

*Oral Questions*

I say, on behalf of our native communications people, that we must not continue to target the aboriginal peoples and further victimize them. We do not need any more J. J. Harpers and we do not need any more Donald Marshalls as victims for Canada.

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**MEECH LAKE ACCORD**

**Mr. Lee Richardson (Calgary Southeast):** Mr. Speaker, tonight the Prime Minister will go on national television to talk to Canadians about the Meech Lake Accord. Like most Canadians, I am anxious to hear what the Prime Minister has to say.

In recent weeks the fate of the Meech Lake Accord has been uncertain. Some have insisted it is doomed. I prefer a more optimistic view of our search for a Constitution that brings Canada together.

As a western Canadian I support the Meech Lake Accord and its commitment to the process of Senate reform. The conditions set out in the accord stipulate that the federal and provincial governments must address the issue of Senate reform. Without a Meech Lake Accord, that commitment is lost.

I support the efforts of the Prime Minister and the premiers to end the current impasse, and hope that all Canadians will be encouraged by the Prime Minister's remarks tonight.

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**CORPORATE TAXATION**

**Mr. John R. Rodriguez (Nickel Belt):** Mr. Speaker, it is time once again to choose the corporate welfare bum of the week.

The three nominees which have benefitted from the generous tax breaks provided by Liberal and Conservative governments are Maritime Life, Ocelot Industries and Tridel. Not one of these worthy nominees paid a penny of federal income tax in 1988. Maritime Life had profits of \$34 million; Ocelot Industries had a net income of \$432 million and Tridel netted \$72 million. The three combined had profits of over \$500 million but not a single sou in federal income taxes were paid. The GST will not touch these major corporations.

Now for the winner. The envelope please.

The winner is Tridel Corporation. This major real estate developer did not pay income taxes but it did find it in its heart to contribute \$29,000 to the Conservative party and \$25,000 to the Liberal party as political contributions in 1988.

For remaining loyal to the old adage: "Never bite the hand that feeds you", Tridel is the corporate welfare bum of the week.

**ORAL QUESTION PERIOD**

[Translation]

**THE CONSTITUTION**

**Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa—Vanier):** My question is directed to the Deputy Prime Minister.

Canadians are all concerned about the deadlock involving the 1987 constitutional amendments and our uncertain constitutional future. We know that this evening, the Prime Minister will be heard on our national television network.

I want to ask the Deputy Prime Minister whether in his speech this evening, the Prime Minister of Canada will announce any new initiatives to break this constitutional deadlock.

[English]

**Hon. Don Mazankowski (Deputy Prime Minister, President of the Privy Council and Minister of Agriculture):** Mr. Speaker, I think it is fair to say that the initiative that was taken by Premier McKenna of New Brunswick has been a very positive development in this whole exercise.

It is fair to say that generally there has been a positive response because it really, in effect, provides an opportunity for the passage of Meech Lake without taking anything away while, at the same time, providing an opportunity for additions to be made.

With that in mind, and the fact that the premier has indicated that he in no way felt that this was a complete solution to the impasse, it does provide the opportunity for the other dissenting premiers to look at the proposal in a very serious vein and, hopefully, to examine it in such a way that it can add to the constructive position that has been put forth and result, hopefully, in a