

1 forcefully in trying to rectify some things that will
2 provide greater opportunities for them?

3 MINISTER LALONDE: I think it would be a very
4 serious mistake to think that we will resolve the problem
5 just by playing around with the Institutions, and with our
6 Constitutional changes. I think you have socio-economic
7 factors that have been there for decades, and centuries.

8 MR. DUKE: So, in a sense, this is the Canadian
9 Civil Rights issue, isn't it?

10 MINISTER LALONDE: Yes. Civil Rights in a broad
11 term -- in the broad sense. That is, equality of oppor-
12 tunities: The French Canadians want to be able to play a
13 full role, which they felt they have not been able to play
14 or have not been called upon to play in the Business Sector,
15 for instance, and, particularly, in the Institutions at large.

16 I think we have come a long way to insure fair
17 representation of the Francophones, or the French Canadians,
18 inside of the Federal Institutions. I think there has been
19 tremendous progress in the last fifteen years! At the
20 present time, for instance, the number of French Canadians
21 inside the Federal Public Service corresponds exactly
22 to the population -- about 25%. Still, there is a lack of
23 representation of the French Canadians in the top echelons--
24 but, you know, the movement is there. Things are taking
25 place. It will take care of itself.