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Speaker: The Honourable Geoff Regan

Infrastructure

Ms. Dianne L. Watts (South Surrey—White Rock, CPC):

Mr. Speaker, last week the parliamentary budget officer confirmed that the Liberals were short-changing communities across Canada by \$9 billion in infrastructure and 96% of the announced projects were not under construction. Now we learn that construction companies are shutting down. The CEO of Keystone Excavating said, "2016 was the worst year we've ever had in 35 years." The projects are not being built and the jobs are not being created.

Will the minister commit today to getting the money out before the spring construction season begins, yes or no?

Hon. Amarjeet Sohi (Minister of Infrastructure and Communities, Lib.):

Mr. Speaker, we have approved more funding in the last year than the previous government did in five years combined, 1,200 projects with a combined investment in partnership with municipalities and provinces, \$14 billion together, and almost 60% of those projects are currently under way, creating opportunities for Canadians from coast to coast to coast.