

Supply

family needs that deal not only with the substance abuse question but wellness and all that that means.

• (1930)

This is the vision that will incorporate the social fabric of the community where extended families have always been so important. It will take into account the cultural realities of the Innu, the Naskapi, the people of Davis Inlet and will address what the economic opportunities are for those people.

What are the things that in the future the children of Davis Inlet will do? It is that vision that must guide what this new community will be, how it will function and how the people of the community will relate to each other, to the community and to the people around them.

It is no good for the Government of Canada or the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to go in and say, "We will move the community and this is what it will look like". It will not work. It is inappropriate and it will be ineffective.

We all want to ensure that we do not simply transfer the problems of Davis Inlet to a new community. No one feels that stronger about that than Chief Katie Rich and her councillors, the people of Davis Inlet, the Innu nation as a whole and certainly the governments.

What do we do? How do we avoid that?

First, we have agreed to try to reach an agreement on a memorandum of understanding. That will lay out an agreement on what it is we want to accomplish here.

Second, there is the process by which we will get there. Obviously there is community consultation and planning such as what went on last year around the report entitled *Gathering Voices*. That has to be an important part of that as does the funding.

The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, I think I can say without fear of contradiction, recognizes that it too has a role in this process and has a role financially.

The Government of Canada has made it very clear that it will support the process that will ensure the participation of the people of Davis Inlet and the Innu nation. More than the participation, it will ensure that the vision that I spoke of a few moments ago will be incorporated in every aspect of that community: education, culture, social relations, economics. That essence of

the community will be evident as they deal with the conditions that have led to the abuse and the tragedy we have seen around the children today.

There is more than that in the short term. We certainly have some situations that must be addressed immediately if those people are to live with minimal comfort over the next two or three years in the community that they presently occupy.

I have written to the chief and I have committed to her that we will provide the funding necessary to catalogue those needs and to look at some early solutions perhaps to some housing problems and perhaps to the provision of water. This is not to make big expenditures that will not be of any value to us after two years, but to ensure that the quality of life for the people that remain in Davis Inlet over the next little while is made a little bit better.

The question of health is particularly important to the community and for all of us that share the concern. There has been a suggestion that a wellness centre or a family well-being centre could be constructed. I think this is a good idea and I have given them the commitment of the government that we will with them do an assessment of what the health needs are in the community.

The nurses are in place now, the doctor that moves from place to place, the role of the social workers and the employees of the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador all have to be incorporated into providing the type of health care that ensures healthy babies, safe pregnancies and that the sick get the help they need and the aged get the comfort they need.

Help that focuses on preventive medicine and traditional medicine and medicine that reflects the needs of those people who have lived so long on the land in Labrador should be taken into account.

• (1935)

We are dealing together with the tragedy of the young children who are chronic abusers. They are now spending time in Alberta in an attempt to give them the support that is so essential and what they need.

The minister of Indian affairs and others have talked about ultimately changing governance in a fundamental way and the way aboriginal communities control themselves and have the decision-making power that they need so much. Self-government is a concept that has