

House of the status of his inquiry into this tragedy? In light of proposed cut-backs in weather services, could he assure the House that adequate weather information is and will continue to be in place to prevent such tragedies from occurring in the future?

• (1440)

**Hon. John A. Fraser (Minister of Fisheries and Oceans):** Mr. Speaker, I thank the Hon. Member for her important question. The report was handed to me today from my colleague, the Minister of the Environment. That report indicates that weather reporting was inadequate. It also makes recommendations with respect to the Department of Fisheries that all vessels report weather conditions as they find them on a daily basis, and that before any fishing openings are made consultations take place between Department of Fisheries and Department of the Environment atmospheric services. I ordered my Department today to make those arrangements.

With respect to cut-backs, there will be no cut-backs affecting the efficiency of weather reporting on the West Coast.

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#### FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS

##### SIGNING OF DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT WITH QUEBEC— INDIAN DIMENSION QUERY

**Hon. Warren Allmand (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce-Lachine East):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister. Tomorrow the Government of Canada and the Government of Quebec will sign a \$1 billion five-year development agreement. The Indians of Quebec have been shocked to learn there is no provision in that agreement directing some of these moneys to Indian and native developments. There are equivalent provisions in the development agreements with Ontario, Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba. Would the Prime Minister assure us that he will raise this matter immediately with the Premier of Quebec and take steps to amend the agreement before it is signed tomorrow?

**Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, the IRDA agreement deals with items of economic development as raised, by and large, by various provincial premiers. The agreements, at least the ones we've tried to sign, reflect a rhythm of development within the provinces as selected by provincial Governments. I know that in a parallel way the Ministry of Indian Affairs and Northern Development has been having many consultations with regard to native peoples.

If my hon. friend is of the view that there should be more integration, I would be happy to take a look at it. However, I can tell him that it appears that this agreement, which is the first the Government of Quebec will have signed with the federal Government in many, many years, will be very creative of job opportunities and employment for Quebecers. It is regarded as a major development in the Province of Quebec by all Quebecers who view economic development in co-operation with the federal Government as a step forward.

#### Oral Questions

##### REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

**Hon. Warren Allmand (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce-Lachine East):** Mr. Speaker, I must advise the Prime Minister that in the agreement signed with other provinces—and in the one signed by the Province of Ontario—there were specific provisions ensuring that Indians, Métis, and Inuit are not forgotten. Will the Prime Minister consult with the Minister of Indian Affairs to make sure that before tomorrow there is a possibility of including in this agreement, as is the case with other provinces, the same type of provision to ensure that some of that \$1 billion goes to the Indians and Inuit of Quebec for their economic development? It is very important.

**Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I can give my hon. friend the firm assurance that the Indians and Inuit of Quebec, many of whom live in my riding and even vote for me, will not be forgotten at any time or in any circumstances.

##### INDIAN ECONOMIC BENEFITS ISSUE

**Mr. Jim Manly (Cowichan-Malahat-The Islands):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. The Minister knows that if native people are not involved in the framework agreement, it will be almost impossible for them to have any kind of involvement in subsidiary agreements. How is it possible for an agreement to be drawn up between Canada and Quebec without including significant economic benefits for Indian people?

**Hon. David Crombie (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development):** Mr. Speaker, I think there are two points which I could suggest to the Hon. Member. First, his premise is wrong. Second, economic benefits, both within and outside the agreement, will of course flow to those people affected in the Province of Quebec.

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#### METRIC CONVERSION

##### DUAL LABELLING PROPOSAL

**Mr. David Berger (Laurier):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. Could he confirm reports to the effect that he is about to permit dual labelling, both in metric and in imperial measures? Having consulted with consumer, business, teaching, and science representatives across Canada, who all gave him the same advice, is he now prepared to ignore it? Has he caved in to the Neanderthals in his caucus?

[Translation]

**Hon. Michel Côté (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs):** Yes, Mr. Speaker, I have had consultations with different interest groups and I am now drafting my recommendations. I intend to submit them to my Cabinet colleagues at