

Supply

This is further proof that the Government's actions do not match its words.

There is another issue. I have just learned recently that an air monitoring project on St. Anne's Island near the Walpole Island Indian Reserve is being terminated by Environment Canada. As of May 15 the project will be shut down.

In light of our close proximity to the United States, and just a couple of jet streams away from the Detroit incinerator, I cannot understand why Environment Canada would not continue to assist Walpole Island fund its air monitoring project. If the Government is so fired up about the environment, if it is so committed, why would it drop this program that is so essential to the monitoring of air quality near the U.S.?

On top of that, the Government hasn't even lifted a finger to stop or delay the building of the massive Detroit incinerator. It is the largest incinerator in North America. American officials reject using the best available technology because it is too expensive. I say it is much more expensive to affect the health of Canadians who are living downwind from this garbage-burning monster.

The Conservatives should follow the lead of the Ontario Government. Its Minister of the Environment is showing guts, fortitude and real commitment to this issue. The provincial Minister of the Environment is taking the Yankees to court. He is defending our interests. Where is our Government on this important matter? Picking up bogus awards in the U.S. It seems that when there is an award to be had the Government is ready to show up to accept it. However, when it comes to action the Government has gone missing and will not even attend the show.

In conclusion, I have cited many examples of the Government's lack of real action and commitment to the environment—and this is just in my riding of Kent alone. The Minister has used selective logic on the Lake Huron pipeline project. He said: "It's not our problem". He ignores a number of water supply projects elsewhere in Canada. He ignores the fact that the St. Clair River is an

international waterway. He ignores the fact that communities downstream have coped with over 300 spills.

The environmental mess has not been made by the citizens of North Kent. It is a direct result of industrial spills and Governments unable to correct the problem. If the federal Tories continue their head-in-the-sand approach then more problems across Canada will result.

This issue will not go away. The issue of municipal infrastructure will not go away. For the Conservatives to say: "It's not our problem" scares me.

The Minister of the Environment (Mr. Bouchard) has stated quite categorically that "Canadians aren't interested in battles over provincial or federal jurisdiction; they're looking for action on environment". The Minister said that recently on *Insight* with Doug Fisher.

This morning I received letters from a school teacher in the City of Chatham. She teaches at St. Agnes School where her students in grades four and five are interested in our environment. They are worried about our environment. In the last line of her letter she states: "We would really appreciate any time you can take to view these letters". There are approximately 50 letters. Not only will I view them, I will reply to each and every one of them.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Crawford: These are the children we have to look out for. They will be the leaders of tomorrow. We have to set the examples. Unfortunately, the Government across the way is not setting an example for these students.

With the Lake Huron pipeline project there was no action, no commitment. Environmental issues are number one in Canada. It is simply unacceptable for the Government to say: "It's not our problem" to communities downstream from chemical valley. It is the problem of us all. It is a national problem. It needs a national response. So far the Government has been abdicating its responsibility.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!