

Vancouver International Airport

before the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs on November 25, 1969, said concerning the section under which this expropriation is taking place and with regard to the hearing officer:

The type of person I have in mind is somebody from the community, a lawyer or someone who has had experience in arbitration matters, somebody having some experience in real estate, somebody who would give the parties a fair hearing. You will notice, Mr. Chairman, that the procedure is pretty loose. We do not anticipate that this hearing would be conducted in accordance with the rules of evidence, that type of precise hearing, we hope that the rules of natural justice would be followed.

Yet on the twenty-first of this month the Federal Court ruled that the hearing officer is not subject to the rules of natural justice. When I asked in the House whether the present Minister of Justice would consider holding off this decision until these objectors could be heard in accordance with the rules of natural justice, the government responded by doing nothing.

I regret the statement that has been made today. I think it is a classic example of the lack of proper decision-making in connection with environmental matters and the lack of response by government to an entire community that is very upset about what is going on in Vancouver.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. David Lewis (York South): Mr. Speaker, I join with the hon. member for Vancouver South (Mr. Fraser) in expressing serious criticism of what has gone on in this situation. I had occasion to meet the people of Sea Island on a number of visits during the last couple of years and it seems to me that the way this matter has been handled over the last two years has done a savage injustice to the people of that island.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lewis: I do not have the file with me this morning, but at one point a couple of years ago a representative of the Department of Justice, Mr. Troop, and the solicitor for the home owners on Sea Island had drafted and agreed upon a voluntary arbitration agreement. The home owners have ever since asked the department to approve that agreement since it has been approved by their representative after negotiations with the representative of the department. The department has not approved that voluntary agreement, and ever since the home owners have not known where they were going or what was going to happen.

There is still a portion of the area which has not been expropriated and which apparently is not to be expropriated. A commercial development involving hotels and motels is taking place. The people of the area have not been given an opportunity to take part in it. They have no idea what will happen to their properties and how badly their value may be depreciated by the developments that are taking place. The hearing held by the officer was the kind of hearing at which people talk but no one listens. I say to the Minister of Transport and to the Minister of Public Works that this kind of insensitivity—I suppose they really had nothing to do with it; the blasted mandarins in the department keep going at these things—this kind of treatment of people who have had a lifetime of association with the area is treatment no one can possibly

[Mr. Fraser.]

condone. They want to know where they are going and what may happen tomorrow.

I suggest to the Minister of Public Works that before he carries out any of the things outlined here, including the phony inquiry which is to take place after everything has been settled, he should make sure that the voluntary arbitration agreement to which I have referred is accepted by his department and by the Department of Transport so that the home owners may have an opportunity to present their case in full to a body that will listen to them and make some judgment based on the facts.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

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SPORTS

WINNING OF WORLD FIGURE SKATING CHAMPIONSHIP
BY KAREN MAGNUSSEN—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS
CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. David MacDonald (Egmont): Mr. Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43 to seek the unanimous consent of the House to move a motion which I hope all hon. members, including, in particular, the Minister of the Environment, will find acceptable. It is brief and non-controversial. I move, seconded by the hon. member for Vancouver South (Mr. Fraser):

• (1130)

That this House convey, through you, Sir, our heartiest congratulations to Karen Magnussen of North Vancouver, who not only won the world figure skating championship last night but the hearts of all Canadians from coast to coast.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: The House has heard the motion proposed by the hon. member for Egmont. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: I gather there is unanimity. Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

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[Translation]

FINANCE

ADMINISTRATION OF MONEY ADVANCED TO QUEBEC
FOR STUDENT LOANS—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS
CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Roland Godin (Portneuf): Mr. Speaker, under the terms of Standing Order 43, I request the unanimous consent of the House to propose a motion on an urgent matter concerning credits granted by the government of Canada to the government of Quebec for student loans and bursaries.