

Canadian Multiculturalism Act

We have the Jewish people and the Arabs. They may be fighting each other today, but not in the Drumheller Valley. They are Canadians. They brought their customs and their language, but they are now Canadians. We have the Koreans, the Vietnamese, and many people from that part of the world who are part of our population.

We talk about the English and the French, and they are the founding nations, but these others have played a tremendous part in building this country too. The Scottish, the Irish, and the Welsh object to being referred to as English people. They have their own customs and their own language.

We have people from Yugoslavia, India, Egypt, South and Central America, and Africa. People from all the continents have come to Canada, and I like to think of Canada as a multicultural country, not only as a two-nation country but as a great multicultural nation called Canada. I like to think of Canada as being a tremendous mosaic.

An honour I will never forget is when I was asked to represent Canada at the opening of the Pan-American Highway about 1965. The people in Mexico put on a tremendous outdoor show for the delegation made up of one American, two Canadians and people from Central America and South America under the auspices of the U.S. organization. At the show I saw dances of Scotland, Ireland, and the Ukraine. I saw aspects of almost every country which is now represented in Mexico. What a tremendous job an artistic director would have in Canada today to put on an outdoor show to exhibit the customs of all the nations which have become part of Canada. Someday I hope there will be a tremendous mosaic which will show what all these people have contributed toward building this great nation.

After all is said and done I like to think of the people of Canada, not as the English, the French, Egyptians, Hungarians, Germans, Italians, or Dutch, but as Canadians, because Canada is their country of adoption. They have made Canada their country and this has made Canada a greater and a better country.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): Is the House ready for the question on the first grouping?

Some Hon. Members: Question.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): I would remind the House that an affirmative vote on Motion No. 4 obviates a need for a vote to be taken on Motion Nos. 5 and 6. However, a negative vote on Motion No. 4 necessitates the taking of a vote on Motion No. 5. An affirmative vote on Motion No. 5 obviates the need for a vote on Motion No. 6. However, a negative vote on Motion No. 5 necessitates a vote to be taken on Motion No. 6. That is just so we all know where we are.

Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt Motion No. 4?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Some Hon. Members: No.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): All those in favour of the motion will please say yea.

Some Hon. Members: Yea.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): All those opposed will please say nay.

Some Hon. Members: Nay.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): In my opinion the nays have it.

Motion No. 4 negated.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt Motion No. 5?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Some Hon. Members: No.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): All those in favour of the motion will please say yea.

Some Hon. Members: Yea.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): All those opposed will please say nay.

Some Hon. Members: Nay.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): In my opinion the nays have it.

Motion No. 5 negated.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt Motion No. 6?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion No. 6 agreed to.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt Motion No. 7?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Some Hon. Members: No.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): All those in favour of the motion will please say yea.

Some Hon. Members: Yea.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): All those opposed will please say nay.

Some Hon. Members: Nay.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): In my opinion the nays have it.

And more than five Members having risen: