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Friday, December 4, 2015

Speaker: The Honourable Geoff Regan

Speech from the Throne

Address in Reply

Ms. Dianne Watts (South Surrey—White Rock, CPC):

Mr. Speaker, it is an honour to be representing my riding and the constituents of South Surrey—White Rock.

I was surprised that what was missing in the Speech from the Throne was a clear outline on how much the government was planning to borrow and what it was planning to spend it on. During the election, the Liberals promised that there would be a deficit of no more than \$10 billion per year for the next three years. However, this week's report from the Parliamentary Budget Officer already predicts that the government will run deficits of \$12 billion over and above the promised \$10 billion yearly deficit. Canadians need to have an open and transparent account of exactly what the government will spend.

In the spirit of openness and transparency, will the hon. member please outline the government's plan so Canadians will know exactly how much they will be paying in extra and additional taxes?

Ms. Ruby Sahota:

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate my colleague on her election.

Our government was given a clear mandate to invest in our country, and that we plan to do. We will be decreasing taxes for the middle class, and we will also be open and transparent with our spending. In the weeks to come we will see the budget unfold and members will have answers to some of those questions, but taxes will be decreased.