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**OFFICIAL REPORT (HANSARD)**

**Monday, November 21, 2016**

Speaker: The Honourable Geoff Regan

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**Infrastructure**

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

Mr. Speaker, the Conservatives delivered a balanced budget, completed over 7,200 infrastructure projects, created over 1.2 million jobs, and set up P3 Canada to leverage private sector dollars, which delivered over \$6.6 billion in additional infrastructure. The Liberals gave us a \$30-billion deficit, zero new full-time jobs, and they are taking \$15 billion away from communities for their bank.

With this record, how can they call Canadians stupid and irresponsible for questioning their methods?

**Hon. Navdeep Bains (Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development, Lib.):**

Mr. Speaker, our government, along with industry, has created an environment which has created 139,600 jobs since we took office.

To illustrate that point, we have invested in small business as well, for example, in new equipment to improve processes for G-Pak Technology Inc., in British Columbia, the same province that the member represents. That created 65 jobs in South Surrey—White Rock, a Conservative-held riding.

We are making investments regardless of which riding it is, to make sure we have growth and opportunities for our small and large businesses. We are creating jobs.

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

Zero net new jobs, Mr. Speaker.

Over 99% of announced infrastructure projects by the Liberals are not yet under construction, and zero new full-time jobs have been created since they took office. Announcing projects in a

community does not equal breaking ground, starting construction, or job creation. Getting infrastructure projects built is what creates jobs.

Does the minister understand that simply announcing and reannouncing infrastructure projects in communities does not create jobs?

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

Mr. Speaker, our government's priority is to create jobs and create growth. That is why, since taking office, we have approved 980 projects, with a combined value of \$12 billion from coast to coast to coast. That is including a project that is currently under way, along with 70% of the other projects, in Surrey, British Columbia, the member's own riding, which she represented as the mayor of the city, asking for the same projects to be funded by the federal government that we are funding now.