

tion to provide those people with the technology necessary to compete in Atlantic Canada in this age of technological advancement. There is no mention of the transportation industry. Coming from the hub of the Maritimes and the transportation centre of Atlantic Canada, I am concerned about that. I want to be part of a government team which will work with all the provinces so that when we introduce legislation to help Atlantic Canada and the rest of this country we will deal with all the necessary components, such as transportation.

I was pleased to see members of the Liberal Party make reference to the Maritime Freight Assistance Program, Mr. Speaker. However, there was no reference at all to the freight rates assistance program to help Atlantic Canadian farmers become self-sufficient and supply our own markets as well as export. There is no reference to a lot of the problems in Atlantic Canada and their solution. That is the kind of piecemeal approach we have an obligation to fight because that is what has caused the situation to become as difficult as it is.

We in Atlantic Canada, like the rest of this country, need comprehensive policies. Sure, we need regional policies but we also need comprehensive national policies which are created to help the regions as opposed to pitting one region against the other.

It was interesting to watch the Hon. Member for Cape Breton-East Richmond who now has all the answers. I do not know where he was when that Party formed the Government of this country. Where was he in caucus when he should have gotten up and said these things? I just cannot understand why he can have all the answers now but none before. Obviously he found all kinds of things that were not referred to in this motion so I will be watching with interest when the vote is taken to see if he can support a motion that he knows does not include a lot of the things needed to get Atlantic Canada back on its feet.

Mr. Nystrom: There is no vote. It is not a voting motion.

Mr. Cochrane: The national policies we see are good for Canada and also good for Atlantic Canada.

Mr. Tobin: Nonsense.

Mr. Cochrane: Atlantic Canada is concerned with debt reduction. We are concerned that the Government is aware that we cannot continue to spend sums of money vastly greater than what we take in. This Government is concerned with deficit reduction, which will in turn bring lower interest rates, as we have seen. That in turn will create confidence throughout this country, certainly in Atlantic Canada.

There are commitments being made on research and development. In fact, by Atlantic Canada time there is probably a commitment being made right now. Investment Canada is the kind of legislation we need to encourage investment in our country and in Atlantic Canada.

Mr. Benjamin: For K. C. Irving.

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Mr. Cochrane: I should not be baited by that but I am going to be. It is a shame that that Party cannot recognize what private enterprise and a good private entrepreneur can do for a province such as New Brunswick. As a New Brunswicker I will never stand up here and criticize the Irving family and what they have done for our province.

Mr. Cassidy: Buy and sell the province.

Mr. Cochrane: I can assure you that that family has done more in Atlantic Canada, particularly in New Brunswick, than any number of NDP task forces will ever do.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Frith: Get out the flag.

Mr. Cochrane: As the Minister mentioned this morning, we have seen incentives provided to the fishery. We saw the \$23.5 million invested in the forestry research facility in Fredericton. We also see the considerable contribution this Government is making to linking Atlantic Canada to the rest of this country and the rest of the world, the important link of transportation. We saw a previous government which seemed to be committed, judging by its actions, to doing away with passenger train service. Now we see a government which has committed itself to the reintroduction of "The Atlantic" from Halifax to Montreal. We have seen the reintroduction of the rail liner from Moncton to Edmundston. We have seen this Government commit itself to providing new equipment instead of patching up the old.

Those are the kinds of incentives Atlantic Canada is going to need to cement our connections to the rest of this country and the rest of the world, so we can hope to take advantage of the opportunities this country can afford and the world can deliver to us.

Tourism was not referred to in this piecemeal motion, but the \$32 million tourism package signed with New Brunswick offers a lot of encouragement to us. In my constituency alone some \$5.4 million is going to be spent on developing the third largest natural tourist attraction in this country, Magnetic Hill. That will provide the infrastructure so the private sector can employ people and attract tourists to our area. That is the kind of process we need. But there is no reference to tourism in the motion.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, what we need is a government concerned about the economic climate. We are proud people in Atlantic Canada. We will find a way to take advantage of what is available. If we can get this country moving, instil some confidence in this country, the people of Atlantic Canada will work hard to put their intelligence to work and take advantage of every opportunity we can get. If we fail in that objective then we will perhaps need specific legislation. But give us a chance in a country that is on the move. Give us a chance in a country where inflation is not rampant and interest rates are at reasonable levels. Then let us take a serious look at the problems in Atlantic Canada and at what problems remain. But let us make sure that legislation we introduce