

*Oral Questions*

• (1455)

**Mr. Bob Speller (Haldimand—Norfolk):** Madam Speaker, that is why there is 20 per cent unemployment among Canadian youth. This department and this minister have no specific labour market programs.

My question is for the Prime Minister. Young Canadians have been hardest hit by this recession. In fact it accounts for 84 per cent of net job losses since 1989. What specific new programs or new ideas does the Prime Minister have to help this crisis and to put young Canadians back to work?

**Hon. Pauline Browes (Minister of State (Employment and Immigration)):** Madam Speaker, besides the Challenge '93 project which is some \$88 million in terms of getting young people back to work and some 400 youth employment centres across Canada, we have put in place student business loans for young people to start businesses, the business drive for jobs in partnership with the Canadian Manufacturers' Association and federal hiring of students within our own government projects.

I am very pleased with the number of young people who have decided to start their own businesses. In North America we have the first youth centre, New Ventures, for young people to begin their own jobs. That is the kind of work that we are doing in terms of young people getting jobs by starting their own businesses.

\* \* \*

[Translation]

**MINING EXPLORATION**

**Mr. Guy Saint-Julien (Abitibi):** Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources.

To stimulate mining exploration in Quebec, especially in Abitibi, on May 10 I rose in the House twice during Question Period to send a message, loud and clear, so the minister would understand the current situation in the mining and exploration industry in Abitibi.

Could the deputy minister come to Abitibi for a one-day study session this month, to discuss the situation in the mining and exploration industry in that area with the Association des prospecteurs du Québec? Yes or no?

[English]

**Hon. Bill McKnight (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources):** Madam Speaker, the deputy or the minister would have to be deaf or absent not to recognize the interest my colleague has in the mining industry within his riding. I compliment him for that.

He would know, as others know, that Canada has one of the most favourable regimes for investment in the mining and exploration industry. As he also knows, the federal income tax rules allow for 100 per cent write-off for development and exploration. We have made that assistance available because we recognize, as he does, the importance of the mining industry.

We have also undertaken the Whitehorse mining initiative in co-operation with labour, the mining industry and our provincial partners to further encourage and further develop this important activity.

As my colleague knows, the deputy minister has indicated to me that he would be pleased to travel anywhere to meet members of the mining industry and particularly to the fine riding of Abitibi.

\* \* \*

**CANADIAN RADIO-TELEVISION AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**

**Mr. Ian Waddell (Port Moody—Coquitlam):** Madam Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. I would like to welcome him back to the House. I saw him taking off in a White House helicopter; he looked just like George Bush.

In a very important ruling today the CRTC once again allowed cable companies to take more money out of the pockets of ordinary consumers to pay for Canadian programming.

Given that the cable companies make three times more profit than the broadcasting companies, and given that his government has power to direct the CRTC, will the government direct the CRTC to fully regulate the cable companies and take some of the programming money, the \$300 million the CRTC wants, out of the fat pockets of the cable companies, not out of the slim pockets of the consumers?