

Questions

TAXATION ON MUNICIPAL BONDS REVENUE

Question No. 2,244—**Mr. Fortin:**

1. Is the government considering, has it considered or will it consider, tax exemption for revenue derived from municipal bonds?

2. What does the government propose to do to help financing municipal corporation capital expenditures?

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance):

1. This is a matter of Government policy. If the Government proposes any exemption for income received for municipal bonds, it will be announced at the appropriate time.

2. The Government of Canada proposes to maintain a fiscal and monetary policy which will reduce inflationary pressures on the capital market, and enable it to provide capital for economic development and for the social needs of the Canadian people. Where social needs are of compelling priority, as in the case of public housing and municipal sewage treatment, the government will continue to make funds available at less than market cost through CMHC.

Indirectly, the federal government makes substantial amounts of capital available, at rates based on the yield of Government of Canada bonds, through purchases by the Canada Pension Plan Investment Fund of provincial, or provincially-guaranteed securities. Where the provinces feel it is appropriate, these funds are used to assist in municipal financing. In 1968-69 the amounts made available to provinces from this source were:

(\$ millions)	1968-69
British Columbia	107.5
Alberta	68.4
Saskatchewan	35.9
Manitoba	42.3
Ontario	421.0
Quebec	2.4
New Brunswick	21.8
Nova Scotia	29.2
Prince Edward Island	2.9
Newfoundland	14.2
Total	726.6

CANADA COUNCIL GRANTS

Question No. 2,278—**Mr. Robinson:**

1. How many Canada Council grants have been awarded since the inception of the Canada Council, who are the recipients and how much was each grant?

2. Does the federal government intend to change the terms of reference for awarding Canada Council grants and, if so, in what respect?

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State):

1. I am informed by the Canada Council that the requested information is provided in the Canada Council annual reports.

2. No.

ALTERNATIVE EMPLOYMENT FOR POST OFFICE PERSONNEL

Question No. 2,285—**Mr. Yewchuk:**

Could the Minister of Communications inform the House if any definite steps are being taken to provide alternative employment for persons whose jobs are being or have been eliminated by the recent Post Office reorganization?

Hon. Eric W. Kierans (Postmaster General and Minister of Communications): In so far as the Post Office Department is concerned: It is assumed that this question refers to the institution of five-day week delivery service. To prepare for the reduction in staff as a result of this change the Department for several months did not fill vacancies on a permanent basis and thus created a backlog of vacant positions. Through this action it will be possible to absorb those employees whose positions were eliminated through the five-day service.

PROVINCIAL APPEAL BOARDS IN ASSISTANCE PLAN

Question No. 2,293—**Mr. Orlikow:**

1. Does the Canada Assistance Plan Act contain a provision requiring the participating provinces to establish provincial appeal boards to which applicants for assistance can appeal decisions respecting their applications for assistance with which they disagree?

2. If so, how many provinces have established such appeal boards and which are the provinces which have established boards?

3. Which provinces have not yet established such appeal boards?

4. Has the federal government set a deadline at which time all provinces will be required to have established these appeal boards?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of National Health and Welfare): 1. No. However, the statute does contain a requirement that an agreement made under Part I shall provide that the province will, inter alia, ensure the provision by law, not later than one year from the effective date of the agreement, of a