

*Oral Questions*

[Translation]

**GREEN PLAN**

**Mr. Jean-Marc Robitaille (Terrebonne):** Mr. Speaker, the Green Plan is a giant step we must all take together to guarantee sustainable development that will benefit both the environment and the people of this country. The Green Plan focuses, organizes and channels efforts being made across the country to protect the environment.

During the next five years, additional funding totalling \$3 billion will be released under the Green Plan. With the budgets for existing programs, this will mean a total of nearly \$10 billion in federal spending on the environment during the five years following implementation of the Green Plan—

**An hon. member:** Hear, hear.

**Mr. Robitaille:** —in other words, a 50 per cent increase in federal funding in this area. This new budget is a clear demonstration that the Government of Canada considers spending on the environment as an investment in the health and economic future of this country.

Congratulations to the Prime Minister, to the Minister of the Environment and to the government!

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[English]

**CANADA'S GREEN PLAN**

**Mr. Brian L. Gardiner (Prince George—Bulkley Valley):** Mr. Speaker, forestry initiatives in Canada will suffer because of the lack of support for our forests and this government's green plan. In British Columbia, we were told to wait for the green plan to get an additional \$300 million for forest renewal.

Instead we get recycled promises and no specific measures to help our forests.

The Tories have sold B.C. and other provinces a bill of goods, and in B.C. the forest minister took it hook, line and sinker.

The green plan's proposal for a personal contract to plant trees recognizes what Canadians already know: the Boy Scouts plant more trees than this government. The government should get on with the job of renewing expired forest agreements immediately.

**CANADA'S GREEN PLAN**

**Mr. J. W. Bud Bird (Fredericton—York—Sunbury):** Mr. Speaker, Canada's Green Plan makes history today in marking the first occasion that our country has committed itself clearly and comprehensively to the environmental imperative.

In so doing, we are recognizing that life in today's world demands two such imperatives—one environmental and the other economic—within which disciplines we must sustain our future development on earth.

The green plan identified eight strategic areas of priority and more than 100 specific initiatives to be aggressively addressed over the next five years. It truly is an action plan, but it is more than that: it is a profound statement of principal and philosophy about how we must live our lives on this earth if mankind is to survive.

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[Translation]

**HON. JEAN CHRÉTIEN**

**Mrs. Shirley Maheu (Saint-Laurent—Cartierville):** Mr. Speaker, today is the beginning of the end for the Tory Party: Hon. Jean Chrétien is on his way, and to quote Mr. Chrétien: "We are going to start working to get rid of this terrible government".

Our leader will once again prove it is possible to be a francophone and be at home anywhere in this country. It is possible to be a French Canadian. Welcome to our new leader! Tories, on your guard!

**ORAL QUESTION PERIOD**

[English]

**CANADA'S GREEN PLAN**

**Mr. Paul Martin (LaSalle—Énard):** Mr. Speaker, before asking my question, I want to say what a pleasure it is to rise on behalf of a caucus that as of last night was strengthened by a factor of two: York North where the NDP's ray of hope was dashed and Beauséjour where we elected the Leader of the Liberal Party of Canada.