

Supply

Charlotte Islands as a National Park Reserve. Does the motion mean the entire island of South Moresby plus the 140 smaller islands around it? Could the Hon. Member circumscribe accurately what he means by the "South Moresby area"?

Mr. Fulton: The area which has been actively negotiated in a trilateral sense—including the Council of the Haida Nation, although it has not been involved as much as it would have liked—between the Government of Canada and the Government of British Columbia, which as I understand it, is nearly complete. It would basically be an east-west line across the Tangil Peninsula just to the immediate west of Lyell Island. The line would then go up to just north of the Islands of Tanu, Kunghit and Richardson so it would include Lyell Island. Then the marine boundary would go up to just north of Skedans. So it would come across the Tangil Peninsula in an east-west line. It would go off the West Coast of the Queen Charlotte Islands to where the San Andreas Fault would be included which I understand is slightly more than 15 miles. I do not have the map with me.

• (1150)

It would then go south, down around the bottom of Cape St. James, including the Stellar sea-lion rookeries, and around the bottom of Kunghit Island, then running, in a surf-line fashion, some 12 nautical miles along the coast to the outside of Lyell Island, and then turning back and touching at Skedans. That is the outline of the area that has now been agreed upon by those who have been involved in the discussions over the last 15 years.

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member for Surrey—White Rock—North Delta (Mr. Friesen), on a supplementary.

Mr. Friesen: One further point of clarification. The motion speaks of the South Moresby area. As such, it implies that it would comprise everything south of Graham Island.

Mr. Fulton: No.

Mr. Friesen: The Hon. Member is now saying that that is not what is meant.

Mr. Fulton: The motion does not in any way intend to include South Moresby as it would appear on a map. What is intended to be included are those areas that have been the subject of active discussion between both levels of Government and the Council of the Haida Nation. The area is known generally by journalists and others as the "South Moresby area", but should not be taken to include the much larger South Moresby area itself.

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member for Mission—Port Moody (Mr. St. Germain).

Mr. St. Germain: Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member's motion is ambiguous and misleading, in the sense that more information is required. I am wondering whether he has taken into

consideration the recommendations of the Wilderness Advisory Council to any degree at all in respect of this proposal.

Mr. Fulton: I have, yes. One of the difficulties encountered from a parks perspective and from the perspective of the Council of the Haida Nation is that the area proposed by that Council would have included only a very narrow border along the west side of Lyell Island, taking in Sedgewick Bay but excluding Windy Bay and some other areas. That simply would not provide what is required to actually have a national park reserve. It does not fall fully enough within the scope of what is required for a national park reserve, or a national park.

In looking at this proposal, we have to deal with what the Council of the Haida Nation has been saying, that there will be no further logging on Lyell Island. We have to appreciate the number of Canadians who have come to support and understand that view.

Very little is left of Lyell Island. If one looks at a recent satellite aerial photograph, one will see that there is very little of Lyell Island left. It is an area that has been more than 20 per cent overcut in recent years. The remaining forested areas are comprised of a fringe on the west side of the island, the area around Windy Bay and the watershed in that area, and a limited area to the east and to the west of Sedgewick Bay.

In formulating the motion, I could have written pages and pages, setting out in precise terms the area involved, even to the extent of setting out the latitudinal and longitudinal reference points. Had I done so, I am sure Hon. Members may have had difficulty in understanding exactly what was involved, with the result that there may have been calls for further studies. I have tried to be as general and generic as possible in respect of the three main components of the motion, the goal being to achieve unanimity in terms of support for the motion.

I know my hon. friend opposite now supports the setting aside of this area as a national park reserve, and for that I thank him. Moving this proposal along has been a long and difficult struggle for me. It is a proposal on which Members from other constituencies have always had a great deal to say.

As is the case whenever an Hon. Member is involved in a national issue, I myself will travel to that Member's constituency to speak on the subject; and in so doing, I try to be fair in my comments. In the case of this particular proposal, I think we are finally seeing the fairness aspect coming to the fore.

The motion deals with all three interests involved; the area itself, being the South Moresby area, the question of compensation for the loggers and companies, and finally the historical ties of the Haida people to this area.

The South Moresby area was the locus of the civilization of the Haida people—and not merely for centuries, but for thousands of years. The Haida people had evolved to one of the most profound civilizations on earth. It should not be forgotten that between 1874 and 1951, the Parliament of the Haida