

FORESTRY EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

Question No. 4,389—Mr. Scott (Victoria-Haliburton):

1. Did the Department of the Environment consult existing forest sector employers to see how they could best provide more jobs before announcing the Forestry Employment Program?
2. Did the Department consult the wood processors to see whether there is a market for additional wood?
3. Did the Department do an analysis on the market to see how additional wood will affect the present prices paid to producers by processors?
4. How does the Department estimate this Program will affect existing forest sector employers?

Hon. John Roberts (Minister of the Environment): 1. Yes, the Department of the Environment did consult with several industry groups prior to announcing the Federal Employment Stimulation Program Forestry Component.

2. No, the Department did not consult the wood processors because the Program expressly avoids creating additional wood except as a limited by-product of stand improvement work.
3. No; since additional wood would be minimal and in no case would the volume of wood produced through stand improvement work be sufficient to affect market prices, no analysis was necessary.

4. The program will benefit existing forest sector employers by keeping laid-off woodworkers in the local community so that they will be available when economic conditions return to normal. In addition, the work done on the forests will help to ensure a long-term supply of wood, securing a future for these employers.

CMHC—REFUSAL OF FUNDING TO INTER FAITH HOUSING

Question No. 4,391—Mr. Hawkes:

1. Did the Calgary branch of the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation refuse funding for the Inter Faith Housing, a group who requested that senior citizens apartments be built, and, if so, for what reason was the funding refused?
2. Were other groups refused such funding and, if so (a) how many (b) what were the names of all such groups?

Hon. Roméo LeBlanc (Minister of Public Works): I am informed by Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation as follows:

1. CMHC has been unable to approve an application from Inter Faith Housing for assistance under the Non-Profit and Co-operative Housing Program due to lack of budget funds.
2. Yes, (a) Three other non-profit groups developing senior citizens housing were advised that 1982 budget funds were not available for their projects; (b) Chinese United Church, Calvin Hungarian Church and Orthodox Brotherhood of Calgary.

CMHC—FUNDING FOR SENIOR CITIZENS APARTMENTS

Question No. 4,392—Mr. Hawkes:

1. Did the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation finance costs last year for senior citizens apartments in Calgary and, if so (a) how many units were built (b) what was the cost of the project?
2. Is the Minister responsible for the Corporation aware that a request was made for further funding for senior citizens apartments to be built this year and,

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if so (a) how many units were requested (b) what was the cost of such a project and how many persons would it have accommodated?

3. Can the Minister advise why such funding was refused when there is a great need for subsidized housing in Calgary for elderly senior citizens over 65?
4. Is it government policy to deny funding of this sort in order to finance other projects which they feel are more worthwhile?

Hon. Roméo LeBlanc (Minister of Public Works): I am informed by Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation as follows:

1. Yes. (a) Senior citizens housing—142 units; Private non-profit and co-operative housing projects (some units would likely be occupied by senior citizens)—261 units. In addition in 1981 CMHC committed to share in the operating losses of 421 senior citizens housing units under Section 44.1(a) of the National Housing Act in the Calgary region. (b) Senior citizens housing—\$8,916,000; Private non-profit and co-operative housing projects—\$18,401,000.
2. Yes. (a) Two projects totalling 142 units. (b) The costs of the projects have not been established and it is not known how many persons would be accommodated.
3. Budgetary constraints do not permit the funding of all social housing projects requesting subsidy assistance under the Non-Profit and Co-operative Housing Programs.
4. No.

CMHC—APPEAL OF CUTBACKS

Question No. 4,393—Mr. Hawkes:

1. Did the Minister of Public Works, who is responsible for the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, receive a letter from the Inter Faith Housing appealing a cutback in funding?
2. Did the Minister respond to the letter and, if not (a) for what reason (b) can the Minister advise how long it will be before a response is prepared?

Hon. Roméo LeBlanc (Minister of Public Works): I am informed by Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation as follows: 1. Yes. 2. Yes. (a) and (b) N/A.

GOVERNMENT BILLBOARD ADVERTISING

Question No. 4,395—Mr. Gamble:

1. On April 1, 1982 or thereabouts, did the Department of Employment and Immigration erect or cause to be erected a number of unilingual French-language billboards in Metropolitan Toronto and, if so, how many such billboards were erected by or on behalf of the Department in the Province of Ontario during and after April 1, 1982?
2. For the same period, how many unilingual English-language billboards were erected in the Province of Quebec?
3. Did officers of the Department responsible for the erection of the billboards in the Province of Ontario state that no unilingual English-language billboards were erected in the Province of Quebec and, if so, how does the Department justify the preferential treatment accorded to French-speaking Canadians in the Province of Ontario, while denying similar treatment to English-speaking Canadians in the Province of Quebec?

Hon. Lloyd Axworthy (Minister of Employment and Immigration): 1. (a) Yes, unilingual French billboards were erected in Metropolitan Toronto starting March 17 and ending May 4. (Due to the fact that billboard postings do not all take place on the same day, some were erected later than March 17 and