

from this town. As a result, people of my age group, people I went to school with, no longer live in the area. They migrated south, east and west.

We are again seeing the same phenomenon across northern Ontario, where our young children, my children perhaps and children who are starting to come into the work force, have a great deal of difficulty in finding employment in any of the towns in northern Ontario because many of these towns lack the kinds of infrastructure and diversification necessary.

I then moved to Sudbury, which as you know was at one time also very dependent, and still is somewhat dependent, on mines that produced base metals.

In the early eighties during the severe recession which this country was subjected to Sudbury was especially hit very hard indeed.

• (1610)

Our unemployment rates rose to 28 per cent and 30 per cent. So, I can understand, firsthand, what it means to be living under these conditions.

During these very difficult times, we had in place some very caring governments, all levels of government, which got together and brought forward policies to continue to help the area diversify. I believe that today Sudbury is in a very good economic position as compared to many other areas of this country because the dollars that were spent then created the diversification which we now enjoy.

What bothers me about what is happening throughout the country, and especially in southern Ontario, is I see the loss of good manufacturing jobs. The statistics show us that in the 1981-82 recession, for every five jobs lost, one of them was lost forever.

Today, in the same vein, for every two jobs lost, one will never return. What, pray tell, can we tell these people? Where will they go for employment? What kinds of opportunities await them?

There are absolutely no government programs in place to help this sector.

I listened to my colleague, the Minister of State for Privatization, say that there were some jobs being created and there have been some. He mentioned, in

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particular, jobs created in Sudbury within Journal Printing. There were, I believe, four or five jobs created in that industry in Sudbury, but let me also remind the minister that those jobs were created as a direct result of a government grant which came to that company from FEDNOR. So it does pay to have government intervention in the sector.

What this government has done, though, in a lot of other areas, is totally cut back in job creation, such as \$100 million from the Canada Jobs Strategy. Can you imagine how much good that would do if it were left in place?

It is absolutely essential that this government starts listening to Canadians. Perhaps the worst fact of all is that Canadians feel this government is not listening, is not caring and is putting together an economic policy in some backroom somewhere with someone who is not affected. It is extremely frightening for the people of Canada.

What I would ask is that this government please—and we are all willing to co-operate—let us have some realistic job creation goals and realistic programs. We are all aware that we have a problem with the debt, but we are also all aware that if we do not invest today in our young people, we will not compete in the future, and that if we do not invest those dollars today there will be no jobs there in the future.

It is extremely frightening that this government keeps insisting on this high interest, high dollar policy which, in itself, has created much of the problems we face.

Now some of the members opposite have said: "Well, it is not necessarily free trade that created all of the job losses". I really do not care what has created it, I just want to see it end. Somehow we are in a recession and I do not see this government's policies bringing an end to this recession whatsoever.

There are ways around what is happening now and one of them is, perhaps, in a concentrated effort at job creation. Perhaps it could be a building infrastructure in transportation. With good infrastructure and good transportation our economy can thrive. We live in a vast country and we need the kind of government intervention that can help the transportation problems.