

of trees in large numbers and better forest management. The Canadian Forestry Service is there to perform that service all the time. Its ability to perform that task has been enhanced in recent years, as I will try to demonstrate in a moment.

The second part of the motion deals with the convening of a conference at the earliest opportunity of federal and provincial responsible Ministers. Here again, I would like to bring to your attention, Mr. Speaker, and to the attention of the Hon. Member for Kamloops-Shuswap—because he does not seem to realize it—that a conference of this nature took place on September 14, 1983, in Winnipeg. I could even put on record the agenda of that meeting where we discussed the forest sector strategy in Canada. That was a big item in Winnipeg in September. We discussed employment in forestry, pest control, water bombers, softwood lumber contravening duties, fire research, the Canadian Institute of Forestry resolutions and even the restructuring of CCREM. Finally, we discussed the launching, which was itself an important development in joint federal-provincial ventures, and creation of the Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre. Therefore, if I look at the motion and at the reality, I must reject the motion put forward by the Hon. Member.

In addition, two years ago, as you will recall, Mr. Speaker, the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) announced a significant reorganization to more closely realign policies and programs for economic development, keeping in mind the needs of major economic sectors including the forest sector. Under this reorganization the responsibility for negotiation and management of federal-provincial forestry agreements was transferred to the Canadian Forestry Service in the Department of the Environment from the Ministry of Regional and Economic Expansion. This decision of two years ago, I am sure the Hon. Member would know, was followed by a period of consolidation which is still continuing. We are still, therefore, in the process of consolidating after having hired some 100 new people and started negotiations toward new agreements in the light of those expiring in the future. We have also expanded and reinforced our regional offices to perform that duty. As I pointed out yesterday in this House, you may recall, Mr. Speaker, this Government has responded and continues to respond to the challenges facing the forest sector.

As a first step we felt it necessary to establish a national system for the collection, analysis and dissemination of forestry data in furtherance of intensive forest management policies, planning and programs. This work is being conducted as a component of the Petawawa National Forest Institute. The financial resources approved for this program for the period 1981-1982 to 1983-1984 total some \$5.7 million. It enabled us to produce the 1981 Canada forest inventory.

We have committed ourselves to enter into agreements with each of the Provinces in support of programs to meet the reforestation needs of the forest sector in Canada as a subsequent step. As I mentioned yesterday, two agreements have been signed, one with Nova Scotia worth \$30 million in federal funds over five years, and another one with the Province of Prince Edward Island, which was signed in July of this year

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for a period of five years in the amount of \$15 million in federal funds. Then we have provided an additional \$16 million to enhance the agreement with Newfoundland.

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Also we have prepared a private woodlot development policy which provides the basis for private woodlot programs in federal-provincial forest agreements. This was consequent upon the urging of several Hon. Members on our side particularly those from New Brunswick. Given the high unemployment in the forestry sector, last year we began a job-creation program by using Section 38 of the Unemployment Insurance Act. The Canadian Forestry Service provided some \$34 million to top up the benefits of UIC recipients which under the program delivered some \$140 million. It has provided some 14,000 jobs, representing a quarter of a million weeks of employment in the particular area of forest renewal.

I would like to stress that this program was particularly successful in British Columbia. Unfortunately, in June of this year that Province decided to curtail its involvement in the program, sharply reducing its effectiveness. In terms of forestry research and development, we have supported Forintek and we have approved the research and development component of this strategy. We have provided \$5.5 million to the Canadian Forestry Service for research and development in the current fiscal year. Also we have already committed funds for the expansion and upgrading of Canadian Forestry Service research labs across the country.

The House may recall that yesterday I made reference to the Pacific Forestry Research Centre which received \$14 million; to the Great Lakes Forestry Research Centre, where some \$13 million was allocated; to the Laurentian Forestry Research Centre, where \$10.5 million was allocated; and to the new Maritime Forestry Research Centre, where some \$22.5 million was made available. In addition, some \$17 million has been provided for the expansion of pulp and paper research facilities in Victoria and Pointe Claire. We have provided some \$10 million to the Maritime Forest Ranger School as part of the forestry complex in Fredericton.

When it comes to human resources, we have anticipated well what might happen in requirements in this field and have made available and provided over \$15 million to expand the pool of professional forestry manpower. This money will provide for forestry scholarships, contract research and development, and summer student employment for some 300 students per year. Most of this money will go to Canadian universities, particularly to the six forestry schools across the country—the University of British Columbia, the University of Alberta, Lakehead University, the University of Toronto, l'université de Laval, and the University of New Brunswick.

Another area of increased activity has been in the field of international trade. We have developed a reasonably successful program of overseas market development of British Columbia forest products under the agreement between the federal Government, the Province and the British Columbia Council of Forest Industries. This program is expected to be expanded to