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DEBATES and PROCEEDINGS

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Women With Disabilities Luncheon and Woman of Illumination Award

Mr. Forbes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, on March 7th I attended the Saskatchewan Association for Community Living's 14th annual Women with Disabilities Luncheon. This important gathering was held in recognition of International Women's Day.

The keynote speaker, Reka Kincses, described her journey from Romania to Saskatoon with her daughter, Boglarka, as well as their plight to prevent deportation due to Boglarka's diagnosis of cerebral palsy.

Mr. Speaker, it was also inspirational to hear about the Woman of Illumination Award, Marilyn Baker. This award aims to recognize a woman within the disability community whose actions can serve as a role model for all women, regardless of ability. Marilyn has devoted herself to the disability community through her volunteer work as well as her time at Cheshire Homes as a resident representative. She has become a leader that residents and staff look up to for guidance. Though Marilyn had to leave her position as an LPN [licensed practical nurse] after sustaining an injury, she kept busy spending time independently raising three wonderful children, and she now is also the proud grandmother to four grandchildren.

Would members join me in congratulating Marilyn Baker on her award as well as recognizing the important role of events like the women's disability luncheon in raising awareness about the important work being done in the disability community in Saskatchewan. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.