

Maybe it is more than a question of balance. It is a question of the indispensable recognition that conservation and natural resources are the pre-condition for survival in the Arctic.

I was glad to read about the establishment of a Nunavut wildlife management board. I share the concern already expressed by the member for Nunatsiaq that there may be far too many structures, but let us hope that these structures will be positive and will not become bureaucratic and self-serving.

There is an excellent article 8 on parks. I fully support article 8.3.4, which speaks about the involvement of the Inuit people. It is absolutely essential that the process of the planning and administration of the parks in the Arctic be accelerated in terms of making it one that is administered and run by the Inuit people themselves.

• (1315)

This concept was established some 10 to 15 years ago. I am glad to see that the government has continued along that path. All I would urge is that this process be accelerated so that one day under Nunavut administration all of the parks in the Nunavut portion of the Arctic will be administered by the Inuit people, thereby creating jobs for them.

Article 9 on conservation areas is also a good one. I was glad to see that it was so thoroughly expanded. I wish that part 9 of article 11, which deals with waste clean-up, could have been stronger. I wish that it could have been more detailed. I am glad that it deals with the abandoned DEW line sites. Perhaps in future documents, reference will be made to the importance of tackling the pollution coming from the south, namely from the industrial parts of Canada, the United States and Mexico.

Pollution does not know boundaries. It does not respect boundaries. The Arctic and the Nunavut territory are constantly the recipient of transboundary pollution which is considerably harming, as we all know, wildlife and the health of the animals both in water and on land. As a result of harvesting it is used by humans and will eventually settle in human tissue.

The question of waste clean-up is important on land within Nunavut but also needs to be addressed in terms of transboundary pollution in the future.

### *Government Orders*

I was glad to read part 6 of article 12 with regard to the federal environmental assessment panel. I wish only to express the hope that future governments will when they receive the conclusion and recommendations of federal environmental assessments also respect them and implement them in their decisions.

In schedule 12-1 there is a list of types of projects proposed as being exempt from screening. After a cursory read I found that list a bit too big. I wish the exemptions could be narrowed. I hope that through experience and as the years go by this fairly long list of exemptions could be reduced.

Article 15 deals with marine areas. I did not have the time to study it or the balance of the document in depth.

In conclusion, Nunavut will require a very good and highly motivated environmental policy. Since we know that energy plays such a major role in the quality of the environment I would take the liberty of urging that the Nunavut develop a very advanced energy policy for the use of its population.

The challenge is to reduce the dependence from very expensive fuel oil that is brought in every year by sea lift. From Iqaluit to Grise Fjord the cost of oil brought in every year is immense. There are alternative sources through wind power and even through solar power. They are still not competitive but they will soon be competitive. I think that Nunavut could become a model of ways to demonstrate to the rest of the world community how it can be done and how it is possible to shift gradually over the years from dependence on fossil fuels to renewable sources of energy. The technology is there. It is still not competitive, as I said, but it can be done. In the long term actually the cost can be amortized very well and the future therefore looks rather promising.

• (1320)

It seems to me from my limited knowledge of the Inuit people and of Nunavut that the ultimate goal of this agreement and this bill would be to preserve these lands ecologically in good quality and in good condition forever for all the generations still to be born. We do that from the recognition that basically the economic well-being of the Inuit people depends on a healthy and strong environment. So long as that pre-condition is established, then this bill will have probably fulfilled its implicit purpose.