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THE HONOURABLE SERGE JOYAL, P.C.

Le Mythe de Napoléon au Canada français

Statement by:

The Honourable Claudette Tardif

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THE SENATE

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[Translation]

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LE MYTHE DE NAPOLÉON AU CANADA FRANÇAIS

Hon. Claudette Tardif: Honourable senators, last night, the Canada-France Interparliamentary Association and the Speaker of the Senate proudly marked the release of *Le Mythe de Napoléon au Canada français*, the most recent book by our distinguished colleague, the Honourable Serge Joyal, at a reception held in the Speaker's salon.

Senator Joyal's new book explores French Canadian iconography and archives to trace the influence of Napoleon Bonaparte. With his very impressive documentation, Senator Joyal explains how French Canadians appropriated Napoleon's image and, over time, integrated it into French Canadian culture. This important contribution to the narrative about the evolution of French Canada's collective identity gives us a better understanding of the fascination with this extraordinary figure

in popular culture, the political world and even in brands of cheese.

This work on the myth of Napoleon also recounts the history of a community that has had to fight to affirm its identity, and shows the importance and the power of myths in societies. This book is a testament to the consuming passion of this learned author for his subject matter, which the members of the Canada-France Interparliamentary Association wanted to recognize.

Senator Joyal has been an active member of the association for a number of years. The various activities that he proposes and carries out contribute greatly to increasing the association's vitality and enhancing our knowledge of Canada and France and the ties that bind us together on various levels, as demonstrated by Senator Joyal's most recent work.

I would like to once again congratulate Senator Joyal on the publication of his most recent book, and I encourage all senators to read this very interesting publication.
