

[Translation]

Hon. Pierre Bussières (Minister of National Revenue): Much as I have just said, Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of the facts. This is a specific case which I will draw to the attention of the Minister who will look into it and provide an answer to the Hon. Member.

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[English]

NORTHERN AFFAIRS

YUKON QUARRY PROJECT

Mr. John McDermid (Brampton-Georgetown): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs. Has the Peter Kiewit and Sons quarry proposal for Yukon in fact now been cancelled, or is there some hope that the project will go ahead?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, as the Hon. Member is aware, I turned down the application for the reason stated at the time. Whether there are still intentions on the part of Kiewit to keep up their efforts to try to get approval for the project is something that one can only determine by examining the mentality of the people that own Kiewit.

REASONS FOR REJECTION OF PROJECT

Mr. John McDermid (Brampton-Georgetown): Mr. Speaker, the Government of Yukon is in favour of it. I believe the Council of Yukon Indians forwarded a telegram to the Minister supporting it, and asking that it proceed. The citizens of the Yukon are in favour of going ahead with this project. Can the Minister now give us a real good reason why this project should not go ahead, so that some much needed employment could be realized in Yukon, which has suffered over the last few years?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, I do not know how the Hon. Member constitutes himself as an authority on public opinion in Yukon. As the official critic of the Department of Indian Affairs he should be concerned about the concerns of 40 per cent of the population in the Yukon, which is of native origin, to say nothing about—

Mr. Nielsen: Rubbish.

Mr. Munro (Hamilton East):—many non natives who are concerned about environmental matters. CARC, which has been in touch with the Hon. Member with regard to its policies, and CYI and COPE, to name just a few, are all citizens. I am sure the Hon. Member would agree that they are citizens and voters too. They have quite clearly indicated to me in submissions that they are opposed to Kiewit proposal.

Petitions

● (1500)

POSITION OF INDIAN REPRESENTATIVES

Hon. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): Mr. Speaker, my question is supplementary to that asked by our critic for Indian Affairs and Northern Development. I can assure the Minister that the sentiments expressed on behalf of Yukoners by him are 100 per cent accurate. Since the Minister has received a telex from Willie Joe, a member of the Executive of the Council of Yukon Indians, specifically requesting on behalf of that native organization, which represents 20 per cent of the population in the Yukon, not 40 per cent, that the project be proceeded with, and that the Minister lift his freeze on it, will he do so since Kiewit is prepared to go ahead?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, I think the Hon. Member should be ashamed for perpetrating what is obviously quite a distortion. Perhaps he has had an unfortunate influence on his colleague, the critic. Willie Joe does not speak for the CYI. The Hon. Member is well aware of who is the president of the CYI and executive committee. If he wished the CYI to come out in favour of the Kiewit proposal, he would have sent the telex because he is the only one authorized to speak on behalf of the executive committee for the CYI.

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CANADA LABOUR CODE

AMENDMENT OF HEALTH AND SAFETY PROVISIONS

Mr. Rod Murphy (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Labour. Could the Minister of Labour tell the House when the changes to Part IV of the Canada Labour Code dealing with occupational health and safety will be tabled in the House? Could he also tell the House whether or not in those proposed changes the Government will bring the workers who come under Atomic Energy control and the Department of Transport under the protection of the provisions of the Canada Labour Code?

[Translation]

Hon. André Ouellet (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I hope to be in a position in a few weeks to table in this House the amendments to Part IV of the Labour code. The Hon. Member should be patient and I think that he will be pleased with those amendments when they are tabled.

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[English]

PETITIONS

TABLING OF REPORTS OF CLERK OF PETITIONS

Mr. Speaker: I have the honour to inform the House that the petitions presented by Hon. Members on Tuesday, January 17, 1984, meet the requirements of the Standing Orders as to form.