

Supply

That is not good enough. Comprehensive and specific claims have to be dealt with up front. They may have to be amortized over a long period of time, but the negotiations have to go forward full force. The Mearns Island case is not a joke; the Nuu-chah-nulth case, the Gitksan Wet'suweten case, which will be before the Supreme Court of Canada during this term of Parliament, is no joke. It is going to deal with the issue of title and will allow tribal groups in British Columbia, Yukon and the Northwest Territories, as well as other areas of the country, to come forward with injunctive action regarding highways, hydro lines, transfers of property, you name it. The country will then be enraged and hostility will again be directed at Canada's first citizens.

We have a responsibility for once to try and direct that hostility away and keep it under control. That is supposed to be why we are here. That is why I believe I am still here. I get very frustrated at times being here and having to even read documents like "The Buffalo Jump of the 1980s", talking about closing schools, student residences, deferring comprehensive claims, deterrent fees, housing programs only in areas of low unemployment. That is absolutely preposterous and we have to get back to fundamentals and deal with title, natural resources and compensation. We have to go to the Canadian public but not by way of polls, as this document talks about. It says in here that the new Government has done polls which indicate that Canadians generally think it is good that some special rights are being given to Canada's first citizens. But now that there is some chatter about costs attached, people are getting a little nervous. Well, part of the responsibility of the Parliament of Canada is to deal with that. But not by way of polls which show a little bit of nervousness; not by fanning a bunch of partisan MPs out across the country saying that if there is an aboriginal settlement in Penticton, the city is going to have to move, and all that kind of irresponsible crap.

We have to understand the deep spirituality which still exists in the aboriginal communities of this country regarding the land. They do not have the affectations we have for flashy cars and all kinds of other things. They have a very specific, bonded relationship with the land and we are torturing them decade after decade, generation after generation. In what other group in Canadian society could you find 50 per cent of the population under the age of 20? We have to start grappling with what they are asking for and what they are due, not only morally and ethically but what they are due under British common law.

There is no question in my mind, or the minds of many people far more learned in constitutional and common law than I, that the title to the land in places such as British Columbia is the unfettered right of the aboriginal peoples of that province. If we do not start moving in that direction and say yes, the Nishga case has some meaning, and yes, Section 35 is a boxful of rights related to the fisheries and all kinds of things, rights to their own Parliament—and when we talk about self-government, we are not talking about implanting our parliamentary system on to tribal land. What they want is

the right to have their own systems re-evolve and move forward.

Since I think I have touched at least briefly on title, let me spend a moment on the chronology of the events which have brought us to where we are today. There was a task force which started last November 8 under the leadership of James Collinson, and that 395-page report was provided to a number of bureaucrats and most Cabinet Ministers. It says it is available to any Minister who wants it. On April 18 that document was basically put back under wraps by the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and the Prime Minister. They said in effect that there are some good ideas in there, some bad ideas, but that is not government policy and it is out of the way. However, this document, which left the Deputy Prime Minister's office on April 12 and went to at least the 11 Departments listed, is quite different. It has completed the process, as the House will learn from what I put on the record. Eleven Departments have agreed to it, although at least one member of Cabinet, the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Epp), had some continuing concerns about the effect of deterrent fees on some Indian and Inuit people. But the document is basically underway.

It states definitively that the Minister of Finance (Mr. Wilson) may point out on Budget night that the task force review on native programs is complete. It then goes on to say that that same night, and on into the debate, the Deputy Prime Minister (Mr. Nielsen) will take the lead, not the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. There is a wholly different strategy taking place here at the highest of levels. The Prime Minister has been involved; that is clear from this document. He tried to play fast and loose with the truth in the House today, saying the statement in this document is false. Well, we will find out quite shortly what exactly is going on.

It is important that the Canadian public understand the chronology involved here because of the "fuzzification" by Cabinet all this week in denying it is a Cabinet document, and then the President of the Privy Council (Mr. Hnatyshyn) ordering the RCMP to investigate. The RCMP have been up to their shoulders in investigations in the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development trying to find the leak. They will not find out from me where the document came from, but I can tell you that the implications of this document include the possibility of this document coming forward. It has been a very carefully mapped-out strategy and I think the senior Members of Cabinet and the Prime Minister have said let's keep our heads down, this is part of the Budget process, and we are going to make \$312 million worth of "deficit reduction announcements" over the next couple of fiscal years. There are no cuts right now, the Minister and his Prime Minister are correct, but that is not what this document deals with. It deals with how to wind down future costs and transfer most of the processes related to Indian and Inuit people to the provinces and territories.

The executive summary of this document discloses the rationale of this Cabinet process. The first is the potential fundamental change in the relationship between the Govern-