

Mr. Howe then conveyed to the Members of the Board, an invitation from Mrs Howe to dinner that evening.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Howe for his remarks and asked him to convey to Mrs Howe the pleasure of the members of the Board in accepting her kind invitation to dinner.

On behalf of the other members of the Board, he expressed their gratitude for the privilege of serving Canada in this way, pointing out that the honorary basis of service made it possible for them to act. He expressed the satisfaction of the Board at the assurances previously given him privately by Mr. Howe and now repeated before the Board as a whole, that the policy and intention of the Government was to allow the Corporation to function as an independent, non-partisan public Corporation, free from interference in all matters of internal policy and subject only to the controls specifically provided for in the Act. This independence and freedom from interference, he said, was essential to the success of the new Corporation and no member of the present Board, he felt, would consent to act or to continue to act, on any other basis.

He then said that it was the intention of the Board at all times to act as a unit. No member, he said, would individually support any application for service in the Corporation, and all matters concerning the Corporation would be dealt with by the Board as a whole. He said that each member had agreed with all members that this was to be the basic principle upon which the Board was to proceed. No special interest, no personal interest, no sectional, racial or religious interest was to influence the conduct or decisions of any individual member of the Board or of the Board as a whole, subject always, he said, to the accepted and fundamental axiom of cordial and generous relations between the two great mother races.

In conclusion, the Chairman said he believed he was expressing the desires of every member of the Board when he suggested that none should indicate, directly or indirectly, any criticism of the present Commission. They had done a difficult job under the most adverse circumstances, and the new Corporation should, he felt, be the first to recognize this fact.

The Chairman then invited each member to add his comments. The members of the Board spoke in turn, each approving and extending, or emphasizing the basic principles laid down by the Chairman.

The Chairman then spoke about the chief matter before the Board, the appointment of a chief executive. He said he considered it of the utmost importance that the Board arrive at an independent decision on this matter, and that not only the two candidates mentioned by Mr. Howe, but all others proposed or who had applied, should be seriously and fairly considered. To this end, he proposed that at the conclusion of the morning session, the Board should adjourn until the following day. This would enable the members informally to examine the qualifications of the various candidates as submitted. All material relating to candidates would be left in the Board Room for their perusal during the afternoon.

At this point, the Vice-Chairman outlined the arguments which, in his opinion, indicated the importance of the Board recommending the appointment of an Assistant General Manager simultaneously with that of the General Manager. He suggested that, since it was understood that this appointment was to be a French speaking Canadian, the susceptibilities of French Canada, at the present time unusually sensitive, would