

*The Budget*

[English]

**Mr. John Cannis (Scarborough Centre):** Mr. Speaker, I listened to the member and her compassionate approach. She brought back memories of the short lived Prime Minister and what price she had to pay in the most recent process.

Never before have inclusion and consultation taken place with respect to putting the budget together. There is no question the minister has gone from coast to coast to coast. He opened up the process. He listened to the people. Based on what they told us he delivered with respect to the RRSPs and capital gains.

The member spoke about manipulation and humiliation. I do not see any manipulation in going out to the people and asking them what we can give them and for their input so that we can put a package together that will be good for all in Canada.

There were no tax increases. Does the hon. member not think that putting \$300 million back into small businesses as a result of the reduction in the UIC will enhance their opportunities to hire people?

**Mrs. Lalonde:** I will say again that the raising of the UI premium has deprived small enterprises of opportunities to have more employees. I will not go back on that.

[Translation]

As for consulting, nobody is saying that the Minister of Finance did not consult people. In fact, as a member of a committee, I can say that I would appreciate being able to hold such consultations across the country, although I am aware of the cost of such an exercise. However, it may be that the minister did not consult enough young unemployed people, unemployed single mothers and others who will be adversely affected by the new system. In fact, the only ones who will really be penalized are precisely those who were not consulted.

[English]

**Mr. Andrew Telegdi (Waterloo):** Mr. Speaker, I will be splitting my time with my colleague from York—Simcoe.

As I was writing this, my maiden speech, I realized it was fitting to talk about my riding since I believe the success of the federal riding of Waterloo embodies the spirit of the government's budget plan.

My riding encompasses the city of Waterloo, part of the city of Kitchener, and Woolwich township in the heart of southwestern Ontario. I am proud to say the Canadian Chamber of Commerce recently selected this area as one of five model Canadian communities from which to seek advice in order to help other communities in their aim for success.

In addition, provincial government projections show that Waterloo region will be the fastest growing region in Ontario over the next two decades. My riding has been successful

because there has been a partnership of business, academic and local government communities supported by the broader constituency. This has made Waterloo riding work.

As the government stated in the red book upon which the budget is based, we must do more with what we have by stressing the notion of partnership with all sectors of society and by taking advantage of economic and social opportunities that can only be realized when all of us are working together.

As an example we in the Waterloo region have what is called spinoff companies. These companies have used technology and human resources transferred from the university community as a prime ingredient in their business. These companies have already created over 2,000 jobs in Canada. The concept of universities and businesses working together is outlined in the budget.

Waterloo riding, apart from having many companies in the new information based economy, also has many traditional companies doing well. That is not to say we have not had our share of companies and people deeply affected by the recession: names such as Seagram's, Uniroyal, Goodrich, Labatt's and others. That is why the budget is important, as it creates the environment wherein businesses can grow and flourish to create the jobs which will put these constituents and others like them across Canada back to work.

● (1815)

To the victims of the recession and the evolution of the economy we need to show compassion. The status quo will not do for the 1.5 million unemployed Canadians and the millions who rely on assistance. I applaud the government for undertaking a major effort to build a responsible social security system that is fair, compassionate and affordable.

Canadians deserve a hand up, not a handout. The ultimate social program we can design should provide an economic climate so that every Canadian who is willing and able to work can find meaningful work. When Canadians work Canada works.

In particular the budget supports the small and medium sized business sector which will continue to be the number one creator of jobs in Canada. This holds true in my riding as well. Our strong economy is helped greatly by their entrepreneurial drive. The global economy is not just a catch phrase of local businesses; it is an integral part of their market.

The concept of networks of organizations outlined in the agenda of the budget has been practised in my riding for some time now. Local businesses, civic leaders and academics have formed networks for exporting, environmental companies, computer technology firms and total quality management. Total quality management practised for years by local governments in my riding has become a plan that will be pursued by the government with its commitment to streamlining government