

development were three specific measures that were most welcome.

In terms of economic recovery, this budget—as I said earlier, it was impossible to please everyone—is one we can be proud of, in the circumstances.

[*English*]

Mr. Maurizio Bevilacqua (York North): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the hon. member for Bourassa a very brief question. It concerns the fact that I, along with many other members of Parliament, understand the fiscal reality of this nation. Having said that, there are certain choices that are easier to make than others.

I am just wondering why the government, in this particular budget, chose to ignore the plight of 400,000 young people in this country who are unemployed and many more thousands who are on the welfare rolls of this country.

They have once again failed to come up with a national training strategy that may address the problems that we have. Once again we have blocked the major artery to Canada's future.

• (1620)

I was just wondering whether the hon. member could address or explain to me why her government has chosen once again to deny the rightful opportunity that young people require.

[*Translation*]

Mrs. Gibeau: Mr. Speaker, I would like to remind my colleague that there are government programs and as for training—and when we talk about young people, we talk about education—education does not apply in the same way in all provinces. In some provinces, education is strictly a provincial matter and their jurisdiction must be respected.

Furthermore, we have a program called “School First”, where we did everything to encourage young people to stay in school and gain skills so that they could fill jobs that are now available in Canada but for which some young people who chose to quit school will not qualify in the near future.

I encourage my colleague to support and encourage the young people in his riding, as I try to do in mine, and

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to tell them to stay in school so that they can acquire the skills and knowledge needed to fill the positions that are available and will soon be available.

Mr. Vincent Della Noce (Parliamentary Secretary to Secretary of State and to Minister of Multiculturalism and Citizenship): Mr. Speaker, I thank my Whip who gave me the opportunity today to speak in this House. It was not planned, and I almost demanded it in a rather rough way.

It is very important because when you talk about finance and the Budget you talk about jobs. Jobs involve unions and unions do some things that are not quite right.

Since we are talking about jobs and finance today, in my region which is the north side of Laval we have an airport called Mirabel. This airport is the centre of much activity. Finance involves a lot of money and taxes. Today I must rise to speak, even though I asked my Whip for an emergency debate on this subject. I want to take this opportunity to talk about it.

I would like to put on the table some issues concerning Mirabel, Nationair, the lockout, unions, the public service unions, and the Montreal branch of the Quebec Federation of Labour. I will deal with them all together.

Like all Quebec members we were surprised to learn that many union members were locked out, unfortunately without work.

[*English*]

Mr. Nunziata: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. While I appreciate the importance of the matters that the hon. member wishes to discuss, they can hardly be considered relevant to the debate at hand.

We are here to discuss the federal budget, not a concern peculiar to his riding with regard to Mirabel airport.

Mr. Edmonston: I rise on the same point of order.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): That is not a point of order. The hon. member can debate anything he wants on the budget. That is the standard rule of the House.

Hon. members may not have been here long enough to realize that you can go ahead and speak on things other than just the fiscal arrangements of the budget.