

their study. And even the most learned supreme court judges from several provinces and territories had real difficulty in asserting that one number was more valid than another.

Clearly, there are Indian people who are phasing out of their traditional livelihoods; and, there are Indian people who are phasing into those same livelihoods. There are others who have become somewhat happy with a balance somewhere in between for the moment. What exactly does it mean then to say "requires a firearm to hunt or trap in order to sustain himself or his family?" That he cannot hunt otherwise. That he cannot be otherwise sustained. That he is a good hunter and wants to continue to work at that occupation? Or, is this just an exercise in administrative discretion which will bear most heavily upon the most remote communities?

The difficulty is partly that Parliament is being asked to make one law for all of Canada in which a very wide diversity of people live in many different ways. And in doing so, it is making assumptions that most hunting is done for sport. And that where it is done for sustenance that is an objectively proveable point before a firearms officer who is always reasonable, enlightened, friendly, knowledgeable and sympathetic. He may also be the district police commander.

f) Our Measure of Good Faith

We would be interested to hear the explanation some of you might offer face to face to some of our people sitting around a meeting hall in our own communities.

Section 106.2 (6) does allow a certificate to be issued to a person under the age of 16 years if he can prove that he hunts to sustain himself. We return again to the matter of proof. In an Indian community the presumption should be that every person hunts to share his food. Those who hunt more or less than others do so because someone else is more able hunter, because they have taken another kind of work temporarily, but have not by that stopped hunting to sustain themselves, or because the animals have left the area for a while.

Even in some very southerly communities where there is only 25% unemployment we know of people who are skilled construction workers but who do not expect to find work for more than six months, perhaps eight months a year within their special skills, and who might then choose to hunt when the animals are plentiful and the work is not. Are they less