

[Translation]

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL

BAN ON ACCESS TO RESIDENCY GROUNDS

Mr. Barry Turner (Ottawa—Carleton): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Public Works.

Last week, the entrance gates to the Governor General's residence were closed to the public, and I would like to know who requested this and why, and whether the gates will be opened to allow the public immediate access.

Hon. Roch La Salle (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, I welcome this opportunity to remind the House that it is customary to limit access to official residences.

As part of its new responsibilities, the NCC has decided to apply the same policy to the Governor General's residence.

I would like to remind the Hon. Member who is showing a great deal of concern for those who visit the residence that it will always be possible for Canadians to visit the Governor General's residence on the special and specific occasions when this was possible before.

[English]

Mr. Turner (Ottawa—Carleton): Supplementary question, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member for Notre-Dame-de-Grâce—Lachine East.

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EMPLOYMENT

JOB DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Hon. Warren Allmand (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce—Lachine East): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Employment and Immigration. Will the Minister explain why since April her Department has virtually closed down the Job Development Program in that her officials across the country have been telling project applicants that there are no funds available or that the funds are frozen? After announcing this program with such great publicity, why is the Minister not giving it the funds it needs to do the job?

Hon. Flora MacDonald (Minister of Employment and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member will be interested to know that since April 1 some \$120 million worth of new activities have been committed by the Government under the Canadian Jobs Strategy, \$40 million of that in the Province of Quebec alone, with \$10 million of that going into Job Development in the Province of Quebec.

TREATMENT OF APPLICANTS

Hon. Warren Allmand (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce—Lachine East): Mr. Speaker, I am talking about job development and

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not the Jobs Strategy. Why is it then that the Minister's officials in Montreal, Toronto, Hamilton, Ottawa, Windsor, New Brunswick and British Columbia, even this morning, have been telling project applicants that there are no funds available? Why are they telling these applicants that, if what she is saying is correct? She had better check with her officials.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Flora MacDonald (Minister of Employment and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, indeed, I have checked with my officials. I have said to the Hon. Member that some \$10 million has been approved for projects under Job Development in the Province of Quebec alone. We are managing our money carefully. By the end of June we expect that something in the order of 22,000 people will be involved in Job Development projects across the country. We feel that we are doing something right because the Canadian Jobs Strategy has helped contribute to the 630,000 new jobs in Canada since we came into office.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

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TRADE

LUMBER EXPORTS TO UNITED STATES—REPORTED APPOINTMENT OF ENVOYS

Mr. Jim Fulton (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister for International Trade. In the run-up to free trade negotiations the Prime Minister promised two things: full involvement of the provinces, and opposition to a separate process to deal with the softwood lumber trade. Will the Minister confirm that the Government's proposal to appoint envoys was made without discussions with British Columbia? In fact, he only sent telegrams there last night.

Hon. James Kelleher (Minister for International Trade): Mr. Speaker, I would like to advise the Hon. Member that, indeed, the Government is on record for fully involving the provinces in everything we do, not just Canada-U.S. and not just lumber, but every initiative the Government takes. Envoys have not been appointed. That is in the discussion stage. The provinces have been alerted to this. We will be discussing this matter in Washington tomorrow. No decision will be made until we have in fact consulted with the provinces and have obtained their approval.

● (1450)

IMPORTANCE OF LUMBER INDUSTRY TO BRITISH COLUMBIA

Mr. Jim Fulton (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is directed to the same Minister. I am sure he is aware that lumber is the largest industry in British Columbia, but he sent a telegram to the Province of British Columbia just last night. Will he confirm to the House whether or not there