

*Established Programs Financing*

limited in the past to those from families which can most afford to send their sons and daughters to university. That has not changed very much over the years. Certainly there have been exceptions such as I mentioned with the Brandon University program for native students. There have been others who have gone into the university program, but young women are still underrepresented at universities, especially in some faculties, and people from my constituency in northern Manitoba still do not attend university in the numbers that they should. A program of this nature, which limits moneys going to universities and other educational institutions, is going to hurt those people first. It is going to hurt the natives, young women, and people from the more remote communities who already have an extra financial burden when it comes to attending university. They have the extra costs of travel, accommodation—

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order. The Hon. Member for Churchill (Mr. Murphy) still has time left. I would remind Hon. Members that the rule of the decorum requires that no Members cross between the Member who has the floor and the Chair. On repeated occasions I have drawn this to the attention of the House. This is a basic courtesy to the Member who has the floor. I appeal to Hon. Members to respect that very basic rule.

**Mr. Murphy:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. I did not think my time was up. I wish that those Conservative Members who are crossing over to the Liberal benches, for whatever reason, would get up in the House and speak about how this legislation is going to hurt the young people of Canada. I wish that they did that rather than cross over to their Liberal buddies. I thank you, Mr. Speaker, for pointing that out.

Returning to the legislation itself, as I was saying, Mr. Speaker, when you rose to make your point, the people who will be hurt by this legislation are those who have traditionally been left out of the university and post-secondary world. Those people who have not entered that community have done so for traditional reasons and also for financial reasons. They are the people whom many universities have tried to attract over the years. I applaud those institutions for that action.

I believe, as I am sure many Members of the House believe, that as long as this type of legislation is in place to limit the federal Government's contributions to post-secondary education to a 5 per cent increase, which is much less than the federal Government promised in the past, it is going to hurt those programs. It is going to hurt the people from the north, the native communities, young women and those people from families which have the least money. This is a time of unemployment when people are losing their homes, when they are losing their UI benefits, when more families are going on welfare and more young people cannot find employment. It is these people from these same families who will not be able to seek higher education because of this legislation.

I hope that Members from all Parties of the House will get up and speak about how this legislation is going to hurt the

young people of this country and therefore hurt the future of this nation.

**Miss Pat Carney (Vancouver Centre):** Mr. Speaker, I rise to join my colleagues in the Conservative Party in our opposition to the measures in the Bill before us which contain a number of amendments to the Federal-Provincial Fiscal Arrangements and Established Programs Financing Act, 1977. It should be pointed out that a similar Bill, Bill C-150, was introduced in the previous session but was never called for second reading. This is the first time we have had a chance to discuss this issue.

Many of my constituents are students. As my colleague, the Hon. Member for Vancouver Quadra (Mr. Clarke) pointed out, U.B.C., the second largest university in Canada, was originally started in my riding many years ago. This Bill hurts our students in British Columbia and elsewhere because it slashes available funding to the provinces precisely at the time when the biggest demands are being placed on our post-secondary institutions. They are being strained by demand and at the same time being squeezed for funding. Our students are facing one of the toughest times in their lives. Yet under this Bill B.C. would receive nearly \$30 million less than it would if the bill were not passed. Without this Bill, post-secondary entitlements in B.C. in the fiscal year 1984-85 would be \$510 million. With its passage, that entitlement will be cut to \$480 million, leaving a shortfall of \$30 million.

This is happening at a time when our students and children are facing a bleak economy. One out of four students in the age group of 19 to 24 cannot find work. They are being repeatedly told to get an education and upgrade their skills. Enrolments are being limited. For the first time U.B.C. is having to put limits on the number of first year students. They are limiting the entry of first year students to the top 3,250 applicants, regardless of how many more apply and meet the entrance requirements. This is in a university which has 25,000 students. Obviously the number of students who will be entering university will be much lower in the future.

This is imposing very severe strains on our young people. As an example, in my own family there are five cousins of college age. Only one is going to college. Three are on unemployment insurance because the companies which were employing them went bankrupt. Only one has a job in the work force. The one cousin who is going to college found that even though he registered on the first day of enrolment, he could not get the courses he required. He is a science student and requires certain prerequisites to continue with his science education. He could not even get a first year math course because the enrolment was closed by two o'clock in the afternoon when it was his turn to apply. This situation will continue in the next few years, and it is very discouraging to students.

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Our major resource in this country is our children. The major requirement that we will face in the future is a highly mobile, highly skilled, highly trained work force. The Government places a lot of emphasis on the need for research and