

[English]

Hon. Tom Hockin (Minister of State (Small Businesses and Tourism)): Mr. Speaker, as I indicated before, this program is made up of three components. They are programs delivered by the federal Government, programs delivered by the provincial Government, and joint programs.

The expenditures under these programs will depend upon all the participants coming forward. We are still waiting for the Province of Quebec to come forward under the joint program component and its own part of the program.

* * *

FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

CLOSURE OF GLASS MANUFACTURING PLANTS

Mr. Lyle Dean MacWilliam (Okanagan—Shuswap): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Prime Minister I wish to direct my question to the Deputy Prime Minister.

The Minister will know that Consumers Packaging, Canada's only glass manufacturer, announced recently the closure of its glass plant in Ville St. Pierre, Quebec, with the loss of 450 jobs.

This Friday the company will announce its decision to shut a second plant either in Alberta or British Columbia with the loss of a further 300 to 450 jobs. The chief executive officer of the parent company has acknowledged that these closures are to keep the industry competitive in response to the elimination of Canadian tariffs in light of free trade.

Will the Deputy Prime Minister explain to the 700 to 900 Canadian workers who are about to lose their jobs where to apply for the massive readjustment programs that the Prime Minister promised the Canadian people during the election campaign?

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. John C. Crosbie (Minister for International Trade): Mr. Speaker, I have a list here which is seven or eight pages long setting out plants that have expanded and factories that have expanded—

Oral Questions

Mr. Broadbent: Table it.

Mr. Crosbie: —as well as new investments that have been made because of the Free Trade Agreement.

For example, Miramichi Pulp and Paper in Newcastle has hired 300 new employees and will hire an additional 100 in the fall as part of a \$480 million expansion plan made possible by the Free Trade Agreement.

There is page after page of examples that we can give. It is completely unproductive to make these unsubstantiated and silly allegations in the House about such matters.

IMPACT OF POSSIBLE PLANT CLOSURE ON OKANAGAN

Mr. Lyle Dean MacWilliam (Okanagan—Shuswap): Mr. Speaker, if the British Columbia plant located in the riding of Okanagan—Shuswap is the western plant to close, 450 people are going to be thrown out of work and there will be a loss of \$32 million to the local economy.

Some Hon. Members: If!

Mr. MacWilliam: How can the Prime Minister possibly call free trade a benefit to the economy of the Okanagan when this is the kind of result that occurs?

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. John C. Crosbie (Minister for International Trade): Mr. Speaker, how the people of the Okanagan wish that they had their former Member back representing them now.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Riis: Name one.

Mr. Broadbent: Why is he not here?

Mr. Crosbie: As a matter of fact he is close to us now, Mr. Speaker, watching us.

Just to give some examples from British Columbia, Alcan Aluminum is investing \$48 million in its Kitimat plant.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member for Calgary South-east.