

committed to the future of women in Canada. Let me just point, first of all, to the number of women that he has put into leadership positions all across Canada and in every aspect, including in this House, including in this cabinet, including on the bench, including in diplomatic posts.

Let me talk about the \$40 million commitment that this government has made to family violence, at the instigation of the government but particularly under the leadership of the Prime Minister. Let me speak briefly about the commitment to that child care initiative that she was talking about, which was initiated by this government, women who are in minorities, aboriginal women, people who do not fit the moulds, because we have a sensitivity to that.

Let me talk about the Settlement Language Training Program, the first time that a government has come forward to help immigrant women, who are isolated in the home, learn the language and orient themselves to their new country. Let me talk about job training for social assistance recipients, many of whom are women. It was initiated by this government under the Canadian Jobs Strategy and did not exist before. Let me talk about the expansion of job training under the new labour force development strategy, something that never happened for women before in this country.

I think the hon. member should be ashamed of herself when she is talking about the kinds of things that are so important to all Canadian women. Let me point out to her as well that this government would not be doing Canadian women any favours if we allowed the deficit to go through the roof yet again, the way the former government did. Who got hurt first during the recession the last time when interest rates were well up into the 20 per cent range? It was women who got hurt. It is this government and this Prime Minister who have taken leadership in trying to ensure that we do not get into that kind of fiasco in this country again.

It is this government that has ensured, in trying to correct the manufacturers' sales tax the silent killer of jobs in the manufacturing sector that the NDP declares as its constituency that the new system will be sensitive to the poor in this country, who will have the tax, rebated to them.

Government Orders

The hon. member talks on and on. She talks up a good storm, but she does not pay any attention to the facts. I am very proud—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): Order, please. The hon. member for New Westminster—Burnaby has one minute.

Ms. Black: I am disappointed that the minister was not able to ask a question, Mr. Speaker. She went on to talk about how the Prime Minister has appointed women to positions. It is true that he has appointed more women to high positions in Canada, but let us talk about the promises that have been made, the hollow promises. What about violence against women? Women are still being abused.

Mrs. McDougall: Forty million dollars, is that a joke?

Ms. Black: What about the promises to bring in gun control legislation that this government is now dithering about? Women have gone backward under this government. The wage gap has actually broadened in the last year. Promises on employment equity are unfulfilled; promises on child care are unfulfilled. The promises on tax reform have resulted in tax deform for the women of this country.

The Prime Minister and this government have failed the women of Canada. They have failed them miserably. The minister knows that full well. In her own ministry, there is still discrimination in language training for immigrant women. There have been countless jobs for women lost because of this government's free trade agreement.

[*Translation*]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): The time for questions and comments has expired. Resuming debate. The Minister of Fisheries and Oceans.

Hon. Bernard Valcourt (Minister of Fisheries and Oceans): Mr. Speaker, I would say to the parliamentary leader that he can do like most of his colleagues who are not in the House—go for a walk.

Mr. Speaker, what I just heard was rather pathetic. Can you imagine, an opposition party whose leader claims to be the most popular leader in Canada. Twenty-four Sussex is not very far, here comes Audrey! And here they are with this kind of motion when Canadians have so many problems and poor people are really feeling the pinch. But the socialists—what with their nice ties, beautiful dresses and pretty necklaces—choose to intro-