NATIONAL REVENUE

CANCELLATION OF NORTH YORK TAX CENTRE PROJECT

Mr. Sergio Marchi (York West): Mr. Speaker, in the Government's great urge to cut, cut, cut, it has once again forgotten about people needs and people concerns.

Just recently the Government announced the cancellation of a \$58 million tax centre to be built in the city of North York. Government representatives were quoted as saying that it was part of a move to trim the construction budget. Well, it appeared that they used a machete to do their trimming.

This unfortunate trim means that the City of North York will lose \$1 million in tax revenues. It will mean a loss of 3,000 jobs, 1,000 full-time and 2,000 part-time. It will also mean a loss of hundreds upon hundreds of jobs that would have been created in the construction sector. It means the loss for North York citizens of the many services that were to be theirs. The City had approved the rezoning of the 20-acre, 42,000 square foot complex. Everything was in place. However, in one fell swoop we lost jobs, services, and civic pride.

This is the sad reflection of an insensitive, unilateral, job losing cut-back that looks only at statistics rather than to the people behind those statistics.

I therefore ask the Minister of National Revenue (Mr. Beatty) to reverse this unfortunate decision and give credibility to the expectations that he created for the Department of Revenue when he was in opposition.

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CAPITAL PUNISHMENT

CALL FOR FREE VOTE ON RESTORATION

Mr. Stan Darling (Parry Sound-Muskoka): Mr. Speaker, in light of yet another police killing in Ontario last week, how long can we as legislators ignore this horror? Constable Miller's funeral is probably being held this very minute in Matheson, Ontario.

Are we behind our law enforcement officers, or not? Parliamentary waffling on this issue is a vote of non confidence for Canadian policemen. They spend every waking hour protecting us, yet we refuse to reciprocate.

Murder statistics in this country would be much higher were it not for great advances in medicine over recent years. In order to get a true picture of the occurrence of such crimes we must look closely at attempted murder statistics as well.

I am aware that there are two private Members' Bills in the works which advocate capital punishment. Instead, the Government should introduce a Bill allowing a free vote in the near future. This matter is far too important to put on the backburner.

I believe calling for a vote is a direct reflection of the public sentiment which is, after all, our mandate. Any confidence that we can give our policemen should be granted immediately. If the reconstitution of capital punishment saves the life of

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just one policeman, we shall have fulfilled our duties as elected officials. We must end this political delinquence now.

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ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

CANADIAN WILDLIFE SERVICE—EFFECT OF BUDGETARY CUT

Hon. Chas. L. Caccia (Davenport): Mr. Speaker, among those affected by the cuts announced by the Government are 84 people who will lose their jobs in the Canadian Wildlife Service, which employs 384 across the nation. This means a cut of almost 25 per cent. They are highly trained biologists, technicians, and office workers.

If these jobs are terminated next spring, urgent work on the environment will be abandoned. The affected projects include the study of toxics in the Great Lakes, the tracing of toxic contamination in gull eggs, the tracing of many forms of toxic contamination in wildlife habitat, the management of endangered species, the tracking of the movement of wildlife by way of radio collars, the effects of budworm spray on wildlife and songbirds, and many other projects. Does the Government expect these people to find employment within provincial government wildlife services and, if not, does it expect them to find employment abroad?

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INDUSTRY

FIVE-YEAR FOOTWEAR IMPORT RESTRAINT PROGRAM ADVOCATED

Mr. Gus Mitges (Grey-Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, for some time the Canadian footwear industry has been consistently seeking a comprehensive and effective period of import relief to allow it the time to invest in new emerging technologies. Consequently, reliable restraints on footwear imports will be needed for a full five-year period if the Canadian industry is to survive as a productive and efficient industry fulfilling its potential to maintain Canadian jobs.

The restraint programs since 1980 have all been for short periods, and very spasmodic. For example, there has been a temporary termination of the leather footwear quota for one year, followed by its restoration for two and one-half years, and now a 16-month extension. These periods have seriously impeded the progress of the footwear manufacturing industry when viewed in the context of the investment process.

The industry is looking for something that is tangible and concrete—a period of reliable footwear import restraint. Therefore I call upon the Government to address itself to this serious problem, and make a positive decision which would significantly help safeguard the thousands of jobs in the Canadian footwear industry which are now in danger of being lost.