

On the economic plan, the federal intervention in Hull has resulted in nothing but a greater insecurity of the population, even though the federal government did not make any effort to eliminate the problems of Hull residents. The NCC did not take any steps to offset the impact of their intervention, and do not even seem worried about it.

By degrading the economic condition of the population, the federal government also contributed, because of the nature of its intervention (evictions, demolitions, construction of office towers), to the lowering of the social climate. The judicial district of Hull now has the third highest rate of juvenile delinquency in Quebec. Since 1970, the City of Hull has seen this rate double each year.

Juvenile delinquency is only one example of social decay. The drop in quality of the downtown teaching system provides another clue. The School Board does not invest any more money in teaching supplies under the pretext of a potential eviction and of a gradual decrease of the number of students. Another example to that effect is the cancellation or deterioration of many other services, such as those provided by the Department of National Health and Welfare. The Local Centre of Community Services of Hull just moved into new premises located out of "l'île de Hull", explaining such action by saying that the residents of that part of the city had moved. We could give many other examples illustrating the psychological impact of the federal intervention on downtown Hull, but we can summarize the situation by outlining the fact that people are convinced that "l'île de Hull" will be completely demolished and that it is better to move out before it is too late.