

1 general?

2 MINISTER LALONDE: There is comparatively little
3 we can do. This issue is going to be unresolved; and we
4 have urged the Quebec Government to call its referendum
5 as soon as possible -- the sooner the better.

6 You know, there is nothing that capital fears
7 more than uncertainty, and this has been very bad for
8 Quebec; and not good for Canada. As long as this climate
9 of uncertainty is going to be around, it is going to hurt
10 the Quebec economy indirectly.

11 If Quebec were to delay, indefinitely, its
12 referendum, because they are afraid that they may not win
13 it--we might follow along that line.

14 I intend to introduce -- the Government intends
15 to introduce a Federal Referendum law during the course
16 of the present session; and we are likely to have, in our
17 Statute, the authority, before the end of the year, to call
18 a referendum of our own. So, if there is evidence that the
19 Quebec government is dragging its feet, indefinitely
20 maintaining uncertainty, and that we see a very serious
21 negative economic impact arising out of that situation,
22 we might --

23 MEMBER OF THE PRESS: On a nation-wide referendum--
24 or Quebec only?

25 MINISTER LALONDE: It could be nation-wide. It