

*Oral Questions*

been put aside for any project. There are eligible projects which must meet the usual criteria of government programs for the region and whatever remains in the Laprade Fund will naturally be spent in accordance with criteria we have established, which basically call for the creation of permanent jobs, as we wanted to do at the very beginning, but unfortunately this was not done by the previous Government.

## REQUEST FOR EXPLANATION OF FUND'S USAGE

**Mr. Gilles Grondin (Saint-Maurice):** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary for the President of the Treasury Board. The terms of application are naturally related to the program, but we are concerned about the terms of application of the fund, that is how this fund will be distributed among the constituencies, because we want to know whether the money will be distributed fairly and equitably among the various constituencies involved. That is the most important, in my opinion.

**Hon. Robert de Cotret (President of the Treasury Board):** Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member should understand that the Laprade Fund is meant for the Laprade region. Naturally, in this optic, what we want to promote is the creation of permanent jobs in industry, business and tourism throughout the whole region. Naturally, the boundaries of constituencies are often set arbitrarily and they can change, but we have kept the concept of the Laprade zone, and the money which remains in the fund will be spent to improve and complement what is already available under existing programs.

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[English]

## CANADIAN ARMED FORCES

## MALODOROUS UNIFORMS

**Mr. Derek Blackburn (Brant):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of National Defence. It concerns the 12,000 new uniforms which cannot be used by Maritime Command because they give off such a bad odour. Since the material was produced to the Government's specifications, will the Canadian taxpayer have to pay another \$2.7 million to replace these useless uniforms, and will the money have to come from the operational budget?

**Hon. Perrin Beatty (Minister of National Defence):** Mr. Speaker, I am a bit concerned, after this question, that my colleagues on this side of the House may be sitting farther from me than they used to. It is an important question. It is one which is being studied at the present time by the Department to determine the cause of the odour. Once we have had a chance to locate the cause of it, we will be looking at what can be done about it, and I will keep the Hon. Member informed.

## COMPOSITION OF NEW FABRIC

**Mr. Derek Blackburn (Brant):** Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is on the same point. Why did the Government not conduct a second set of tests after changing the composition of the new fabric, before it went ahead and ordered almost \$3 million worth of uniforms?

**Hon. Perrin Beatty (Minister of National Defence):** Mr. Speaker, that would also be a very good question, if the premise on which it was based were accurate. My understanding is that in fact the composition of the fabric was not changed and that the composition being used is roughly the same as that being used for various European uniforms.

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## CANADA MORTGAGE AND HOUSING CORPORATION

## FUNDING OF CO-OPERATIVE HOUSING

**Mr. Alan Redway (York East):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister responsible for Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation. He is aware of the desperate need in Canada for more modest and rent geared to income housing. In light of those facts, how could the Minister support the decision on the part of CMHC to make the lowest allocation of co-op housing units in the last 10 years? Is the Minister prepared to utilize the additional funds in the budget to provide for more rent geared to income housing in the current year?

**Hon. Stewart McInnes (Minister of Public Works):** Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to say that, as a result of our policies which have evolved over the last two years, we have been able to accommodate more than twice the number of households with supporting moneys and subsidies than any other Government had been able to do in the history of Canada. Dealing with the Hon. Member's particular inquiry concerning the co-operative program, the association came to us and made representations on the number of units which might be constructed under a trial program over the next five years. Basic to that proposal were certain assumptions relative to the cost of projects and financing. Unfortunately those two suppositions have turned out to be wrong and that has—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please.

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[Translation]

## OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

## GOVERNMENT POSITION

**Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa—Vanier):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the President of the Treasury Board.