

The new Section 10(7) provides that the rules will be effective from the date the band gives notice to the Minister, no matter when the rules themselves are approved. Quite frankly, I fail to see the need for this motion because it would make the Bill more complicated, without improving it. Therefore, I also ask that Members of the House not support Motion No. 16.

As I indicated earlier, I believe the effect of Motion No. 17 would be to have a uniform provision. In our view, that is not consistent with either the practice or good policy for Indian communities.

Motion No. 18 would establish a transitional list for some bands, the so-called high impact bands. This could mean that some women under Section 12(1)(b) who married non-Indians would not get their band membership. There are no guarantees that such people would ever come off the transitional list. That is the difficulty with Motion No. 18. It would contradict the principle of restoration for victims of sexual discrimination. That is why, in our view, it is important that Motion No. 18 not be supported by the House.

With respect to Motion No. 20, I suggest, with great respect to my hon. friend, that this motion is inappropriate and unfair. Bill C-31 quite clearly seeks to restore rights to certain individuals, as outlined in Subsection 11(1)(c). One of those rights is to regain band membership. Rights of individuals should not have artificial time limits imposed, as would be the effect of this motion.

While many take it for granted that all native people are aware of Bill C-31 and its implications, the fact remains that many are not aware of the proposed legislation. As indicated in the standing committee, the Government will have to engage in the appropriate communication and community consultation program. Furthermore, it is very possible that some individuals who would be eligible to be band members are living outside Canada and would not be aware of any changes to the Indian Act for many years to come. Others may be minors now and not in a position to make an application.

In practice, we can be sure that the vast majority of those who will want to regain their rights will make the necessary application within the next two to five years. There is no compelling reason not to allow those few who remain to apply at some later date. The attitude of some bands, as indicated at the hearings of the Standing Committee on Indian Affairs and Northern Development, may cause some reluctance on the part of individuals to apply actually for their status membership for a number of years. Therefore, in the Government's opinion, it is unacceptable to have any time restrictions imposed on restoration of rights.

I see that it is now one o'clock. I would ask that we proceed in the usual manner.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** It being one o'clock, I do now leave the chair until two o'clock this day.

At 1 p.m. the House took recess.

*S.O. 21*

## AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 2 p.m.

## STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S.O. 21

[English]

### FITNESS AND AMATEUR SPORT

#### MORATORIUM ON FUNDING OF MULTI-SPORTS EVENTS

**Mr. Sergio Marchi (York West):** Mr. Speaker, I am once again dismayed, although not surprised, to learn of another broken election promise by the Conservative administration. This time it concerns the moratorium until April 1, 1990, on funds for major multi-sport events in Canada. Specifically affected by this decision are the bids by London and Thunder Bay, Ontario, for the Pan Am Games and the Nordic Games respectively, to be held in 1991. It is clear that this announcement will have far-reaching negative effects.

During the election campaign the Tories issued a sports manifesto highlighting their commitments. High on the list of priorities was, and I quote:

We are committed to maintaining the highest level of federal support for amateur sports in Canada. We believe that the federal role can be improved, and we believe that in the years leading up to 1988 this role must be improved.

The recent decision by the Sports Minister makes a mockery of these promises and delivers a strong insult to the Canadian sports world. Canadian sponsorship of these international sporting events is most important for our young athletes as a source of motivation, inspiration and drive. There also exists an economic potential for job creation and tourism dollars. Finally, these international games encourage national pride, not just among our athletes but among all Canadians. I urge the Government and the Minister to re-think this proposal, to be good sports, and honour their commitment.

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### HISTORIC EVENTS

#### ANNIVERSARY OF 1935 UNEMPLOYMENT TREK

**Ms. Margaret Mitchell (Vancouver East):** Mr. Speaker, fifty years ago on June 3, 1935, a thousand unemployed set out from Vancouver riding boxcars on an historic trek to meet the Conservative Prime Minister to demand work and wages, and an end to slave labour camps.

The Prime Minister stopped the trek in Regina for a peaceful rally, which turned into a bloody riot, which became known as Regina's Day of Infamy.

Conditions are similar today. Unemployment remains high, youth have few opportunities, food banks have replaced soup kitchens, and the poor are facing social program cuts, while pensioners find their income reduced. As the trekkers say, "Fifty years later, we see the same government arrogance and