

I have been informed that in northwestern Ontario the New Horizons Program for seniors has been severely cut. In fact, there will only be a total of six applications approved for all of northwestern Ontario this coming year in comparison to nine applications which were approved in my riding last year.

Can the minister tell us exactly what is going on with the New Horizons Program for seniors? I think all seniors in this country would like to know.

Hon. Perrin Beatty (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, you bet I can, and I would be particularly delighted.

I am pleased to inform the hon. member and the House that he was particularly well treated last year relative to virtually all the other members in the House of Commons.

The allocation for the hon. member's constituency was some \$36,806. The amount spent was \$74,975. The amount approved was some \$86,688.

Already this year the amount committed from the previous year carried over some \$33,574, and there is a further allocation of some \$24,620.

In terms of programs to be submitted for my approval over the next two to three weeks there is some \$9,794.

The hon. member should be pretty pleased with that.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Robert D. Nault (Kenora—Rainy River): Mr. Speaker, it is very interesting that the minister knew exactly what I was going to ask him.

I would like to inform the minister, since he seems to know so much, that the fact is that my riding has been cut by 32 per cent for the upcoming year.

Some hon. members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Nault: That is not too bad. Last week the minister suggested to this House, through another minister, that there were no cuts at all to the New Horizons Program.

On the one hand the minister says simply that there have been no cuts, while on the other hand I am being told that I have been cut by 32 per cent. Even though we have been treated so well in Kenora—Rainy River, I would like that to continue.

Could the minister simply tell us if there are any cuts or if there are not any cuts? I would like to know one way or another so that the senior citizens of Kenora and in

the area I represent will be able to make their plans for the upcoming year.

Hon. Perrin Beatty (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I am a bit puzzled. The hon. member seemed surprised that I knew he might be asking a question. His office called to tell me so. Perhaps his office did not inform him of the possibility.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Beatty: I can simply confirm for the hon. gentleman that his riding was disproportionately well treated last year. With the amount of money carried over this year, he will be exceptionally well treated again this year as well.

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CITY OF MONTREAL

Hon. Warren Allmand (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the minister responsible for the city of Montreal.

The lead editorial in yesterday's *The Gazette* stated:

A dark shadow is clouding Montreal's entrance to the 1990s as a dynamic, progressive and prosperous city.

The shadow is cast by deepening poverty and misery, by an expanding underclass of Montrealers with no jobs or precarious jobs, substandard housing, poor health and little hope.

This assessment was made in a recent report by Paul Lacoste on behalf of the Montreal Centraide campaign.

Considering this shocking analysis, will the federal government now get together with the city of Montreal and with the Government of Quebec to develop a comprehensive city-wide plan to re-establish Montreal as a strong economic centre with good and productive jobs? When can we expect some action on these serious matters?

[Translation]

Hon. Benoît Bouchard (Minister of Industry, Science and Technology): Mr. Speaker, I am always surprised when the hon. member for Notre-Dame-de-Grâce makes such comments about Montreal, considering the situation in which the former Liberal government left Quebec in general and Montreal in particular and considering the programs that have been announced. The hon. member obviously did not refer to the announcement I made two weeks ago in southwestern Montreal, which was extremely well received by Montrealers, and to the efforts that have been made in eastern Montreal. Of course, we are not talking about the hon. member's riding, because it is probably in the