

Federal-Provincial Fiscal Arrangements Act

I would now like to give Hon. Members an idea of what the extra cost will mean in terms of some of the provinces. I wish to point out that for the Province of Saskatchewan, my province, the change to the formula, this new understanding, this breaking of the trust with Canadians which the Government established going into the election, will mean that over the next five years the residents of Saskatchewan will have to raise an additional \$227 million to pay for EPF and to finance their universities and hospital services. In terms of the whole country, the extra charges being shifted to the provinces amount to \$5.6 billion, which will take us to the end of the current decade. This is an extremely unfortunate situation in which we find ourselves, particularly in light of the expectations most people had and in light of the type of expenditure programs the Government has chosen to provide in other areas. For example, we know that defence expenditures have been about the same as EPF expenditures over the last few years. By the end of this decade defence funding will increase by 41 per cent while EPF will increase by only 14 per cent in real terms. It seems that the defence of the country is at stake here, Mr. Speaker.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): I regret to interrupt the Hon. Member but his time has expired. Is the House ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: Question.

Some Hon. Members: No.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): The Hon. Member for Laval-des-Rapides (Mr. Garneau).

Mr. Murphy: I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker. I move that the Hon. Member for Eglinton—Lawrence (Mr. de Corneille) be now heard.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): It really does not matter if the Hon. Member for Laval-des-Rapides or the Hon. Member for Eglinton—Lawrence (Mr. de Corneille) wishes to speak. The Hon. Member for Eglinton—Lawrence.

Mr. Prud'homme: Mr. Speaker, I too rise on a point of order. Whom do you recognize?

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): The Hon. Member for Eglinton—Lawrence.

Mr. Prud'homme: Mr. Speaker, I move that the Hon. Member for Laval-des-Rapides be recognized.

● (1520)

Mr. McKnight: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I find it very strange when we see before us the Hon. Member for Laval-des-Rapides (Mr. Garneau) recognized by the Chair, after which a Member of the NDP rose to ask that another Member now be heard. The Chair recognized that Hon. Member and then another Liberal Member rose and changed his mind.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Order, please.

Mr. Prud'homme: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I do not apologize to my friend, the Minister. You now have a motion before you and it should be disposed of.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Order, please. The Hon. Member for Saint-Denis (Mr. Prud'homme) raises a point of order. I watched the Hon. Member for Laval-des-Rapides (Mr. Garneau) and the Hon. Member for Eglinton—Lawrence (Mr. de Corneille) rise at the same time. I will be glad to recognize either one of them. I see no reason for—

Mr. Prud'homme: Well, there is a motion.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): I would say to the Hon. Member for Saint-Denis that people are watching. This is not a place for games.

Mr. Prud'homme: A point of order, Mr. Speaker?

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): The Hon. Member will have the chance to make a point of order. I will recognize the Hon. Member. I am just saying to the Hon. Member that because the Hon. Member for Churchill (Mr. Murphy) raised a point of order, I recognized the Hon. Member for Laval-des-Rapides. After that, he wanted to hear from the Hon. Member for Eglinton—Lawrence, and I said that that was fine. They both rose at the same time. I see no problem with recognizing either one of the Members. Will the Hon. Member please explain to me what it is that he wants to know?

Mr. Prud'homme: Mr. Speaker, I am sure the Table Officers will also explain to you what is going on. You recognized the Hon. Member for Laval-des-Rapides, and the Hon. Member for Churchill said that the Hon. Member for Laval-des-Rapides should not be recognized at this time but that you should recognize the Hon. Member for Eglinton—Lawrence. You know the rules, Mr. Speaker. I do not need to explain them to the Chair.

Mr. McKnight: Mr. Speaker, I rise on the same point of order. I would suggest that if you check the "blues", you will find that when you recognized the Hon. Member for Laval-des-Rapides (Mr. Garneau), and the Hon. Member for Churchill (Mr. Murphy) moved that the Hon. Member for Eglinton—Lawrence (Mr. de Corneille) be heard, before the motion was seconded by anyone in the Chamber, you, Sir, then recognized the Hon. Member for Eglinton—Lawrence. Unless Hon. Members have some ulterior motive for their actions, you, with your respect for the House, have—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): I will recognize the motion put by the Hon. Member for Churchill if he will get a seconder and present the motion in writing.

The Hon. Member for Churchill (Mr. Murphy), seconded by the Hon. Member for Beaches (Mr. Young), moves:

That the Hon. Member for Eglinton—Lawrence (Mr. de Corneille) be now heard.