

capped—it is vital that the CECs should organize themselves to meet the needs of such clientele.

What I have tried to do is give a brief “*tour d’horizon*” of the changes that are being made to help make the CECs more responsive to the needs of clients and employers. It is work that is most gratifying because it is people helping people, and it does help. Between 800,000 and 900,000 people find jobs annually.

I turn now to industrial and labour market adjustment. The hon. member for Brampton-Georgetown (Mr. McDermid) mentioned earlier that we would spend our money better if we gave it to small enterprises to train apprentices and prepare them for the job market. One of our priorities is to ensure that we reap the employment and economic benefits of changes in technology and trade patterns. Such changes have brought immense benefits in the past and will do so in the future, but—and I emphasize this—only if we make them work for us.

● (1720)

That is one of the key reasons for the \$350 million industrial and labour adjustment program. It provides industrial and labour incentives to help make the shift toward the industries and jobs of the future, not only those of today. It has several broad features. First, it has provision for the enhancement of our critical trades skill training program, which assists industry to train many of the skilled people we need, such as millwrights, industrial mechanics, heavy duty equipment operators and industrial electricians. We need these people in about 27 key occupational areas. In addition, it is to make provision during slack times for the continuation of the training of laid-off apprentices in key trades, even if they are not in institutions or industry, and it provides for stepping up skill training in trade centres across the country.

A second broad element is the provision of industrial incentives in key industries. Both the critical trades skill training and the industrial incentives will help industry to expand and take advantage of new opportunities.

A third, very important element is the community-based portion of the program. Here I digress a moment to explain the community-based program we have in mind. It is to be used for the revitalization of industry by the designation of communities for one year with possible six-month extensions. We expect that there might be five or six such communities at any given point over the next three years. We have already moved to designate four: Sept Îles-Port Cartier; Tracy-Sorel; Windsor and Sydney.

In the communities selected a range of incentives will be available to help existing firms expand or change and to help new firms to come to the community. Just as importantly, there will be a range of measures to assist workers to adapt, including critical trades skills training, enhanced training allowances for workers training in labour-short occupations and portable wage subsidies to assist the re-employment of workers 46 or more years of age. There will be early retirement benefits for workers over 55 years old who have extreme difficulty adapting and cannot realistically expect to find new,

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high-paying employment. We will also be providing community employment programming to stimulate the local job market during the period of transition. For those who choose to move elsewhere, we will provide for a tripling of mobility benefits.

We now see a great number of workers going from the Atlantic provinces, Ontario and Quebec, to the west, specifically to Alberta and British Columbia. I visited the tar sands project around Fort McMurray last summer. At that time I spoke to many people who had taken advantage of the mobility grants which were put forward by the government. These people were the ones who benefited greatly because they got jobs. But I suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, and to all hon. members in the House that the people who run the tar sands, a project which will benefit all Canadians, also benefit because those men and women brought their skills with them and contributed to the over-all betterment of that area.

Another area I want to address this afternoon concerns training. Canada has one of the most substantial and significant adult occupational training systems in the world. It consists of basic training for skill development and occupational training in institutions, industrial training, apprenticeship training and critical trade skills training. Although training does not itself create jobs, it can and does enable people to fill them. It is crucial both for economic and employment growth. The availability of a skilled worker is often crucial to the employment of several other people. For example, how many times would you see one bricklayer, because of his particular skill, create three or four labour-intensive jobs? The same could be said of electricians and plumbers.

We are awaiting the results of the work of the special parliamentary committee and other bodies on the direction the training program should take for the future. In the meantime, we have moved to make better provision, through critical trades skills training, for training people in high level skills, mostly in apprenticeable areas, people who are needed in the economy now and whose skills will be required three to five years down the road when their training is completed.

I submit that training programs are very important. Financial provision for the industrial training program, including apprenticeship, will be at least \$196 million this fiscal year, providing training for 132,500 people.

Provision of occupational, prerequisite, basic educational and immigrant language training will cost at least \$362.7 million this fiscal year. In addition, \$96 million will be provided to pay basic support allowances to people taking this training, and up to \$190 million will be made available to continue the unemployment insurance benefits of others while they take this training. Altogether, we expect that about 170,000 people will receive training in institutions this fiscal year.

Direct job creation is worthy of study. Direct job creation is being used as a flexible, targeted approach to create jobs in areas where they are needed, with particular focus on the needs of those groups of unemployed with the greatest need. The fundamental purpose is to provide employment at times