NATIVE PEOPLES

HIGH RATIO RECEIVING PRISON SENTENCES

Mr. Jim Fulton (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, federal Conservative policies affecting Indian, Inuit and Métis citizens of Canada are proving to be ill-conceived and dangerous. Today we learn from the media that two-thirds of the prison population in Saskatchewan is native while natives represent only 14 per cent of the population. Saskatchewan Justice officials claim that this is due in part to racial bias in the justice system. That is no doubt true and something the Government should address.

Across Canada we find the startling statistics on incarceration are paralleled in the native community by the highest rates of infant mortality, suicide and unemployment, along with the other shocking signs of cultural genocide.

Two years ago, under the guidance of the then Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. Erik Nielsen, the federal Government produced and I released the secret document known as Buffalo Jump of the 1980s. This document plots out the means by which native families can be forced out of their communities by cutting off economic development, housing, medical care and education. It plots the way to undermine existing native political institutions locally, regionally and nationally by cutting funds and blocking the routes to dispute settlements, specific and comprehensive claims, and closing off test-case funding to the courts and for megaproject impact funds, all of which are now being implemented.

All Canadians should be ashamed at the treatment of our first citizens by this Government. The Government's plan is a self-fulfilling prophecy of assimilation and extermination of the first nations of Canada.

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

POLLUTION OF TORONTO BEACHES

Mr. John Oostrom (Willowdale): Mr. Speaker, all urban centres are facing major environmental problems due to storm water run-off. This summer as in past summers, the residents of Toronto were again denied the use of their beaches due to high pollution levels in Lake Ontario caused by urban run-off.

One solution has been to speed up sewer separation. This is a very expensive undertaking which, ironically, will serve as a more efficient conduit of pollutants to the lake.

It has been brought to my attention that there are many measures which, when implemented in conjunction with storm sewers, will effectively eliminate pollution. Such measures as improved surface sanitation, sewer flushing, and twice-yearly cleaning of catch basins will remove up to 50 per cent of heavy metals transported by storm water. Porous pavement whose

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structural integrity is not impaired has been found to reduce run-off by as much as 83 per cent.

The measures I have listed have been available for decades and are not costly. The fight to eliminate pollution must embrace all methods available, for the future of our existence is the price.

[Translation]

RESEARCH

MONTREAL'S ATTEMPTS TO ATTRACT PROPOSED SPACE AGENCY

Hon. Jean Lapierre (Shefford): Mr. Speaker, we have known for some months now that the spokespeople for the City of Montreal and the province of Quebec in general pursue a common cause in their attempt to have the Space Agency located in that province.

Mr. Gauthier: In Ottawa!

Mr. Lapierre: At least, my colleague, the Hon. Member for Ottawa—Vanier (Mr. Gauthier), knows what he wants!

The slogans read: "Montréal, c'est spatial". Today, however when we read the newspapers, we realize that the NDP silence is special.

With regard to a project of such significance for the economic future of Montreal, Mr. Speaker, they shirk their responsibilities. Even the NDP Leader (Mr. Broadbent) is reported to have decided to look into the matter before making a decision at some later date.

Mr. Speaker, the Chairman of the Quebec Tory caucus who is talking from his seat should have the courage to stand up for the City of Montreal and support the Province of Quebec in their efforts to obtain the Space Agency. The Chairman of the caucus, who is shouting from his seat, can only kowtow before the Government, Mr. Speaker.

Montreal must get the Space Agency. The Leader of the Liberal Party of Canada, Mr. Turner, supports the Montreal initiatives, while the NDP is hiding its collective head in the sand. As to the Tories they cannot make up their minds.

EMPLOYMENT

EFFICACY OF PROGRAMS

Mr. Marcel R. Tremblay (Quebec East): Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to indicate today my great satisfaction at the entrepreneurship and efficiency shown by those taking advantage of our job development programs. These projects