

Borrowing Authority Act

gram up to 62 per cent. it provided for a Cape Breton investment tax credit which is working. There is a great deal of interest being shown in the benefits of this program and it has had a great deal of success. We have put in place the Enterprise Cape Breton Program. There are the other benefits, of course, which apply to Atlantic Canada. With the reduction of development incentives in other parts of the country, these incentives become even more attractive. Some people call this system a tax loophole. Where I come from, it is an incentive program designed to result in employment for the people in my region.

Let us look at some of the support the Government of Canada has given. I do not want to go through all of Atlantic Canada, but we heard earlier today the Minister of Justice talk about the very considerable support which has gone to Newfoundland. The Atlantic Accord gave to Newfoundland and Nova Scotia full control and ownership of the resources offshore in the same way as if they were onshore. This is something the people of Atlantic Canada have wanted for three decades, since Robert Stanfield was Premier of Nova Scotia. We have delivered. We recognize that offshore resource development is an opportunity which can be best utilized by the people who live in Atlantic Canada.

I would like now to speak about the initiatives in my riding. I have prepared a list of the various support programs the Government has given to my constituents. It has, for example, funded the construction of a Nautical Institute. Phase three was recently announced. That is a \$18 million project which will attract teachers, students and support services which will have a significant impact upon the people of my region. Last week a \$13 million manufacturing facility was announced for Guysborough county and for my home village. That announcement was something the people have waited for for 30 years, because in the last 30 years, there has not been one significant private sector announcement of this type in Guysborough county, notwithstanding that we had a Government in Ottawa which poured money into the region. An \$8.7 million plant has been announced for another part of my riding on Cape Breton Island. That project will provide 50 jobs. In Toronto that may not be a lot, but in Arichat, Nova Scotia and on Isle Madame, 50 jobs is something they have waited for for well over 25 years. Another small plant worth \$3.5 million has been announced which will result in the creation of 70 full-time jobs in Port Hawkesbury. That is a significant achievement and the first of its kind in a very long time.

We turn now to the forestry sector. Far from moaning and complaining about the state of the forests we inherited, we put money into forest management. We announced four forestry joint-venture programs which will result in employment in eastern Nova Scotia and Cape Breton. We announced a special forestry program for natives. We provided support to the major pulp producer in my riding in the amount of \$4.1 million. We supported a local mining company to the tune of \$1.3 million. We built an industrial park. We provided for federal participation in a forest management program, including the construction of a nursery. We provided for upgrading

of tourism facilities in the Cabot Trail area of my riding. These are just some of the initiatives that the Government has taken in an effort to diversify the local economy in order to provide community-based industry. The incentive program brought forward and put in place by the Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion (Mr. Stevens) is working in eastern Nova Scotia and Cape Breton.

I could identify other successes. In Sydney, we committed well over \$100 million to modernize the steel mill. We committed \$40 million to upgrade and clean up the tar ponds there. We put money into Glace Bay in an effort to alleviate the short-term and long-term unemployment problems of that community. What we must remember, and what the people do remember, is that the problem was there in September of 1984. The problem was not created in Atlantic Canada in the last year and a half. However, many problems have been solved in the last year and a half.

As a Member of Parliament from Atlantic Canada, I am very proud and supportive of the record of accomplishments of this Government. I intend to work and aggressively promote the interests of our region because, for the first time in many decades, Atlantic Canada is being recognized by the federal Government as a special area. Special incentives are being put in place and results are being achieved which will mean long-term economic benefits. That is all possible as this Government moves to manage the deficit, and bring about a better economic environment, so that economic opportunities can spread from coast to coast.

Mr. Gauthier: Mr. Speaker, I hesitate to interrupt the Hon. Member for Cape Breton Highlands-Canso (Mr. O'Neil) during his speech but I believe that at four o'clock on Friday it is usual for us to proceed to Private Members' Hour. I notice that the Chair did not see four o'clock. Therefore, I take it that Standing Order 39(2) applies. I would like to make sure that the House understands that if we are proceeding now until five o'clock with the legislation before us, it is because there was not 24 hours notice of a Private Member's intention to present a Bill, or a motion, for that matter. I just wanted to make sure we all understood that. We are proceeding until five o'clock under Government Orders, Bill C-99, is that correct?

Mr. Speaker: That is correct.

Mr. Rompkey: Mr. Speaker, I have some questions for the Hon. Member for Cape Breton Highlands-Canso (Mr. O'Neil). In a recent edition of *Atlantic Insight* the Hon. Member for Cape Breton Highlands-Canso and the Minister of the Environment (Mr. McMillan) were the only two Members from the Government side who came out looking good. I believe *Atlantic Insight* referred to the Hon. Member for Cape Breton Highlands-Canso as a cocky and shrewd young Member. However, it was not so nice to certain other Members from Atlantic Canada, but I will not go into that here. I know the Hon. Member takes his responsibilities seriously. He talked about the gloom and doom of the Opposition. I wish to indicate to the Hon. Member what the Premier of Newfoundland has said in this regard. He is not in Opposition, he is in