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Speaker: The Honourable Geoff Regan

International Women's Day

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in the House today in recognition of March 8 as International Women's Day. This is a day in which we celebrate the contributions and achievements of women from all around the world. It is also a day that reminds us of the women and young girls who need our support: women who are fleeing persecution; women who are trying to survive in war-torn countries; women who are exploited through human trafficking, domestic violence, sexual assault, and rape; and women who struggle to feed their children, to find safe shelter, or try to access education.

Therefore, as we celebrate all that has been achieved over the years, let us remember how much we have yet to do. It is our responsibility as women and members of a global family to help those who continue to struggle. We should not and cannot stop until all of us are on an equal footing with equal opportunities and equal rights.