

I have a deep sense of commitment to the people of Etobicoke North who placed their confidence in me. For that I thank them. They can be assured that I will work diligently and effectively on their behalf because I look forward to representing them from the government benches for many, many years to come.

The name "Toby Cook" appeared on the maps of early Upper Canada and it referred to the rivers and land now known as Etobicoke. Toby Cook was a mispronunciation of the Indian word meaning "the place where the alders grow". Although the Constituency of Etobicoke North has only been in existence since 1979, the communities of Thistletown, Rexdale and Albion which largely make up the riding have long and deep histories. These villages were first settled in the early 19th century by the Queen's Simcoe Rangers and the United Empire Loyalists.

Today in Etobicoke North we have a cross-section of people from all ethnic, religious and socio-economic backgrounds. The diverse blend of ethnic groups adds to the flavour of our community. In a sense, Etobicoke North could be viewed as a replica of the larger Canadian ethnic mosaic. Many of the residents are new Canadians, just as the United Empire Loyalists were 150 years before them.

If I had to describe my constituency in one word, it would be the word "mixture". As I have mentioned, we are blessed with an ethnic as well as a socio-economic mixture. Businesses in our community are quite diverse and range from small single proprietorships to primary industries, from small construction firms to advanced high-tech industries active in research and development. There is even a balance between single-family homes and apartments.

When I first moved to Etobicoke North, farms, orchards and cow fields were the predominant features. Today our community offers the residents a variety of social services and recreational facilities. There is everything from bachhi courts to the new Woodbine race track. Perhaps in the very near future, Hon. Members will be able to refer to Etobicoke North as the home of the dome. Although Etobicoke North is primarily an urban riding, it still contains two farms.

As I mentioned earlier, Mr. Speaker, the people of Canada have given our Party a mandate for change. The Throne Speech has provided our Government with a blueprint for that change. The people of Etobicoke North join with me in applauding the Government for its sensible, honest approach in dealing with Canada's truly difficult and complex problems. The Speech from the Throne addresses those issues of concern that have been voiced to me throughout the course of the recent election campaign, including economic growth, social issues and legal reform.

Etobicoke North is no different from any other urban industrialized riding in that the recent recession has caused unemployment. Many factors contributed to the recession and to the corresponding rise in the unemployment rate. Personally, I see no merit in dwelling on the past. The Throne Speech spoke in very positive tones with new approaches to dealing with the issues. The past is the past; what concerns us is the

future and the best security for one's future lies with a steady job. However, the key to long-term job creation is economic renewal.

On Thursday, November 8, the Minister of Finance (Mr. Wilson) put before the House an economic statement which outlined the Government's economic agenda. The responses I have received from my constituents thus far indicate their strong support of the Government's initiatives, particularly with respect to its approach to fiscal responsibility. The people of Etobicoke North recognize the necessity of tough policy during tough times. They have tightened their belts and expect the Government to do the same. They know that through responsible Government, renewed growth and prosperity in the future is achievable.

The problems facing our youth today go beyond the economic ones. During the election campaign I promised my constituents that I would create a local task force adopting a similar approach to that contained in the Throne Speech. The idea was to bring together local businessmen, educators, labour representatives, youth groups and representatives of the three levels of Government to discuss long-term job opportunities in a spirit of consultation and co-operation. We must work in a harmonious environment with the provincial Governments to ensure that our educational system is training young Canadians for jobs that will be in existence 5, 10 and 20 years into the future.

The private sector forecasts its employment and technical requirements in advance. Only through co-operation with that sector will we avoid the unfortunate situation that is occurring today, a situation in which young people have been or will be trained for jobs that do not or will not exist.

The fact that the Throne Speech equally addressed social as well as economic issues serves to reaffirm to the Canadian people the Government's commitment to the maintenance of our social programs. The Canada of today is not the Canada of 20 years ago. Alterations in the economic and social fabric of our country have created new circumstances. My constituents applaud the Government's commitment to positive action in dealing with these new circumstances. I would like to deal briefly with some of these circumstances.

Issues that concern women are very important to me personally. My wife has always been my partner; first in marriage, then in business and now in politics. I also have two teenage daughters and, like all fathers, I wish to ensure that they have the opportunity to attain their goals, whatever those goals may be. Today, because of economic conditions, technological changes and a desire for personal advancement, women have become a more integral part of every sector of the work force.

I am proud that our Government has reaffirmed its position of favouring equality for women in all sectors of society. The principle of equal pay for work of equal value remains a cornerstone of the Government's social policy. As well, I am pleased that the Government intends to place greater emphasis on employment opportunities for women in the public sector.

*The Address—Mr. Pennock*