

*Oral Questions*

**Mr. Hnatyshyn:**—he would be asking the question in the committee with respect to the competence of the people who have been appointed. We have scrutiny of appointments. The fact is, and I have explained this to the House many, many times, that the resumé I have in my office is the one that I had and the one on which I relied for the appointments. How the other resumé came into existence, I have no idea how that happened.

## MINISTERS' OFFICE CHANGES

**Mr. Howard McCurdy (Windsor—Walkerville):** Let me ask the Minister, Mr. Speaker, whether it is possible that the resumé were purged when there was the office cleanup for the change of Ministers?

**An Hon. Member:** Answer the question.

**Mr. Broadbent:** It is possible.

**Mr. Speaker:** The Hon. Member for Regina East.

\* \* \*

## FINANCE

CAPE BRETON INVESTMENT TAX CREDIT—REPORTED  
MANIPULATION BY INVESTORS

**Mr. Simon de Jong (Regina East):** Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Minister of State for Finance. This morning we learned through a *Globe and Mail* report that the Cape Breton Investment Tax Credit is being manipulated by some of the same individuals using some of the same methods as were used in the SRTC scam. Is the Minister aware of the ability of some of these investors to inflate their costs to pay for overpriced consultants and to provide excessive commissions and benefits from the tax credit?

**Hon. Tom Hockin (Minister of State (Finance)):** Mr. Speaker, the Ministry of Finance and the Government have been very assiduous in trying to close loopholes and in monitoring matters of that type. I would like to tell the Hon. Member that the Cape Breton Tax Credit is monitored by the Department of Regional Industrial Expansion. All projects must be approved by that Department. Those sorts of things are monitored carefully.

## REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION

**Mr. Simon de Jong (Regina East):** I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. While the Government squeezes such organizations as the National Research Council, it is losing hundreds of millions of dollars through tax loopholes. Will the Minister guarantee that each project approved will be investigated so that we will not have the same problem as we had under the SRTC?

**Hon. Tom Hockin (Minister of State (Finance)):** Mr. Speaker, unlike the SRTC, this particular program requires

that projects be approved in advance by the Department of Regional Industrial Expansion.

\* \* \*

[Translation]

## BANKS AND BANKING

ESTABLISHMENT OF INTERNATIONAL BANKING CENTRES—  
GOVERNMENT POSITION

**Mr. Guy Ricard (Laval):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of State (Finance).

In his Budget, the Minister of Finance said that free zones and an international banking centre would be established in the Montreal area.

Recently, we heard that a moratorium was expected on these projects. I wonder if the Minister of State (Finance) could inform the House whether a moratorium will be issued and if so, why? Would it apply to the free zones or the international banking centre or both?

**Hon. Tom Hockin (Minister of State (Finance)):** Mr. Speaker, not at all. The Government has not changed its decision to promote the establishment of international banking centres. Discussions are continuing with representatives of the governments and cities concerned.

\* \* \*

[English]

## MULTICULTURALISM

## CANADIAN MULTICULTURALISM COUNCIL

**Mr. Sergio Marchi (York West):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of State for Multiculturalism. In reply to my question to him concerning the leaked McCreath Report which concludes that the Canadian Multiculturalism Council is nothing more than an extension of the Conservative Party, the Minister said he had not read the report. Surely after 10 days he has seen and read the report and plans some meaningful action. If the Minister is interested in restoring the reputation and integrity of this national advisory board, why has the Minister not asked or received the immediate resignation of the Vice-Chairman, Mr. McCreath, and why does the Minister refuse to initiate a full review of the mandate and operation of this very important national council?

**Hon. David Crombie (Secretary of State):** Perhaps the Hon. Member will be interested to know, Mr. Speaker, that I will be meeting with the Council next weekend. At that time that and other matters will be discussed.