

### Oral Questions

The Government of Nova Scotia has announced recently the construction of a highway along, I gather, where the member thinks it should have gone originally. We are very pleased to be participating in that project as well.

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### LIFE INSURANCE

**Mr. Sarkis Assadourian (Don Valley North, Lib.):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Secretary of State for International Financial Institutions.

Life insurance polices classify flying, racing, boating, snowmobiling and hot air ballooning as hazardous sports. Since hundreds of Canadians die or are injured every year in gun related activities, what action can the secretary of state take to ensure gun activities are classified also as hazardous sports by life insurance companies in Canada?

**Hon. Douglas Peters (Secretary of State (International Financial Institutions), Lib.):** Mr. Speaker, I thank the hon. member for his question.

As the hon. member knows, such decisions are taken by the insurance companies. He should take it up with them. It would not be appropriate for the government to decide on classifications and appropriate risk assessments. That is a private sector decision which insurance companies make.

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[Translation]

### IMMIGRATION

**Mr. Michel Gauthier (Roberval, BQ):** Mr. Speaker, during the March 27 meeting of federal Liberals from the Bourassa riding, which the Secretary of State for Parliamentary Affairs attended, the president of the Quebec wing of the Liberal Party, Denis Coderre, made some derogatory remarks regarding immigrants and refugees, to the effect that there should be a law providing for the deportation of sovereignist immigrants.

My question is for the Prime Minister. Will he tell us whether Mr. Coderre's remarks are indicative of the government's new policy on immigration, despite the fact that he himself declared yesterday that hatred, ethnic nationalism, religious fanaticism and racism would not be tolerated?

**Hon. Sergio Marchi (Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, Lib.):** Mr. Speaker, the hon. member's question is surprising, since a member of the party to which he belongs, the Bloc Québécois, has already suggested that immigrants in the Province of Quebec be denied the right to vote in the referendum. In light of this, it is quite singular that the hon. member raises the issue.

Mr. Coderre qualified his statement after the fact and I consider the matter closed.

**Mr. Michel Gauthier (Roberval, BQ):** But, Mr. Speaker, apologies were in order.

My supplementary question is for the Prime Minister. Does he intend to demand a public apology from not only Mr. Coderre but also his Secretary of State for Parliamentary Affairs, because he was there when Mr. Coderre made his remarks and he did not feel it was important, as a member of the government, to immediately dissociate himself from them?

**Right Hon. Jean Chrétien (Prime Minister, Lib.):** Mr. Speaker, his words are being taken out of context. The Liberal Party has always been recognized as the pro-immigration party in Canada. In my speech last night to international parliamentarians from all parts of the world, I reaffirmed Canada's values, which include tolerance. This is one of the qualities that our party has prized for a very long time.

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• (1455)

[English]

### PEARSON INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

**Mr. Jim Gouk (Kootenay West—Revelstoke, Ref.):** Mr. Speaker, Transport Canada is undergoing the commercialization or privatization of many parts of its government transportation holdings. This includes air traffic control, air navigation equipment, airports and CN Rail. Also being considered are the Canadian ports, the St. Lawrence Seaway and possibly even parts of the coast guard.

Given this high degree of planned privatization and the need for the public to understand and accept this process, does the Minister of Transport not agree the only way to ensure this is to order an open and transparent public inquiry into all aspects of the Pearson development contract process?

**Hon. Douglas Young (Minister of Transport, Lib.):** Mr. Speaker, it is a winding and torturous road to get to that question. I thank the hon. member for listing the objectives of Transport Canada.

I do not want to comment on matters that are before the other place, but I understand there is some consideration being given to an inquiry there. I want to emphasize the importance the government attaches to getting to work at Pearson, developing the premier airport in Canada.

There can be all kinds of reasons in the minds of some to delay the work that has to be done at Pearson. As far as we are concerned the time has long past since we should have begun the work of putting thousands of people into the construction