

ernment and, to a lesser degree, by other "mean and nasty" Conservative provincial Governments across Canada.

At that time I requested that the Minister give consideration either to imposing federal sanctions against British Columbia, or to providing special emergency funding to aid those programs and institutions being destroyed in my home Province, and in others. Similar appeals have also been made by my colleague, the Hon. Member for New Westminster-Coquitlam, and were echoed on February 14 by the Liberal Member for Ottawa Centre.

Will the Minister advise the House, first, whether he recognizes the seriousness of this problem in post-secondary education, especially in British Columbia, and, second, whether he is now considering, or will consider, any action along the lines suggested, either sanctions against B.C. or direct emergency funding to save the future of our students, their programs, and educational institutions?

**Hon. Serge Joyal (Secretary of State):** Mr. Speaker, the question raised by the Hon. Member is a very serious one. It asks the question of what this Parliament should do when, after having voted funds in support of higher education in Canada, transferring these funds to the Provinces, one Province or another decides, in fact, not to pass on the funds to the institutions, but to cut additional funding to them.

I have already written twice in the last six months to the Minister of Education for British Columbia, drawing the seriousness of this situation to his attention. This week I did appear at the Standing Committee on Finance of this House to announce that I have appointed a special task force, headed by Mr. Al Johnson, to review the over-all policies which this House should adopt in future to ensure that, when it votes funds for support of higher education, those funds are passed on to the students and the university community.

DAVID THOMPSON UNIVERSITY CENTRE, NELSON, B.C.

**Mr. Lyle S. Kristiansen (Kootenay West):** Mr. Speaker, I want to be clear on the answer. Is the Minister giving consideration—at least giving consideration—to the imposition either of sanctions or special emergency funding in the case of the David Thompson University Centre? This is the second time in seven years that a university campus has been closed down in that same community. And those are the first and second times, I believe, in the history of Canada that that kind of action has been taken. We need help desperately, and we need it now. Will the Minister consider, or is he considering, such sanctions or such aid as suggested by myself, the Hon. Member for New Westminster-Coquitlam, and by the Liberal Member for Ottawa Centre?

**Hon. Serge Joyal (Secretary of State):** Mr. Speaker, those are options and suggestions which are under consideration. As a matter of fact the suggestion to impose penalties has been commended by some associations of university teachers in the country, although some have opposed that as not being the right course of action to take.

### Oral Questions

The Hon. Member is then suggesting additional funding, or emergency funding be provided. I would suggest to him that it would not solve the problems because some other Provinces might be tempted to do the same in order that Parliament would be called upon to vote additional funding. We are reviewing the various options. I will be in British Columbia myself later this month to meet with the Minister of Education. I will certainly raise the matter pointed out by the Hon. Member. However, as I said, we are looking at the various options which would address the root of the problem and not just come up with a temporary solution which would not cure the problem at its root.

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### NATIONAL REVENUE

DEPUTY MINISTER

**Mr. John McDermid (Brampton-Georgetown):** Mr. Speaker, my colleagues have been unsuccessful with this question. I will try again. I would like to ask the Minister of National Revenue if he will give us a simple yes or no. We know about all the responsibilities, and everything else. Does the Minister support and have complete faith in his Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Revenue—yes or no?

**Hon. Pierre Bussières (Minister of National Revenue):** Mr. Speaker, we have just seen the true face of the Conservative Members—

**Mr. Beatty:** Yes or no?

**Mr. Crosbie:** Answer the question.

**An Hon. Member:** Answer the question, yes or no.

**Mr. Crosbie:** Does the Deputy have any confidence in you?

**Mr. Bussières:** The Hon. Member just said that he does not care about the sense of responsibility. I do care.

MINISTER'S POSITION

**Mr. John McDermid (Brampton-Georgetown):** Mr. Speaker, that is not what he said at all. That is not what the Hon. Member said at all. He said, "We know the responsibilities". What I am asking the Minister is, does he have faith, does he support unequivocally, his Deputy Minister? Will he stand up and say he supports him, yes or no? It is a simple yes or no answer we want from him. Oui ou non; what is it?

[Translation]

**Hon. Pierre Bussières (Minister of National Revenue):** Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member will simply not understand.

I told him how I intend to take my responsibilities, and he replied that he did not have any sense of responsibility. I went on to say that my responsibilities and those of my officials are to work as a team to ensure the fair implementation of the