

Point of Order

of Indian Affairs and Northern Development awaiting his signature.

In order to demonstrate this government's commitment to a fair settlement with the Lubicon band, will the Prime Minister today order the minister not to sign this order and to resume negotiations with the Lubicon people immediately?

Hon. Shirley Martin (Minister of State (Transport)): Mr. Speaker, I rise again, I hope uninterrupted this time, to say that this government—

Some hon. members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Speaker: The Chair has intervened. I would ask the hon. minister to put as clear an answer as is possible without getting into undue argument.

Mrs. Martin: As I mentioned earlier, I know the member's very true concern about the particular issue. I will take his last question back to the minister of Indian affairs if he returns tomorrow and discuss it with him.

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AIDS

Mr. Chris Axworthy (Saskatoon—Clark's Crossing): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of National Health and Welfare and concerns funding for the national AIDS strategy. As the minister knows we have been celebrating World AIDS Day and attempting to deal with this issue in a more constructive way.

The minister will know of the excellent work of AIDS support groups across Canada and will know that funding for these groups under ACAP was cut from what was cut from \$7 million to \$6.4 million for 1991.

I wonder if the minister can confirm today that this \$600,000 will be reinstated forthwith so that these AIDS support groups can continue with their critically important work.

Hon. Benoît Bouchard (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I share the views of the member about the World AIDS Day yesterday. I believe that all Canadians have to be concerned about this terrible disease.

Concerning ACAP, I said to the committee when I appeared on October 30 that I was looking at the possibility of reallocating money already devoted to that file and that if there was a possibility of doing that for

1991 I would, for this year. However, I can confirm that for 1992-1993 the budget will be \$7 million.

Mr. Chris Axworthy (Saskatoon—Clark's Crossing): Mr. Speaker, also as the minister knows, across Canada there are considerable inconsistencies in the treatment of AIDS and its availability and the cost of prescription drugs.

I wonder if the minister can indicate what steps he is taking to eliminate these inconsistencies so that those persons living with AIDS in Canada can receive the same accessibility to medical treatment no matter where they live.

Hon. Benoît Bouchard (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, we are trying to work with the provinces on that kind of file. The member knows very well that prescription drugs are determined by the provinces. They make those decisions.

The health care system is made in a way that we can provide as much as we can. As I was told in Europe recently, we have the best health care system in the world. For that reason we are trying to provide the same service all across the country, but of course there are problems in the kind of treatment and the kind of prescription drugs. For example, the problem is not the same in Vancouver, Toronto and Montreal as it is in any other province. That is why once again we are working with the provinces.

I believe the question is well put. It should be dealt with in that way by those provinces.

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CROATIA

Mr. Garth Turner (Halton—Peel): Mr. Speaker, continued bloodshed in Croatia is unacceptable to my constituents and my question regarding this is directed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs.

Could she please tell this House the status of efforts to put a UN peacekeeping force into Yugoslavia to control the Serbian army, and will Canada commit troops to help protect Croatia?

Hon. Barbara McDougall (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, Canada has been in the forefront of this issue from the beginning, particularly in urging the Security Council and the United Nations to become engaged in stopping the violence.