

Privilege

fair that high income Canadians should occupy assisted housing?

Central to the whole question of co-op housing is a philosophy that there be a mix of low and moderate incomes in each co-op housing project. Since 1985 it has been government policy to target scarce housing funds to the core and low income needy Canadians.

I will be making recommendations to cabinet before the end of the year, and of course we will be addressing this issue.

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ATLANTIC CANADA OPPORTUNITIES AGENCY

Mr. John R. Rodriguez (Nickel Belt): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the minister responsible for ACOA.

Earlier this year the minister had this to say to me with respect to Technitread Ltd. in Glace Bay: "It is true that Mr. Diczno has those detractors who say that he was part of a failed operation and that was something for which he bore responsibility. If that can be proven conclusively and if there has been a mistake made, I will take full responsibility for it." I have in my possession, Mr. Speaker, two memoranda, one sent to the former minister responsible for ACOA, the Hon. Senator Lowell Murray and another sent to the present minister responsible for ACOA, in which the connection between Mr. Diczno's operation in Glace Bay was tied conclusively to his operation which had failed in Brantford. In fact, the conditions of the bankruptcy in Brantford were very clear. The minister was aware of them because he signed "I concur" on the memorandum.

• (1500)

Now that it is clear that this government has handed out \$1 million of taxpayers' money to a shyster, is the minister now prepared to accept responsibility and do what any responsible minister does in a parliamentary democracy and resign? Is he prepared to do that?

Hon. Elmer M. MacKay (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, I was thinking how much better this latest exposé would have been on television if it had the hon. member for Nickel Belt as moderator. At least we would have a bit more accuracy.

I did undertake that I would look into the allegations. I have done this. There has been no federal funding advanced since the time the hon. member brought this to my attention in committee.

I want to remind my colleague opposite that this particular matter is under investigation, that the amount of moneys advanced is not as great as has been alleged by certain individuals, that there is security available for the realization of some of these funds. I think in fairness he would want to wait until the investigation is over to see whether or not the situation is as he believes it to be.

Mr. John R. Rodriguez (Nickel Belt): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary is to the same minister. I am not asking about an RCMP investigation, I am asking about the minister's responsibility. This matter was brought to the minister's attention by the hon. member for Churchill long before we raised it in committee. Yet \$1 million was advanced—

Some hon. members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps the hon. member would like to pursue this on another day.

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PRESENCE IN THE GALLERY

Mr. Speaker: I wish to draw to members' attention the presence in the gallery of the Hon. Marion Reid, Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

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PRIVILEGE**KEMANO COMPLETION PROJECT**

Mr. Jim Fulton (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, you will be in possession of a question of privilege that I filed with you extensively in writing dated October 22. I would like to quickly summarize what I feel is the pith of the question of privilege.

I believe a series of events which concluded on October 12 of this year have violated my ability to represent my constituents and have violated precisely and specifically my freedom of speech.

If the members would look at page 13173 of *Hansard* of June 27, one will find that an agreement was reached that no changes to the 1984 cabinet guidelines order,