

Mr. PETERS: Neither did some of the ones that were designated.

The CHAIRMAN: Well, I think that remark would be challenged.

Mr. DELVILLANO: Mr. Chairman, I think that a meeting such as this probably should be, as Mr. Peters suggests, on the basis of co-operation with some of the members of the Department of Economics and Development of the province. I think there is going to be better co-operation. Both Ministers have mentioned it and I saw something in the paper two or three days ago about the fact that some people in both governments are not taking full advantage of certain available assistance. So, I think it will be a challenge to us to follow this through. We are going to have an annual meeting shortly and we are going to follow through. I certainly feel there is limited co-operation, but not to the full extent of the other provinces you mentioned.

Now, things are not going too well, because I saw a program on television the other day pointing out that costs are high and earnings are low in one of the provinces you just mentioned. So, things are not going too well there, as you just mentioned. We would like to see the designation criteria enlarged. Unemployment comes into it and these other things come into it. Mr. Kilgour said to me this morning, "Sure, you are making suggestions but what is the solution?" Well, let us put these suggestions into practice and see if we cannot arrive at a solution. I know it is a problem.

Mr. PETERS: Taking the whole matter of area development, and designation is one aspect of it, would you be willing as counsel to experiment by taking the whole area and having the federal government broaden the criteria? Do you believe that the provincial government and the council would be able to take advantage of it? In other words will there be development in northern Ontario if we allowed a change in the criteria? If designation takes place even under the present terms, will there be development in northern Ontario?

Mr. DELVILLANO: I believe so. Supporting industries would come in more so than they are now.

Mr. PETERS: For instance, would this be the incentive necessary to bring in the thousands of employees for the secondary development around the Gulf Sulphur proposition?

Mr. DELVILLANO: I would say the third development. Yes, I think so, definitely.

Mr. CRAM: I think one of the points on this—and the Department of Economic Development in Toronto keeps emphasizing this—is that no matter what we provide, somebody down here has to come up with an idea. We cannot depend on you people here coming to us in northern Ontario and telling us what to do with it. Now, I am afraid there is a lot of feeling in this respect, and certain cross sections of the population are crying. "We do not have assistance in this, we are not designated." They also expect you people, or the people in Toronto, to come up with an idea of what to do and give us the money with which to do it. But the only way it will work—and it is working to a limited degree in the north right now—is if somebody with a little bit of know-how and initiative gets an idea, makes a feasibility study and presents it to someone. If it is a really good idea he does not even need to have assistance, but a lot of them, because of lack of access to the market, are hard to get off the ground and we need assistance if we are going to develop them.

Now, the Ontario government, the Department of Economics and the Minister—and I know this not only through our organization but from working on it—have