

ORDERS OF REFERENCE

Special Committee on Indian
Self-Government (Task Force)

HOUSE OF COMMONS
Wednesday, December 22, 1982

ORDERED,—That a Special Committee of the House of Commons, to be composed of Mr. Penner, Mr. Allmand, Mr. Chénier, Mr. Tousignant, Mr. Oberle, Mr. Schellenberger and Mr. Manly be appointed to act as a Parliamentary Task Force on Indian Self-Government to review all legal and related institutional factors affecting the status, development and responsibilities of Band Governments on Indian reserves, including, without limiting the generality of the foregoing:

- (a) the legal status of Band Governments;
- (b) the accountability of band councils to band members;
- (c) the powers of the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development in relation to reserve land, band monies and the exercise of band powers;
- (d) the financial transfer, control and accounting mechanisms in place between bands and the Government of Canada;
- (e) the legislative powers of bands and their relationship to the powers of other jurisdictions;
- (f) the accountability to Parliament of the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development for the monies expended by or on behalf of Indian bands;
- (g) all items referred to in section "H" of the report of the Sub-committee on Indian Women and the Indian Act;

and make recommendations in relation to the above questions in regard particularly to possible provisions of new legislation and improved administrative arrangements to apply to some or all Band Governments on reserves, taking into account the various social, economic, administrative, political and demographic situations of Indian bands, and the views of Indian bands in regard to administrative or legal change.

That the Committee, in carrying out its review, take into account:

- (a) the jurisdiction of the Federal Government under section 91(24) of the *Constitution Act, 1867*;
- (b) the recognition and affirmation of existing aboriginal and treaty rights of the aboriginal peoples in section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*;
- (c) the current economic restraint program of the Government;
- (d) the fact that a First Ministers' Conference will be held for the purpose of identifying rights of the aboriginal peoples.