

*Oral Questions***CANADA-U.S. FREE TRADE AGREEMENT**

**Mr. Steven W. Langdon (Essex—Windsor):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. The Minister of State for Agriculture admitted this past weekend that since free trade came in in this country in fact there has been a decrease in the relationships between the United States and Canada so far as trade is concerned.

In view of this, what explanation can the Prime Minister give for allowing, contrary to law, American used cars into this country without meeting Canadian safety standards?

[*Translation*]

**Hon. Benoît Bouchard (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, it is quite clear that as concerns used cars coming into this country from the United States, the Department of Transport has already proceeded with a series of changes in its regulations, especially for vehicles more than eight years old, and we intend to bring the Canadian market's regulations into line with Canadian safety regulations. I can give the House the assurance that as procedures are implemented, Canadian regulations will be brought into line, and that there is no way used cars coming in from the United States will not meet Canadian safety regulations.

[*English*]

**Mr. Langdon:** Mr. Speaker, in fact this government said that safety standards would be respected for Canada in this entire arrangement with the United States. So I ask this government again: Why this reversal, why this decision to turn back this promise which was made to the Canadian people, why this decision to put the risk of Canadian safety on the bargaining table yet again?

**Hon. Benoît Bouchard (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, my friend knows that what he says is absolutely untrue. He knows that very well. He knows that, for example, we have changed the regulations for the metric speedometers and the bilingual fuel labels. At this stage with the existing U.S. safety standards we will soon replace the regulations in place with the notice of defect, and after 1990 all vehicles imported will be required to respect the Canadian rules. He knows that very well. I do not believe that it is sound to mix politics with safety.

[*Translation*]

**MINES**

**Mr. Guy St-Julien (Abitibi):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion.

The Canada-Québec agreement on mineral development expires in March 1990. This agreement has met its objectives quite satisfactorily, but much remains to be done with respect to research and development in the mining industry in Québec.

My question is as follows: Could the Minister confirm to the House today that he is currently engaged in talks with the Government of Québec for the purpose of renewing the agreement for the next five years, so that the mining industry will survive? If not, when will talks begin with the Government of Québec, with Mr. Bourassa's government?

[*English*]

**Hon. Harvie Andre (Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion and Minister of State for Science and Technology):** Mr. Speaker, I can indeed confirm that we are in active discussions with the Government of Quebec in terms of our co-operative economic agreements. I am hopeful that now that the Bourassa government has been re-elected a new ministry will be in place and we will be able to make progress and sign the agreements in the near future.

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**COMMUNITY FUTURES PROGRAM**

**Mr. Brian O'Kurley (Elk Island):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Employment and Immigration. The Lamont-Two Hills Community Futures Program is important to Elk Island. Can the Minister assure us that this program will continue and, if so, will she also assure us that the smallest possible amount of program funding will be spent on administration and bureaucracy and that the maximum possible support will go toward helping the small businessmen and our community?

**Hon. Barbara McDougall (Minister of Employment and Immigration):** Mr. Speaker, the Lamont-Two Hills Community Futures is a program that has been under