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Tax affecting North's jobs - NDP

Canada Day



The Ontario NDP believes workers who are without a job and northern communities that are losing their main employer because of the softwood lumber export tax have been completely ignored in the Liberals' agenda for Ontario outlined in their Throne Speech of April 25, 1989.

A total of 300 mill and woodland workers at Levesque Lumber in Hearst recently lost their jobs. The owner said the export tax has crippled his company because it has reduced exports to the United States from 80 per cent to 20 per cent of his total production.

Ironically, Hearst is the hometown of the Liberal Minister of Northern Development, Rene Fontaine, whose clout in Cabinet is not strong enough to even get one mention of Northern Ontario in the Throne Speech.

In late April, 300 employees of the G.W. Martin Lumber Ltd. veneer mill in Sault Ste. Marie and 70 workers at a nearby

sawmill in Searchmont received layoff notices. Also, 130 bushworkers who supply the mills with logs have been forced out of work.

There are now 1,700 unemployed victims of the 15 per cent export tax that the federal Tories slapped on Ontario's softwood lumber industry's shipments to the United States, effective January 8, 1987.

The Liberal response to the tax has progressed from sell-out to broken promises to writing off the North.

When the tax was being negotiated, the Liberal government accepted it.

Then, Premier Peterson and the Minister of Natural Resources, Vince Kerrio, said the monies from the tax would go to adjustment problems of communities or workers affected by the tax. The \$2 million a month that Ontario gets from the tax is stay-

ing in Toronto.

The Free Trade Agreement specifically maintained the export tax. The Liberals' opposition to the agreement quickly faded after they won their majority in the September 1987 election.

And now, the Liberals don't even make a pretence of trying to solve the unemployment and adjustment problems caused by the tax in Northern Ontario.

There is no mention in the Throne Speech of the 750,000 Ontarians living in the north of this province who have unique and particular problems caused in large part by distance and the resource based economy.

The Liberals are obviously blinded by the prosperity of Toronto. They refuse to recognize the serious economic problems in Northern Ontario like the 15 per cent softwood lumber tax.

These problems won't go away by ignoring them. New Democrats will fight to ensure Northerners are heard.

APARTMENTS AVAILABLE

Marathon and District Association for the Mentally Retarded, soon to be known as (The North of Superior Association for Community Living) would like to announce the availability of four apartments; Two, one (1) bedroom and two, two (2) bedroom.

The Association invites applicants who wish to take part in the supported, independent living program to apply.

Criteria:

1. At least 18 years of age
2. Developmentally disabled
3. Able to live with others in a non-aggressive manner (example) Without presenting a danger to others
4. Able to feed him/herself
5. Able to tend to his/her own toileting
6. Involved in a daily activity or program between the hours of 9:00 a.m. & 4:30 p.m. (example) Lifeskills Program, Job Placement, and/or a job or school
7. Must be at least partially ambulatory

For more information please contact

Joan Fenelon
Executive Director
Marathon Lifeskills
Box 418
Marathon, Ontario
P0T 2E0
Work - 229-0438 Home - 229-0481

Deadline to apply is May 23, 1989

Council briefs

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centre). This represents half of the grant from the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines. The other half will be received once the study is completed.

The week of May 8 to May 12 has been proclaimed "Volunteer Week" by council.

The township engineer, Doug Baker, is carrying on conversations with Lake Superior Board representatives concerning barrier free accessibility in their elementary school campus as well as in the proposed renovations to the High School campus.

However, because the school board is renovating existing facilities, there are no guidelines under the Building Code which force them into providing total barrier free accessibility.

The township will be painting the steps at the Simcoe Plaza sidewalk a brilliant yellow to assist those who are disabled.

Also, as soon as handrails are manufactured, they will be installed on the wheelchair ramps at the Terrace Bay Recreation Centre.

Council has proclaimed the week of June 4 to 10 as "National Access Awareness Week." The Disability Action Group (DAG) asked council to publish public letters urging businesses to provide improvements in access ability at local businesses. Council felt it is not in a position to do this, but Mike Moore, who was present at the meeting representing the Chamber of Commerce, said he would take the message back to the business sector.

Council had received a letter from the Concerned Citizens Committee of Schreiber regarding over 40 loads of snow from the mineral transfer facility in Schreiber being dumped at the town dump. The group said it had been informed by the Ministry of the Environment that the MOE

gave permission for only 7 or 8 loads of snow to be dumped in the area.

Because the dump is situated away from any residential area, and because the melting snow does not drain into any drinking water, the dumping of this snow falls under the jurisdiction of the MOE and therefore the town cannot do anything about the situation.

Apparently though, the MOE said even if 50 loads of snow were dumped at the dump site, this would present no problems.

CLEARANCE SALE

All mens wear will be **MINIMUM**

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- * Jeans by Big Blue & Jordache * Jackets
- * Sweaters * Slacks * Caps * Foot Wear

Underwear in 3 pair packs

only \$8.99

MAY 17 - MAY 31

Moore's of Terrace Bay
Simcoe Plaza 825-3327



The Lake Superior Board of Education REQUIRES FOR Terrace Bay Public School

- .5 Primary Teacher
- .5 Intermediate Teacher
- .5 Music Teacher

The above must be combined to form a full time position.

Duties to commence September 1, 1989

Interested persons may apply to:

Sharon MacKenzie, Principal
Terrace Bay Public School
Box 429
Terrace Bay, Ontario
P0T 2W0

Deadline for applications is May 26, 1989

P. Richardson
Chairman

D.I. McQuarrie
Director