

Supply

ment and Canada's aboriginal people. It then goes on to say that 25 per cent of federal expenditures for Indian and native people are to meet legal obligations of the federal Government. That is a rather blunt statement, Mr. Speaker. Some 40 per cent relate to what would normally be provincial and largely statutory programs due to the federal responsibility for Indians and Indian lands under the Constitution Act. The remaining 35 per cent is discretionary. That leads on into the departmental position.

I see you are about to rise and perhaps I could continue at two o'clock.

[*Translation*]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Charest): Order, please. It being one o'clock, I do now leave the chair until two o'clock this afternoon.

At 1 p.m. the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 2 p.m.

[*English*]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Charest): When the House rose at 1 p.m. the Hon. Member for Skeena (Mr. Fulton) had the floor.

Mr. Fulton: Mr. Speaker, I would like to continue with the quotations that I am taking from the memorandum to Cabinet now known across the country as "The Buffalo Jump of the 1980s". The departmental positions are well worth putting on the record. I will not read it in its entirety, but the following Departments were and are in general agreement with the recommendations in the report: Transport, CMHC, Department of Regional Industrial Expansion, Fisheries and Oceans, Solicitor General, RCMP, Justice, Secretary of State, Employment and Immigration, Finance, and Health and Welfare. The final line is worth putting on the record. It says:

The findings are acceptable to DIAND officials but they have concerns about the anticipated adverse reaction from native people toward any changes in programs.

It is laid out very carefully on the next page who else was involved in this process. I quote from the heading "Background". It reads:

The analysis was carried out by a mixed study team, with input from program managers, federal economic development co-ordinators, deputy heads, and the Private Sector Advisory Committee to the Task Force. Additional input came from limited consultations with selected client groups and with senior deputies in selected provincial Governments. The Study Team report, a 395 page document informally referred to as "The Buffalo Jump of the 1980s", is available to any Minister wishing further background.

The document goes on to lay out the growth and expenditures within DIAND and then goes on to say the following:

In addition, it is noted that the backlog in Indian reserve housing alone would cost at least \$500 million in today's dollars to catch up to where current annual expenditures could keep up with demand. These figures are exclusive of land

claims, both specific and comprehensive (except for some specific claims in an advanced stage of negotiation), which on the basis of average settlements to date could add another \$8 billion to total expenditures over the next 5-20 years.

It is statements such as that within this document that the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development needs to respond to this afternoon. On page 15 it says:

It is important to distinguish between what is being done on the basis of legal obligations of the federal Government and programs grown up over time for social policy reasons so that discretionary expenditures can be evaluated against real need, not regarded as a "right" that must be provided.

I am sure the Minister will want to respond to that in terms of what he and others have said publicly regarding Section 35 of the Constitution. On page 17 it says:

Devolution of native problems to native communities from the federal Government for resolution through negotiation of local community plans based on community priorities and funded on a multi-year block basis:

I think the Minister must respond to that as well. As I quoted earlier today in Question Period, Section 10 reads:

The Prime Minister has been consulted regarding his prerogatives on mandates.

The document goes on to deal with financial considerations. It reads:

Estimated savings from current projections in subsequent years are \$133.9 million in 1986-87 and \$178.4 million in 1987-88. The important financial aspect of these recommendations, however, is to contain the rapid escalation of future costs that would derive from leaving existing programs unchecked.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Charest): I regret to inform the Hon. Member that his time has expired.

Mr. Fulton: Mr. Speaker, I have a few more selected quotes which I would like to put on the record if I could get unanimous agreement. I would like to put them on the record so the Minister could respond.

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Fulton: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will be as quick as I can. Under the heading "Federal Provincial" is an attempt to devolve what has historically been the relationship between the federal Government and aboriginal peoples of Canada to the provinces. It reads:

—for defining a comprehensive agreement which would be custom tailored to address the particular needs of each province and territory and which would encompass all original native programs of both levels of Government.

These memoranda of understanding which are about to be negotiated between the Government of Canada and the provinces are being buzzed about the country right now.

Under "Priority Changes for Economic Development" it proposes to:

—transfer all DIAND business development support and loans and loan guarantee activities to DRIE.

I am sure that Indian and Inuit people will be interested to know that that is a policy priority of the Government. On page 25 it proposes to:

—terminate the separate Native Economic Development Program—

—terminate support to . . . native economic institutions and administer native economic development programs using standard business criteria—