

We also have a grants program to facilitate the implementation of special projects set up by young people, or for them through volunteer groups and agencies. This week, Mr. Speaker, I was able to announce the allocation of 22 grants totalling \$429,000.

There is also the Peace and Development Program, whose aim is to provide financial assistance for activities that will make young Canadians aware of the international situation. There is also an information and communications program that will focus the attention of the public on young people and make it aware of what young people have to contribute to society.

Finally, five national forums will be held in various parts of the country. Here, young people and their social partners will be able to exchange views and develop strategies that will make for a better understanding of the situation of young Canadians. The conclusions of these forums will be used in developing long term policies affecting Canadian youth.

I will also be setting up an advisory committee on International Youth Year, consisting of young people from all parts of Canada.

My total budget for carrying out my mandate is a little over \$28 million, for fiscal 1984-85 and 1985-86.

Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member for Mount Royal (Mrs. Finestone) was very vocal about employment problems. She claimed that the Government failed to meet its commitment to create jobs for young people.

The changes recently announced will deeply alter the government policies and programs. Our new government wishes to promote independence rather than dependence on the government.

The Hon. Member has suggested that the new Youth Training Option program has reduced by a third the budget for young people. Such is not the case. The training program had been announced by the previous government during the election campaign without any consultation with the provinces and the private sector. The program had such an enormous scope—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Charest): I regret to interrupt the Minister but the time allotted to her has expired. The Hon. Member for Gander-Twillingate (Mr. Baker).

● (1825)

[*English*]

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS—CANADIAN WILDLIFE SERVICE—
REQUEST FOR RE-EXAMINATION OF BUDGETARY CUT-BACKS.
(B) TERMINATED POSITIONS—REQUEST THAT MINISTER TABLE
JOB DESCRIPTIONS

Mr. George Baker (Gander-Twillingate): Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the Minister of State for Youth (Mrs. Champagne) and the Minister of the Environment (Mrs. Blais-Grenier) for being here to answer questions; the Ministers normally give that duty to their Parliamentary Secretar-

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ies. I want to draw attention to that and have it on the record. I believe that both these Ministers are doing a good job in their departments—as well as can be expected with the imposition of the vicious cuts by the Minister of Finance (Mr. Wilson) and the Government of Canada. As the Minister for Youth has said many times, these cuts are something that one just has to live with. If it wasn't this, it would be something else.

The Minister knows my purpose in rising today as we have gone over this question many times. I have asked her questions in the House, and she has appeared before the committee—even today. Perhaps I sometimes get a little too nasty in my remarks regarding the Minister. I want to assure her that my remarks are directed toward the cuts which I believe have been imposed upon her by the Minister of Finance and the Government of Canada. I know that in defending those cuts the Minister must sometimes get a bit nasty with me in her response.

However, let me tell the Minister that apart from the other cuts, the real problem is with the policy she has announced, and which the President of the Treasury Board (Mr. de Cotret) has announced in the blue book where he said that the areas of research on migratory birds and endangered species would not be touched.

The Minister knows, as I pointed out in the committee meeting this afternoon, that ducks are migratory birds. The experiments conducted on the prairies by a research team of five this past summer showed that the effects of an insecticide on ducks which are nesting on the prairies caused the death of those ducklings. That research team was out there for a very important purpose, to examine the effects on the birds and to recommend to the Department of Agriculture that perhaps by decreasing the size of the droplets in the insecticide the problem could be overcome. The purpose of the research team was not to stop the spraying of grasshoppers with that insecticide. Its purpose was actually to try to re-arrange it so it did not kill that wildlife. Ducks are migratory birds. In addition, there are the shore birds along the Fraser Delta. Various projects with respect to endangered species have been cut. I outlined a particular species in Newfoundland to the Minister this morning, and spoke of the real emphasis of her Department as far as the peregrine falcon is concerned.

My major concern is that what was outlined in the cuts by the President of the Treasury Board have actually not taken place. Those two areas which are supposed to be protected in the Minister's Department are in fact not being protected, as I outlined today in committee. The most important aspect is, as the Minister knows, that birds in various provinces have been destroyed because of policies of governments, mainly provincial governments, on the advice of the federal Government. They have been destroyed as a result of the recommended use of chemicals over large land areas. We are destroying the very birds which get rid of the insect we are trying to spray.