

*Oral Questions*

prise on a long-term lease basis the non-aviation services at Pearson Airport.

My hon. friend may think that it is the duty of the government to decide whether it should be five coffee shops or four. We happen to think private enterprise can do that job better.

**Mr. Sergio Marchi (York West):** Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is for the same minister.

At his announcement last week in response to a question whether the private firms would protect the existing jobs, this minister said among other things, and I quote: "I am not in the business of saving jobs".

I ask the minister who is yelling and is agitated how he can allow himself to make such an irresponsible statement when there exists 14,000 Canadian jobs at those two terminals and following thousands of Canadians who have lost their jobs in the airline industry in the last two weeks alone.

Will the minister ensure the safety and security of these jobs rather than be glib? It is the same thing that they said to Air Canada employees: "Don't worry, be happy". Now there are 3,000 people who are not very happy.

**Hon. Doug Lewis (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, my hon. friend said unquote. I am going to give him the whole quote. I said: "I am not in the business of saving jobs. I am in the business of creating opportunities". That is what I said.

You should have been there like the NDP critic. You should have been there. The NDP critic was there. Why weren't you?

Now, Mr. Speaker, let us talk jobs at Pearson. Why do you not ask me for the figures? There are 450 Transport Canada jobs at Pearson; 275 of them will stay with Transport Canada. My hon. friend is talking about 175 jobs.

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**THE ENVIRONMENT**

**Mr. Jim Fulton (Skeena):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Deputy Prime Minister. The Prime Minister promised the people of British Columbia that there would be a full public hearing into Alcan's Kemano completion project.

On October 12 cabinet passed an Order in Council exempting the Kemano project from public hearings and from environmental impact assessment. Why?

**Mr. Lee Clark (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of the Environment):** Mr. Speaker, I think, as the hon. member knows, there were indeed hearings set up by an independent panel of very distinguished citizens in Canada, including the president of UBC, Dr. Strangway, who is a significant scientist in his own right.

This panel held public hearings. It accumulated some 22 volumes of scientific evidence and came to the conclusion that the conservation and protection of the chinook fisheries resources of the Nechako River could be achieved by a program of mitigated measures. It came to the conclusion—and it is the conclusion of this government—that in fact the study which it had done was the equivalent of the EARP process.

**Mr. Jim Fulton (Skeena):** Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is for the Deputy Prime Minister.

The three lead federal scientists who looked into this project have now suggested publicly that there was political intervention by this government in relation to the decision on Alcan's Kemano project. Four ministers of fisheries in a row—James McGrath, Mr. Speaker, Romeo LeBlanc, and Pierre de Bane—all promised that there would be a full public inquiry and environmental impact evaluation of the project.

Why has there not been a full public inquiry and an environmental impact assessment of a project that will lower the Fraser River by three feet?

• (1500 )

**Mr. Lee Clark (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of the Environment):** First, if I recall correctly, and I stand to be corrected if the hon. member wishes to correct me, it is my understanding that he is on record as supporting the agreement when it was reached earlier on, about three years ago.

To address the question he has just raised, I would say to you, Mr. Speaker, and to all members of this House that there is no basis whatsoever, according to information available to us, in respect of allegations respecting a cover-up. If the hon. member has such evidence or any other individual has such evidence, surely they have a responsibility to lay it before this House so it can be