

*Tabling of Documents*

**Hon. Gerry Weiner (Minister of State (Immigration)):** Mr. Speaker, we saw clearly the increasing abuse of our laws, of the integrity and credibility of those laws. This year, to date, over 21,000 people have come to make a refugee claim here. By the advice we are given, more than 70 per cent are not real refugees.

We have found a way to bring forward a process which is almost complete now. We are well advanced in that process to identify and determine the real refugees, to welcome them, and to make sure that they are provided a haven here. However, those who are abusers will be kept out. We are saying "no" to illegal aliens and "yes" to real refugees.

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**REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

## NORTHERN ONTARIO—APPOINTMENT OF BOARD

**Mr. John Parry (Kenora—Rainy River):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Deputy Prime Minister who will recall having been on his feet seven times between November and May to tell us that "soon" there would be an economic recovery program announced for northwestern Ontario.

He will also recall that on July 13 it was stated in the press release finally announcing the program that within four weeks to six weeks the program would be operational.

Since it is now 12 weeks later and the board has not even been appointed, will the Deputy Prime Minister tell the House and the people of northern Ontario what he intends to do to rectify this scandalous situation?

**Hon. Robert de Cotret (Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion and Minister of State for Science and Technology):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to say that we are very much committed to the economic development of northern Ontario. We are working actively with the Minister who will be responsible for the initiative—between him and my officials and between the two of us—to finalize the plans.

The announcement should be made on the advisory committee on or about October 9. The official opening of the office in Sault Ste. Marie is scheduled for the very near future, before the end of October.

The acronym for the program will be FEDNOR, and the proposals are presently being compiled by interim staff.

[*Translation*]

## COMPOSITION OF CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL

**Mr. John Parry (Kenora—Rainy River):** A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. The President of the Treasury Board must be aware of the fact that the applications have been submitted, that the composition of the consultative council will reflect the francophone reality, the aboriginal reality and the geographic diversity of Northern Ontario. Is he prepared to assure the

House and Northern Ontario residents that the composition of this committee will reflect these realities?

**Hon. Robert de Cotret (Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion and Minister of State for Science and Technology):** Yes, Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to confirm to my colleague that the composition of the advisory committee will be representative of the local population. Having in mind the establishment of both the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency and the Western Economic Diversification Office, the aim of the Government in such initiatives, as in the Northern Ontario initiative, is precisely to forge a link between local forces and interest groups and Government programs. So this is in keeping with our projections: to have an advisory committee to represent local interests groups.

● (1210)

[*English*]

**Mr. Speaker:** I know some Hon. Members will be very disappointed that the Question Period has come to an end but I have been very generous. I know other Hon. Members will not be disappointed at all. In any event, we must move on.

**ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS**[*English*]**PETITIONS**

## GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

**Hon. Doug Lewis (Minister of State and Minister of State (Treasury Board)):** Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 106(8), I have the honour to table, in both official languages, the Government's response to Petition No. 332-2982.

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[*Translation*]**STRIKING COMMITTEE**

## CONCURRENCE IN THIRTY-SECOND REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

**Mr. Scott Fennell (Ontario):** Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Lac-Saint-Jean (Mr. Côté), that the thirty-second report of the Striking Committee, presented to the House on Monday, September 28, 1987, be concurred in.

[*English*]

**Mr. Speaker:** Is that agreed?

**Some Hon. Members:** Agreed.

Motion agreed to.