hundreds of people and reading the many briefs and letters I have received.

In March 1991 I sent out 1,200 questionnaires and received a 16 per cent return. The results were: 95 per cent favoured one unified Canada; 90 per cent favoured a strong federal government; 90 per cent favoured a government that is fiscally responsible to reduce spending, to balance the budget, and to remove inefficiencies and duplications; 80 per cent favoured Senate reform: a Triple-E first, if not, abolish the upper house; 75 per cent favoured all provinces treated equally, equal rights for all Canadians; and 70 per cent wanted aboriginal difficulties resolved, recognizing the realities that exist today, for you cannot bankrupt the country.

Following the tabling of the proposals *Shaping Canada's Future Together* in September 1991 I held five town hall meetings, well advertised to all Calgarians, participated in five school discussions, plus a CMHC co-operative housing meeting. I also received many briefs with well thought out excellent insight and had numerous meetings in my office.

The views of my constituents are, first, too much to consider in the time available. The main issues are keep Canada whole, Senate reform, aboriginal peoples, and economic union. The challenge that constitutional reform poses for Canada is a unique opportunity to both unify and strengthen our country.

On unity, Quebec a distinct society, I quote: "Quebec contributes much to Canada. There is a special magic in her culture and her language that all Canadians recognize, but we are not willing to keep her at any cost".

There were many heated debates and discussions on distinct society. Most people now understand and have come to grips with the historical significance that Quebec is different through culture, language, and law, but in no way superior. All provinces must be treated equally, while recognizing their differences. There can be no special status for any one province. What is offered to one province must be offered to all, and whether they accept or reject it is another question. Bill 178 in Quebec was and is a lightning rod and is unacceptable to the constituents.

On Senate reform, the Triple-E, elected, equal number of persons from each province, and effective, this is the Senate wanted and supported. I have received suggestions and briefs supporting different opinions. Some want equal regional representation; others say as long as the total number of seats from Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, and British Columbia equal or are more than Ontario and Quebec combined, that is satisfactory. One submission received called for the ACE model—accountable, consensual, and elected—and it is worth study.

Aboriginal peoples: while we did not have extensive discussions, most people agreed upon self-government for natives, yes, but it must be done within the boundary of Canadian laws. The move to self-government should be matched by the elimination of the Department of Indian Affairs. The question asked many times, and I quote: "Self-government is a nice sounding expression, but how can it become a reality when these people are scattered from coast to coast to coast?"

The whole arrangement with aboriginal peoples must be totally revised. Whatever the results, it must include democratic freedom to every individual native and be guaranteed in the Constitution.

Canadian economic union: the free movement of persons, goods, services, and capital, plus the dismantling of our interprovincial barriers, is crucial to our success as a competitive nation. Understanding and identifying what is required to make Canada internationally competitive is perhaps easy; reaching that objective is more difficult. It requires the co-operation and support of all levels of government with one goal: Canada first.

Council of the Federation is not needed, and it really received very little if any support.

The Canada clause should be moved to the preamble of the Constitution. We are all Canadians. We are a free democratic society that respects all people in this diverse country. There should be a responsibility clause, and I quote one suggestion: "a recognition that government is an organization to which we all contribute, i.e. taxes, according to our abilities and from which we obtain services in general according to our needs, and that we citizens have unalienable rights and serious responsibilities to conduct our lives in an honourable manner in harmony with the Constitution, and to inform ourselves of our government's activities and to exercise our rights