

effectively to the technological changes that will continue to transform our businesses. However, like the document their Party published this weekend, today's motion is a dismal failure, and its authors should certainly not expect it to have any impact at all.

Mr. Speaker, I intend to focus most of my comments today on the training and adjustment of workers in new occupations, since that is one of the main points of the New Democratic Party's motion, and I intend to demonstrate that this new occupational training program, including more specifically the Skills Growth Fund and the Canadian Occupational Projections System, as well as actual training courses, provides Canadians with the vehicle they need to arrive at their destination, that is, the jobs of tomorrow.

The theme of my speech, or my message, if you prefer, Mr. Speaker, which is aimed at all Canadians but especially to employers and workers, is as follows: It is time to get on board. Many programs and services already exist, and whereas it was the Government's role to put them in place, it is now up to employers and workers to make the most of these opportunities. I must admit, Mr. Speaker, that the slogan I am using is not entirely original and was inspired by an expert who obviously shares my views, Mr. Pierre J. Janniot, Vice-President of Air Canada, who wrote an article for the September issue of the "Revue internationale de gestion" under the heading: Business and the microelectronic revolution—it's time to get on board. The author points out that the field of microelectronics is developing extremely fast at the present time, thus obliging both individuals and businesses to adjust to new living and working conditions. He adds that increased access to computer applications will bring about even greater changes in the job environment which will force governments, employers and unions to co-operate in order to survive.

Mr. Speaker, the word "survive" is certainly no exaggeration, and in any case, we cannot afford to settle for the status quo which would bring about our economic decline and lead to collective poverty, so that we must opt for an energetic commitment to new formulas that will continue to transform the world at an increasingly rapid pace, and only then will we be able to hold our own and even lead the way, because we must not forget that, in many of these disciplines, Canada is already one of the leading industrialized countries and is exporting both know-how and products.

In 1984-85, the Canadian Government will be spending \$1.68 billion on training programs for more than 275,000 Canadians. About half will be young people and 25 per cent will be women for whom special benefits have been planned as well. This was made possible by legislation passed here in the House two years ago. Since then, with the co-operation of the provinces, the private sector, unions and educational institutions, a new training program for workers has been set up. Incidentally, Mr. Speaker, Quebec, my home province, will be receiving \$275.9 million under the program this year.

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Mr. Speaker, I started my speech saying that a significant element of this new training program was the Skills Growth Fund, a major part of which will be used to purchase equipment for highly skilled training in the field of micro-electronics, robotics and other technological innovations. We have here a unique situation created by the Government of Canada, with co-operating groups, so that students at community colleges and in high schools can meet the demand of employers for training in new technologies. We must create new programs to ensure that our educational institutions have the necessary resources, and that is what the Government of Canada is doing through the Skills Growth Fund. I shall give a few examples of projects that have been announced in the past, mainly in the Province of Quebec, but there have been programs throughout Canada.

Only a few weeks ago, my colleague from Kamouraska-Rivière-du-Loup (Mr. Gendron) announced a grant of \$1.219 million for the CEGEP in La Pocatière, to be used to provide an option in training in automation and robotics. There was also a grant of \$10,558,414 for the Institut d'Ordinique at the Lionel-Groulx CEGEP in Ste-Thérèse, and \$2,823,385 for the Lévis-Lauzon CEGEP, as my colleague from Lévis announced not long ago.

Since the fund was set up in December 1982, Quebec alone has received nearly \$40 million to modernize its institutions for specialized education, and the same is happening across Canada.

The Government of Canada is already responding to a need by going ahead with our educational institutions in the high technology field. We hope that through these programs we shall be able to meet the needs of employers, who are anxious to hire trained people and be able to meet future requirements for new technology, robotics and that sort of thing.

Mr. Speaker, I shall comment very briefly on the Canadian Occupational Projections System, another important element of our new national training program for workers. The system makes it possible to collect, compile and disseminate information on future supply and demand with respect to workers, according to occupation. The system cannot be truly effective unless it is implemented with the co-operation of the provinces, management and unions, with the objective of achieving better long-term planning of this country's human resources. The system will provide medium to long-term data, that is, for periods of from three to ten years, on future worker supply and demand, by province. Forecasts concerning the likelihood of imbalance in the ranks of professionals will be examined and revised during annual conferences on the future outlook for professionals. That is why I say again to employers and employees alike who have heard about the new programs of the Canadian Government but have not deemed advisable to take measures which might benefit them that it is time to get on board. Far be it from me to claim that there has been an