

1982-83		
Ernst & Whinney	\$ 23,200.00	To conduct an evaluation of the Implementation Assistance Program and to produce a final report on the study on or before September 1, 1982.
Allan Bennett & Associates	\$ 32,262.50	To provide editorial services to 20 Program Expenditure Plans as well as to provide advice and assistance to departmental editors in the preparation of their plans.
Peat, Marwick, Mitchell and Company	\$ 24,500.00	To assist in assessing the need for a review of the Financial Administration Act.
Woods Gordon	\$ 24,250.00	Development of Professional Development Program for Management Practices Branch.

ATLANTIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Question No. 745—**Mr. Mazankowski:**

1. Is there an Atlantic Development Council and, if so, what (a) are its terms of reference (b) is the (i) name (ii) background or expertise (iii) term of appointment of each member (c) remuneration, such as salary or travel expenses (i) do the members receive (ii) did the members receive to date (d) other funding, if any, is provided by the Government?

2. During the fiscal year 1982-83, did the Council meet and, if so (a) how often (b) how often is it required to meet (c) what matters did it consider (d) what reports and/or recommendations were published?

Hon. Ed Lumley (Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion): 1. No. Legislative authority for the Atlantic Development Council was repealed on December 7, 1983, with the proclamation of Section 22 of the Government Organization Act, 1983.

2. The Council was not operational in 1982-1983.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Evans: I ask, Mr. Speaker, that the remaining questions be allowed to stand.

Mr. Speaker: The questions as enumerated by the Parliamentary Secretary have been answered. Shall the remaining questions be allowed to stand?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

[*English*]

Mr. Forrestall: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I presume that stubbornness at some point along the line has to be accepted by even the best of us, as a result of the refusal of the Parliamentary Secretary and the Government to recognize the historic use of a starred question and their failure to recognize its place in our parliamentary process. This leaves me no other alternative but to ask when I will obtain an answer to my question No. 699. It deals with the amount of money being raised with respect to duties paid by foreign-registered vessels operating off our coast, so that we might understand whether or not the amount of money spent trying

Supply

to collect these duties is at least equal to the amount of money we collect.

Mr. Evans: Mr. Speaker, it sounds like an eminently sensible question. The answer is soon.

Mr. McKinnon: Mr. Speaker, I wish to rise again to ask about a question of long standing; it has been on the Order Paper for some three years now. It asks what is the increase in real terms in the expenditures of the Department of National Defence, including statutory costs, and expressed in percentages, for each fiscal year from 1970-71 to 1979-80.

I am sure the Parliamentary Secretary knows that that answer has been prepared. One can only assume that Ministers are refusing to have it presented in Parliament because it will contradict the information they have been including in their speeches about Canada's effort to support defence. They have been exaggerating in their speeches, and answers of the type prepared by the department would contradict them. I suggest to the Parliamentary Secretary that that is why they have not tabled the answer in three years. There can be no other reason, can there?

Mr. Evans: I am sure that is not the case, but I will look into the matter for the Hon. Member and try to get an answer to him as quickly as possible.

• (1530)

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[*English*]

BUSINESS OF SUPPLY

ALLOTTED DAY, S.O. 62—REGIONAL ECONOMIC DISPARITIES

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. McMillan:

That this House condemns the Government for abandoning its commitment to alleviate regional economic disparities and thereby encouraging continued economic inequality between the Atlantic provinces and the rest of the country through a policy of gutting the Department of Regional Economic Expansion, slashing investment in regional development, and downgrading, for political purposes, federal-provincial development agreements.

Mr. Maurice Harquail (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Fisheries and Oceans): Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member for Hillsborough (Mr. McMillan) introduced this Opposition motion with regard to regional economic disparities, specifically in the Atlantic provinces. I congratulate the Hon. Member, with some reservation, for bringing forward this subject. I congratulate him because such an important issue has not been raised or focused on earlier by his Party, and, I do so with reservations because he uses the words "condemns the Government" in his motion. I cannot agree with him when we analyze the millions of dollars this Government has designated, approved and expended in the Atlantic provinces. Thus I cannot understand why the word "condemn" is incorporated in the motion today.