

## HOUSING

## SUGGESTED ESTABLISHMENT OF FEDERAL MORTGAGE EXCHANGE CORPORATION—TYPE OF ACTION SUGGESTED BY BUILDERS TO STIMULATE CONSTRUCTION

**Miss Flora MacDonald (Kingston and the Islands):** Mr. Speaker, in view of the desperate housing situation which is reflected in high unemployment, high costs and high mortgage rates, will the Minister of State for Urban Affairs at least move to set up the federal mortgage exchange corporation, in respect of which legislation was passed in this House over a year and a half ago, and which the minister's predecessor claimed would do so much to improve liquidity in the mortgage market?

**Hon. Barney Danson (Minister of State for Urban Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, I think this matter would fall within the responsibility of the Minister of Finance who will be back shortly.

**Miss MacDonald (Kingston and the Islands):** Mr. Speaker, would the minister take it upon himself to make these representations to his colleague, and will he also report whether there has been any consensus reached in his meetings with developers and builders regarding the kind of action needed to put residential construction back on the rails?

**Mr. Danson:** Mr. Speaker, I should also add that the Minister of Finance and I have had discussions on this matter. He is deeply concerned about getting the federal mortgage exchange corporation going as quickly as possible. Certainly, I have had discussions on this in the minister's absence as recently as this morning. With reference to meeting with developers and builders, of course we are trying to meet with them and other groups regularly in an attempt to obtain the necessary responses. I have also been meeting in this regard with my provincial counterparts. This is an on-going and aggressive program that I am sure will result in—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

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## PUBLIC BUILDINGS

## BOURDIGNON BUILDING, VANCOUVER—REQUEST FOR REPORT OF INVESTIGATION OF ADVERTISEMENT FOR LEASE

**Mr. Bill Clarke (Vancouver Quadra):** Mr. Speaker, in answer to my question last week concerning an investigation by the Minister of Public Works of a call for tenders for office space in Vancouver for the district taxation office the minister said he would bring his notes next day. Having heard nothing further I should like to ask the minister what were the results of his investigation into this call for tenders?

**Hon. C. M. Drury (Minister of Public Works):** Mr. Speaker, there was a call for tenders which produced unsatisfactory results in economic terms. As a result, the call for tenders was reissued, enlarging the area of availability of space and the results were equally unsatisfactory. No contracts were awarded as a conse-

## Oral Questions

quence of either of these two calls. We are now looking at the demand for accommodation on a consolidated basis to see whether a rather larger project can be put on foot.

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● (1450)

## TRANSPORT

## DATE WHEN INFORMATION ON TRANSPORTATION COSTS WILL BE SUPPLIED ATLANTIC PROVINCES

**Mr. David MacDonald (Egmont):** My question is for the Minister of Transport, whom I welcome back from his meeting with the four Atlantic transportation ministers, particularly noting that he returned on the inaugural flight from Prince Edward Island to Ottawa. Can the minister indicate, having agreed with the provincial ministers that there is a need for a rail rate policy and agreement on a regional development policy and a desperate need for accurate information on transportation costs on the national carriers, when he would offer to supply that information to the Atlantic ministers?

**Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, as soon as I get it from the Canadian Transport Commission.

**Mr. MacDonald (Egmont):** The minister indicated that he was bringing in an act having to do with transportation information. Can he indicate how soon that might happen in order that such information could be on the table?

**Mr. Marchand (Langelier):** I think the House leader is the one who should answer this question because I am not the one who introduces the bill to the House.

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## SUPPLY AND SERVICES

## COST OF PROTECTIVE SERVICES—ALLEGED WARNINGS AGAINST USE OF SECUREX AGENCY AT MONTREAL AIRPORT

**Mr. Elmer M. MacKay (Central Nova):** Mr. Speaker, I have a brief question for the Minister of Supply and Services. Can the minister confirm that over \$20 million was committed by the federal government during the past year for guard and protective services contracted and supplied from the private sector? Is that an accurate figure?

[Translation]

**Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Minister of Supply and Services):** Mr. Speaker, I will certainly have to check the figures; but considering that we have a very important contract with the Corps of Commissionaires, such figures could possibly reach \$20 million.

[English]

**Mr. MacKay:** Can the minister also confirm that, with reference to Securex, one of these companies from the private sector, grave reservations and warnings were expressed to him in the past by the special security department of the Montreal police respecting the awarding of a