

dian Race Relations Foundation and that his department has cut \$24 million in grants and contributions, the total dropped from \$78.722 million last year to \$50.731 million this year.

I would like to ask the member if he has had a chance to look at these estimates. If not, maybe he can give me a comment on the credibility one must give to a system which increases its operating expenditures—in other words, the bureaucratic expenditures—and reduces grants and contributions and then comes into this House and tells us: “Times are tough. We have to cut expenditures”.

For God’s sake cut expenditures, but cut them in a way that people will understand. I ask the member if he has had a chance to look at these estimates? It sounds to me like the minister and his department, and the government in general, are not seriously attacking the problem of cutting the expenditures of the department. They are cutting the expenditures of grants and contributions which this program benefited from.

**Mr. Waddell:** Mr. Speaker, to answer the member’s question, because I am not the critic of that department I have not had a chance to look at the individual expenditures of that department.

I did say in my speech that I looked at the Department of Justice where there is a similar pattern, there is a pattern of increase in the estimates of that department, an increase both bureaucratically and for outside counsel.

I put that to the minister and he said that he is not the Minister of Finance, he is not responsible for that. He has a point. I asked him about the \$870,000 paid for the Prime Minister’s daily press clippings and he said that it is not his responsibility, and he is right.

As the member points out, his responsibility is for his own budget. It is very interesting, as the member has pointed out, that his budget has increased for the bureaucracy and decreased for grants and expenses. The minister seems to be sucking and blowing at the same time with those figures, does he not? No doubt, he will explain why.

I suppose there is always a pressure in the bureaucracy for more money and more expenses, and it costs a lot. Compare those kind of figures, both in the Department of Justice and in the minister’s own department, with the

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\$2.7 million that this program is presenting and then compare what we got out of the program with some of the stuff we got out of the departments.

We are getting pretty good value for our money. It is total economic irresponsibility to pad those figures and to cut this program.

**Hon. Gerry Weiner (Minister of Multiculturalism and Citizenship):** Mr. Speaker, for the benefit of the hon. member, who I know would want to have it clear in his mind, we did create a new department in this particular year with available resources from the Secretary of State. There was a division of the existing resources. Some additional resources were given to us so that we could have a new, effective department right across the country.

The first thing the member should do is examine the administrative situation of the Secretary of State and the new department and realize that we have made use of the collective resources or the administrative resources of the two. Wherever possible we attempted to do within the existing resource base in order to establish new centres right across the country for the delivery of the services one would anticipate. We tried to do this as carefully as possible.

The \$24 million that the member is referring to was the specific amount that partly came about as a result of the settlement with Canadians of Japanese origin. That is the deferral of the Race Relations Foundation.

Deferral. We have a commitment in law to proclaim the Race Relations Foundation in the future. However, frankly, there is still some work that has to take place. In the meantime, the activity of the department, in accentuated fashion, in heightened fashion, with increased resources, is directed more and more toward fighting racism.

The member for Halifax is here. She might want to get to her feet and talk about some of the activity I have been privileged to participate in with members of Parliament and with the community in Halifax. I hope that she will find it helpful. She may want to interject at some point in this debate as well.

**Mr. Waddell:** Mr. Speaker, excluding the deferral for the money for the Race Relations Foundation and the Japanese Canadians it seems to me that it is the most expensive new letterhead and new phone number in Canadian history.