

*Inquiries of the Ministry***NATIONAL CAPITAL COMMISSION**

## PROHIBITION OF SNOWMOBILES IN NATIONAL PARK

**Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

As the Chairman of the National Capital Commission has announced a ban on the use of snowmobiles on federal park grounds and in view of the announcement by the Quebec Minister without Portfolio in charge of inter-governmental relations that a decision has been made and that the federal government must abide by Quebec policy in regard to such parks, may I ask the minister whether the government has decided to accept the Quebec decision?

**Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development):** Mr. Speaker, the National Capital Commission does not come under my jurisdiction.

Concerning operations within national parks, snowmobile policy is well known.

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[English]

**HOUSING**

## PARTICIPATION BY CITIES IN FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCES

**Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West):** I would like to direct a question to the minister in charge of housing. In view of the fact that over the weekend a group has placed much stress on the problems of urban growth and the necessity for reaching early solutions, and in light of the fact that the minister has given a grant to the Vancouver inner city group to follow through with an attempt to find solutions, has the minister taken any immediate steps to see that initiative is taken by other large centres in Canada in this regard?

**Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister without Portfolio):** All such initiatives are being considered by us. Some can be encouraged and some cannot. I rather think the question is somewhat general but I will be glad to discuss it with the hon. member privately if I have missed the substance of the question.

**Mr. Alexander:** To get into the specific area, in view of the fact that the same group—

**An hon. Member:** What group?

**Mr. Alexander:**—indicated that there should be cities participating in federal-provincial conferences, is it the intention of the minister to approach his counterparts in the provinces in order to feel them out in this particular area?

**Mr. Andras:** Our views are already very clear on that. In fact there have been some informal discussions with various provincial ministers to continue to test their receptivity to tri-level discussions. That position has not changed.

**Mr. Baldwin:** You should send Hellyer out.

[Mr. Côté (Longueuil).]

**Mr. Donald MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond):** Would the minister take this opportunity to answer the question that was asked him from the back bench while he was on his feet as to whether or not they are Liberal groups?

[Translation]

## MONTREAL—DISCUSSION WITH PROVINCIAL AUTHORITIES TO ALLEVIATE SHORTAGE

**Mr. Georges Valade (Sainte-Marie):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the minister in charge of housing.

In view of the emergency situation that exists in the field of housing in Montreal as a result of the proposed demolition of 4,000 housing units for the building of the East-West freeway, would the minister tell the House whether he has entered into any discussions with the provincial authorities in order to correct this critical situation, and what decisions were made in this respect?

**Mr. Speaker:** It seems to me that this question was asked a few days ago. If I am wrong, perhaps the minister can answer it.

[English]

**Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister without Portfolio):** A few days ago I did make reference to some facts and figures on that. However, to repeat the answer in general let me say that we are consulting about this matter. We have poured great amounts of money into additional housing starts in the city of Montreal. We are aware of the situation which the hon. member describes and we will do everything we can to work with the provincial government to try to alleviate that distress.

**Mr. Valade:** My question was put to the minister to make sure that all the necessary means are taken to ensure that these displaced persons and families will find new houses when they are displaced or before.

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**THE CANADIAN ECONOMY**

## TAKEOVER OF RYERSON PRESS BY UNITED STATES COMPANY

**Mr. John Burton (Regina East):** I wish to direct my question to the right hon. Prime Minister. In view of the many representations to the government concerning the sale of Ryerson Press to McGraw-Hill, is the government engaged in any discussion on this matter or is it considering any measures to assist in retaining Canadian control over this operation?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. I am sure the hon. member will recognize that that question was asked in exactly these terms on a number of occasions. However, if I am wrong, perhaps the Prime Minister might wish to reply.

**Mr. Burton:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, there have been new representations on this matter within recent days, and I thought the Prime Minister might like to comment in view of these representations, particularly from the Liberal convention.