

Mr. Judd Buchanan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, I take great delight in reassuring the hon. member and in making perfectly clear that there has been no abandonment of interest on the part of the government with respect to a second national park in Prince Edward Island, in the area of East Point.

On September 7 last my minister met with Premier Campbell and members of his cabinet to discuss with the province possible plans for the development of a park in this area. The province is anxious to ensure that they have thoroughly explored all options and alternatives with regard to the best use of recreational lands and with regard to the very heavy increase in tourist traffic which has occurred in the province in the last few years. This increase, I understand, was particularly heavy in the season just completed.

The minister's discussions with the province were cordial and constructive. It was made clear that the federal

Proceedings on Adjournment Motion

government is prepared to proceed, depending of course upon the conclusions of the province as to the course of action which would be most appropriate for them.

Again I should like to reassure the hon. member that the financial basis would be as stated by the minister on March 13 last, that is to say, the federal government would assume 50 per cent of the costs of acquisition and assembly of the necessary lands on the same formula as was established in British Columbia with respect to Long Beach Park.

Mr. Macquarrie: Hear, hear!

Mr. Buchanan: We expect to hear further from the province in due course. I am sure that when a decision is reached, my minister will be making an announcement jointly with the province.

Motion agreed to and the House adjourned at 10.10 p.m.