

THE PRINCIPLES

4. In accordance with the decisions of our legislators and the intents of our politicians, the papers published by the "National Capital Commission" or by government agencies emphasize two main concerns:

- a) the Canadian Capital Region must "reflect and respect Canada's dual cultural and linguistic reality". (1)
- b) the respect of this dual cultural and linguistic reality requires the respect of the principles governing the full development of two communities, one of which is a majority and the other a minority. (2)

5. In so far as we are French-speaking Canadians, we unreservedly share the concern of having the federal Capital reflecting and respecting Canada's dual cultural and linguistic reality. It is high time for us to realize that the Canadian Capital must be the Capital of all Canadians and not only that of the other linguistic community. It is normal that "English-speaking and French-speaking Canadians can live (there) comfortably in their own language". (3) It is natural for both linguistic groups to have equal opportunities. In the present Canadian geo-political context, those things are obvious; sooner or later, an historical anomaly must be rectified by some means, even drastic ones.

6. Good intentions are not enough for justice to be done. Action is necessary, along with respect for certain basic principles. The disruption of the ecology or natural environment of a location does not go without paying for it. The same is true when we interfere with the conditions in which a linguistic community has been able to develop, particularly when it is a minority because of proximity or immersion.

7. We therefore appreciate the concern shown by those in charge of development of the National Capital Region with respect to the development of the two communities concerned in the Capital Region. We have noticed that they emphasize the necessity to respect what Mr. Fullerton