

benefit to all, including the residents of the nursing care sector, the Government, and the taxpayer.

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops—Shuswap): Mr. Speaker, I am saddened to have to rise and make a last comment on a Bill that is being introduced by the Progressive Conservative Government of Canada to cut back on the educational funding of Canadians, to cut back on the amount of money going into health care for Canadians; and let there be no mistake about it, that is exactly what Bill C-96 is going to do.

It says we can no longer afford to train and educate our young people, and our people generally. It says we can no longer afford to give the kind of medical care that people have become accustomed to and require in our country.

When you hear Hon. Members opposite saying the Government has a better idea and it wants to privatize health care, you must realize that when you form a business you do it for one reason only, and that is to make a profit. That is what business is all about, to make money and to maximize profits. Any country that is going to make a profit on the backs of the aged and those in need of health care has a sick society and a sick Government. When privatizing nursing homes and hospitals, bottom line is to make money. I challenge any of the members of the Conservative Party to stand up and say that is not the bottom line, to make profits and maximize profits. When your motivation is to maximize profits on the backs of people who are having health problems, or the elderly of our society requiring care, that is something I do not find in a decent civilized society.

The Hon. Member across the way is yelling at me that we should nationalize the hospitals. Hospitals are public institutions that should not be in the business to make money. I stand by this position that if any Member thinks the purpose of our hospitals is to make money for entrepreneurs he or she has his or her priorities in the wrong place.

Mr. Corbett: Mr. Speaker—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Order, please. Order, please. The Hon. Member knows that I have given him a few extra minutes. I would like to hear the Hon. Member for Kamloops—Shuswap (Mr. Riis). I am having a very difficult time trying to hear his speech.

Mr. Riis: I appreciate the intervention. I believe it was the Hon. Member who was criticizing some of the other Members for attempting to interrupt him. He was saying they should have the good sense to hear some wise and eloquent phrases. I won't use that statement, Mr. Speaker, but I do have some very strong concerns about what is going on in this House today.

One of the reasons I am particularly concerned is that I happen to represent a constituency in the Province of British Columbia. It is a province where the Government there is anti-intellectual, anti-education, anti-training, anti-university, anti-college, anti-school. The clear evidence of that statement is the

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fact that over a few years ago there was the opinion in our country that the federal and provincial Governments would equally share in funding of our universities, colleges, and technical institutes—50/50 sharing.

But when you look at the Province of British Columbia today and ask who it is that provides 100 per cent of university and college funding, it is the federal Government of Canada. The Province of British Columbia does not put a single red cent into post-secondary education any longer. It has turned its back on post-secondary education. It has gone against the agreement into which it entered many years ago under which it would pay 50/50.

Is there a single Hon. Member from the Conservative, Liberal or New Democratic Parties who stand up and say that the Province of British Columbia, does not put a single red cent of its own money into post-secondary education, is doing the right and the honourable thing? No. We have a province on the West Coast that is anti-education, where we have seen devastating cuts to our educational system from pre-school right up into post-graduate studies at the universities. In the last few days the announcement has gone out to every college in the Province of British Columbia saying that, after years and years of cuts and cuts and cuts, "this year you have got to cut some more".

Caribou College in the community of Kamloops has just received a notice that it must cut a half a million dollars out of a budget where there is bone sticking through now. There is no fat or meat left, and now it is going to have to hack off part of the bone as well. That is why some of us, from British Columbia particularly, are concerned about what Bill C-96 is doing because it is saying it is going to cut back the federal contribution. The Province of British Columbia is not paying anything and now the federal Government is going to cut back what it would have been expected to pay for post-secondary education.

This year the Province of British Columbia will receive from the federal Government \$36 million less than it would under the normal formula. Next year that goes up to \$75 million less. In the next five years, this year and for other years, the Province of British Columbia is going to lose \$642 million in transfer payments to education and to health care. Across the country generally \$5.608 billion will not be spent by the federal Government on health care and post-secondary education.

A Member from central British Columbia has particular concerns because, when you look at the OECD countries, all the western industrialized countries are putting more and more effort into post-secondary education, scientific training, and on the job training. There is one country that is not participating in that same investment enthusiasm in post-secondary education, and that is Canada. Canadians are getting the short end of the stick compared to all of the other OECD countries. Take a look at the provinces and territories across Canada and you will notice there is one province that is putting less than any other into post-secondary education, whose percentage of