

I wish to remove any uncertainty which might otherwise exist following the introduction of this bill as to what will be proposed in the bills to amend the Banks Act to be introduced later concerning non-resident ownership and control. Provisions relating to this matter similar to those set forth in Clause 3 of the bill to be introduced tomorrow and already described will be included in the bills to amend the Bank Acts, and these would also be effective after today to the extent that I have indicated for insurance, trust and loan companies.

I also want to make it clear that the proposals relating to non-resident ownership and control will not affect the great majority of normal market transactions in the shares of the institutions concerned. If trading is for resident ownership, these transactions are not affected at all. Transfers of shares between non-residents also will not be affected unless the transfer would cause a non-resident, together with associated shareholders, to own more than 10 per cent of the total number of issued shares.

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### NATIONAL PARKS POLICY

A policy affirming that the national parks of Canada are "sanctuaries of nature for the rest, relaxation, and enjoyment of the public" has been adopted by the Federal Government and will henceforth guide the making of decisions on park development and use. Mr. Arthur Laing, the Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources, recently announced that a detailed policy statement had been approved by the Cabinet on June 2.

The decision to review national-park policy followed a recommendation of the Royal Commission on Government Organization that "operational patterns be developed which may best harmonize the twin objectives of meeting the recreational needs of the people and preserving the natural beauty and character of the environment". The formal policy statement complements the National Parks Act, the legislation under which the parks have been administered since 1930.

### REAFFIRMATION OF FEDERAL STAND

The Federal Government re-affirms its long-standing attitude toward the development of natural resources within the national parks. No lumbering, mining or other resource uses are permitted. National parks have only one purpose - to serve as nature sanctuaries where people can rest, relax and enjoy themselves. The purpose of any park development must be to increase the public's enjoyment of the parks in a natural state.

To meet the problem of providing suitable facilities for the thousands of additional visitors who come to the national parks each year without blotting out the natural scene and destroying scenic appeal and wilderness background, land zoning will be introduced. Some areas of superb wilderness will be preserved as wilderness and developed only enough to permit visitors access by foot, horse or canoe. Other areas, which are the goals of the majority of park visitors, will be developed intensively to provide for maximum use and enjoyment by the public without detracting from scenic values.

Preliminary study of Banff, Yoho, Kootenay and Jasper National Parks by the National Parks Branch indicates that a third of the total area of the four parks merits permanent preservation as wilderness.

### VISITOR-SERVICE CENTRES

The grouping of all visitor services, whether provided by the National Parks Branch or by private enterprise, in visitor-service centres is another idea officially endorsed by the Government. Services to visitors, instead of being scattered haphazardly along park roads and highways, will be consolidated at strategic locations. A visitor-service centre in a national park will be similar to a shopping centre in a city, combining in one area a campground, commercial accomodation, a store, gas station, a park information office, quarters for park staff and concession employees, and a coffee shop or restaurant.

### PARKS NOT MERE RESORTS

In setting a national park policy, the Federal Government has taken the view that such areas are intended to serve certain recreational needs only and cannot be allowed to become mere resorts where many kinds of recreation and entertainment are provided. "The most appropriate uses are those involving enjoyment of nature and activities and experiences related to the natural scene", the policy statement says. Camping, sightseeing, picnicking, hiking, nature observation, photography, and canoeing are considered appropriate in a national park; sports-car races, indoor bowling and roller-skating are examples of activities that are unrelated to the natural scene and can be carried out elsewhere.

### GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE ENTERPRISE

Responsibilities for park development are divided between the Federal Government and private enterprise. Private enterprise must operate and, in most cases, build the additional services for the public, such as hotels, motels, restaurants, gas stations, stores and other establishments. The Federal Government continues to assume the costs of administering and protecting parks and providing basic facilities for public use such as roads, trails, campgrounds, picnic areas, utilities, and nature interpretation. As for residents and businesses operating in national parks, the general principle is that these should be in the same economic position as persons and businesses outside the parks. This policy will govern the assessment of charges, land rentals and fees against national-park concessions and residents.

Park visitors who wish to use special facilities and services provided by the Federal Government, such as swimming pools, golf courses, marinas and completely serviced campgrounds, should pay charges that will cover the full costs of operating and maintaining these establishments and facilities.

The national-park policy also limits permanent and seasonal residence in the parks to persons who provide basic services to the areas and their visitors. Persons wishing to live permanently, or during the summer, in national parks will have to work on jobs or provide services that are clearly related to the operation of the parks and the care and reception of visitors.

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