

YUKON ARCHIVES SOUND RECORDINGS OUTLINE

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Abstract

See <http://yukon.minisisinc.com/scripts/mwimain.dll/144/FIL/LIST/SISN%209783?SESSIONSEARCH>.

Outline

Time Log (minutes)	Description of Content
0:00:00	Wood Gundy financial report excerpt. [break]
0:00:11	<p>Rebroadcast of a portion of the March 17, 1978 budget speech by Provincial Treasurer Mervin Leitch from the 4th session of the 18th Alberta Legislature.</p> <p>Mervin Leitch: [speech in progress] "... 1977, no explicit expenditure guideline had been adopted for 1978-79. As will be evident in my later remarks, this does not mean unrestrained growth in budgetary expenditures. Indeed, in many areas expenditure increases have been held below those approved last year. This reflects the need to restrict the rate of growth of provincial expenditures in order that the private sector in Alberta has sufficient room to continue to take the initiatives which will ensure our future economic prosperity.</p> <p>Our success in holding expenditure increases down over the past two years, however, enables us to increase expenditures in selective areas where growth or cost pressures have been particularly acute. In addition, we are in a position to assist the economy to adjust to the completion of the Syncrude project by accelerating necessary public capital projects. Finally, I will be announcing this evening certain tax measures which will enable all Albertans to enjoy today additional benefits from our strong financial position and which will have a direct impact on reducing the effects of inflation.</p> <p>Mr. Speaker, before outlining the details of this budget, I would like to outline the economic circumstances as we see them at this time.</p> <p>Overview of the Economy. A review of international economic prospects indicates that little change in the growth rate is expected for the western industrialized nations in 1978. Of the major western economic powers - Japan, Germany, and the United States - it would appear that only the latter has been able to produce what may be termed a sustained economic expansion."</p>
0:02:23	Radio Announcer: "We'll continue with details on the budget speech right after this."
0:02:27	Light hearted public service message encouraging good dental hygiene (brushing and flossing) sponsored by the Health Department.
0:03:03	Message from Junior Achievement offering commerce training for youngsters.
0:03:34	Radio Announcer: "CKO News continues now with details from the Alberta budget speech which took place the end of last week."
0:03:41	Mervin Leitch: "As well, given the weak to modest performance of the other major industrialized countries, it appears doubtful that real economic growth will be much

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	<p>higher in 1978 than it was in 1977 unless further stimulus is provided. Inflation rates continue to vary across the spectrum of OECD [Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development] countries, and indications are that performances of individual countries are not expected to change appreciably in 1978. With prospects lacking for strong growth in 1978, no significant inroads into the current world rates of unemployment can be expected.</p> <p>In many respects the Canadian experience has paralleled that of the economic community of which it is a member. Some relative improvement is foreseen for 1978. While in 1977 the growth rate in the Canadian economy was well below the average in an international context, it is anticipated that real growth of four to five per cent will be achieved in 1978, which is higher than the anticipated average growth for other industrialized nations. Unfortunately, this expected improvement in overall growth is unlikely to permit any improvement in the unemployment rate because of the anticipated growth in the labour force.</p> <p>On a positive note, it is expected that inflation, currently reflecting price increases for imported goods due to the recent depreciation of the Canadian dollar, will moderate.” [break]</p> <p>“The international reaction to our competitive situation was brought home with some force during 1976 and 1977 with the depreciation of the Canadian dollar by more than 10 per cent in relation to the American dollar.</p> <p>The crux of the issue is jobs - continued jobs for those now in the labour force and new jobs for those entering the labour force in the years to come. Certain industries are already experiencing significant layoffs, and others have avoided doing so only through policy measures which have reserved a portion of the domestic market for them. Such protectionist measures are neither desirable nor feasible for the longer term or in broader application.</p> <p>There are two potential outcomes to the situation we now face. If we continue to increase wages and prices at rates which are out of line with our productivity and our trading partners' performances, then Canada will continue to experience poor employment prospects and a depreciating currency, in short a reduced average standard of living. The alternative, to restrain our collective demands on the system, may be difficult to accomplish but it is imperative if the Canadian economy is to grow and prosper.</p> <p>Mr. Speaker, Alberta took a leading role at the recently concluded first ministers' conference on the economy in proposing new directions for the Canadian economy. The Premier focussed on the need for a new attitude in Canada toward the private sector, a renewed appreciation of the role of the risk taker and the necessary rewards that must accompany risk taking. Alberta stated the position that we must aim to reduce the share of total output consumed by government, to constrain public sector wage settlements to levels that the private sector can afford, to reduce unnecessary government regulation, and to provide incentives for viable economic enterprises rather than permanently subsidizing marginal activities. In addition, Alberta stressed the need for action to reduce Canada's dependence on imported crude oil and in general to build on our natural strengths.</p>

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	These Alberta positions were adopted as part of the joint communique at the close of the conference. Should appropriate action be forthcoming from other governments in Canada, following up on the common position taken at the conference, we believe that the necessary climate of business confidence will be created which will provide a healthy recovery and a brighter longer term future for the Canadian economy. Alberta Economy. To date Alberta has been able to avoid, to a large extent, the economic problems facing the rest of the country. This above average performance is expected to continue through 1978 at a pace comparable to that experienced in 1977. At the root of this sustained growth have been the continued high levels of investment which Alberta has attained over the past several years. At present, investment in Alberta accounts for about 17 per cent of the Canadian total which compares favourably ..."
0:09:25	Radio Announcer: "The Alberta budget speech which took place the end of last week. You're listening to CKO6, 101 on your FM dial. "
0:09:35	Car care message sponsored by Cliff's Towing (measures to take to protect your car's interior and exterior).
0:10:34	CKO Sales Manager Bill Matthaeus (sp?) promoting the benefits of radio advertising campaigns to business persons.
0:11:41	Station identification. Current downtown Edmonton temperature. Today's, tonight's and tomorrow's forecast. Current weather. 11:28 am.
0:12:16	[break] Current weather.
0:12:25	Radio Commentator: "CKO Radio News continues with live coverage of Question Period from the House of Commons in Ottawa. Question Period provides an opportunity for members to question the government of the day. House Speaker James Jerome has recognized the first question and it comes from the Opposition Leader Joe Clark who is asking a question of External Affairs Minister Don Jamieson as we join the conversation."
0:12:46	Don Jamieson: [Question Period in progress] "... motion which he put, I would have been more than pleased, and the government would have been more than pleased, to devise a mutually acc... to devise a mutually acceptable wording after, after Mr. Speaker we had had an opportunity to brief the Honourable Leader of the Opposition on the circumstances that exist at the present time. [pounding on desks, background noise] Mr. Speaker, the position at the moment is that we have repeated our agreement in principle to participate in the peacekeeping force agreed to by the Security Council on Saturday. The problem at the moment with going beyond that is first of all we have not been asked, and second there are a number of questions with regard to the details of the mandate and as I told the Right Honourable Member from Prince Albert on Friday, we wish to be very sure that if Canadians are going to be used in this operation, that first of all they are going to be in as secure a position as it is possible to be under the circumstances and, also that they will have the capability of carrying out that mandate. This is now being discussed in the Security Council and at the United Nations and the next 24 hours or so should see the situation clarified and then we will be in a better position to decide whether we have the capability to carry out any task that may be asked of us."

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0:14:09.5	Radio Commentator: "The External Affairs Minister discussing Canada's role in a possible peacekeeping mission for Lebanon."
0:14:15	Joe Clark: "... that the government can't learn to work within the rules of parliament [background disagreement] and to discuss public business and respond to public business in the House of Commons. May I, may I ask the, may I ask the Prime Minister whether he can advise the House of Commons whether the Government of Canada has received reasonable assurances that Israel is prepared to accept all of the provisions of the Security Council resolution?"
0:14:42	Don Jamieson: "Mr. Speaker, the answer is at the moment 'No.' And this of course is one of the reasons why at the moment also we are not prepared to make a positive and a specific commitment even if asked, which I emphasize once again we have not been. We have only heard from Prime Minister Begin in his statements upon arrival in the United States together with general assurances by various spokesmen within Israel that they are prepared to co-operate, although they have expressed very strong reservations about the efficacy of such a force. Under these circumstances, therefore, we are waiting, as indeed are other members of the Security Council, for a categorical declaration by Israel that it is first of all prepared to accept the ceasefire, and also that it is prepared to answer the United Nations Security [Council] demand for a withdrawal immediately from Lebanon."
0:15:40	Joe Clark: "My supplementary is to the Prime Minister, as the, as the head of the Government of Canada. I wonder if the Prime Minister could tell us whether in the event that Canada does receive, and decide to accept, an invitation to be part of that, that peacekeeping force, whether it is the intention, or it would be the intention of the Government of Canada to use Canadian troops which are presently with the United Nations disengagement observer force and can the Prime Minister advise the House of Commons whether that can be done, what can he advise as the head of the Government of Canada, whether that can be done without jeopardizing the strength of the mission on the Golan Heights?"
0:16:22	Barney Danson: "... Speaker, that is one of the forces of course that we have in place over there at the present time. The task has not been defined. We are looking at our own capability, depending on what the request is from the United Nations."
0:16:34	Radio Commentator: "That question fielded by Defence Minister Barney Danson."
0:16:37	Joe Clark: "... my final question to the Prime Minister, as the head of the government. Can the [laughter] can the Prime Minister advise us ..."
0:16:43	Radio Commentator: "The Opposition Leader is having difficulty getting Mr. [Pierre] Trudeau to reply."
0:16:46	Joe Clark: "In considering its response to this Security Council resolution, is considering imposing any time limit upon the commitment of Canadian troops, and if so, what that time limit would be?" [background voices]
0:16:59	Don Jamieson: "Mr. Speaker [background voices] if the Hon... if, just, just as the Honourable ... may I say in answer to this particular ploy on the part of the Leader of the Opposition that if he'd allow some of his colleagues to participate, we might also get better questions." [laughter, pounding on desks]

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0:17:19	Radio Commentator: "External Affairs Minister Jamieson again fielding the question that was asked of the Prime Minister."
0:17:23	Don Jamieson: "The time, the time limit as suggested for the Lebanon force has been a matter of six months. That is the date or time that is stated in the, in the resolution. There is, however, a, a prior proposal, namely, for a two week involvement by existing forces in the area, particularly those of Sweden and of Austria, and possibly others, which would move in on a preliminary basis to more or less pave the way as it were for the larger and more permanent force. That would it is anticipated involve a period of two weeks. It is in that connection incidentally that some proposal has been put forward in a tentative way for Canadian logistical support, from forces now on the ground in the Middle East, for that particular movement. And it is this complex of proposals which, I emphasize once again, is taking some time to clarify and it is why it is not possible at this time to state with precision precisely what the involvement of Canada is going to be."
0:18:29	James Jerome: "Honourable Member for Victoria."
0:18:32	Allan McKinnon: "Thank-you Mr. Speaker. Thank-you Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of External Affairs. If Israel disengages, what assurances are there to be from the forces to the north of the disengagement area? The P..., the PLO [Palestine Liberation Organization] are not recognized, and Lebanon seems unable to guarantee the situation in that area, so the peacekeeping forces might well find themselves being harassed and engaged by the PL..., PLO or their friends and what assurances will there be that they will be controllable by the peacekeeping forces?"
0:19:04	Radio Commentator: "Question from Tory Defence Critic Allan McKinnon."
0:19:07	Don Jamieson: "That is the most sensible question of the afternoon. [laughter] And it, it makes by the way, a total mockery of the motion introduced originally by the Leader of the Opposition [pounding on desks] because it is precisely because those questions have not been answered that we are reluctant to commit Canadian forces in what could be a very precarious situation. That is why the resolution was not acceptable to this side and ought not to have been put forward in the way it was by the Leader of the Opposition and supported by the Right Honourable Member from Prince Albert. Now in terms of the, in terms of the answer to the Honourable member's question, this is, this is one of the matters which we are now seeking to have clarified, that is, what, what acceptance there will be by the PLO of the legitimacy and the rights of whatever peacekeeping force is put in place, so that there will not be attempted incursions by the PLO who will disregard the peacekeeping forces. There is also the question of what is described as the so called Arab peacekeeping force, the Syrians who have been to the north of the red river line or the red line on the Litani River. Once these matters are resolved, it will make us a lot more capable of making a final decision." [pounding on desks, background noise]
0:20:24	James Jerome : "Final, final supplementary the Honourable Member for ..."
0:20:26	Radio Commentator: "Again back to Allan McKinnon."
0:20:28.3	James Jerome: "The Canadian Government says..."
0:20:30	Allan McKinnon: "Takes considerable length of time to get these through when the minister sees fit to indulge in these political arguments in the middle of the answers."

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	[background noise] Can the Minister tell me, the same minister, are we offering, are we offering logistic and administrative troops and combat troops, the whole lot, if they want them, or have we been, have we restricted our offer solely to logistic troops? At the same time, could the, would the Minister undertake to come back to Parliament for approval of the Canadian contribution before it's finally committed in this area?"
0:21:04	Don Jamieson: "Mr. Speaker, to be precise, we are not offering at the moment anything. All we have said is that, all we have said is that we are prepared to make a contribution if it is deemed that we have the capability of doing so. And it is again for the reasons that the honourable gentleman has outlined that we have kept it in that form. If, for example, it is largely a logistical role, then we would have to examine that request in the light of the responsibilities we now have based in Ismalia and on the Golan Heights. Now we could not substantially expand our logistical support beyond that at the present time. One of the suggestions that I have made, with the concurrence of my colleague the Minister of National Defence, and one which the United Nations has accepted, is to examine the whole program and problem in the light of an overall theatre approach. Namely that there would be a co-ordination between the new force and those already in place on the Golan and in the Sinai. And if that were to be done, then it is quite possible that the Canadian logistic ..."
0:22:13	[end of recording]