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DEBATES and PROCEEDINGS

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Protest Supports Equal Rights

Mr. Forbes: Mr. Speaker, on Friday I had the pleasure of attending a wonderful, love-filled rally in Weyburn hosted by the community group, Intolerance Free Weyburn. It was a powerful, peaceful protest in support of equal rights. The event brought together community members of all ages in support of equal love for all, regardless of one's sexuality or religious beliefs. I, along with the other supporters, participated in their pro-love peace walk. Intolerance Free Weyburn is speaking out to ensure everyone is entitled to safe environments. The organizers made a tremendous effort to show their community, like others in our province, is a welcoming, safe place for all.

One of Intolerance Free Weyburn's organizers, Chris Brookes, had this to say about the decision to take action when he heard of a controversial speaker at an event taking place in his city, and I quote:

When we first started this movement, we couldn't have foretold the amount of positive energy that we would receive. We were just a few people with a sense of justice and the intentions to craft the community into one that we could be proud of. We are simply expressing our right in an attempt to prove that we are a community full of supportive, compassionate people, a people whose voice may not be as loud as an ignorant one at times, but we have volumes in numbers.

Mr. Speaker, I am humbled by the bravery shown by the organizers and supporters of this weekend's rally. I hope that we will remember this leadership as we move towards communities that are safe and welcoming for everyone, regardless of who they choose to love. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.