

I think you are making, senator—what changes they as a group desired, we really could discover no kind of concensus regarding any substantial changes in the program.

Senator SMITH (*Queens-Shelburne*): I wonder if the departmental officials have ever discussed this subject with all the provinces, with a view to having them all accept at least to some degree the responsibility for adding to the federal incentive, because it is so obvious that those provinces which are now in that field of providing incentives of their own are the very provinces where the program is apparently a much greater effort than it is in the others. Have there been discussions held trying to persuade the other provinces which are lagging in that respect to participate?

Mr. DYMOND: I would not say discussions have been held on a very senior level or in a very formal way on this point, senator. There have been efforts made, I think, from time to time, correspondence and discussion, to convince some of the provinces that if they want to participate in this program to the extent many other provinces do, this seems to be the way to produce the result, namely to put some additional provincial money on top of the federal money, but I think the Government has never taken the position that we should in a sense tell provinces how to do it or tie our offer of funds to any specific offer the provinces might make.

Senator SMITH (*Queens-Shelburne*): Could I assume at least the success of the program in relation to the financial participation of the provinces has a very close connection, so they will realize that if they entertain some thought of adding to the incentive their winter unemployment could be assisted in some measure?

Mr. DYMOND: I think the whole concept of the program is largely based on inducing municipalities to behave in a way which will reduce winter unemployment through the offer of financial assistance, if they bring forward projects in the winter that conform. I think, looking at the statistics overall, one would be led to the conclusion that the more the financial assistance the greater the performance in this respect.

Senator SMITH (*Queens-Shelburne*): Does the kind of information we received yesterday and today find its way into the Department of Labour in the various provinces, so they will take a look at the national picture instead of reading in the newspapers that Quebec had so many millions of dollars, and so on? Do they understand what the whole picture is?

Mr. HEREFORD: Yes, sir. We produce these cumulative reports weekly, and they are provided to all the provinces, and we provide all the provinces with information as to what the other provinces are doing.

Senator O'LEARY (*Antigonish-Guysborough*): On this subject, I believe that perhaps the provinces would be more concerned with the information they would get from the municipalities and the Department of Municipal Affairs, rather than the Department of Labour. By request and by invitation on their part, if they are not satisfied with the present participation of their provincial government, it would seem to me that the municipalities are in a much better position to decide. I am speaking for Nova Scotia, for example, and I think this is the situation.

Senator SMITH (*Queens-Shelburne*): I doubt very much if some of the municipalities realize the extent to which some of the provinces have gone in sharing in the incentive program. Yesterday there were figures given in connection with a number of provinces.

Mr. DYMOND: We deal with departments of municipal affairs on this program, not departments of labour, if I may say that by way of clarification.

Senator ISNOR: I was interested in the last answer, and I would like this on the record as to procedure. Who initiates the start of this request for assistance?