

### *Speech from the Throne*

To correct inequities currently borne by some Canadian individuals, you will be asked to amend sections of the Indian Act, to extend spouses' allowances in circumstances where they are now denied, to amend certain legislation respecting veterans, and to further protect the privacy of individual Canadians.

You will also be asked to consider reforms to extend the power of Parliament. Proposals will be submitted to the Standing Committee on Procedure and Organization to strengthen the powers and resources of parliamentary committees, to accord more prominence to private members' initiatives, and to make my ministers more accountable to you. The standing committee also will be invited to consider the question of a permanent Speaker for the House of Commons.

To demonstrate the capacity of Parliament, you will be asked to approve the immediate establishment of four small select committees, with the resources and powers necessary to enquire fully into the special needs of handicapped and disabled Canadians; measures to strengthen the role of the voluntary sector in our society; policies with respect to foreign ownership, including the operations of the Foreign Investment Review Agency; and measures necessary to prevent recurring cost overruns on major government projects. You will be invited to establish a joint committee to undertake a broad enquiry into the future development of nuclear energy in Canada. In addition, standing committees of Parliament will be invited to examine Canadian cultural policy, Canadian foreign policy, and the retirement income needs of Canadians in the 1980s. Annual reports of crown corporations, the commissioner of official languages, the Economic Council of Canada and other similar bodies will be referred automatically to the appropriate committees of Parliament.

To broaden responsibility for the management of Parliament, Privy Councilors not members of cabinet and drawn from both sides of the House will be invited to serve as commissioners of internal economy.

#### [Translation]

My ministers believe the greatest immediate challenge facing Canada today is to restore growth, confidence and jobs to the Canadian economy. While our economy faces serious immediate problems, my government believes the economic potential of Canada is the strongest in the world. My ministers will propose a five-part strategy to build on that potential.

First, my ministers will reduce the burden of government on the economy by better controlling expenditures. A new expenditure management system has been introduced within the government to set strict over-all spending limits, to ensure that all ministers accept full responsibility for spending restraint, and to require that funds for new programs come from savings in existing programs. In that context, you will be asked to approve creation of a Ministry of State for Social Development to better co-ordinate social programs and expenditures.

My government has initiated action to reduce the size of the federal public service and to offer for private purchase and ownership Crown corporations operating in areas where direct government intervention is no longer necessary. Legislation will be introduced to strengthen control over and accountability of remaining Crown corporations. You will also be asked to approve "sunset" legislation to provide a regular opportunity for Parliament to judge whether government programs and agencies need continue in their present form, if at all. The form of the estimates to be placed before you will be improved to provide more accurate information. You will be given projections of government revenues and expenditures for the next four years so that you can judge the probable impact of today's decisions on tomorrow's economy.

#### [English]

Second, my government will place greater reliance on individual initiative to generate growth and jobs for Canadians. You will receive proposals for regulatory reform, designed to ensure that the certainty and nature of government regulation encourages individual initiative and planning. Measures will be introduced to expand research and development in Canada and to further promote exports of Canadian goods and services. You will be asked to approve agreements arising from the Tokyo round of multilateral trade negotiations, including adjustment measures for industries adversely affected by those agreements. The Minister of State for Economic Development will convene a National Economic Development Conference to discuss with the provinces, business, labour, co-operatives and other groups, Canada's economic goals for the decade ahead, and how they might best be achieved in a spirit of full economic partnership. In that same spirit, legislation will be introduced to improve the handling of industrial disputes within federal jurisdiction.

[Mr. Speaker.]

Third, my government will propose measures to help individual Canadians build a stake in our country. You will be asked to approve a program of tax credits for mortgage interest and property taxes. Measures will be placed before you to assist small and medium-size enterprises, and to encourage more Canadians to participate in the ownership of public and private enterprises. You will be asked to consider revisions to the Employment Tax Credit program, the creation of a Youth Employment Secretariat, and other measures to create new jobs for young Canadians. An employment strategy for women will be placed before you. Programs to assist native Canadians to develop and apply work skills will be expanded. Changes will be introduced in the unemployment insurance program to ensure greater equity and to remove disincentives to work.

Fourth, my government will ask you to support programs which build upon the strengths of the regions of Canada. Legislation will be placed before you to strengthen the mandate of the Department of Regional Economic Expansion. You will be asked to consider a white paper on future development of our fisheries resources, prepared in consultation with fishermen, the fishing industry and the provinces. My ministers have begun to overhaul the grain transportation system through appointment of a grain transportation co-ordinator, the signing of agreements for the development of the Prince Rupert terminal, and a significant increase in hopper car capacity. A Seaway Advisory Council will be created to ensure that users and affected areas can contribute to policy concerning this essential waterway. My government will ensure an even flow of work to Canadian shipyards, as we develop an effective Canadian merchant fleet. Measures will be introduced to encourage further mining development in the Canadian north, and to strengthen the capacity of our two territorial governments to manage their own affairs. In co-operation with the provinces and industry, a national tourism strategy will be developed.

Fifth, my government is committed to making Canada self-sufficient in energy by 1990. To that end, in consultation with the provinces, measures will be introduced to encourage a significant reduction in Canada's over-all energy consumption, and to stimulate a major expansion in our capacity to supply and distribute energy in various forms. In bringing forth these measures, my government accepts and respects provincial jurisdiction over resources, as it accepts its own responsibility to ensure economic stability, competitive advantage and other national objectives.

My government views the diversity of Canada as a great national asset, and is determined to encourage, not limit, the development and expression of that diversity. That encouragement will be the beginning principle of the proposals by my ministers for consideration by the parliamentary committee reviewing cultural policies. It will be the purpose of an amendment to the Immigration Act to embed in its preamble the multicultural fact of Canada.

#### [Translation]

Legislation will be introduced to encourage fuller provincial and parliamentary participation in telecommunications policy-making. The Canadian Film Development Corporation Act will be amended to significantly increase private sector participation in the corporation and to broaden its mandate to encompass development of the recording and publishing industries in Canada.

*Members of the House of Commons,*

During the session you will be asked to appropriate the funds required for the services and payments authorized by Parliament.

You will be asked to approve a number of bills left pending at the dissolution of the previous Parliament.

You will be asked to consider other measures.

#### [English]

*Honourable Members of the Senate,*

*Members of the House of Commons,*

May divine providence guide you in your deliberations.

**Right Hon. Joe Clark (Prime Minister) moved:**

That the speech of His Excellency the Governor General delivered this day from the throne to both Houses of Parliament be taken into consideration later this day.

Motion agreed to.