

Mosaic

NEWS

Trudeau has resigned, there will be a Liberal leadership convention June 14-17 in Ottawa and a possible Federal election before the end of this year. Things are getting interesting.



Pierre Trudeau

Lottery Ticket Sales are soaring ever since a Brantford, Ontario couple (Stuart and Lillian Kelly) won 13.9 million dollars in the 6/49 lottery in January 1984. The question being debated now is whether or not a ceiling should be put on this lottery.

1984 — What can we look forward to? Postal rates are not going up. Oil and gas prices will remain the same and the federal tax on alcohol and tobacco is not increasing. In addition, we can now claim \$2 000 per child in childcare up to a maximum of \$8 000. It sounds like it could be a good year.

OTTAWA

The face is changing. By 1988, Ottawa will have a new National Gallery and a new National Museum of Man.

The designs are impressive. The Museum of Man, says Alberta architect Douglas Cardinal, "will be vibrant — maybe a little bit like Disney World". It will consist of two buildings joined by a series of decorative pools designed to look as though they are connected to the river. Located in Laurier Park, Hull, it will face the Parliament Buildings. The National Gallery is to be a three-storey building of glass, copper and stone with a glass entrance and a 80-metre ramp leading up to a 36-metre high "grand hall" that will look out onto Parliament Hill as well. Montreal architect, Moshe Safdie, says that he wants it to have a "calm, continuous atmosphere ... like a living room for the city". The structure will be located at Sussex and St. Patrick Street.

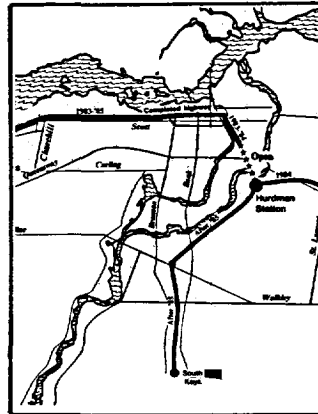


Museum of Man

Ottawa's Rapid Transit system has opened but, unfortunately, to criticism and complaints. Revisions have been made and will continue to be made until the buses are moving as efficiently as possible.

Meanwhile fares have gone up to 90 cents for adults, making OC Transpo rates one

of the most expensive in Canada. (Only Calgary commuters pay more — \$1.00 per ride). Bus passes have gone up to \$30.00 for adults (\$36.50 for express lines) and \$18.50 for students and seniors.



Ottawa's Rapid Transit System

Shopping Centres will be expanding as they try to compete with the new Rideau Centre. St. Laurent is planning a two level addition that will be occupied by 25 to 35 new stores. Bayshore will be adding 80 000 square feet on two or more levels. These should be completed by early 1985.

LAW

Divorce. Justice Minister Mark MacGuigan is proposing amendments to the Divorce Act. The amendments would make marriage breakdown the sole grounds for divorce thus eliminating the requirement that one spouse must be found at fault. He is also proposing a waiting or separation period of one year rather than three. Concerns are being expressed that these changes would increase the number of divorces and not provide sufficiently for the children.

Adoptive Parents like natural parents, now are able to collect up to \$255 per week in unemployment Insurance benefits. Under new legislation that came into effect on January 1, 1984, new parents, either male or female, who can prove they have to stay home to care for the adopted child, will be able to claim UIC benefits for up to 15 weeks.

Traffic Offenses. Fines have now doubled for motorists who run a red light or stop sign, fail to yield right of way, make illegal turns or ignore seatbelt signs. Fines range from \$40 minimum to \$200 maximum.

Pornography. Children will no longer be staring at adult magazines next to the comic books or milk at the corner store. As of November 1983, an Ottawa by-law requires that all pornographic material be displayed at least 1.5 metres above the floor and behind opaque barriers so that only the title is displayed.

HEALTH

New Health Act. The debate is still raging over Monique Begin's new health act which would impose dollar-for-dollar penalties on provinces which continue to levy extra fees on hospital users and allow doctors to bill patients more than what they would receive under medicare fee schedules. This is one area that affects us all, so should be watched carefully.