

**Mr. Broadbent:** I urge the House to adopt the recommendations.

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### INCOME TAX ACT

#### EXTENSION OF TUITION EXPENSE DEDUCTIONS SOUGHT FOR PARENTS OF UNEMPLOYED YOUTH

**Mr. Benno Friesen (Surrey-White Rock-North Delta):** Mr. Speaker, my colleague, the Hon. Member for Mission-Port Moody (Mr. St. Germain), has just underlined the devastation that is facing a generation of our youth, the age group between 15 and 24 who are largely unemployed and the most hardest hit sector of our unemployed population. For many of them this is a time of disorientation, discouragement and, in fact, a total waste of time. Yet this would be an excellent time for them to spend their time in educational institutions, a time at which they could prepare for the coming technological age, not only for jobs but also for leisure time. At the same time it is a time when they are broke and they cannot afford that kind of expense to pay the tuition.

• (1410)

For many of them their parents would be willing to pay the tuition fees even if the children are of the age of majority if they could use that expense as a tax deductible item. I would urge the Minister of Finance (Mr. Lalonde) to look at the plight of these unemployed, encourage them to go to school, allow the parents to deduct the tuition expense as a tax deductible item in order that the young people could prepare themselves for the coming technological age, and also in order to use that time for better use as leisure time.

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### EMPLOYMENT

#### LACK OF OPPORTUNITIES IN RURAL AREAS

**Mr. Arnold Malone (Crowfoot):** Mr. Speaker, some federal constituencies received a total of \$3 million of support funding from Canada Works and "LEAD" Programs this year. In my constituency, Crowfoot, only the bare minimum of \$100,000 was allocated.

The vast majority of government assistance programs are based on data collected by Statistics Canada with respect to rates of unemployment. Government officials and policy makers argue that a high rate of unemployment is the single legitimate reason for infusion of government incentives. This mentality, at first blush, seems logical, but in reality is robbing vast regions of rural Canada of opportunities for growth. There has not been a smoke stack in my constituency since Chief Crowfoot's teepee caught on fire some time in the last century.

So ingrained is the belief in many parts of rural Canada that the surrounding hamlets, villages, and towns have no industries

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and, therefore no jobs, that any student who is worth a pinch of coon's breath, automatically and deliberately leaves for a larger centre as soon as he or she exits high school. Rural communities export their unemployed.

There are, of course, fewer unemployed persons in rural Canada. It does not follow in logic that we can then conclude that employment opportunities are plentiful.

It is high time that we look beyond the mirrored veil that has led Governments to false conclusions about why unemployment exists.

Rural Canada is forced to export the unemployed. Most of the unemployed from my constituency are on lists in Lethbridge, Calgary, Red Deer, or Edmonton.

**Mr. Speaker:** I must interrupt the Hon. Member to advise him that his time has expired.

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### HOUSE OF COMMONS

#### PRINCIPAL BUDGETS OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

**Mr. Bill Blaikie (Winnipeg-Birds Hill):** I rise today, Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the entire NDP caucus to denounce the March 22 announcement by the Commissioners of Internal Economy that the principal budgets of MPs would be increased by a mere 4 per cent.

This decision by a group of Liberal cabinet Ministers flies in the face of the recommendations of an all-Party committee that the principal budgets of Members should be increased substantially to allow Members to give their assistants just and equitable pay increases and bring staff salaries in line with those of other House of Commons employees.

The NDP caucus cannot accept the injustice inherent in the decision of the Commissioners of Internal Economy. All Members of this House know that their assistants work long hours with no extra compensation, have little or no job security, and now they have been condemned to remain second class employees in relation to other House of Commons staff.

This is an issue that transcends party lines and I, on behalf of the entire NDP caucus, urge all Members of Parliament to voice their indignation and outrage at the arrogant and grossly unfair decision of the Commissioners of Internal Economy.

### ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

#### NATIONAL REVENUE

##### REASSIGNMENT OF DEPUTY MINISTER

**Mr. Chris Speyer (Cambridge):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of National Revenue. On February 24 the