

*Oral Questions***THE ENVIRONMENT**

**Mr. Brian L. Gardiner (Prince George—Bulkley Valley):** Mr. Speaker, the environmental challenge facing all Canadians impacts especially on the workers whose livelihoods depend on our forests. Last week at the IWA conference in Vancouver, delegates debated and passed resolutions recognizing the importance of the environment, and called for policies that stress fighting wasteful logging practices, boosting research and development, an aggressive program of replanting trees and equitable land use policies. A resolution to have a union-wide referendum to approve an environmental fund also passed.

All too often, the workers in the forest get squeezed in resource conflicts by industry and government. As one delegate said about our forest resource, "I too am an environmentalist. My job depends on it."

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**CANADIAN WHEAT BOARD**

**Mr. Larry Schneider (Regina—Wascana):** Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize an organization which works tirelessly in the best interests of western Canadian farmers, the Canadian Wheat Board. The Canadian Wheat Board has always been active in finding new markets and expanding existing ones.

Presently, the Wheat Board markets western Canadian grains to over 60 countries throughout the world. During the last four years, the enormous export subsidies of the United States and the European Economic Community have made the job of the Canadian Wheat Board much more difficult. The fact that the 1988 harvest was very small made a bad situation even worse.

Despite the adverse conditions, the Canadian Wheat Board has done an excellent job of protecting our position in the international market-place. With grain production much improved on the prairies, I am sure they are looking forward to the challenges of the future and will meet them successfully as they have in the past. I am confident that the Canadian Wheat Board will remain the cornerstone of the western Canadian grain marketing system.

**MUNICIPALITIES**

**Mr. Eugène Bellemare (Carleton—Gloucester):** Mr. Speaker, last Tuesday I had the privilege to preside over the national Liberal task force on municipal infrastructure. Every Canadian is entitled to clean water, fresh air, adequate sewage systems, safe bridges and good roads.

[*Translation*]

However, as far as I could see from representations made by municipalities in the Ottawa—Carleton region, municipal infrastructures are in a deplorable state and need federal funding.

[*English*]

I believe that all levels of government have a commitment to improve our infrastructure. It is unrealistic to expect that the financial burden of infrastructure management should be borne by the local municipality alone, whether it is within the Ottawa region where the federal government gets a near free ride because of its heavy usage of local infrastructure or anywhere else throughout the country.

[*Translation*]

I therefore ask the Government to immediately acknowledge the importance of maintaining urban infrastructures by providing financial support to Canadian municipalities.

**ORAL QUESTION PERIOD**

[*English*]

**EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

**Right Hon. John N. Turner (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, I have some questions for the Prime Minister relating to his upcoming international trip. Four years ago on October 28, 1985, the Prime Minister said this to the United Nations in its General Assembly meeting:

If there are not fundamental changes in South Africa, we are prepared to invoke total sanctions against that country and its repressive regime. If there is no progress in the dismantling of apartheid, our relations with South Africa may have to be severed absolutely.