

Oral Questions

CANCER TREATMENT PROGRAM

Mr. Howard McCurdy (Windsor—Walkerville): My supplementary question is directed to the same Minister. Will the announcement include a correction of the situation with the TRIUMF program which is involved in cancer treatment, and all those other programs that we have mentioned that impinge upon the health and safety of Canadians? If it is his intention to re-examine all of those programs which we have mentioned one by one, is it not about time that the whole process of cutting NRC be stopped right now in its tracks before any more damage is done?

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

• (1440)

Hon. Frank Oberle (Minister of State for Science and Technology): Mr. Speaker, I do not for a moment accept the Hon. Member's assertion that damage has been done to the integrity of the NRC. As I have said, there will be an examination in light of Government priorities and public health. That examination will proceed reasonably swiftly. Let me relieve the Hon. Member's concern about TRIUMF. I am told that there will be no injury to the programs of TRIUMF, and that the allocations made there have nothing to do with their programs but have to do with their future planning.

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FISHERIES

WEST COAST SALMON LICENCE FEES

Mr. Ted Schellenberg (Nanaimo—Alberni): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans. Last weekend in British Columbia the Minister announced that he would be doubling licence fees for commercial fishermen to help pay for phase two of the Salmonid Enhancement Program. Why would the Minister single out one sector, or does he plan to share the load with other resource users of this West Coast fishery?

Hon. Thomas Siddon (Minister of Fisheries and Oceans): Mr. Speaker, the Government of Canada or the taxpayers of Canada have invested over a quarter billion dollars in the Salmonid Enhancement Program on the West Coast over the past 10 years. At the time the program was started there was a commitment made that when it began to produce dividends to commercial and recreational fishermen, the users who benefited would begin to pay a portion of the cost. These increases would raise about one-tenth of the total cost of maintaining the program, and I think it is a fair contribution to ask of the commercial and recreational fishermen of British Columbia.

MINISTER'S CONSULTATIONS

Mr. Ted Schellenberg (Nanaimo—Alberni): Mr. Speaker, the Minister should know that there is a great deal of anxiety and concern on the West Coast about this matter. Where does the consultative mechanism come in here? The Minister is disbanding his advisory council, while at the same time announcing new methods of SEP funding. Whom is the Minister consulting these days?

Hon. Thomas Siddon (Minister of Fisheries and Oceans): Mr. Speaker, I think this is an important supplementary question. In fact the subject of user fees and the future of the Salmonid Enhancement Program have been discussed over the past 12 months with the Minister's Advisory Council, albeit in somewhat of a vacuum because several user groups—in particular native people, commercial trollers, and latterly sports fishermen—have withdrawn from the Minister's Advisory Council. I felt it important to create a new policy advisory group known as the Pacific Regional Council. All user groups will be represented as policies of this nature are developed in future.

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[Translation]

RAILWAYS

FUTURE OF 551 CN EMPLOYEES AT MONCTON

Mr. Fernand Robichaud (Westmorland—Kent): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Transport. In answer to a question yesterday the Minister implied that 551 persons would remain employed by CN in Moncton. Today, calmly, can the Minister give me more details concerning these 551 persons, that is how many will work in Moncton, how many will be transferred elsewhere, and how many will take early retirement?

[English]

Hon. John C. Crosbie (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I do not want to be too lengthy, but I never said that 551 people would be retaining jobs in Moncton. I said that accommodation had been found for 551 people. There are 165 in the CN Moncton shops complex; 152 in the CN Moncton Gordon Yard; 116 have been offered and accepted jobs at CN in Winnipeg; 34 at CN in Montreal; 9 at CN in Toronto; 6 at VIA Rail in Toronto; 3 at VIA Rail in Windsor; 2 at VIA Rail in Montreal; 54 are eligible for early retirement in Moncton; and 10 come under the category of "various other".

NUMBER OF JOBS RETAINED IN MONCTON

Mr. Fernand Robichaud (Westmorland—Kent): Mr. Speaker, transfers and early retirements are not jobs for Moncton workers; those are jobs lost to Moncton. How many of the 551 will actually stay in Moncton?