

To be more specific, it is estimated that the total value of the EPF transfers for health and post-secondary education will be \$19.8 billion in 1989-90 and \$20.9 billion in 1990-91. EPF will provide \$25 billion more to the provinces over the next five years than over the last five years.

Of these totals the federal legislation identifies some 29 per cent as being in respect of post-secondary education. Translated into dollars, this means that the post-secondary share of EPF is expected to be about \$5.7 billion in 1989-90 and \$6 billion in 1990-91, up from \$4.2 billion in 1984-85.

[*Translation*]

In other words, federal contributions to post-secondary education are extremely generous and increasing steadily. In the same area, other major federal support programs were spared during the latest budget cutbacks, and I am referring to the Canada Student Loans Program, the Official Languages in Education Program and also the Canada Scholarship Program and the centres of excellence.

At this point, perhaps I may offer more detailed information that will give a clear picture of our commitment to supporting post-secondary education. In this respect, the latest updated information may be found in the 1987-88 Report on Federal and Provincial Support to Post-Secondary Education, tabled in the House on April 7 this year.

In addition to established programs financing, the federal Government provides financial support to the provinces and the territories so that they can pay the additional cost involved in maintaining and developing official language minority education programs and second official language teaching at all levels: primary, secondary and post-secondary.

• (1540)

Bilateral agreements, representing a total of \$199 million in 1987-88, provide the framework for contributions made under the Official Languages in Education Program. These contributions total \$57.2 million at the post-secondary level.

In addition to these contributions, the federal Government provides direct assistance to the provinces and territories. A total of \$18.1 million has been granted for

*Supply*

other activities such as the Summer Language Bursary Program and the Monitor Program.

[*English*]

With respect to student assistance, under the Canada Student Loan Act, the federal Government provides loan guarantees to post-secondary students with demonstrated need. The main feature of the Canada Student Loans Program is the fact that the federal Government pays the interest on these loans while the students continue full-time studies and for six months afterward. In 1987-1988, the total value of new loans was \$589 million. The cost of interest on outstanding loans plus program expenses was \$211 million in 1987-1988. In addition, the federal Government paid \$77 million as an alternative payment to Québec as that province has always opted out of the program since its inception in 1964.

I would be remiss if I did not mention that a wide variety of federal Departments and agencies also provide scholarships, bursaries, fellowships and other support to post-secondary education students for a total of \$143.4 million. The federal Government also provided close to \$600 million in 1987-88 for university research, about \$500 million of which went to the three research granting councils. The remaining sums came from the federal Departments and agencies that provided grants and contributions related to their own areas of responsibility by contracting out research required for their own internal purposes and by providing other research-related services.

Finally, in respect of its constitutional responsibilities for education, the federal Government spent a total of \$104.1 million for its three military colleges, its Canadian Coast Guard college and for post-secondary education courses for federal inmates. As well, the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs spent \$73.6 million in support of native post-secondary education in 1987-1988.

To summarize, the federal Government makes transfers to the provinces and territories under the EPF arrangements and the official languages and education protocols. It provides direct support to post-secondary students either through loan guarantees or awards such as scholarships and bursaries. Mainly through the work of the research granting councils, it provides support to university research and it assumes its own constitutional responsibilities for education.