

actively employed during the short period until they go back to their regular jobs this spring. Under this program, the provinces and Ottawa can sign agreements based on the provisions of the Unemployment Insurance Act, Section 38, which makes it possible to set funds aside for keeping the most severely affected workers gainfully employed.

In addition to their regular work, these workers can make a useful contribution to their community while collecting additional unemployment benefits. In Ontario, the provincial government has contributed up to \$60 a week to the salary of these workers in addition to implementing and administering the program. I hope the Conservative friends will help us convince the provincial government to sign these agreements. I am informed that the Quebec government will submit proposals shortly, and I hope that our friends of the Conservative Party, as well as those to my far right, will support the signing of such agreements with the Quebec government in order to keep those Canadians at work.

Mr. Speaker, before going back to the subject of training, I would like to say a few words about the announcement made on December 22 by the Minister of Employment and Immigration concerning a very important program which will provide another \$50 million for job creation. A significant part of those \$50 million was intended for work sharing. Indeed, under that formula, as of February 16 the Canadian government had earmarked \$5 million to help thousands of Canadians workers. Almost 68 agreements have been signed across the land, of which four only in Quebec, and we hope businessmen in my province may take advantage of this program to the same extent as those in other provinces. Under those agreements already reached, 4,144 employees agreed to share the work available with 1,903 others of their colleagues who otherwise would have been laid off. There again, funds are taken from unemployment insurance money as a contribution that almost makes up the money paid for days that are not worked. This keeps more people at work and skilled workers in the industry and certainly helps raise the spirits of those workers.

Mr. Speaker, company presidents told us last week that thanks to that extremely significant program, it had been possible to keep people at work in some industries, so that they can fulfil contracts they may now sign and will be able to sign in one or two months down the road. This program introduced by this government will enable those workers to keep their jobs on a permanent basis, which is quite different from the suggestion heard earlier that we were putting money into temporary jobs exclusively.

I would now like, Mr. Speaker, to come back to what I said earlier and outline the purpose of that famous legislation the Minister of Employment and Immigration will be introducing next spring for manpower training. Since the Adult Vocational Training Act was passed, the federal government has been much involved in institutional training programs which en-

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abled a good number of Canadians to acquire high and medium skilled training. However, that kind of training no longer meets existing market requirements. In the future, adult retraining programs will not be implemented in isolation. Vocational training courses will be more closely related to manpower requirements and the regional and national labour markets. There is no social or economic justice in training Canadians for job opportunities which do not exist.

The government intends to increase its purchase of training units in the specialized trades of national dimension which do not require previous training, such as draftmen and computer programmers, and in the training programs. We intend to focus our efforts on the trades of national dimension and the other labour intensive trades. We intend also to create a professional adaptation and development fund, to provide the necessary sums to build or update training facilities. These facilities, which will be found throughout Canada in the areas where they are needed most, will help people who are compelled to leave their jobs because of the technological revolution, in a quickly changing world, obtain the necessary training to secure employment in other highly specialized trades.

In the area of in-industry training, it is also essential to increase our financial contribution and to gear more precisely the federal government's effort to the trades where the need for specialized workers is greater. The program will be an essential part of the new in-industry program, the purpose of which is to develop the capacity to train 10,000 highly specialized workers every year. Its priority will be to help Canadian workers whose jobs are threatened by the technological revolution.

Both in the in-industry training program and the on-site training programs, women and other disadvantaged groups will be assured of equal opportunities. We shall provide employers with incentives to assist them in training or retraining underprivileged groups and increasing women's training opportunities in traditional occupations. To this end Mr. Speaker, at the Vancouver conference most provincial and the federal governments unanimously decided to urge industry to work in collaboration with the federal and provincial governments toward the setting up of training facilities which are so urgently needed for our manpower. Obviously, industries will benefit from those training opportunities because they will be able, as was indicated earlier, to respond to the technological revolution and rapidly changing working conditions.

To be efficient, any new training system should be flexible enough to adjust in medium and long runs, to imbalances between supply of and demand for highly specialized professions and trades. Most people agree that the present analysis method has been and still is woefully inadequate. Therefore, they proposed the introduction of a system of skilled labour requirement projections in Canada which is the best means available to ascertain the demand levels, over a period of three