

importance and of such over-all benefit to the people concerned that virtually everyone is prepared to accept the fact that time is required. But what is most important is that the government consider this proposal, consider the advantages, consider the need for a recreational area, consider the need for additional job-creating light industry, consider the quickly disappearing waterfront recreational land available and commit itself to an in depth study with the minimum amount of delay. The corporation of Delta is prepared to assist in the establishment of a joint environmental study of the available facilities, and the council will render all possible assistance and co-operation to the federal authorities.

In conclusion, given the existing ingredients and the land availability, and given the spirit of co-operation among all levels of government as well as between ministerial offices, there is herein the opportunity not only to set an example in this field but to provide jobs through the creation of pollution free light industry and to afford a recreational facility for thousands of residents of the entire lower mainland. Mr. Speaker, I urge the government to consider and act upon this motion.

**Mr. Randolph Harding (Kootenay West):** Mr. Speaker, in rising to speak on this motion, I should like to associate myself with the mover and seconder. I think it is a splendid idea that a motion such as this should be brought forth at this time, and hon. members should have an opportunity to debate it briefly on the floor of the House of Commons for it is my hope that we will see the motion sent to committee for study. I do not know the coastal part of B.C. as well as I know the interior where I have lived for many years but, having lived in the Vancouver district for a considerable period of time, I do know that the Boundary Bay area could be made into one of the outstanding environmental playgrounds on the Pacific coast. Having been a member of the B.C. legislature, I am aware of the fact that on numerous occasions over the years we have had briefs from various groups in the area urging that action be taken provincially to preserve many of the fine beaches to which the mover of the motion has referred.

A subject, in which all members are clearly interested and which was mentioned in the address we just heard, is the environmental studies. I urge the federal government to look into this part of the motion without delay. There is no reason why a sound environmental impact study could not be launched at this time, and I agree with the mover of the motion that it will take some time for an adequate study to be undertaken and for the results of that study to be assessed. We should not delay. Time is of the essence. The growing community of Vancouver and the whole Fraser valley area is in need of further recreational facilities, and here is an opportunity for the government to do something which would assist in setting this area aside for all time for the purposes outlined in the motion.

I know that it takes time for the wheels of government to get rolling and for the government take action. But again I am going to suggest to the government that they refer this motion to the appropriate committee for the necessary studies and I hope that it will pass the House of Commons this afternoon. Our group is certainly interested in seeing studies of this nature carried out, and we will

#### *Transfer of Base at Ladner*

certainly endorse the resolution which has been presented to the House this afternoon.

**Mr. Joseph-Philippe Guay (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to say a few words on the motion. The Department of Transport accepted the transfer of the former RCAF station, Ladner, in June, 1972. Discussions concerning the future of the airport have been held and representations have been received involving the corporation of Delta, the Canadian Owners and Pilots Association, Walter Industries of Canada Limited, officials of DOE and the Department of Transport.

● (1710)

I see no objection to considering the advisability of transferring the land to the municipality of Delta for the use described in the notice of motion, at the same time as consideration is being given to the feasibility of a number of alternative uses of the property. However, I wish to make it clear that by agreeing to the motion neither I, the minister nor the government is giving any undertaking that the lands will be transferred to the municipality or, if they are transferred, will be used as suggested in the motion.

A careful study, and here I agree with the hon. member, will be carried out into desirable uses of the property, bearing in mind all the conflicting interests which are involved, and the interest of the public in those uses, before any final decision is arrived at by the department.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Is the House ready for the question?

**Some hon. Members:** Question.

Motion agreed to.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** I see two hon. members rising on points of order, the hon. member for Assiniboia and the hon. Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Transport.

**Mr. Knight:** Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of any other motion to be dealt with during private members hour today, and in view of the importance of the motion just passed and of the springtime nature of the day, I think we might come to agreement to adjourn at this time.

**Mr. Guay (St. Boniface):** Mr. Speaker, in view of the considerable amount of business dealt with this afternoon, I must agree with the hon. member.

**Mr. Reynolds:** Mr. Speaker, it would seem appropriate, on a day like today, when a motion like this has been passed concerning what we call sunny Delta, the sunshine capital, and since this is the sunniest day in Ottawa since I have been here, that we should adjourn.

**Mr. Knight:** Mr. Speaker, May I call it six o'clock?

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Apparently everybody sees it as six o'clock. It being six o'clock, or thereabouts, I do now leave the chair until eight o'clock p.m.

At 5.16 p.m. the House took recess.