

## REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

**Mr. Len Hopkins (Renfrew—Nipissing—Pembroke):** Mr. Speaker, eastern Ontario and southern Ontario are the only areas in Canada that do not have a regional development program under this government.

Since January 1, 1989, when the so-called free trade agreement became law, 148,000 manufacturing jobs have been lost in Ontario alone. High interest rates, an artificially high Canadian dollar, rationalization and centralization of corporate business, have pulled industries out of small town Ontario and cities alike. Jobs have moved to Mexico, the U.S. and elsewhere. High taxes caused by 33 tax increases under this Tory government, high fuel costs and other transportation expenditures have driven jobs from Canada.

U.S. farmers are benefiting under free trade but Canadian farmers are not. Post offices, VIA Rail and potential tourist infrastructure have been taken away from the regions of Canada. Canadians want a lower Canadian dollar. They want tax relief, but most of all Canadians want a new government that knows what this Canadian nation is all about.

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## OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY WEEK

**Mrs. Barbara Sparrow (Calgary Southwest):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to the attention of all members that this is Canadian Occupational Health and Safety Week. This is a week dedicated to highlighting the important role of health and safety programs that they have in the workplace in reducing the number of illnesses and the accidents that cost society so much each year.

At the federal level the Department of National Health and Welfare is responsible for the health and safety of all federal government employees. Health and Welfare Canada through its public service health programs provide a wide range of services to protect and to promote the mental, physical and social well-being of federal employees. Two of their current priorities are, increasing the capacity to respond to post-trauma stress and also a continuing emphasis on investigating complaints about the poor quality of air in the workplace.

S. O. 31

• (1410)

The health and safety of our federal employees is important and I am confident their interests are being well served by this department.

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[Translation]

## INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF LANAUDIÈRE

**Mr. Gaby Larrivée (Joliette):** Mr. Speaker, the International Festival of Lanaudière will start its fourteenth season of activities this week. A marvellous program of classical music will be presented from June 20 to July 28. The audience will hear world famous performers, including new French singer Françoise Pollet. Mozart will be in the spotlight on this 200th anniversary of his death, with a number of concerts by performers like Christopher Hogwood and the Handel and Haydn Society.

The festival's amphitheatre, in a breathtaking setting unique in this country, has room for 2,000 people under its roof and 8,000 more on the lawn, whose natural slope offers an excellent view of the stage. The visual impact, however, is nothing compared to the acoustics where no effort has been spared to render the subtle harmonies of our virtuoso performers as faithfully as possible.

This year, the festival will include the biggest hologram in the world, one of the few to be exhibited outside. It was made by artist Georges Diens who was inspired by the Champs Élysées in Paris.

**Mr. Speaker:** I am sorry to interrupt the hon. member but his time is expired.

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[English]

## TRADE

**Mr. Sid Parker (Kootenay East):** Mr. Speaker, today we met with a group of individuals representing coal mining communities in western Canada. What they told us was both sad and shocking. It seems that for a number of reasons their industry is losing ground to competitors in the United States.

Western Canadian producers are subject to high transportation costs, including the GST, which American producers are not. If this government is serious about increasing interprovincial trade, it should look at a tax rebate for the transportation of goods from one province to another.