

roads and the facilities for the on and off ramps. There is a whole variety of other services that will come out of P.E.I. or New Brunswick. Some of these smaller local businesses in existence in Atlantic Canada will forge ahead. The response we have had from industries in P.E.I., which will be producing most of the work has been extremely positive.

One of the key requirements for the project is that the developer maximize the use of Atlantic Canada. Why not? This should benefit those people. SCI is currently preparing an industrial benefits plan which is to be submitted to the government. I know my colleague in the NDP will be interested that SCI is currently producing an industrial benefits plan that has to be submitted to the government, and indeed the Minister of Public Works, and has to meet certain criteria that have been set down before the federal government will give its final approval to sign the contract and move ahead.

There are jobs for P.E.I. There are benefits for P.E.I., New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, as well as the western provinces. This is part of building Canada. This is when the east helps the west or vice versa. This is part of how our country was built in the very beginning. Those who have a bit more than the others share. This represents not only an economic move forward for P.E.I., but it shows what Canadians can do right across the country.

Turning to the operating period, once the fixed link is up and operating what are the tolls? The tolls will be based on the cost of the ferry crossings, as I said, increased with the CPI or the inflation rate. There will be an agreed upon amount of capital for the repairs and maintenance of the plan. That is to be independently reviewed outside government to make sure that it meets the criteria set down. There is to be no payment made to the developer until all the criteria are outlined and have been proven.

What is most interesting is to see colleagues, one might say from both sides of the House, who appear to agree on something that is so necessary to move P.E.I. into the 21st century. It also brings P.E.I. up to some of the increased trading arrangements.

When I look to the agriculture area, as well as the fishing area and tourism, I think that P.E.I. certainly deserves all this. Indeed, we will be watching very

carefully as we go through the years waiting for the bridge to be opened.

As a member of the House on the government side from the province of Alberta I truly support this bill. It brings Canadians together. It moves us forward. We are not going to sit and keep looking at the past. This is where everybody can work together to make this country work.

Ms. Lynn Hunter (Saanich—Gulf Islands): Mr. Speaker, I have received some criticism from people in Prince Edward Island who do not take kindly to a member from British Columbia "interfering with their business".

I take exception to that analysis of this. I am an islander. I see this as a union of islanders. The fishermen and the ferry workers on Prince Edward Island, the friends of the island, consider that I am speaking out for them. It is certainly not their Liberal representatives who are speaking out for them.

I also think it is my duty as a member of Parliament. When \$42 million a year is going to be expended on a project, I am not interfering. I am doing my job in criticizing that project. I am also doing my job when the environmental assessment integrity process is so sullied by this government in putting forth this idea. That is doing my job as a member of Parliament.

What we have seen is that the Liberals and the government are prepared to put forward a bill which they think will guarantee their votes in the maritimes. As a member from British Columbia, a member from an island, I have a duty to respond and a duty to speak out against this project.

Mrs. Sparrow: Mr. Speaker, like each and every one of us the hon. member was elected by the constituents in her riding. She certainly has the right to speak of their views and their wishes within this particular House. I would hope that while she does that she takes the views of all of Canada because when we come here as elected members we are representing Canada as a whole.

While it is very important to know the views and concerns of her local constituents and make sure that they are heard, a lot of the decisions we make here have to reflect all of Canada. Some parts of Canada are more blessed with certain resources than other areas. Since the beginning, long before 1867, it has been part of the Canadian way to help each other.