

to participate in the political governmental process at all levels”.

Also the environment must be included in the final package.

Other areas have been discussed, and I want to bring them to your attention. Institutional reform: Canadians want a responsible and a responsive political process. The consensus from all groups, while reviewing the House of Commons, was that the discipline imposed by parties should be reduced and elected members must exercise the wishes of their constituents more freely. Free votes should be encouraged and members must participate and examine bills right from the beginning, before tabling, and allow more input. There should be a mechanism or guidelines to establish bills of confidence. All members must raise the quality of debate and make the House of Commons a more credible institution. MPs must curtail verbal abuse, learn to acknowledge positive suggestions, do what is right for Canada.

Housing: the Midnapore Co-op Housing Association expressed a very strong and urgent need that all Canada Housing and Mortgage contracts be honoured if housing is moved to a provincial responsibility.

There is a consensus that property rights should be in the Constitution. Property rights is a basic tenet of freedom.

Most of the constituents believe that appointments to the Supreme Court should not be a matter included in the Constitution. I quote: “The purpose of a Constitution is to set rigid parameters and guidelines within which government is empowered to fulfil the duties set out heretofore. The Constitution is therefore not to be an act of government, but a law to government by the people who pay their representatives to serve them in the said administration of the affairs of the nation”.

In conclusion, the main issue is the unity of Canada. At one meeting the suggestion was made to let Quebec have its referendum first and then Canada could debate the Constitution. Bill 178 in Quebec is unacceptable. Distinct society, while acknowledged, should be defined by adding a sentence that distinct means different and not superior. All provinces are equal and must be treated equally. There are no second-class citizens. The Yukon and the Northwest Territories are important and when they become provinces the amending formula of seven out of ten provinces with 50 per cent of the population

will have to change. We are all Canadians; no hyphenated Canadians and no multiculturalism.

• (1910)

A strong economic union is necessary to maintain our standard of living. Any amendments to the common market clause, section 121, must be beneficial to all with no specific economic benefits given to one province in particular.

I want to thank all the constituents of Calgary Southwest who participated and gave careful consideration to this process. I have tried to reflect their views here tonight. I have drawn a consensus in opinions received from them in order to meet the time allocated to me tonight. I respect each individual's direction, concern and viewpoint.

I will conclude with a quote: “The federal government should be vigilant of the need to move the governing of the country and provision of services closer to the people, while still maintaining efficient and effective service to all”.

Mr. Bob Speller (Haldimand—Norfolk): Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to stand in the House today to present the report of the constitutional panel that was held in my riding of Haldimand—Norfolk throughout the month of January.

I feel that it has been a very important process and certainly a learning experience. I learned more fully the views of my constituents on this issue. Furthermore, I know that their views are indicative of the attitude of the rest of Canadians.

My riding of Haldimand—Norfolk is really in a unique position in that it encompasses so many different interests. It is an agricultural community with a small manufacturing and industrial base. People settled in this region from all around the world to farm the fertile land of the area. We also have the largest population of original peoples located at the Six Nations and the New Credit.

Quite simply, my riding of Haldimand—Norfolk has a cultural and linguistic diversity that could be an example of how compromise and understanding have really built this strong and united country.

Let me begin by telling the House how impressed I was with the interest shown by the group of Canadians in my riding, particularly Mary Edmonds, Hilda Howes, Zelda Stadler and Flora Chute, who organized the two