

through or if it is to be implemented in the immediate future?

**Hon. Barney Danson (Minister of State for Urban Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, as the hon. member knows we are in consultation with the provinces, with the builders and consumers and everyone involved in this independent warranty plan on a national basis. In so far as Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation is concerned, we could implement one and would be quite prepared to do it in a very short period of time with relation to our programs. What we would like to see is a national program applied to all home building across the country. The provinces are co-operating fully as is the industry, the consumers and suppliers. We are giving it a very high priority. Meetings are taking place on a regular basis at which the provinces are present. I have every expectation of meeting the goal of later this year which I indicated in the House the other day.

**Mr. Darling:** A supplementary question. In view of the fact that some of the provinces are now going ahead with their own home warranty program is this indicative of the minister's ability to achieve consensus and agreement on this pressing issue in Canada's housing policy?

**Mr. Danson:** No, Mr. Speaker. One province has instituted its own scheme with the private sector builders, that being Alberta. Others talk of it from time to time but they are still co-operating in achieving a consensus and I hope that will be achieved.

**Mr. Stanfield:** In this decade?

MEASURES TO ALLEVIATE SHORTAGE OF RENTAL ACCOMMODATION—SUGGESTED INCREASE IN ALLOCATION OF MONEY TO AHOP AND LIMITED DIVIDEND PROGRAMS

**Mr. John Gilbert (Broadview):** Mr. Speaker, my question is also for the Minister of State for Urban Affairs. In view of the growing shortage of rental accommodation, and the likelihood that the shortfall in building will push both rents and housing prices even higher than they are now, what immediate steps does the minister intend to take to alleviate this serious problem?

**Hon. Barney Danson (Minister of State for Urban Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, we have always said that we give a very high priority to rental accommodation. The most recent step has been the \$200 million for limited dividend rental accommodation and we continue to give it that priority.

**Mr. Gilbert:** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In view of the fact that the payment of subsidies to financial institutions under the private AHOP program and the payment of subsidies to builders under the private limited dividend housing program has failed to attract more money into housing and thus increase the supply of housing, will the minister direct more moneys into the public AHOP program and into the public limited dividend program?

**Mr. Danson:** Mr. Speaker, we do not pay anything to private lenders; it goes to the borrower under the private

*Oral Questions*

AHOP program. Under the limited dividend program it goes to the developer who enters into rental agreements with Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation to make certain that the benefit of those subsidies goes to the consumer, the renter, the Canadian taxpayer. Certainly, we continue to give those higher priority.

HIGH INTEREST RATES AND COST OF LAND—GOVERNMENT ACTION TO REDUCE

**Mr. John Gilbert (Broadview):** Mr. Speaker, I think the fact is that the direct subsidies to home purchasers go directly to the financial institutions. As the minister's rhetoric does not build houses and as the main obstacles in the housing crisis are high interest rates and the cost of land, what immediate steps does the minister intend to take, to solve these two serious problems?

● (1420)

**Hon. Barney Danson (Minister of State for Urban Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, I believe the hon. member for Broadview is referring to the serious problem concerning the shortage of mortgage funds. This is a difficulty with which we are dealing.

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INDIAN AFFAIRS

LOCAL GOVERNMENT GUIDELINES—MEETING WITH SASKATCHEWAN FEDERATION OF INDIANS—REQUEST FOR ASSURANCE OF SECOND QUARTER FUNDING

**Mr. Arnold Malone (Battle River):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. Under what pretence did he meet with 120 native people from the Saskatchewan Federation of Indians yesterday who came here to voice their specific concerns but who were forced to hear the minister delivering a 40-minute speech, until he was interrupted. Is that the kind of communication which took place in connection with the guidelines? Is that how consultation was carried on?

**Hon. Judd Buchanan (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development):** Mr. Speaker, I think the hon. member's arithmetic is wrong. The speech was considerably shorter. However, that is not germane. What is germane is that we held discussions and, finally, I think the message got through to the Federation of Saskatchewan Indians, as it had to the Alberta Indian Association, the Union of New Brunswick Indians and the Union of Nova Scotia Indians long ago, to this effect: that if they will only sit down and discuss these problems and say where they think specific difficulties with the guidelines lie, we would be prepared to change and amend them. I think the onus is on them. They have come forward with no specific proposals, no precise suggestions. They have indicated now that they want to meet with me and come forward with their precise suggestions, which is what the other groups have been doing for months.

**Mr. Malone:** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Will the minister assure bands across Canada in writing