

## S.O. 21

## AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 2 p.m.

## STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S.O. 21

[English]

## EMPLOYMENT

## CHALLENGE '85—CALL FOR PROGRAM CHANGE

**Hon. Warren Allmand (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce-Lachine East):** Mr. Speaker, last week, two months later than usual, the Minister for Employment and Immigration (Miss MacDonald) produced her summer employment program. What did these two months of delay and procrastination give us? To begin with, as a result of these delays it gave us a program that will be more difficult to implement for students this summer. Second, it gave us a program in which there is less in real dollars this year than there was in last year's program. Third, it gave us a program in which many of the elements are the same as last year but where there are different names. For instance we have "Challenge '85" instead of "Summer Canada". Fourth, and finally, it gave us a program where there is a higher priority for employment with big business than for employment with non-profit community organizations.

It did not give us, as the Minister claims, a program that is more career related. That was a principle object of last year's program as well.

Therefore, after a delay of two months, the principal result is a summer employment program with a higher priority to big business than to community service. Now, however, there is some doubt whether big business can even deliver on those jobs that were promised. In Saturday's *Citizen* several spokespersons for big business stated they cannot guarantee the creation of 10,000 summer jobs as claimed by the Minister.

While there is still time, I ask the Minister to change this program to allocate specifically a good percentage of the money to community services and thereby assure students and regions of a greater number of summer jobs.

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[Translation]

## CANADA POST CORPORATION

## REGIONAL WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS

**Mr. Jean-Guy Guilbault (Drummond):** Mr. Speaker, Canada Post Corporation is eating into the profits of small newspapers by charging delivery rates for advertising inserts with which small businesses cannot compete.

Moreover, publishers will not accept to pay for the Canada Post Corporation's deficits because they cannot expect to be

subsidized whenever they run a deficit, as does the Crown Corporation.

The implication of such unfair competition is in the longer term the total disappearance of regional weekly newspapers and the information they disseminate, and in the shorter term lower profits resulting in a further reduction of already very small editorial staffs.

As a former newspaper publisher I am very much aware of everything that worries editors.

Mr. Speaker, it has come to my knowledge that the management of Canada Post Corporation intended to meet soon with spokesmen from the Government.

This is why I am asking those Government spokesmen to find, within the shortest possible time frame, a solution that is favourable to regional weekly newspapers, because their survival is at stake.

In view of the number of other complaints we have concerning the service provided by the Corporation, I urge you to impress upon the management the mandate of that Corporation, which is first and foremost to distribute the mails to all Canadians as fast as possible.

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[English]

## EMPLOYMENT

## CHALLENGE '85—IMPACT ON INDIAN YOUTHS

**Mr. Jim Manly (Cowichan-Malahat-The Islands):** Mr. Speaker, Challenge '85, the Government's summer job program, completely fails to meet the needs of Indian young people. Population statistics show a much higher percentage of Indian young people entering the labour market than in the case of the general population. But these young people have very few economic opportunities because of growing pressure on their land and resource base. The tragic consequence of this can be seen in statistics on suicide, alcoholism, and imprisonment.

What does Challenge '85 offer? Only the native internship program which is designed for native students to "gain an understanding of how the federal bureaucracy works", as though Indians can solve their economic problems by becoming bureaucrats. Where are the funds that will go directly to Indian bands or native organizations to help them run projects that are important to them?

Last week the Minister said if the moneys were not taken up by the private sector, it would be there for other groups. In other words, Indian young people will get the crumbs that fall from the table of the private sector.

Where are the provisions for employment equity in the private sector? What provisions are there to ensure that funding is spread fairly throughout the province instead of being used up in areas where the economy is strongest and unemployment already lower?