

The Speech from the Throne provides further evidence of the Government's destructive attitude. The Government makes overtures to virtually every special interest group in the country. Small promises here and smaller promises there, all based on one objective—political expediency.

There are promises of studies, grants for studies and grants for studying grants for studies. This is the Government's answer to Canada's problems. Study the problem and maybe it will go away. And, if it does not, then identify a special group interested in the problem and fund it so it becomes dependent on you and then it can no longer make the problem public.

These are not answers, Mr. Speaker. These are tactics—tactics aimed at perpetuating the life of an arrogant, uncaring, incompetent, destructive government.

The Government talks in the Throne Speech about starting to build on our regional strengths. How can it be serious, Mr. Speaker? This is the same group of wreckers that destroyed federal-provincial relations. It was the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) who declared that co-operative federalism was dead. Now, in a last ditch attempt to restore its political credibility, the Government opposite talks about resurrecting co-operative federalism. It promises in the Throne Speech to launch a new era of federal-provincial planning and consultation. This is just another one of its hollow promises—promises it does not keep, promises on which it backtracks.

The people of Mission-Port Moody do not want special treatment. They do not want to be catered to like some special interest group. They do not want Liberal Government hand-outs or giant bailouts. They just want to be treated with a degree of fairness and equity. They want to be represented in the House and in the other place by responsive individuals who are committed to fostering national unity, encouraging growth and development and promoting freedom and prosperity.

The people of Mission-Port Moody, like all the people of Canada, want a government to deliver a Speech from the Throne that makes commitments and not hollow promises. They want a commitment to restore confidence in our national economy. They want to see an incentive-based tax system that encourages investments and risk taking. They want the real engine of growth, the private sector, to be given half a chance. They want the bureaucratic barriers and blockades removed so that small businesses, the champions of job creation, can provide permanent full-time jobs.

Canadians want a government that will encourage research and development by offering tax incentives to businesses. They want to see new technologies adapted to our resource-based industries and our manufacturing industries to increase productivity and enhance quality. They want to see a government that rewards hard work and sacrifice, instead of taxing success and redistributing wealth. They want to see a government that will maintain our precious health care system, rather than a government that attempts to undermine the system by renegeing on its commitments. They want to see a government that provides opportunities for our young people through quality education in the vocational and technical disciplines as well as the academic ones.

Canadians in every part of our country want a government that offers some hope, Mr. Speaker. How can the people of

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Mission-Port Moody or the people of any other area of Canada have hope if 1.5 million people do not have jobs? And how, Mr. Speaker, can people have jobs if the Government of the day is intent on controlling every aspect of our economy?

Our history has shown that if Canadians are given a free hand, they have the will and they have the way to achieve important goals. I talked earlier about our inherent desire to maintain our unity through a commitment to success and achievement. This success, this achievement, has been a national success achieved by the regions of our country, in the regions of our country, by the people of those regions. The regions are strong Mr. Speaker, but so is the desire to work together as Canadians.

*[Translation]*

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to be a descendant of the two founding races of our great country, and I am particularly proud of my French Canadian origins. Although I have not spoken French for over 30 years, I venture to say a few words in this House in a language which means a lot to me. I have witnessed the strength of national unity in the community where I lived. Having lived in a French Canadian community outside Quebec, I have had many opportunities to realize that success transcends cultural and linguistic barriers. I have seen a nation put aside their regional interests and work together as Canadians to build and develop our country. As a Progressive Conservative member, I am pleased to have had the opportunity to work towards reaching an agreement with Quebec and Manitoba in order to protect the rights of linguistic minorities and our two official languages and thus build a truly bilingual country.

*[English]*

Canadians have an identity, and as individuals they have strong ideals and values. They do not want their lives controlled by government or their ideals established by one political philosophy. They do not want a group of pseudo-intellectuals to instruct them on how our nation should evolve. They know that these elitist intellectuals cannot tell them what to read or what to watch on the media.

I have faith, Mr. Speaker, in Canadians. I have faith in our nation as one united country from ocean to ocean. I know that Canadians will find a way to restore prosperity in Canada. I only hope that it happens soon, because people are suffering.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I suggest that the Members opposite look at the words in the Speech from the Throne and ask themselves what hope these words offer, as the grips of winter take over our great land, to those millions of Canadians who have not had the opportunity to earn a living in months or whose families are suffering because a father, a brother, a sister or a mother, have exhausted their unemployment benefits?

Let those Members opposite and the Government, which is largely responsible for the plight of the jobless, reflect in silence during this very crucial time.