

Adjournment Debate

Mr. Frank Maine (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Employment and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I would like to reiterate the minister's opposition to the tabling of the individual Outreach project assessments in their entirety. However, at committee the minister was asked to provide the following: (a) the program evaluation, less its recommendations and conclusions; (b) the program criteria; and, (c) the assessment of certain women's projects. The minister has agreed to table soon, at the Standing Committee on Labour, Manpower and Immigration, the evaluation and the criteria. He will not table the assessments as they may contain material which could be misconstrued and cause a negative effect on the projects themselves.

● (2217)

Let me explain to those who may not be aware what the Outreach program is. The Canada Employment and Immigration Commission's Outreach program aims at improving the job prospects of people who, for various reasons, cannot benefit fully from services offered by local Canada Employment centres, manpower services.

Some of the commission's clients have many barriers to overcome in their search for jobs, and Outreach focuses on helping the following groups who are particularly affected: native people, physically and mentally handicapped people, long-term welfare recipients, inmates and ex-inmates, residents of isolated or remote communities, and people experiencing great difficulty entering or re-entering the labour force.

Through Outreach, community groups and agencies can sponsor a project which delivers a full range of personalized employment-related services and provides access to commission programs for their clients. In many cases these agencies already offer employment-related services, and with the help of and on behalf of the commission, can broaden the scope and extent of these services. The agencies fulfil a valuable role by providing an interim service for their clients until they no longer need it or until they can benefit from regular Manpower services.

When a community group or agency has identified a need for employment-related services for a special group, it submits a project proposal. Once a proposal is accepted, an agreement is signed between the commission and the community group or agency. The agreement reflects the project activities, procedures and objectives, and defines the commission's rights and obligations and the agency's obligations to the commission and to the clientele.

Having said all this, and to explain the program better, the minister will also be tabling, with the standing committee, profiles of all women's projects in Canada, with selected statistics relating to each of these projects.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The motion to adjourn the House is now deemed to have been adopted. Accordingly, this House stands adjourned until tomorrow at two o'clock p.m.

Motion agreed to and the House adjourned at 10.19 p.m., without question put, pursuant to Standing Order.

END OF VOLUME II