

GRANTS FOR SOLAR AND WIND POWER ENERGY

Question No. 2,308—**Mr. Fortin:**

Does the government offer grants to those who intend to build houses that use (a) solar energy (b) wind power and, if so, under which programmes?

Mr. Ralph E. Goodale (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, the Departments of Energy, Mines and Resources and Urban Affairs as well as the National Research Council as follows: (a) No. (b) No. However, solar heating equipment and wind generating equipment are exempt from federal excise tax (Bill C-21, Part XVIII, January 28, 1977). A small number of single-family residential units were supported by NRC's solar heating R&D program in 1976-77, but that was not a grant program, and is not covering single-family residences in 1977-78. See also reply to question No. 1570, March 21, 1977.

CANADA PENSION PLAN BENEFITS

Question No. 2,362—**Mr. O'Sullivan:**

1. Are survivor benefits, paid under the Canada Pension Plan, regarded as taxable income?

2. How many individuals received (a) lump sum death benefits (b) monthly widow's pensions (c) monthly orphans' benefits (d) monthly disabled widower's pensions in (i) 1972-73 (ii) 1973-74 (iii) 1974-75 (iv) 1975-76 (v) 1976-77 and what was the total amount paid?

Mr. Ralph E. Goodale (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Departments of National Revenue and National Health and Welfare as follows: 1. Any amount, including survivor benefits, paid under the terms of the Canada Pension Plan is regarded as a pension benefit for tax purposes, and is subject to tax in the year of receipt. In addition to benefits paid to a surviving spouse, the plan makes provision for payments in respect of surviving children. Despite the fact that the latter-type payments are made to the person or agency having custody and control of a child under 18 years of age, the benefit is income of the child and not that of the actual recipient.

2.

(a)	Number of lump-sum death benefits received by estates or individuals	Total amount paid
(i)	29,031	\$12,550,000
(ii)	28,951	13,400,000
(iii)	31,601	16,500,000
(iv)	33,844	19,635,000
(v)	38,169	25,300,000

(b) and (d) In response to statutory amendments which became effective January 1, 1975, the benefit earlier paid to a disabled widower was outmoded due to the equality of status provisions contained in Bill C-22, 1974. Known as a spouse's pension from that date, both female and male surviving spouses qualify for benefits under equal criteria. The following

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two tables show the number of individuals in receipt of these benefits at year end, and the amounts paid for these benefit types:

	Individuals in Receipt		Spouse's Pension
	Widows	Disabled Widowers	
(i)	68,241	36	
(ii)	84,594	44	
(iii)			101,190
(iv)			120,861
(v)			139,415

	Amount Paid		Spouse's Pension
	Widows	Disabled Widowers	
(i)	\$48,650,400	\$31,900	
(ii)	62,620,100	47,600	
(iii)			\$ 86,600,200
(iv)			117,140,100
(v)			150,256,900

(c)	orphans' benefits in pay	Total amount paid
	(i)	61,996
(ii)	70,963	25,000,000
(iii)	77,536	33,000,000
(iv)	86,541	41,200,000
(v)	92,794	50,000,000

UIC—LOUISEVILLE, QUEBEC

Question No. 2,383—**Mr. Fortin:**

1. Is there only one employee, who does not have the beneficiaries files, working at the office of UIC in Louiseville Quebec and, if so, what does the government intend to do to rectify the situation?

2. Is it the practice of UIC to require unemployed persons living in Louiseville to travel to Trois-Rivières, 30 miles away, to attend ICE Programme interviews and, if so, does the government intend to solve the problem?

Hon. Bud Cullen (Minister of Manpower and Immigration):

1. The U.I.C. has no office in Louiseville. Some services are provided by an employee of the local Canada Manpower Centre. The question will be considered when the two organizations are integrated.

2. A certain number of beneficiaries were required to travel from Louiseville to Trois-Rivières for interviews, but this practice was discontinued in August, 1976. In 1977, these interviews are to be conducted in Louiseville by an itinerant U.I.C. officer.

FUNDS CONTRIBUTED TO WESTERN STABILIZATION PLAN

Question No. 2,402—**Mr. Hnatyshyn:**

Are funds contributed to the Western Grain Stabilization Plan deposited in the general reserve of the government and, if so, will the government allow such funds to be deposited in Western Canada and therefore be used to benefit the Western economy?