

Government orders

This very important contract for Quebec features two main components. The first one is to provide for the structural engineering and supply work for the facilities at sea. These superstructures account for approximately half of the capital value of the Hibernia project. Over the next thirty months, engineering and supply alone will provide employment for some 600 people at the project office in Montreal: \$360 million, 600 engineers for more for 30 months in Montreal. Not to mention other projects worth \$5 billion for which contracts have been awarded and approved. The first contract: out of \$1.4 billion, \$360 million go to Montreal.

The other part deals with the management services for the project.

As stated by Mr. Guy Saint-Pierre, President and Chairman of the SNC Group, the project will provide for the firms located both in Montreal and Saint-Jean involved in the joint venture additional expertise and experience which will raise their international profile.

Some of my other colleagues have given some concrete examples. A second contract, worth \$1.3 billion, has to do with the design and construction of the Hibernia gravity structure. Two Quebec firms, Atlas Construction and Janin Construction have a 60 per cent ownership in the Newfoundland Offshore Development Corporation, NODECO, which was awarded the contract. Under this contract, Atlas and Janin will be mostly called upon to develop new skills in the very specialized construction techniques of offshore structures. This aspect of their participation will help improve their image and make it possible for them to operate successfully both in Canada and abroad.

Madam Speaker, I want to mention here that out of these 2 contracts which total \$1.6 billion, an excess of between \$400 and \$500 million will be paid out automatically. Compared with the \$1.5 billion total for the contracts awarded so far, the spinoffs will amount to more than the 20 per cent of which some independent leaders were satisfied long before this bill was ever introduced.

Over the past few months during which some of our colleagues left our party to sit as independents, improvements to the project with which their leader was satisfied earlier have been made. All this to say that thanks to the

representations made by the members who chose to stay with the government, the benefits are there.

Another Quebec corporation, MIL—I have a clipping somewhere—said it was quite satisfied with the contract. I quote only the heading of the press release: MIL expected to play a major role in Canadian oil development projects. That is the heading of the press release. But to return to MIL. It expects to bid successfully for a large part of the project. MIL has gained tremendous expertise in the construction of drilling rigs, the repair and maintenance of mobile rigs, as well as the construction of shuttle tankers and supply ships.

The company will also offer for these projects installation, start up, engineering, inspection and testing services. Groupe MIL has worked closely with companies located in the Maritimes and Newfoundland. The confidence that they expressed in their press release is confirmed by the wording of the act. I am not afraid to say it and to prove it.

Madam Speaker, all regions of Canada will benefit from the \$3 million which will be spent in the country for the bringing into production of Hibernia. I believe that all the members for Quebec and Canada and the people of Newfoundland have the right to be satisfied with this great project which will be profitable for Canada as a whole, for all provinces, and for Quebec in particular.

An hon. member: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lapierre: I rise on a point of order!

[English]

Madam Deputy Speaker: The hon. member for Bonaville—Trinity—Conception.

[Translation]

The member for Shefford on a point of order.

Mr. Jean Lapierre (Shefford): Madam Speaker, I ask that we now listen to the member for Rosemont.

[English]

Madam Deputy Speaker: We have a motion in front of the House. Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

Some hon. members: No.