

Canadian Heritage Languages Institute Act

were invited to partake by the previous Secretary of State in July, 1987, pointed to having three institutes established.

We should not gloss over the fact that Professors Kreisel and Batts were looking at a national institute for heritage languages in western Canada. Although they carried their research beyond western Canada to Toronto and Montreal, the report is oriented in its organizational structure and surely in its funding, proposals and so on to the establishment of an institute which would provide for western needs. It would then be a co-ordinate, I would think, with the expansion of activities at OISE presumably given the work already built up there and quite likely at Laval University in Quebec City.

This would still leave Atlantic Canada having to look where? Toronto is a fair distance away. Laval might conceivably assist. Experience would show the possibilities, but we have in Bill C-152 the acceptance of the Kreisel-Batts report and a generalization of it for the entire country. That will point the way to certain questions that need to be asked.

In this one institute with limited human resources we will have the responsibility to support the training of teachers, the development of resource materials and texts—all the effort required to advance heritage language teaching in communities. As I was saying, talking to Dr. Cummins this morning, the existence of a centre is the merest beginning. The unit at OISE does not really amount to very much because the efforts are needed in Hamilton, Thunder Bay, Sudbury, and Windsor to single out only a few communities in Ontario. Teachers, after all, are doing this as volunteers. They are not being paid. There is no board with great resources to send them somewhere for instruction. They have no kind of reward, and one can hardly expect that taking some instruction will advance their credentials and give them more salary. That is not the nature of a system which is still outside the public school system of the Province of Ontario. Those are the brute realities that face us when we set out to do something as important and as admirable as establishing an institute to ensure heritage language teaching in this country and the study of it is as advanced as it should be.

The fact that education is a provincial responsibility poses questions which in the legislative committee we shall have to explore with care. I wonder to what extent Departments of Education will respond. I say that without any prejudice as far as any one place is concerned because I would imagine the Department of Education for the Province of Alberta would have limited interests in something coming out of OISE. I am concerned that the Department of Education for the Province of Ontario may need the persuasion of activities in the Province of Ontario to put the kinds of resources into the institute that will certainly be required.

That may well suggest that what the Bill proposes to do is to get a brain or a heart or whatever the right organ might be for the institute. Then we will have the limbs across the country. The Kreisel-Batts report envisions that almost half the moneys each year should be spent for program activities, namely,

\$200,000 out of the \$454,000, the suggested annual cost. It is in those programs that the institute would be a reality in its activities across the country.

Having said these things, let me say categorically again that the choice of Edmonton for the centre or the institute is certainly one place that is more than just appropriate.

What we have to be concerned about is the way in which this decision will work out, recognizing that others have been in the field and recognizing the costs incurred. I have already alluded to the proposals in the Kreisel-Batts report which suggest that the annual cost of a national institute for heritage languages in western Canada could well amount to \$454,000. One rather odd thing about this Bill is that it is far more specific than is commonly the case. We are actually told in Clause 23 of the Bill how this institute will be endowed over the first several years of its operation. After providing for an initial establishment payment or investment of \$250,000, Clause 23 goes on to provide for five fiscal years. The first \$250,000 will be for the current fiscal year and then in the next fiscal year we will have \$800,000 going toward the capital of an endowment fund and we shall have \$500,000 to be expended for the purpose of the institute.

I want to raise one of the most important questions about this admirable initiative. That \$500,000 annual cost operating allotment compares rather poorly—this is \$500,000 for the country—with the \$454,000 in the Kreisel-Batts report for a western Canada institute. Put that beside the proposal to the Department of the Secretary of State for \$250,000 to support the efforts of the unit at OISE in Toronto. That amounts to \$700,000 which is significantly more than the Bill envisions this particular institute having. Taking these applications and proposals at face value, that would still not provide for efforts in the Province of Quebec or in Atlantic Canada. There I feel very real concern about the limited resources, the straitened resources, the institute is actually being given through the Government's Bill.

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It will be necessary to obtain the co-operation of all concerned with the matter across Canada and to do so very rapidly. It will be desirable to have the director and his or her program officers at work very quickly establishing connections with communities and with provincial Governments and other organizations to ensure that provincial assistance is also obtained so that the work of the institute is successfully carried out in the communities.

I should recognize that the Bill also provides, in Clause 22, for the new institute to be deemed a registered charity within the meaning of the Income Tax Act. For the new Canadian Heritage Languages Institute to be a charity in this sense means that the fund raising possibilities will be larger than those that are sometimes the case for multicultural organizations. We might expect to have resources increased from donors. The donors would probably like to build up the