



Legislative Assembly

JOHN YAKABUSKI, MPP Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke NEWS RELEASE

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Yakabuski demands that Minister stand up for forestry industry

(Queen's Park) Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke MPP John Yakabuski demanded answers from Natural Resources Minister Donna Cansfield yesterday, in light of escalating difficulty being experienced by the forestry industry.

In a question posed to the Minister during question period, Yakabuski asked why the Minister hadn't embarked on negotiations with the federal government to provide lumber and expertise needed to build temporary and permanent shelters to help earthquake victims in China, following the disaster that occurred there last month.

"Will you step up to the plate for our beleaguered industry and sit down with the federal government to negotiate and work out a deal, so that our lumber industry can benefit by sending expertise and quality Canadian product over to China? Will you do that?," Yakabuski pushed.

Yakabuski reminded the Minister that the province of British Columbia had partnered with the federal government on such a deal recently, and both the forest industry in BC, and the earthquake victims of China were benefiting from this arrangement.

Although the Ministers response was noncommittal, Yakabuski said he would continue to do what is necessary to drive the message that more support is needed from the McGuinty government at this critical time for the industry.

Yakabuski also commended Warden Janice Visneskie for her work in taking an active lead in encouraging the provincial government to recognize the crisis the forestry sector has been experiencing. Yakabuski noted that her dedication and support for the industry has helped to raise awareness of this situation and its impact throughout Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke.

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