

Members of the House and Yukoners, in plain, everyday language, whether he and his Government are politically committed to the reopening of the Cyprus Anvil mine? It is a very simple question. Is he politically committed to getting that done, and will we see it opened by January 1?

**Hon. David Crombie (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development):** Mr. Speaker, I went to Yukon and talked not only with people in Faro but with people in Yukon generally. A long-term, viable opening of this mine is key to the economy of Yukon and certainly to the economy of the people living in Faro.

I talked with Mr. Lassande, with YTG and indeed with the people in Faro. They asked me if I would facilitate a private sector solution which would open the mine long term. That is what I am doing. That is why I asked Mr. Lassande to assist me. I will not second-guess Mr. Lassande, and I certainly will not do things which would take me away from my obligation to the people of Faro and the people of Yukon, that is, to do what they asked me to do, which was to find a long-term private sector solution to the problem.

As the Hon. Member well knows, this mine has been for sale for some time, and there are no takers. It is not an easy matter. However, the Government is committed to doing everything possible to accommodate the wishes of the people of Faro and of the people of Yukon.

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## RESEARCH

### CANCELLATION OF PROPOSED WINNIPEG MANUFACTURING RESEARCH CENTRE

**Hon. Lloyd Axworthy (Winnipeg-Fort Garry):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of State for Science and Technology. He probably knows that today there was a report of a senior official of the National Research Council indicating that the cancellation of the manufacturing research centre in Winnipeg would be a very painful cut to Canadian industrial research. Furthermore, it would have been a unique development in Canada and have major industrial spin-offs for the Province of Manitoba. Also, a senior official of the Department of Regional Industrial Expansion indicated that it was a major stimulus for growth—

**Mr. Speaker:** I interrupt the Hon. Member with great regret but preambles and answers today are becoming longer and longer. I ask everyone to bring themselves back to Question Period, which is for questions and answers.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Axworthy:** In terms of the new information which has now come to light concerning the valuable and important role this research centre would play in the industrial development of Canada, is the Minister prepared to look at the new evidence, change his mind, review the decision, and consult

with the people in Manitoba about reopening that development for the betterment of industrial research for all Canadians?

**Hon. Thomas Siddon (Minister of State for Science and Technology):** Mr. Speaker, in answer to the Hon. Member's question, I suppose all government officials are entitled to their opinions. However, the Hon. Member's question belies an understanding of the basic challenge which was laid before the country in this Parliament by the Minister of Finance, that being a challenge to the private sector to engage much more actively in the pursuit of research, in the encouragement of investment and innovation, and in the international opportunity which research would represent under the type of economic scenario laid out by my colleague. Just as a footnote, it is astonishing to note that in the—

**Mr. Broadbent:** That is a long footnote.

**Mr. Speaker:** I am going to interrupt. With great respect to Ministers and to questioners, I cannot discipline if both sides choose to ask long questions and to make long answers. I have to be fair. Therefore I say to the Minister, please, footnotes are for another place.

## GOVERNMENT POLICY ON CONSULTATION

**Hon. Lloyd Axworthy (Winnipeg-Fort Garry):** Mr. Speaker, can we take from the Minister's answer, therefore, that the Government across the way is no longer prepared to work in any kind of partnership with the private sector to stimulate industrial research? It is cancelling a facility which the Minister knows full well the private sector cannot supply. He is prepared to detract from advancement and progress in the vital field of robotics. Is he saying that there will be absolutely no consultation, contrary to what the Minister of Finance said? Is he saying that there will be no development in Winnipeg? Is that his answer?

**Hon. Thomas Siddon (Minister of State for Science and Technology):** No, Mr. Speaker. The answer is no.

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● (1440)

## RAILWAYS

### PROPOSAL TO ELIMINATE CABOSES

**Mr. Les Benjamin (Regina West):** Mr. Speaker, before asking my question I wish to congratulate the Minister of Transport on his important and obviously deserved appointment.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Benjamin:** I look forward to helping him implement all the statements of policy and commitments he made in the Transport Committee and in other places.