

largely to be used as a cudgel by the federal Government over the heads of provincial health Ministers.

I have said let's use this information in an open manner and, as we will do on May 16 and May 17 at a national conference of Health Ministers, look at the future together. Maybe we could use this kind of information. I believe it is there. It might have to be bolstered a bit, but I would rather go the route of co-operation than set up another superstructure which would really give us the information I think we already have.

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[Translation]

FEDERAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT BANK

GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Alfonso Gagliano (Saint-Léonard-Anjou): Mr. Speaker, there is a lot of talk in Government circles about dismantling the Federal Business Development Bank. The Bank, which has its headquarters in Montreal, employs 500 people whose salaries contribute \$18 million to the economy of Quebec.

My question is directed to the Minister of State (Small Businesses). Since the Minister has just come back from a long trip across the country, can he now inform the House whether he intends to maintain the Federal Business Development Bank?

Hon. André Bissonnette (Minister of State (Small Businesses)): Mr. Speaker, to answer the Hon. Member's question, as you know, all Government programs are now under review, including the Federal Business Development Bank. We are in the midst of a review and organization process, and we should be submitting a reorganization program by the end of June or the beginning of July, and we will see what we will be able to do with the Federal Business Development Bank.

NEED TO ASSURE MAINTENANCE OF FINANCING FOR SMALL BUSINESS

Mr. Alfonso Gagliano (Saint-Léonard-Anjou): Mr. Speaker, the Federal Business Development Bank has been in existence since 1944, and it may be time to reassess its mandate but certainly not to dismantle the Bank. We have just been informed that during the last fiscal year, the Bank lent \$85 million to 4,571 customers, and 40 per cent of its work is done in Quebec. Is the Minister prepared to inform the House that he will refrain from taking any drastic action with respect to the Federal Business Development Bank, so as to ensure continuity of financing for small businesses?

Hon. André Bissonnette (Minister of State (Small Businesses)): Mr. Speaker, we are rethinking the role of the Federal Business Development Bank. The role of the Federal Business Development Bank—

An Hon. Member: You have a headache.

Oral Questions

Mr. Bissonnette: I hope the Hon. Member who just spoke listens to himself from time to time . . . As I was saying, the role of the Federal Business Development Bank is actually to support small- and medium-sized business, and we are trying to redefine that role. We will do so and we will have something to submit by the end of June.

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[English]

PARLIAMENT HILL

REMOVAL OF PEACE CAMP

Mr. Cyril Keeper (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Public Works. Yesterday the Minister, using the police forces at his disposal, threw the peace campers off the Hill.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Keeper: He used the force of law to get rid of these idealistic young Canadians—

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Keeper:—who are trying to bring us a message about the survival of humanity on this planet. The Minister had another option. Rather than using police forces he could have taken peace initiatives. He could recommend to his colleagues that there be no more Cruise testing in Canada and that there be no participation in star wars.

Some Hon. Members: Question!

Mr. Keeper: Will the Minister consider recommending peace initiatives to his colleagues rather than abusing young people with police force?

[Translation]

Hon. Roch La Salle (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member and all his colleagues in the House know full well that we are in favour of disarmament, and the sooner the better. I have already explained the reasons and, in a non-aggressive manner, I told those people a fortnight ago that they would have to leave Parliament Hill. They responded by urging me to throw them out. In those circumstances, I would suggest that nobody was taken by surprise. I said and I repeat that Parliament Hill will no longer be a camping ground, not even for the Hon. Member across the aisle.

[English]

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Mr. Cyril Keeper (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, the Minister seems to imply that the peace campers were simply camping, not demonstrating for the cause of peace. In his reply yesterday he said that there was no connection between the peace campers and the peace movement. In light of the fact that last night the Ottawa Disarmament Coalition