

—decline requests for support for third party native financial or economic institutions—

● (1410)

If we are talking of self-government, how can this same Government at the same time be talking about declining any support whatsoever for native financial and economic institutions? All native loans would be transferred to the Federal Business Development Bank.

Under major resource development, in my area, Mr. Speaker, the Council of the Haida nations has made use of resource development impact funding to evaluate the effects of offshore oil drilling. The Nishga people have made use of these funds to study the impact of Amax on their traditional fisheries. The Gitksan-Wet'suwet'en have made use of that money to study the impact of Alcan's Keman project. Here is what the Government is proposing as a priority change. The Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development consolidates the resource development impact program with the northern participation and public review program. The resource development impact study program will go out of the window.

Under "Native Claims", Section 39 says:

—defer the negotiation of comprehensive claims until the Government's position on native self-government and control is determined.

Under Section 42, which is headed "Priority Changes", it reads:

—development funds, now expended on Indian political associations, directly to bands.

Under "Housing" we see one of the ways this approach would be used to force the assimilation of Indian and Inuit people, particularly from rural areas and urban areas, because it is recommended:

—programs apply equally on and off reserves in order to eliminate any incentive through housing assistance to remain in areas of high unemployment.

It is a pretty Draconian housing policy to be proposing to fund housing projects that are in areas of low unemployment only. I suppose all the native people in Quebec are supposed to live in Montreal and all the native people in British Columbia are supposed to live in Vancouver.

Under Indian and Inuit health services there are very Draconian proposals. Let me quote:

- (1) reduce the costs of providing non-insured health benefits through deterrence—
- (3) close certain Indian hospitals—
- (6) and terminate consultation funding to native political associations.

Under Indian and Inuit education, priority change, we find:

- (1) terminate federal operation of schools on reserves—
- (2) terminate the operation of Indian student residences on reserves.
 - 51.—eliminate the guidance and counselling program—
 - 53.—review federal policy on financing of school construction with a view to providing some type of debenture repayments—

There is an interesting proposal! The federal Government would have Indian and Inuit people borrow money through debentures to construct schools.

Supply

Let me add a couple more, Mr. Speaker. We find under the communications strategy and I quote from Section 4:

News coverage has routinely been sympathetic and supportive of native concerns and aspirations. Conversely, the limited polling that has occurred suggests that while sympathetic to the economic hardship of native people and their struggle for cultural identity, most Canadians are not entirely persuaded by arguments for special rights. This reticence can be expected to increase as knowledge of the costs associated with new definitions of rights is brought into focus. News coverage of recent developments to eliminate sexual discrimination from the Indian Act and establish a membership basis for Indian self-government has featured these cost considerations.

It goes on:

—the message has been persistently critical; and it has not been countered publicly with a strong defence of either the role, the interpretation of jurisdiction or the administration of native affairs on the whole or of Indian Affairs in particular.

As I was saying earlier, that is part of the job of this Parliament. It is to get the right message out, not the message in this document but the message that is ethically, morally, and legally correct, rather than continuing to "fuzzify" around. Section 7 reads:

Native people are capable of mobilizing effective and highly-visible demonstrations of objection to change with which they disagree. Such demonstrations could not only impede the Government's action plan for native program changes, but could reflect adversely on the over-all Task Force process.

It goes under the heading "Strategy" to read:

It is especially important that early announcements relate to sectors where there is the strongest public support for change. Analysis in the framework communications strategy suggests that the business community's vigorous expectations for deficit reduction present a starting point—

I find that a particularly startling revelation, When we are talking about Indian and Inuit affairs the bottom line, the starting point, is the business community's vigorous expectations for deficit reduction.

Finally in the communications strategy it goes on:

At Budget time: except for an acknowledgement that the native program review has been completed, no detailed reference would be made to resulting action at the time of release of the pre-Budget "management package".

We do know from this quotation that those who prepared this document to go to Ministers considered that, at the time of the preparation of this document, native program review was complete. They put it in this document.

In the same section it reads:

While the Minister of Finance may make reference to native programs in the Budget speech or other documentation, Ministers whose portfolios are directly affected by the changes would be provided with briefings.

Consistent with the over-all strategy, the Deputy Prime Minister would take the lead in explaining the Status of the Task Force on Budget night and may do so during the subsequent debate. Ministers with a direct interest in native program changes should be prepared to participate in the Budget debate; they will require briefing to field questions from the media and others in the days that follow the Budget, whether or not it contains a direct reference.

I rest my case, Mr. Speaker, in terms of the document. I wish to say how pleased I am that the Hon. Member for Cochrane-Superior brought forward this motion to deal with "The Buffalo Jump of the 1980s", what happened at the April 1 Ministers' Conference and what is being done to the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs, who I think all Members