

Premier of Newfoundland brought the oil companies virtually to their knees on that particular point. However, now we are told that back-in rights are no longer to be entertained.

As the Premier, the Government of Newfoundland and Newfoundlanders saw it, the only way for our province to catch up was if it owned a piece of the action. Indeed, it was almost, I would say, a sacred trust. Yet Mr. Marshall said the other day during his meeting here in Ottawa that it is no longer sacred. He says now: "That is the policy of the Government of Canada. It is no longer sacred as far as we are concerned, and we accept the policy of the Government of Canada". But if the Crown share goes, if back-in rights are no more, how does Newfoundland collect revenue? I put those questions on the record. Will it be from royalties? Perhaps it will, we do not know. Will it be from PGRT? We do not know.

Perhaps the Minister of State for Finance could answer this question: Is the federal Government, as part of this deal with Newfoundland, going to turn over PGRT to the province? Is that part of the deal? What is the answer to that question?

What other federal taxes are going to go to the Province of Newfoundland if back-in rights are no longer to be entertained? We are told in the Prime Minister's letter of June 14 that the federal Government will maintain the right to establish and collect federal taxes. If it is going to collect them, are they going to hold them or is it going to turn them over to the provinces? These are very important questions for my province, Mr. Speaker.

The letter of the present Prime Minister, the former Leader of the Opposition, also tells us that any Government he led would promise a development fund for infrastructure. That is good. I support that, and the previous administration no doubt did offer the same proposal. However, what about funding for education and training for Newfoundlanders and Labradorians? It seems to me, Mr. Speaker, that that is of paramount importance. There is no mention at all, though, in that letter—and I suspect in the deal which is now being consummated—of any proposition, philosophical or financial, for the enhancement, development and the furthering of education and training for Newfoundlanders. There will be revenues to the provinces, and management, perhaps. But how do we ensure jobs for ordinary Newfoundlanders unless they have the skills to take those jobs?

In the past, the guidelines for PIP grants were a great step in the right direction because they ensured Newfoundland content which included a lot of local people in those jobs. But are those PIP grants going to continue to exist? We do not know that. And if those financial safeguards and levers are not there, then what do we put in their place and how do we ensure that Newfoundlanders get the skills to take those jobs? There are many who will seek those jobs and simply not get them on the basis of lack of skills.

Bear in mind, Mr. Speaker, that 50 per cent of eligible young people in Newfoundland and Labrador are unemployed at this point. That is a tragic figure. A lot of those young people are looking not simply to the fishery, logging or mining, but, indeed, to this offshore deal as a means of securing

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employment. The point I am making is that one can talk all one likes about revenues and management, but if ordinary people, and particularly young people, do not have the necessary skills to take those jobs which are open, then, really, those things are not going to be of benefit to the ordinary Newfoundlander.

Instead of providing more training, the Government in its economic statement, has slashed funds and cut back on programs for young people. Those young people depended on those programs for employment, to fund their education and to help themselves for the future. What is going to take the place of those programs which have been slashed? We do not know. We do not hear a word about that. It seems to me that is a pretty important question.

It is obvious, then, Mr. Speaker, that at this point Newfoundlanders are being asked to venture into the unknown. The provincial motto is "Launch forth into the deep". It seems to me that is what we are doing at this point.

What I am really asking for here today is information. I would like the answers to those legitimate questions. We may receive those answers and find that this is a great deal. If it is a good deal for Newfoundland, I will say so, and if it is a good deal for Canada, I will say so. However, at this point in time we do not know. Certain members of the provincial and federal Cabinets may know but I, as a legitimately elected Member of Parliament for Newfoundland, do not know. The Premier of Ontario knows what is in that agreement, but I do not know. What I am really asking for here, Mr. Speaker, is for the answers to those legitimate questions.

I hope it is a good deal and if it is, as I say, we will applaud it. But I want to make sure, and I intend to make sure, that my province gets the best deal possible from the Government of Canada. And that is difficult to do when the Government will not say what is in that deal.

I raise those questions today in the context of PGRT and energy policies because we need those questions answered, Mr. Speaker, and we need them answered right now.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski):** There is one minute remaining for questions and comments.

**Mr. Shields:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Hon. Member a question. I understand his concerns, but does the Hon. Member not recognize that the agreement which is being proposed for the offshore Newfoundland gas and oil would be set up so that it is treated in exactly the same way as the resources in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, or British Columbia, for that matter? Does the Hon. Member not understand that there may not be agreement between Government and Government with regards to training, just as there has never been an agreement between the federal Government and the Alberta Government with respect to training people to participate in the jobs which are created? The Province of Newfoundland is being treated as the other provinces. It is up to the Province of Newfoundland, when it gives out the drilling right and when it administers the oil fields, that—