Government Orders

Harper (Simcoe Centre) Hill (Macleod) Hoeppner

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Lalonde

Hayes Hill (Prince George—Peace River)

Jacob Johnston Langlois Lebel

Laurin Lebel
Leblanc (Longueuil) Leroux (Richmond—Wolfe)

Leroux (Shefford)
Martin (Esquimalt—Juan de Fuca) Marchand Mayfield McClelland (Edmonton Southwest) McLaughlin Meredith Mills (Red Deer) Nunez Morrison Penson Paré Picard (Drummond) Plamondon Pomerleau Riis Sauvageau Ringma Solberg Speaker Stinson Taylor Strahl Thompson Tremblay (Rosemont) White (Fraser Valley West) Williams-74

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Members

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Bouchard Brushett Chrétien (Frontenac)

Crête
Gagnon (Bonaventure—Îles-de-la-M

Gaffney Hopkins Gagnon (Bonaventure—Îles—de-la-Madeleine)

v V

• (1105)

[Translation]

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Maheu): I declare the motion carried.

[English]

Hon. Douglas Peters (for the Minister of Finance) moved that Bill C-70, an act to amend the Income Tax Act, the Income Tax Application Rules and related acts be read the first time and printed.

(Motion deemed adopted, bill read the first time and printed.)

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• (1110)

PICTOU LANDING INDIAN BAND AGREEMENT ACT

The House proceeded to the consideration of Bill C-60, an act respecting an agreement between Her Majesty in right of Canada and the Pictou Landing Indian Band, as reported (without amendment) from the committee.

Hon. Ron Irwin (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Lib.) moved that the bill be concurred in.

(Motion agreed to.)

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Maheu): When shall the bill be read a third time? By leave, now?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

Mr. Irwin moved that the bill be read the third time and passed.

February 16, 1995

Ms. Roseanne Skoke (Central Nova, Lib.): Madam Speaker, I rise to address the House on third and final reading of Bill C-60, the Pictou Landing Indian Band Agreement Act.

As the member of Parliament for Central Nova, on behalf of the Pictou Landing Micmac First Nations people in my riding, I thank hon. members for their support of this bill at second reading and in committee. I am certain that the more than 400 Pictou Landing Micmacs appreciate your support in helping to bring much awaited certainty to their lives.

This may appear to be a minor piece of legislation but it is very important to the First Nation concerned. Therefore it deserves quick passage through Parliament.

Bill C-60 is important for three reasons. First, the bill will ensure that claims by members of the First Nations related to the effluent treatment system at Boat Harbour are to be directed to a fund established for that purpose under the agreement. As a result it will protect both the Government of Canada and the Pictou Landing Micmac from further claims.

Second, Bill C-60 will ensure that the Pictou Landing Micmac are responsible for managing the settlement money that has been and will be paid out by the federal government.

Third, Bill C-60 will confirm that the Government of Canada intends to live up to its commitment to aboriginal people, including commitments made by previous governments.

Hon, members from all sides should recognize that the settlement agreement with the Pictou Landing Micmac is already well on its way to full and complete implementation. We are not being asked today to approve new arrangements, to make new commitments, or to break new ground. We are being asked to live up to outstanding commitments that have been made by the Government of Canada to the Pictou Landing Micmac of Nova Scotia. Living up to that commitment is very important, so important is it that this government put it in writing in an agreement.

In our red book we mapped out our intention to build new partnerships with aboriginal people. Today we are being asked to live up to that pledge, not just for the Pictou Landing Micmac but for all aboriginal people. Specifically, this bill asks us to take appropriate action to protect both the Government of Canada and the First Nation from further claims related to the Boat Harbour effluent treatment system.

Madam Speaker, let me tell you a little more about Boat Harbour back when. Imagine a picture with rolling hills dipping to the ocean, sandy beaches, boats drifting by with multitudes of fish in the ocean and majestic black cormorants nesting in