

S. O. 21

[Translation]

EMPLOYMENT

GOVERNMENT'S PERFORMANCE

Mr. Gabriel Fontaine (Lévis): Mr. Speaker, this Conservative Government always favoured the creation of long-term jobs. Since we came to power, the Canadian economy has been constantly improving. We gave private enterprise the tools needed for its economic recovery. Interest rates went down, major investment projects were set up across the land, and the hope of soon having access to a new, 250-million people market stimulates Canadian entrepreneurs.

Mr. Speaker, Statistics Canada's figures for April, 1987 show the unemployment rate is at its lowest in five years. Canadians have elected a Government that is building a strong, healthy economy that will make our native land the land of our children.

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● (1405)

[English]

STATUS OF WOMEN

NATIONAL ACTION COMMITTEE DELEGATES' LETTERS TO PRIME MINISTER

Ms. Margaret Mitchell (Vancouver East): Mr. Speaker, yesterday delegates wrote many letters to the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) including the following:

The Government's decision to ignore the long-scheduled lobby of the National Action Committee on the Status of Women reinforces the public perception that anything is more important than the concerns of women in Canada.

Another reads:

Is this your idea of giving priority to women's issues? Your Government does not respect its commitment to women of all ages.

[Translation]

This lack of respect for and commitment to our representations will not be tolerated.

[English]

Another reads:

Once again women's voices are silenced. Obviously women across Canada cannot trust you and your Ministers to hear women's concerns.

Still another reads:

I am nine years old . . . I feel very sad about the fact that you do not listen to my granny and all the other women that wanted to talk to you tomorrow.

A further letter reads:

I can no longer believe that you will honour your commitments or promises . . . A disappointed potential supporter—

Yet another reads:

NAC represents more than 3 million voting women in Canada—we have the right to be heard and treated with respect.

[Translation]

EMPLOYMENT

RECOMMENDATION THAT STUDENTS REGISTER AT CANADA EMPLOYMENT CENTRES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

Mr. Jean-Guy Guilbault (Drummond): Mr. Speaker, I would like to urge students who are looking for summer jobs to apply as soon as possible to Manpower Canada's student centres. Again this year, through Challenge 87, this Government will create 90,000 jobs in Canada, 25,000 of which are in Quebec. That program's goal remains very clear. It is to make easier for young people the transition to the workplace. Those jobs are financially interesting and allow them to get job training and experience. For example, the Department of National Defence will be in a position to offer jobs to 7,000 students in Canada, 1,606 of which in Quebec.

I remind that Manpower Canada's student centres help students find jobs and allow employers to hire workers during the summer season. Last summer, more than 425,000 students across Canada were placed that way.

In conclusion, I wish good luck to all students in their search for a job, and I remind them to apply now!

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[English]

NATIONAL PARKS

BANFF NATIONAL PARK—OPPOSITION TO SUNSHINE VILLAGE EXPANSION

Mr. Bill Blaikie (Winnipeg—Birds Hill): Mr. Speaker, earlier today the Minister of the Environment (Mr. McMillan) met with representatives of the Canadian Environmental Network. During that meeting many concerned environmentalists called on the Minister to reject proposals by the Sunshine Village ski resort to expand beyond its current lease area inside Banff National Park. I want to reiterate the NDP's opposition to this expansion.

To allow Sunshine's proposed expansion to go ahead would fly in the face of the 1978 decision to establish Sunshine's current lease area and limit further expansion. It would fly in the face of Parks Canada policy and it would fly in the face of *In Trust for Tomorrow: A Management Framework for Four Mountain Parks* which the Minister published last year.

In addition, any expansion of Sunshine Village would make a mockery of the Minister's proposed amendments to the National Parks Act to limit such areas within national parks. Most important, Sunshine's proposal, particularly plans to increase summer use dramatically, could destroy Sunshine Meadows which Parks Canada has identified as one of the most threatened areas in Banff National Park.

Too often in the past Parks Canada policy has been altered or simply ignored to serve short-term political or economic