EXPO 86

REPORTED EXPULSION OF VANCOUVER TENANTS TO ACCOMMODATE TOURISTS

Ms. Margaret Mitchell (Vancouver East): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the same Minister, who is responsible for Expo. Canada is hosting the world in Vancouver, while Expo is forcing the eviction of hundreds of poor people in downtown Vancouver and hotel rents are escalating by up to 400 per cent. Since the province will not act, what action will the Minister take to alleviate this disgraceful situation and restore our reputation as a country that really cares about its poorest citizens?

Hon. Don Mazankowski (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, that question might be more appropriately addressed in the provincial Legislature since this question involves the administration of Expo 86.

I am responsible for the Canada Harbour place Corporation. I am not sure whether I am in a position to do anything precise, but I will certainly take the Hon. Member's representation into consideration and get back to her later.

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HOUSING

NON-PROFIT HOUSING—TRANSFER OF RESPONSIBILITY TO BRITISH COLUMBIA

Ms. Margaret Mitchell (Vancouver East): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is directed to the Minister responsible for CMHC. Will he reconsider his decision to transfer responsibility for non-profit housing to the uncaring British Columbia Government and immediately increase the allocation of social housing units for downtown Vancouver residents?

Hon. Bill McKnight (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, as the Hon. Member is aware, the negotiations with all provincial and territorial jurisdictions on the new and improved social housing program will allow the requirements of those Canadians who are in core need to be addressed twice as fast as they had been under the old program. I am sure the Hon. Member would not want the people of British Columbia not to benefit from increased social housing units through co-operation between the federal Government and the provincial Government.

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NATIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

USE OF FUNDS

Mr. Keith Penner (Cochrane-Superior): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of State for Small Business. Does he believe it is fair or right that the Native Economic Development Program should be slashed so dramatically, by 47 per cent, as a cost-cutting measure? Why did he withhold \$90 million last year, and why has he refused

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to respond to the application from the Yukon Indian Development Corporation?

[Translation]

Hon. André Bissonnette (Minister of State (Small Businesses)): Mr. Speaker, first of all, the Government is firmly committed to development for native people, and I can assure you that in the past few months, we have approved more than 90 projects representing a budget of over \$30 million, and we have created more than 2,000 permanent jobs for native people. So I don't think I have any regrets today about the job I did.

[English]

PROSPECTS FOR PROGRAM

Mr. Keith Penner (Cochrane-Superior): Mr. Speaker, will the Minister admit to the House that if the Native Economic Development Program is not yet dead, it is certainly terminally ill?

Hon. André Bissonnette (Minister of State (Small Businesses)): Mr. Speaker, I think the program is still alive and will continue.

COMPLAINTS BY NATIVE GROUPS

Mr. John Parry (Kenora-Rainy River): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister. Since several native groups have complained of lengthy delays and even complete stalling of applications to the Native Economic Development Program, and at least one has now publicly advertised that it has no confidence in the Minister, what steps will he take to make sure that this program is put on an effective and business-like footing?

Mr. David Kilgour (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, as the Member is aware, the Minister is not here. I will take note of his question and get back to him.

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member for York West.

Mr. Parry: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. That is a falsehood. The Minister is here.

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IMMIGRATION

ALLEGED PRACTICES USED BY OFFICIALS AT TORONTO AIRPORT

Mr. Sergio Marchi (York West): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Employment and Immigration. It concerns the practice of her departmental officials at the international airport in Toronto using computer terminals to trick immigrants into believing they are lie detector tests.

Given that two officials have said at least six officials are using this type of intimidating practice, will she stop the delay