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colleges will sit on the 15 member adjustment steering committee that will manage the 18 month project. In addition, the private sector will be represented by the SNC Group, Noranda and General Electric.

An important conference will be held in the spring of 1991 to consider the preliminary findings. The final report and action plans will be made public before the end of 1991.

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[English]

CHILD CARE

Ms. Dawn Black (New Westminster—Burnaby): Madam Speaker, on the first page of his budget the Minister of Finance said:

We have a responsibility to our children and grandchildren. To build for them, not to borrow from them.

The government responds to a child care crisis by making promises it never keeps. The Conservative government answers the serious and desperate need for child care by slapping on spending limits and by cutting child care programs.

In British Columbia there are 300,000 children in desperate need of child care services and only 20,000 licensed spaces. These children may be going unsupervised. They could be in the hands of unqualified people. The government has proven again and again that it has no concern for children.

The Child Care Initiatives Fund has been axed in this budget by \$1.75 million. If the Minister of Finance really believes that cutting child care is building for our children and our grandchildren, he is sadly incompetent. He should have been cut in the cabinet shuffle this morning.

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THE ECONOMY

Mr. Ken Hughes (Macleod): Madam Speaker, if there has been one consistent message from the people of Macleod during the past year it is that we must reduce the deficit. We must control government spending and we, as Canadians, must keep the economy from getting into the kind of inflation we faced in the early eighties under the Liberal government.

Only when we make progress on these fronts can we expect interest rates to fall to more reasonable levels.

I have expressed these concerns here in the House and directly to the Minister of Finance. The budget this week proves that the minister is listening to the people of Macleod and to other Canadians.

In this budget there are no new taxes. Yet there is a reduction in the deficit, in spite of higher than expected interest rates which increased interest costs for the government.

Albertans are prepared to tighten their belts along with all Canadians. None of us like having to pay the bills, particularly that crowd over there, but we all know that if we don't pay our mortgage then we don't have control over our own house.

The people of Macleod support the direction of this budget.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): I am sorry to interrupt the hon. member but his time has expired.

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ESTABLISHED PROGRAMS FINANCING

Mr. George Proud (Hillsborough): Madam Speaker, given the budget cutbacks in Established Programs Financing, Prince Edward Island will lose \$4.5 million this year, money that is needed for quality health care and post-secondary education.

The P.E.I. government has said that it does not consider deficit financing to be an option, so Islanders could be facing increased provincial taxes.

The budget papers state that for two years EPF transfers will grow with the population increase of each province, but that there will be no thaw in the EPF freeze.

In case the government has not noticed, businesses and bases are closing all over Atlantic Canada. At best, the population of Prince Edward Island is stagnant. At worst, we will see a continued erosion.

Prince Edward Islanders asked the minister to end the freeze on Established Programs Financing. Islanders deserve the same quality of health care and education as that enjoyed by other Canadians.