

Conservatives muster attack on recession

By OTTO JELINEK
M.P. Halton

Because of the severely adverse economic conditions presently affecting the majority of Canadians, the Progressive Conservative Party has established a special economic review committee, the members of which will sit through the summer drafting specific and realistic economic policies that will be enunciated in detail when Parliament resumes sitting in the fall.

My committee, "The Burden of Government", will identify, for instance, the cause and effect of oppressive government red tape and regulation, the over-reach of government in the life of the individual, and the cost to the taxpayer of maintaining the massive bureaucracy that generates such regulations and the effect it has on the viability of our economy. Our objective of course being the reduction of unnecessary and wasteful government spending and costly interference in the activities of the private sector.

Other areas of concern to be addressed by our caucus this summer are:

1. Investor confidence and fiscal policy.
2. Jobs and current account deficit.
3. Monetary, exchange, inflation and interest rate policies.

We are anxious to launch this review, and are asking for your help by sharing your suggestions and recommendations with us. As a party strongly believe that our policies must reflect the views of Canadians and we are hoping that you will provide us with this very necessary input.

Over the course of this session, finance minister MacEachen has been forced to introduce yet a third budget, following the tragic loss of 225,000 jobs, the return of a 12 per cent inflation rate, and the record decline of the Canadian dollar; all the direct result of the failure of his Nov. 12 measures.

We are at a point where everybody knows someone who is losing their home because of high mortgage rates or who has lost their job or their business because of high interest rates. The inability of the new budget measures announced June 22, in circumstances to crisis proportion.

But it doesn't have to be like this. — there are alternatives. A PC government would:

1. Restrain government spending to the rate of growth in the economy to bring the deficit down;
2. Encourage Canadians to invest in Canada through incentives;
3. Reinstate the Small Business Development Bond for small business to improve cash flows, and



A PLACE TO CREATE

Even when there are no organized activities in the children's activity centre at the Georgetown library, kids can usually find something to do if they don't want to read a book. A drawing table offers

allow for investment and expansion;

4. Provide a tax incentive program to give Canadians the opportunity to own their own home;
5. Make fundamental changes to the National Energy Program, to make it fair to consumers, to the provinces and to the Canadian energy companies;
6. Streamline the Foreign Investment Review Agency to make job-creating foreign investment welcome in this country.

By immediately adopting these policies we would take important first steps to correct high unemployment, high inflation, and high interest rates; the three main causes of Canadians' economic insecurity.

At the same time we must recognize the contribution made to this economic uncertainty by the government's increasingly massive deficit.

This massive deficit results in large from uncontrolled government spending, and will increase by

some 20 per cent to \$20 billion dollars in this fiscal year!

To finance this unprecedented deficit, Mr. MacEachen will be competing with farmers, with business people, and with you and me, in a scramble for borrowed money. Such demand will only perpetuate high interest rates, and will only increase the number of "casualties of our economy"; lost businesses, shut-down plants, idle farmland, our unemployed and our mortgage holders.

Liberal policies of the past three years, including the National Energy Program, the Foreign Investment Review Agency, the Constitution and the November budget of 1981, illustrate a pattern of failure.

The Liberal government is burdened by a commitment to these policies which have already failed, despite the costs they continue to impose on our economy.

The Liberal's reliance

on the power and the control of the state to do the job just hasn't worked! We need a change.

The PC Party has confidence in the initiative and motivation of individual Canadians to work hard to improve their lives and build for their future.

This is the way that Canadians — working together — can build a stronger country.

This is the philosophy that we will incorporate in formulating our response to the present "crisis of confidence".

Over the course of the

past months, the singularly most frequent comment made to my office has been, "How can I help to topple the federal government and restore certainty to our economy and to the political direction of this country?". In reply, we will be circulating a

petition that will provide Halton residents with an opportunity to demon-

strate their commitment to change. If interested, further information can be

obtained from my Constituency Office at 345 Lakeshore Rd. East, 844-4333.

Worksharing bids

Continued from page A6

are others with workforces of several hundred trying it out.

FUNDS SAVES

Mr. Whyte noted that there is a considerable saving to the nation's UIC fund by keeping workers on the job for as long as possible while the slump holds. More importantly, he added, ensuring that

workers have money to spend stimulates the economy as a whole.

Meanwhile, companies able to avoid shutdowns through worksharing may yet ride out the recession. Lay-offs and complete plant shutdowns could mean the loss of remaining clients, which could keep a firm out of business forever.

Worksharing applicati-

ons from area industries are reviewed by Man-

power Consultative Services. A draft agreement is then forwarded to the Employment and Immigration headquarters in Ottawa, a special section of which scrutinizes the proposal and decides whether to endorse it.

If it's approved, the agreement is sent to the Brampton Employment Centre from which it is "activated".

Rep angered at tendering

The town's recent purchase of a new rescue vehicle for the fire department has raised concern about municipal tendering policies.

Coun. Russ Miller said Monday night he was disappointed that local tenders weren't called when the town was looking for a new vehicle. Once purchased from a dealer, the truck required customized body modifications, which were also done by an out-

of-town firm.

Coun. Miller said the town should keep local businessmen aware of purchasing proposals so they can bid on them, too.

Angered by the oversight, Mayor Pete Pomeroy asked staff to establish a tendering policy which would make seeking local bids a rule before purchasing anything from stationery to major equipment.

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