

**The National Post**

**February 26, 2002**

**Precious idea**

Re: Le May Doan Forced to Sing Sexist Anthem, Senator Say (February 22)

*I agree with Senator Vivienne Roy who launched the private member's bill  
to change some of the lyrics of **O Canada** to reflect Canada's policy  
of equality between the sexes.*

*But I have an additional concern regarding another word  
in the national anthem.*

*I believe the majority of Canadians are not "natives"  
since they were not born in Canada.*

*I bless the day when I was privileged to become a Canadian citizen  
after immigrating to Canada from South Africa some 26 years ago.  
Whether we were born here or became Canadian citizens by choice,*

*We all regard Canada as our home and **precious** land.*

*I suggest we change the lyrics from **native land** to  
**precious land**.*

*I hope that this can be accomplished  
without unnecessary and protracted debate*

**Paul Kowarsky, Thornhill, Ontario**