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principles. One member, one vote, is such a basic revolution in control of our economic institutions that it is small wonder that some of our Governments, recognizing only the power of money and not of people, still have to be reminded of their existence.

● (1405)

The co-operative ideal is admirably suited to small, community-based economic and social endeavours, from grocery stores, credit unions, daycare, and housing projects to the very large agricultural co-operatives. These same democratic principles of widely held control have worked for large-scale institutions as well; witness the wheat pools in the West, the dairy pools across the country, the credit union centrals, and co-operative insurance. They are living examples of the socialist belief that people can control and direct their own economic destiny through self help, a basic principle for our Party which springs from the same basic belief in the power of ordinary people to direct their own lives.

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NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

BOUNDARY AGREEMENT—CALL FOR HOLDING OF PLEBISCITE

Mr. Thomas Suluk (Nunatsiaq): Mr. Speaker, the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) had this to say about the two Territories:

This Government has actively promoted the steady expansion of responsible government in the Yukon and the N.W.T., and will continue to give both territories the support they will need for the next stages in their constitutional development.

Now that the N.W.T. Legislative Assembly has been duly elected, one of those stages, that of holding a plebiscite on the boundary agreement, should be initiated soon, especially since the Treasury Board has frozen funding to the Nunavut Constitutional Forum until a plebiscite can be held.

This major obstacle to political evolution should be resolved before the next issues of provincehood or the turning over of more provincial responsibilities can be negotiated.

I urge the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (Mr. McKnight) and the Department of Justice to show leadership in bringing this matter to the attention of the next Government Leader of the Northwest Territories.

[*Translation*]

EMPLOYMENT

NEED TO PURSUE EMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS AND UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACT SECTION 38 PROGRAM

Mr. Gilles Grondin (Saint-Maurice): Mr. Speaker, we are well aware of the importance for our communities of the so-called Employment Development Program and the Unemployment Insurance Act, Section 38, program implemented by the Department of Employment and Immigration. Every year, a great many employers, organizations and workers within our ridings benefit from these programs.

If I mention these facts to the House, it is because we are at a time of year when the application forms for the Employment Development Program are normally issued to organizations and employers anxious to submit projects.

But what is happening this year? There is no trace of any application form or any formal announcement by the responsible Minister concerning their extension. What is happening to these programs? Nobody knows for sure. However, information from reliable sources seem to indicate that the Employment Development Programs and even the Unemployment Insurance Act, Section 38, program might not be extended this year. It is high time for the Minister responsible for these programs to speak out.

We are absolutely against their elimination, unless some similar programs aimed at the same clientele are announced by the Minister very shortly.

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[*English*]

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

ST. CLAIR RIVER—CRITICISM OF ARTICLE IN ENVIRONMENT CANADA PUBLICATION

Mr. Ken James (Sarnia—Lambton): Mr. Speaker, as all Hon. Members of the House are aware, an unfortunate spill into the St. Clair River occurred in my constituency of Sarnia—Lambton two years ago. Since that time, I and many other concerned citizens and organizations have frequently brought to the attention of the federal Government the serious problems created by federal employees using worse case scenarios to describe the events in Sarnia—Lambton.

I am most distressed to see a recent article in the August, 1987, edition of "Environment Update", an Environment Canada publication, written with all too familiar disregard for accuracy.

For the record, here are a few facts which appear to have been left out of the article. First, the company itself reported the spill to the appropriate authorities. Second, the company started a clean-up before any government orders were given. Third, to address the unique problem of contaminated