

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra):** Mr. Speaker, look at what they said about a child care program. The Prime Minister and his House Leader brought the program into the House of Commons in mid-summer, July 14 or July 16 as I recall. It was not dealt with here in the House of Commons until the end of August. It was then sent over to the Senate. Through Senator MacEachen the Senate gave an undertaking to the Prime Minister that if he would wait three more hours—and the Senate had only spent a day or two on it—the Senators would pass it. The Prime Minister did not wait. He went to the country. Frankly, as I said during the election, he had to go to a wedding in Montreal and he called the election so he would not miss the date.

However, he went across the country saying this: “That was a tragedy for working women. It was an offence to Canadian families and we will be reintroducing that legislation and passing it as soon as Parliament comes back after the election”.

**Mr. Peterson:** The big lie.

**Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra):** He told the Women’s Health Research Foundation of Canada in Winnipeg on October 7, 1988, that he was very proud of the Government’s \$6.4 billion package on child care. This is what he said: “We will reintroduce child care early in the next Parliament and see it through to Royal Assent in the first session. Our program will add at least 200,000 new subsidized spaces to our existing child care facilities, doubling the present number”.

The child care program promised by the Government is being eliminated before it is even put in place—a \$4 billion cut over the next seven years. The Government and the Prime Minister said that there would be more spaces. Instead, there will be fewer spaces. Canadian parents, Canadian women—in particular 200,000 Canadian children—have been double-crossed, victims of a Tory right wing attack.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra):** The Prime Minister and his Government did not tell Canadians the truth. Look at what the Prime Minister said during the campaign about government spending on regional development. He said before the Saint John Board of Trade in New Brunswick on October 13, 1988 that under a Tory Government “we will not have one Canada that is prospering at the centre while other regions do not receive a fair share of economic opportunity”. However,

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they are slashing now even more money out of regional development. The campaign promise that regional development would be protected is a sham. We predicted that under the trade deal’s provisions for the negotiation of subsidies the Americans would use its provisions for equal treatment and a level playing field to attack our regional development programs. What has happened is that, once again, the Government has not waited for the negotiations; it has already caved in to the United States. The hidden agenda of the trade deal is that the Tory Government is accepting the U.S. definition of subsidies. It has caved in before the negotiations have even begun.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra):** During the televised debate the Prime Minister said that education was one of his priorities—a priority was the way he put it. He talked about, and I use his words in the debate, “our renewed commitment to education”. During the campaign he said that our health care system would not be weakened under the trade deal. Yet transfers to the provinces for health care and education have been brutally slashed—\$4 billion over the next six years.

Is it any wonder that there is not a Premier who dares to stand up to support this Budget? Is it any wonder that they have attacked the Prime Minister for simply transferring problems to the provinces?

During the campaign the Tories said in their election manifesto concerning their agricultural program: “Farmers can count on a PC Government that has placed agriculture at the top of its agenda”.

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra):** Agricultural programs have been slashed in the Budget, everything from crop insurance to retail branch line rehabilitation to Farm Credit Corporation loans. The family farm continues to be destroyed by a Government which said that it would defend the family farm.

For years the Tories talked about how committed they were, led by the Deputy Prime Minister when he was the Tory critic for transportation, to improving railways and our passenger train service. Only a few weeks ago the Prime Minister told Canadians that if they want to keep VIA Rail they would have to use it or lose it. Those were his words. Now Canadians will not even have that chance. The cuts in the Budget to VIA Rail mean the beginning of the end for rail passenger service in Canada. VIA Rail is being destroyed. The rest of Air Canada is being sold off. It is to be completely privatized.