

Honourable senators, allow me to remind you of some of the changes announced in June of 1993: the creation of a new human resources and labour portfolio that included the Department of Labour, responsibility for employment and training, income support programs and post-secondary education transfers. In addition, the new portfolio was responsible for immigration settlement programs and would have played a key role in the setting of target levels and selection criteria.

Growing public concern over the protection of society was reflected in the creation of a new Ministry of Public Security, and that included federal police, security, corrections, and parole responsibilities. The new portfolio also included those parts of the immigration program relating to operations abroad, application processing, and enforcement. It was envisioned that this portfolio would eventually include customs responsibilities related to border control.

Next is the creation of a new Industry and Science Ministry that was responsible for telecommunications policy and programs, business framework, competition, and consumer protection. In addition, the Minister of Agriculture was re-mandated to reflect the additional responsibilities of food processing and manufacturing. The portfolio was renamed Agriculture and Agri-food.

Federal programs supporting a distinctive sense of Canadian identity were brought together in a new Canadian Heritage Ministry. It combined the responsibility for official languages, arts, culture, broadcasting, parks and historic sites, and programs in areas of multiculturalism and citizenship, amateur sport and the National Capital Commission.

The resource responsibilities of the federal government were reorganized into a Natural Resources portfolio combining the Departments of Forestry and Energy, Mines and Resources. A new Government Services portfolio was created by combining the former Departments of Public Works and Supply and Services.

Honourable senators, that was the new picture of government in this country beginning June 25, 1993. There is no denying the fact that it was a major initiative with dramatic effects. At the time, our friends opposite were not impressed with Ms Campbell's efforts. Paul Martin, our future Minister of Finance, stated shortly after the unveiling of the Campbell government:

They have created complete chaos in the place. Government departments do not know which way is up.

Mr. Martin went on to add that Ms Campbell had no mandate to make such substantial changes and that the Liberals disagreed with a number of them. Others, like Marcel Massé, former Privy Council Clerk and now minister in the Chrétien cabinet, claimed that restructuring was done too quickly, that there was no plan.

Honourable senators, while we knew at the time that it was simply opposition posturing, it was not long before it became very clear that the Liberals did, in fact, agree with the Tory plan.

With the election of the Red Book Liberals in October, and given their opposition to Kim Campbell's restructuring efforts, there was naturally some interest in the shape of Prime Minister Chrétien's first cabinet. On November 4, 1993, the Prime

Minister announced his cabinet and, in so doing, outlined his vision of how he saw the country being governed in the next four years. What a disappointment for those Liberals who were expecting a new, dynamic vision of how the country should be run. What we got, and what is being debated here today, is a confirmation that Kim Campbell was on the right track with her reorganization initiatives. Prime Minister Chrétien has adopted almost 90 per cent of the Campbell model for the federal government, and where he differs reveals a return to the old-style, big-government liberalism.

An examination of the organization bills currently before this Parliament is revealing. Bill C-46, a bill establishing the Department of Industry, creates a ministry almost identical in its responsibilities to that of the previous Department of Industry and Science, with one exception: Instead of a minister responsible for science and small business, there now is a Secretary of State (Science, Research and Development). I will have more to say about that Secretary of State position later. I was amused with the second reading remarks of Dennis Mills, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Industry, who, after reading out the new list of responsibilities for the reorganized department, commented:

Never before has there been such a comprehensive revamping.

He could not have read Prime Minister Campbell's press release any better.

Bill C-48, which is before us today, establishes the Department of Natural Resources, creating an identical department to the one announced by Kim Campbell on June 25 of last year, without even a suggestion of gratitude.

With regard to Bill C-49, to establish the Department of Agriculture and Agri-food, Prime Minister Chrétien made as many changes to this department, as established by his predecessor, as he made to the NAFTA agreement prior to his signing it; that is to say, nil.

With Bill C-52, to establish the Department of Public Works and Government Services, the Liberal government has taken the bold initiative of adding the words "Public Works" to the original department name of "Government Services" announced by Ms Campbell. Perhaps this had to do with wanting to ensure the maintenance of the Liberal tradition of spending "public" moneys on various private "works".

Bill C-53, to establish the Department of Canadian Heritage, is still responsible for official languages, arts, culture, multiculturalism, parks, and amateur sports, as was the case in Ms Campbell's administration. The difference is that responsibility for the Registrar General is now with the Department of Industry, and responsibility for citizenship is combined with the immigration portfolio.

Honourable senators, I said earlier that the Chrétien structure of government is almost identical to that of his predecessor — almost, but not quite. There are two areas of notable divergence. These are the dismantling of the Department of Public Security, in order to recreate the Departments of Immigration and Citizenship and the Solicitor General, and the introduction of secretaries of state.