

*S. O. 31*

More than eight years have elapsed since the Rainy River Band began its work on this claim. How much longer will it have to wait: 10, 20 or 30 years? When will we hear about the details to speed up the process?

I suggest the minister speed up this process before the Human Rights Commission slams him and his government further.

\* \* \*

[*Translation*]

#### GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES

**Mr. Guy Saint-Julien (Abitibi):** Admittedly, Mr. Speaker, self-imposed budget restraints will create difficulties for me, but I must do my share because the federal government is strongly committed to cut down its own expenditures.

My riding of Abitibi covers 553,837 square kilometres and is located 425 kilometres from Ottawa. Between September 1984 and March 31, 1990 my travel expenses in Abitibi and elsewhere in Canada amounted to \$180,804, or \$32,382 a year on average.

Mr. Speaker, if I did use the 64 points of my air travel budget—Ottawa to Northern Abitibi round trips, and assuming I had the time to travel that much—I would be spending \$2,500 each time, which amounts to \$160,000 a year.

\* \* \*

#### RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

**Mrs. Suzanne Duplessis (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of State (Science and Technology)):** Mr. Speaker, the Fonds Biocapital, offspring of the FTQ's Fonds de solidarité, has appealed to the public to invest \$8 million in research and development through a Corporation for the Development of Quebec Business. It is the largest CDQB ever established in Quebec and will finance four companies that are starting out in the biomedical field, namely, Médi-Force-RD, Canaster-RD, Polychol and Lipopharm.

To be successful in these undertakings, the government must be able to count on the full support of the private sector and the general public. This is absolutely essential.

Once again, the FTQ's Fonds de solidarité has shown leadership and demonstrated that it is aware of the need to involve all economic partners in these industries of

the future that will ensure that Canada will continue to play a leading role on the international scene in the years to come.

In the past, Quebecers have shown that they can deliver the goods, and I am sure this project will be another brilliant success.

\* \* \*

[*English*]

#### GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES

**Mr. Lyle Dean MacWilliam (Okanagan—Shuswap):** Mr. Speaker, arts and cultural organizations across Canada await the grim details from this government regarding yet another round of cuts to their already inadequate budgets.

Even as the CBC, the Canada Council and the Canadian Council of Arts plead for adequate funding, they will now have to pay for this government's foreign policy.

The news comes from a government that did not consult with these agencies about the cuts and did not consult Parliament or the people of Canada about the wisdom of sending Canadian men and women to a potential war.

Arts and culture in Canada are already crippled by a made-in-Canada recession, consistent underfunding, and the proposed GST. Why is this government once again punishing our cultural industries and their important contributions to our Canadian way of life?

The very fabric of this land—our national unity and our cultural identity—is being rent asunder while our Secretary of State for External Affairs, G. I. Joe, dreams of becoming Saddam Hussein's worst nightmare.

\* \* \*

[*Translation*]

#### TRIBUTE TO JEAN-CLAUDE MALÉPART

**Hon. Jean Lapierre (Shefford):** Mr. Speaker, I rise in the House today to commemorate the fact that our former colleague, Jean-Claude Malépart, died nearly a year ago. I wanted to say a few words in his memory today because I know that Jean-Claude and his social conscience, his awareness of the needs of senior citizens and his enormous energy as a member of this House, left a gap on these benches that has proved difficult to fill. I know that his family, his widow and his friends, want to