

	<i>Government Orders</i>									
Quebec	26,687	2,061,845	28,316	1,425,769	37,843	1,522,862	45,792	1,488,218	47,120	1,305,560
Ontario	58,195	4,122,058	70,806	4,772,670	91,090	3,814,450	112,668	3,519,410	117,081	3,339,883
Manitoba	5,030	249,468	5,671	401,956	7,701	415,074	9,826	353,350	9,745	259,995
Saskatchewan	2,352	85,424	2,391	78,983	3,822	89,888	4,735	84,944	4,412	68,522
Alberta	10,832	704,116	11,050	358,878	14,363	348,555	17,148	705,895	18,128	335,919
British Columbia	10,985	345,030	12,342	606,699	17,215	388,778	22,450	364,893	22,054	395,696
Yukon & Northwest Territories	785	244,673	835	35,785	1,296	81,637	1,430	28,177	1,522	25,065
Across Canada	137	21,641	98	11,433	119	86,407	353	80,898	225	67,172
Total Canada	139,643	8,528,337	159,031	8,570,021	208,984	7,577,234	260,926	7,377,372	264,709	6,601,435

*Provincial distribution of GSC contracting presented here is based on vendor supply point (VSP), which reflects the last point from which the product was shipped, services performed or goods produced.

[English]

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Maheu): Shall the remaining questions stand?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

• (1605)

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Maheu): I have the honour to inform the House that a message has been received from the Senate informing this House that the Senate has passed Bill S-3, an act to authorize General Security Insurance Company of Canada to be continued as a corporation under the laws of the province of Quebec, to which the concurrence of this House is desired.

Pursuant to Standing Order 135(2), the bill is deemed to have been read the first time and ordered for second reading at the next sitting of the House.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

YUKON FIRST NATIONS SELF-GOVERNMENT ACT

Hon. Ron Irwin (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development) moved that Bill C-34, an act respecting self-government for First Nations in the Yukon Territory, be read the second time and referred to a committee.

He said: Madam Speaker, I rise to speak in support of Bill C-34, the Yukon First Nations self-government act, and to urge the speedy passage of this important and historic piece of legislation.

This act, together with the Yukon land claim settlement act which is also before the House, will usher in a whole new era of stability and opportunity for the Yukon Territory. It will provide Yukon First Nations with the power to govern their own affairs to a degree not heretofore possible. It will strengthen relations between aboriginal and non-aboriginal Yukoners and it will create an atmosphere of certainty which will encourage investment, development and jobs in the territory.

For these reasons this legislation has the strong support of not only the Yukon First Nations but of all sectors of Yukon society. The council of Yukon Indians was one of the very first aboriginal groups to request claims negotiations following the decision of the then Liberal government to settle land claims in areas where no previous treaties or agreements were in force. That was more than 20 years ago and the road to claims settlement and self-government has been a long and sometimes arduous one.

In 1986 the decision was taken to incorporate self-government into the negotiating process. Yukon is the first to come forward in Canada with both claims and self-government agreements. This has made the negotiations more complex, but in the long run I believe it will prove beneficial to settle both the land claim and self-government issues as a package so that we can begin to move ahead quickly on all points.

With this legislation we are on the verge of bringing to reality the hopes and dreams that had been nurtured by Yukon First Nations for more than two decades. In scope and complexity this is the most ambitious self-government arrangement negotiated to date. The legislation is unique in a number of respects. It is the only self-government legislation to apply to First Nations representing seven different aboriginal language groups in 14 communities. It is the only one that covers all the First Nations within a single province or territory.