plan. Where was the opposition? We can’t build a house with no foundation, really. We can’t....

Interjections.

Christine Ndiritu: Madame Speaker, I am on the floor by your permission.

Hon. Linda Reid (Speaker of the Commonwealth Youth Parliament): Members.

Christine Ndiritu: Thank you, Madame Speaker.

We are all belabouring one simple point: the government has a plan laid down on paper. It is time for the opposition to lose down their efforts of bringing this wide opposition just to oppose everything the government does. It is time for the opposition to bring suggestions to the government. If they make sense, the government is willing and more than welcomes them to give us proposals on the plan that is on paper.

The government has a plan. They failed to plan. We’ve started



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with the foundation, and sooner, rather than later, the walls will come up in a very strong foundation.

Jared McGill: I don't know what happened with this government, but we as the opposition.... It is our job. We are elected to.... We represent people. We may not be the majority, but we have a voice.

What you all want the opposition to do is do your homework. That's why you're in that seat. You are in that seat to do the job, and you're not saying how. When you go to a bank to borrow money, you can't tell the people: "Oh, I have nothing." You have to say: "I have a car. I have a house. Give me the money."

The government has no plan. The government has no objective. They can't give an account of what is going on. They're just coming up with concocted ideas. The onus is on you all, and I'm not seeing any solutions.

Point of Order

Avery Roberge-Eadie: Point of order, Standing Order 8: "Youth Parliamentarians shall not refer to one another in debate in the second person singular ("you"), only by title and surname...or in general by title."

Hon. Linda Reid (Speaker of the Commonwealth Youth Parliament): Point well taken.

Please direct your remarks through the Chair.

Debate Continued

Gabriel Laurence-Brook: I think great ideas come through the collision of good arguments. As an independent thinker, I would like to propose some critiques of this throne speech, even though I'm part of the government, especially concerning the relationship between economic growth and the protection of the environment.

I will quote the speech. "A growing economy is the key to our future. It means opportunities for everyone and increased revenue to pay for public services. Environmental protection and a strong economy go hand in hand. These are not incompatible goals."

I would like to suggest that this is not entirely true. We need to consider the economy as a biophysical phenomenon, which means the creation of value through transformation of matter using energy. The thing is that economic growth comes at a cost in terms of greenhouse gas emissions and so on — and production of waste.

We have to see that we have already passed over the point where

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the planet Earth is able to sustain our economic growth. In layman's terms, our economic growth right now is costing us more in terms of well-being than it is actually creating value and well-being.

I would like to suggest that we reflect on these issues and that we don't forget this blind spot of economic growth that is the blind spot of all our policy-makers, and that we really ask ourselves the questions: "Why do we need economic growth?" and "Is all economic growth positive?" and "Don't we need development in quality instead of growth in quantity?"

[1605]

Gemma Finn: With regards to the Speech from the Throne, it warmed me, but that's mostly because it was hot air. I feel the need to clarify to the chamber that I am struggling to understand how the government will afford everything they have put forward.

I would also like directions to the fountain of money they seem to have found, because I know that my constituents will not accept their taxes being raised to phenomenal rates. This government has no idea of the power of the people. Handout after handout does not help anyone. Our party understands that people will continue to lift themselves up, and they will improve their lives proudly and independently.

Rea Vanterpool: As I listen to the opposition this afternoon, it seems to me that they have extremely unrealistic expectations of the throne speech. It was only to outline the broad goals of our government. This is not the campaign. We do not owe them a plan. We gave our plan. It landed us here on this side.

If they expect detailed plans, we will develop them together, hopefully. But from what I have seen, they do not have any solutions. They have no alternatives. It is here that we do the people's work, that we develop plans to improve their lives.

Secondly, the opposition's position seems to be just oppose, oppose, oppose. The hon. member said that they are here representing persons. What will you go back and tell those people? Will you go back and tell them I stood up and said: "The government's plan was crap"? No, you have to come up with a suggestion, a solution. You have to add to the debate, constructively.

Finally, I would like to encourage our opposition members — instead of trying to create the best ten-second Snapchat moment — to really think about what they have to say before they stand up.

Hon. Linda Reid (Speaker of the Commonwealth Youth Parliament): I would caution all members on the use of parliamentary language.



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Davey Haughton: Regarding the throne speech, I want to note a few things. Let me preface by saying without vision, the people perish. It would appear that the government is lacking in that department.

For example, I have been going through the throne speech, and I have realized wherein the government has mentioned several programs. The health reform program —there is no “how” to it. There is no program to it. They have alluded to the fact that the health care system is burdened, yet they haven’t mentioned how they will address this burdened health care system.

They have mentioned that, yes, access to education is critical, especially at the secondary level, because we have realized, based on the global market, that youth need at least a secondary education in order to not only be trainable at the territorial level but to access basic entry-level jobs. We haven’t said much. The government hasn’t alluded much on how they will address this.

I ask: how is it that you expect the opposition to support something that is without any detailed plan whatsoever? It is like following a blind man, and we will not do so.

Hon. Linda Reid (Speaker of the Commonwealth Youth Parliament): I would caution all members to speak from their assigned seats.

Hon. Robert Winspear: There has been a lot of talk and debate about the merits of public sector investment today, so I would like to reiterate why we believe free education and public sector investment is so important by providing an analogy to my home island, Jersey.

As some of you may know, Jersey supports low taxes, which is what the opposition contends they want. This is good for many. But what a lot of people don’t recognize are the adverse effects this causes. Jersey doesn’t provide free health care. Some of my own friends, far more brilliant than me, have not been able to go and achieve their potential and gain further education because we don’t have a student finance system. We propose a more equal taxation system, giving the opportunity to provide this.

[1610]

In response to an opposition concern that this will create a glut in other services that don’t need further education, we contend that the provision of free education doesn’t mean mandatory education. It means that everybody has a choice and an opportunity to collectively contribute to our society in the manner that they wish — a choice that we believe should be regarded as a right.

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Hon. Laura Elliott: I would like to reply to the Speech from the Throne. But first, I would like to touch upon what this government has recently been called and accused of being — not understanding the power of the people. Now, I would beg to differ, as we are the ones who sit here as the elected government.

As a proud member of this government, I'm acutely aware of the concern our constituents have over pollution and a continuing reliance on fossil fuels. We do intend to increase carbon taxes on limits to reduce the carbon footprint.

All I have heard from the other side of the House is to allow the fat cats of industry to continue to pollute our country without reprimand. For the sake of future generations, this cannot be allowed to happen.

This government is committed to finding solutions not just to this country but to the entire planet, as you will see if you allow these policies to progress. Every day, enough sunlight falls on the Earth's surface to meet all our energy needs for the next 27 years. No doubt for the opposition, the sun is not working hard enough.

Rebecca Cross: I rise, first of all, to thank the CPA UK for nominating me. This is my first visit to Canada, indeed out of Europe. I'm very excited to experience the British Columbian hospitality, once I'm over the jet lag.

I'm concerned that the Speech from the Throne fails to mention access to justice. We hope that this is not a deliberate omission. The government should be in no doubt that this opposition will be holding them to account on this issue.

The opposition is concerned that all this mention of handouts means that there is less and less money available to go into the justice system, and we are witnessing a shrinkage of the justice system.

We believe here in encouraging social enterprise and supporting vulnerable members of society by emphasizing self-help and less dependence on government. We support the use of charities in the pro bono legal sector.

The government believes that we have no ideas, but they should be in no doubt that we do have ideas on how we can improve the justice system of Commonwealthland.

Monique Thomas: I rise today to reply to the Speech from the Throne.

It was said that the government will be creating jobs and enhancing post-secondary education. But the thing is, how do we know — how does the Premier herself even know — that the young people who leave to get tertiary education will even go back

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to that country to enhance it.

In Montserrat, where I'm from, scholarships are given to persons wishing to further their education, but they are required to return to Montserrat after the four or five years of studies and work there for a minimum of four years. The thing is, after the four years are completed, what would they do? Would they be willing to stay in Montserrat, in the country, and help build it, or would they prefer to move to the U.S. or to one of the European Union countries and work where they will be earning even more money?

[1615]

Delisile Sithole: My name is Delcy, from South Africa.

I'm not against the governor. What I'm trying to say is: is the governor going to promise and then not act? They say action is bigger than words. If you're going to act, governor, people, then your words will take it.

I come from South Africa. In South Africa, there is free education through universities and in high school. There are certain things that, as a youth, I didn't know. But if the governor can do it through television, telling youth that there are certain things — not showing movies and those music things but advertising certain things.... What I'm trying to say is: governor, please act. Don't speak.

Hon. Oliver Nacey: I would like to begin by congratulating all 65 members for their recent election and would like to echo the sentiments of the hon. Lieutenant-Governor that it is now our duties to regard the well-being of all of our constituencies.

That being said, in regards to our plan for a sustainable health care system, we intend to go out into those constituencies and find out exactly what will best suit their well-being — including dental health and mental health.

No government has ever come into chamber with their job laid out for them. We intend to work as hard as our populace demands to ensure that well-being. The Speech from the Throne is hopeful, but hope is the foundation for growth and success and striving towards a better Commonwealthland.

Arean Louis: My name is Arean. I'm coming from the beautiful islands of the Turks and Caicos.

Once again, we have a plan. Opposition, we have a plan. We were elected by the people, and we are here to deliver. All the opposition is doing is opposing, opposing, opposing. Let's work together to build a stronger nation.

Dwaynifia Joseph: Good day, Madame Speaker and



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hon. House. I have travelled from the 80-degree warm arms of Montserrat, the emerald isle of the Caribbean, for this great opportunity. I am indeed grateful. My name is Dwaynifia, as most of you will probably know.

I support most of the ideas outlined in the Speech from the Throne, but they are merely ideas. The government seems to be full-bent on going right ahead with us addressing these problems, but the major problem in most Commonwealth countries — particularly where I am from, Montserrat, and other Caribbean countries — is health.

I believe that the government needs to, firstly, address the health issues Commonwealth youths are facing to put us in a better place towards sustainability.

Alexia Lawrence: My name is Alexia Lawrence. I'm from St. Helena. It's a very small and isolated community, so I'm just really happy to be here. It's such a privilege. I'm really looking forward to supporting the government this week.

Zoé Duhaime: I rise today with a response to the Speech from the Throne. My name is Zoé Duhaime, and I am from Victoria. I'm a women's studies and religious studies major at the University of Victoria. In my studies, I pursue inquiries of intersectional, transnational feminisms and how to navigate a diversely religious society in secular Protestant Canada.

We are committed to moving forward politically in a way that is mindful, accessible and diverse, promoting collaborative relationships. As you saw this morning, I am also a performance poet. I know firsthand the power of giving youth a chance to be heard and a chance to learn. I am proud to stand behind the bill, which will create opportunities for both, and the government that forwarded it.

[1620]

Anne Ogada: I rise to comment on what my colleagues from the government keep saying about the opposition. Yes, you say we are here to oppose, oppose, and we shall give you ideas. The people of Commonwealthland put you in government to implement their wishes and aspirations.

We are here as members of the opposition and as members of our respective constituencies to see to it that government does what it's meant to do. So as you call us out as opposers, we are the voice of the people just as you are the implementers of the people.

Hon. Linda Reid (Speaker of the Commonwealth Youth Parliament): Any other speakers in Address in Reply?

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Hon. Ashvini Savanthrapadian: I rise today with a reply to the Speech from the Throne.

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor made many excellent and aspirational points in his speech today. I'd like to add to that that the progressives are here to lead. We are here to lead Commonwealthland to a better future.

I lead by encouraging my MPs to speak and to make their voices heard. I lead by giving the public a voice through this government, and I question whether the opposition understands what this means. Nevertheless, we take all voices into account, and we invite the opposition to hold us to account.

This is not a government that will throw legislation at a problem. We will not throw money at problems. We do our research. We consider the options before us, and we do recognize that we need to invest more in some areas. We were just elected on a platform of investing in the public economy, and that is exactly what we will do for every citizen of Commonwealthland.

Monique Thomas: Madame Speaker, would you allow me to make a comment on the speech?

I would like to say that I was born into a humble family. I would say, probably poor. When I was about to go to university, I thought about what if I opted to go to university, because I didn't have the money.... But my mother said to me: "Take the first step, and you will finish."

I finished university, and I finished law school. I did not have the money before I went, but I took the first step. I say that to say that, as a government, we have a plan. We are taking the first step by putting forward a plan that is beneficial socially to our different constituents.

I think that with this first step that we have taken, whether it is in free health or free post-education or the plan of providing some form of training employment for students after they leave tertiary education, it is the first step that we have taken and know that something will come in place.

We, as the members of parliament, rather than complaining about where we will get the money from, should not look at that. We should invest in what we have now, not for our benefit for today but for our benefit for tomorrow.

Hon. Jordan Kerr: I rise to honour the fine words of the Lieutenant-Governor, who spoke to us earlier today. I'd just like to bring up something. Being the opposition is a wonderful thing. We've had it for a few years, and we all understand exactly what it's like. Let me tell you, running a government isn't easy and

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neither is running the opposition.

Let me tell you what our government is going to do for the people of Commonwealthland. We are going to create jobs. We are going to protect the environment. We are going to develop a sustainable health care system, develop education initiatives, create new initiatives with businesses to foster growth. We have a plan, and I look forward to working with the opposition on this — working to get the best possible outcome for our nation.

[1625]

It was referred to before that the opposition have kindly referred to the power of the people, and I really want to capture this and go: “Isn’t it amazing that the people have elected us as the government?” The people have a voice, and the people have spoken.

The opposition is out of touch. They have no alternatives. They can fill the room with hot air. If only they could do the same with their policies. The people of Commonwealthland have voted. They have voted for a progressive, innovative, ambitious and confident government.

Madam Speaker, I look forward to working with you and with the opposition on developing the best possible outcome for this nation.

April Lawrence: I’m also from the small island of St. Helena, which is in the middle of the South Atlantic Ocean. It’s a privilege to be here today. On the island, it is imperative also that we have a good health care system because as we’re in the middle of nowhere, if anything happens, we need to be able to ensure that we can access good medical health care.

The Speech from the Throne mentions that health care is consuming an ever-increasing portion of the budget. On this side of the House, we have seen no improvements thus far in the health care system currently, and we believe you can’t continue to throw money at a problem.

We would work with the private sector to improve access and sustainability of the universal health care system. We believe that this is the way forward.

Andriy Krugliak: Thank you for this opportunity to close debate, as the mover of this motion.

Hon. Linda Reid (Speaker of the Commonwealth Youth Parliament): Hon. Member, there are speakers who may wish to speak at the next successive session, so if you would be so kind as to adjourn the debate.



EIGHTH COMMONWEALTH
YOUTH PARLIAMENT

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YOUTH PARLIAMENT

Andriy Krugliak moved adjournment of debate.

Motion approved.

Hon. Jordan Kerr moved adjournment of the House.

Motion approved.

Hon. Linda Reid (Speaker of the Commonwealth Youth Parliament): This House stands adjourned until 10:30 tomorrow morning.

The House adjourned at 4:27 p.m.

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