

*Federal-Provincial Fiscal Arrangements Act*

centre's staff not only work with industry, but with municipalities, provincial agencies, universities, consultants and other federal Government departments—along with the Parliamentary Secretary and the Hon. Minister of the Environment who are doing such a fine job throughout the country—to develop innovative solutions to waste water treatment problems.

Let me address another aspect of the upgrading of waste water treatment facilities, namely the larger issue of sewage infrastructure. It comes down to the two words that I used initially, and what were they? We care. It is because as Conservatives, we care. What is it?

**Some Hon. Members:** We care.

**Mr. Fretz:** That is right. The issue of sewage infrastructure includes the repair and replacement of aging sewage treatment systems and the separation of storm sewers from sanitary sewers. That is an important consideration in Fort Erie. Crystal Beach is part of that municipality because we have regional Government. The separation of storm sewers and sanitary sewers involved a tremendous cost factor and created many problems for us in Crystal Beach. When the storm water got into the sewage pipes, it created many problems as well as that extra cost. Other aspects to this sewage infrastructure include upgrading treatment processes, from primary to secondary treatment, for example, and building new sewage treatment plants so that more Canadians have access to sewage treatment.

I see that I only have four minutes left, Mr. Speaker. Environment Canada, in collaboration with the Quebec Department of the Environment, developed a co-operative arrangement for a technology exchange to deal with waste water. I will try to finish quickly, Mr. Speaker, but it will be difficult because I have much to say.

I want the House to remember these four points involved in the co-operative arrangement. First, it involves joint planning of technology development projects and technology transfer; second, co-ordination of effort and resources allocated to technology development and transfer; third, joint programs for technology development and transfer; and fourth, creation of a joint committee to implement the technology transfer.

In conclusion, I have presented for Hon. Members, particularly the Hon. Member for Davenport who has listened so attentively, the extent of the Government's activities related to this issue and have emphasized the fact that important and significant events have already occurred to ensure that health of Canadians will not be compromised by insufficient waste water treatment. Why? Because we care.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Charest):** Debate. The Hon. Member for Guelph (Mr. Winegard).

**Mr. Caccia:** Back up your words with facts. If you do that, we will take you seriously.

**An Hon. Member:** Come on over, Charlie.

**Mr. William C. Winegard (Guelph):** Mr. Speaker, if they keep this up, they will use all of my three minutes. I want to speak to this issue as well.

I believe that the Bill proposed by the Hon. Member for Davenport (Mr. Caccia) is one of the most important Private Members' Bills we have seen introduced this session.

**Mr. Caccia:** Do not kill it, then.

**Mr. Winegard:** They will not let me speak, Mr. Speaker. I do not think it matters which Government is in power in the next few years, although I hope it is us, because all governments will have to deal with major environmental problems.

In some cases these problems have been sprung upon us, while we have brought other problems upon ourselves. Let us consider PCBs for example. When oils containing PCBs began to be used many years ago, no one really knew the risk. These oils were poured on our roads without regard for the consequences which we know only too well now. I believe all Governments have been in a reactive mode for many years, which is clearly unacceptable. Governments must become more active in this area and I believe that has happened. I hope Members of the House appreciate the efforts of the Minister of the Environment (Mr. McMillan) and the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of the Environment (Mr. Gurbini) in coming to grips with this issue.

We believe that environmental protection requires a two-pronged approach. We must clean up existing problems, of which there are many, and we must prevent future problems. Since you are cutting me off, Mr. Speaker, let me conclude by saying that you may be assured that we will look after the future.

● (1900)

[Translation]

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Charest):** Order, please. The hour provided for consideration of Private Members' Business has expired. Pursuant to Standing Order 42(1), this item will be dropped from the Order Paper.

## GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[Translation]

### FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL FISCAL ARRANGEMENTS AND FEDERAL POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION AND HEALTH CONTRIBUTIONS ACT, 1977

#### MEASURE TO AMEND

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Wilson (Etobicoke Centre) that Bill C-96, an Act to amend the Federal-Provincial Fiscal Arrangements Act and Federal Post-Secondary Education and Health Contributions Act, 1977, be read the third time and passed; and the amendment of Ms. Copps (Hamilton East) (p. 14483).