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Four-year federal commitment for a million inexpensive homes

Urban Affairs Minister Barney Danson announced on November 3 a new federal program designed to produce a million new housing units over the next four years, with a target of 235,000 starts in 1976.

"Our commitment is to stimulate production of the kind of good quality housing that lower- and middle-income Canadians need and can afford," the Minister said, "and to stimulate employment throughout the economy."

To achieve this, the Federal Government will:

(1) Require private lending institutions to direct in 1976 an additional \$750 million into the financing of new, lower and moderately-priced housing.

(2) Require private lending institutions to restrict their low down payment (high ratio) lending to new lower and moderately-priced housing.

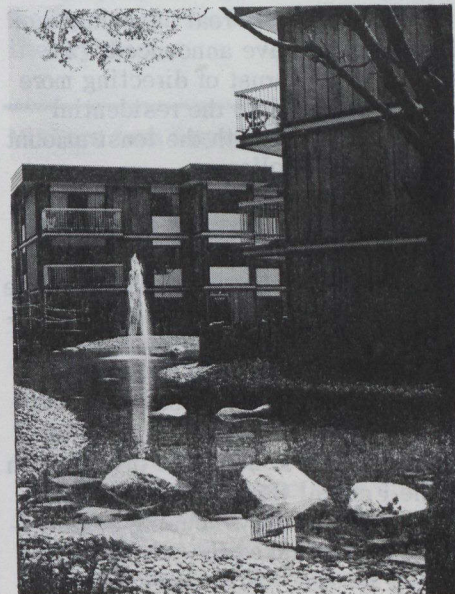
(3) Make the Assisted Home Ownership Program (AHOP) available to any Canadian who wants to buy moderately-priced housing. The program will also be extended to include households of two or more people.

For people with children who need help to keep their monthly payments under 25 per cent of their income, the maximum interest-reducing grants are increased from \$600 a year to \$750.

For others, assistance will be in the form of a loan which will be interest-free for the first five years and repayable with interest after that time, or when the house is sold or refinanced. The loan will be sufficient to cover the difference between market interest rates and interest at 8 per cent.

(4) Stimulate increased production of moderately-priced rental accommodation. The Assisted Rental Program makes interest-reducing grants available to builders who will create rental housing at rates agreed to by Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation. Maximum annual grants to them will be increased from \$900 to \$1,200 per unit to compensate for recent interest-rate increases and to encourage supply. These grants would also be recoverable.

(5) Extend to the end of 1977, capital-cost allowances of rental accommoda-



The new program is intended to increase construction of more inexpensive rental accommodation possibly like these "town and country" apartments in Langley, British Columbia.

tion. This measure encourages investment in rental construction by allowing capital costs to be deducted from other income for tax purposes.

(6) Establish the Federal Mortgage Exchange Corporation on an operational basis by next spring.

(7) Make housing development more attractive to municipalities. A \$1,000-grant for each unit will be given to municipalities which approve medium-density housing within AHOP and Assisted-Rental price limits.

Also, loans will be made available to municipalities for water-treatment facilities and mains, where they are needed to open up land for housing.

Immediate aims

The federal program is intended to deal with three immediate housing objectives: to increase production of more moderately-priced housing units for both sale and rental purposes; to enable Canadians to afford the housing that is produced; and to prevent people who are already well-housed from taking advantage of the situation to

improve their accommodation and economic position beyond any reasonable need.

The Minister said that the program was designed to fill the real needs of Canadians who were not suitably housed at the moment, by providing them with access to housing they could afford.

"One of the very real advantages of the program I have announced," he said, "is the thrust of directing more private capital into the residential mortgage market with the least amount of taxpayers' dollars."

"As well," Mr. Danson added, "housing is an important factor in the federal attack on inflation. Our new initiatives will dampen inflation in the housing sector and will stimulate economic growth and employment."

Earlier in the day at a conference of federal and provincial housing ministers, Mr. Danson asked the provinces to impose rent controls on the strength of the Federal Government's commitment to support new housing construction. He also asked the provinces to require lending institutions under provincial jurisdiction to increase their mortgage lending consistent with the federal guidelines.

Legislation on the housing package will be introduced in the House of Commons in the near future.

Visiting scholars 1975-76

For the second consecutive year, the Canadian Bureau for International Education has published a list of the professors, research associates and post-doctoral fellows from abroad who will be visiting Canadian universities, colleges, community colleges and government ministries during the current academic year.

Thirty-six educational institutions and seven sponsoring agencies contributed information. This year a total of 660 scholars are listed: 568 in the English section only, 70 in the French section only, and 22 in both sections.

Scholars from 52 countries are included: United States, France, West Germany, Belgium, Finland, Norway, Denmark, Sweden, Italy, Spain, Britain, Northern Ireland, Greece, Switzerland, Austria, Turkey, Poland, Iran, Hungary, the Netherlands, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Israel, Egypt, Lebanon,

Cyprus, the U.S.S.R., Japan, India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Taiwan, Philippines, South Korea, Hong Kong, Australia, New Zealand, Cameroon, Zambia, South Africa, Nigeria, Malawi, Argentina, Brazil, Peru, Chile, Colombia, Venezuela, Jamaica, Trinidad, St. Vincent and Mexico.

Caouette steps down as party leader

The leader of the federal Social Credit party, Real Caouette, announced this month his intention of resigning the leadership for reasons of health. He will remain a Member of Parliament for the Quebec riding of Temiscamingue.

The party's national council, meeting at its biennial convention in Ottawa on November 2, decided to hold a leadership convention next autumn.

Average income estimates

Average family income in Canada (total income before taxes or other deductions) rose from \$12,716 in 1973 to \$14,485 in 1974, an increase of 14 per cent. If this is adjusted for changes in the consumer price index, the gain is reduced to 3 per cent. The Prairie provinces (Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba) showed the largest increase in average family income, up from \$11,760 to \$14,401.

The average income of single people moved up 18 per cent, advancing from \$5,149 in 1973 to \$6,049 in 1974. As with families, the largest income increase occurred in the Prairie provinces.

On an individual basis, average income rose 14 per cent from \$6,416 in 1973 to \$7,304 in 1974. Men received an average income of \$9,563 in 1974. The corresponding figure for women was \$4,222. These figures exclude persons without income and children under 14 years of age.

Preliminary estimates were prepared from data collected by a sample survey of 15,000 households taken in the spring of 1975. These estimates — which exclude households in the Yukon and Northwest Territories, on Indian reserves as well as persons in institutions — are subject to revision and the usual errors present in sample surveys.

Federal-provincial conference on human rights

Secretary of State J. Hugh Faulkner announced recently a federal-provincial conference on human rights would be held in Ottawa December 11 and 12.

The conference, which will be the first federal-provincial meeting of ministers to deal exclusively with human rights, follows two recent inter-provincial meetings on this subject during which provinces expressed interest in holding talks with the Federal Government.

Discussions are under way concerning items that could be covered at the December meeting. While the agenda is tentative, the Secretary of State suggested that it may include the accession to and domestic implementation of certain international instruments on human rights, such as the International Covenant on Economical, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and its Optional Protocol, the recently tabled Bill C-72, entitled the Canadian Human Rights Act and, possibly, the development of co-operative efforts with provinces to promote activities such as the United Nations Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination.

Four federal departments, Secretary of State, Justice, External Affairs and Labour are involved in the forthcoming conference.

Average Incomes	1972 (\$)	1973 (\$)	1974 (\$)
All families and single persons			
Canada	9,525	10,694	12,169
Atlantic provinces	7,778	8,723	10,037
Quebec	9,141	10,137	11,314
Ontario	10,572	11,719	13,251
Prairie provinces	8,795	9,736	11,936
British Columbia	9,284	11,442	12,511
Families			
Canada	11,300	12,716	14,485
Atlantic provinces	9,144	9,965	11,454
Quebec	10,834	12,024	13,406
Ontario	12,430	13,912	15,814
Prairie provinces	10,471	11,760	14,401
British Columbia	11,447	13,942	15,166
Single persons			
Canada	4,572	5,149	6,049
Atlantic provinces	3,218	4,162	4,862
Quebec	4,439	4,967	5,852
Ontario	5,104	5,596	6,364
Prairie provinces	4,254	4,459	5,747
British Columbia	4,524	5,651	6,539

Canadian Labour Congress opposes anti-inflation program

The Canadian Labour Congress (CLC) voted on October 24 to use very legal means to fight the Federal Government's selective wage and price restraints.

The 30-member CLC executive council, which represents nearly two million workers, authorized the establishment of a "national fund to fight this proposed legislation and assist the 120 affiliates to combat its injustices". At a subsequent meeting on October 30, the CLC committed \$500,000 for this purpose.

CLC president Joe Morris said that the Government's program against inflation would "not be able to control prices, corporate income, professional fees, nor does it intend to control interest rates". He said that it would "effectively put the lid on wage increases".

Finance Minister Donald Macdonald has announced that the Government would amend its anti-inflation program to permit anybody to earn up to \$3.50 an hour without being subject to the wage guidelines. The original proposal was a maximum annual increase of \$600 before the guidelines applied.

Meantime, the provincial government in British Columbia placed an immediate price freeze, effective until January 1, on food, other essential commodities and services, in order to make the federal program "fairer and more equitable".

Executive aid overseas

Nearly 1,000 development projects have been carried out in 46 Third World countries by volunteers through the Canadian Executive Service Overseas (CESO).

Formed in 1967 by a group of Canadian businessmen, CESO aids enterprises in developing countries by offering the services of experienced advisers, often retired executives. It has a roster of 1,700 potential volunteers ready to accept postings for two to six months in developing countries.

CESO meets travel costs, while the organization being assisted pays for living expenses. CESO volunteers contribute their services.

Cultural links with Belgium

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Allan J. MacEachen, announced recently that, in the framework of the cultural agreement concluded between Canada and Belgium in 1967, the Mixed Commission of the two countries would meet in Quebec City, December 8 and 9.

Following discussions between Federal Government authorities and those of the government of Quebec, it has been agreed with the concurrence of the Belgian Government that the Mixed Commission will adopt at its first meeting a resolution, creating a Belgium/Quebec Sub-Commission permitting the government of Quebec to participate fully in the implementation of the agreement.

The convening of the Commission and the creation of the Sub-Commission will encourage the growth and diversification of the links that traditionally unite Canada and Belgium in the cultural sphere.

Cultural exchanges, which have increased considerably since the conclusion of the Canada/Belgium agreement in 1967, have involved the academic (scholarships, exchanges of university professors), and artistic (exhibitions by Belgian and Canadian

artists) sectors as well as the performing arts (tours by the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, the Jeunes comédiens du Théâtre du Nouveau monde and by the National Theatre of Belgium). Also included was the opening in 1974 of the Canadian Cultural and Information Centre in Brussels, youth-exchange programs, gifts of books, and the existence of a Belgian/Canadian literary prize.

Visitors from Senegal

Government representatives from Senegal, led by Minister of Planning and Co-operation Ousmane Seck, visited Ottawa from October 19 to 22, at the invitation of the Canadian Government. Meetings took place with officials from the Departments of External Affairs, Industry, Trade and Commerce, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), the Export Development Corporation and the International Development Research Centre. Discussions covered political, cultural, economic and commercial relations between the two countries as well as questions relevant to the French-speaking world.

Relations between Senegal and Canada were acknowledged as excellent.

(Continued on P. 4)

UNICEF spokesman in Ottawa

Danny Kaye, one of the best-known entertainers from the United States, was in Ottawa October 27 to promote the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF).

Mr. Kaye, a long-time advocate of UNICEF, was met at the airport by Mayor Lorry Greenberg and some 50 school children in Halloween costumes. During their "trick-or-treat" house to house rounds on October 31, young people collected money for UNICEF which will be contributed to the \$4 million Mr. Kaye said was expected this year.

Margaret Trudeau, wife of the Prime Minister and honorary president of the Ottawa UNICEF committee, entertained Danny Kaye for dinner that evening. Sasha, the Trudeau's second son, posed for this picture with him.



United Press International

It was equally agreed to strengthen consultations between French-speaking nations, and that the question of consultation could usefully be taken up at the next general conference of the Cultural and Technical Co-operation Agency which will take place in Mauritius next November.

Towards trade ties

The Senegalese delegation and Industry, Trade and Commerce delegates will study ways and means of establishing commercial relations between the two countries, which are now practically non-existent.

In the main, discussions concerned development assistance. Among on-going projects, it was decided to facilitate access to the "Ecole polytechnique de Thies" (technical school) for nationals of other states in the region. The visitors and representatives of CIDA reviewed implementation procedures for several projects recently approved by CIDA in forestry maintenance, cattle breeding, coastal surveillance and fisheries development as well as a survey of ocean resources off the coast of Senegal.

CIDA officials agreed to undertake a study of a number of new projects introduced by the Senegalese delegation, the cost of which would amount to some \$30 million over a period of five years. These are expanded and integrated undertakings in agriculture and fisheries as well as the provision of expertise and equipment in the industrial sector.

Naval reserve units reopen

Two western naval reserve units opened recently, providing weekly naval training to about 170 Edmonton and Regina reservists for the first time in 11 years. HMCS *Nonsuch*, located in a downtown Edmonton recreation centre, was commissioned September 27 and HMCS *Queen*, near downtown Regina, a day later.

The bases, and three others in cities across Canada, closed in early 1964 following an economy move in the Department of National Defence. They are now being recommissioned to increase national naval reserve manpower to fulfil Maritime Command's roles for its reserves.

Defence chief visits Japan and Korea

The chief of the defence staff, General J.A. Dextraze, recently spent two weeks visiting Japan and Korea, returning to Ottawa November 1. The governments of both countries had extended invitations to General Dextraze some time ago.

General Dextraze toured defence installations in Japan and Korea and met with defence officials of both countries.

In South Korea, he visited the Canadian Kapyong memorial prior to its official opening on November 7. The memorial is dedicated to Canadians who fought under the United Nations there in the early 1950s.

Kapyong was the site of the battle which resulted in a United States presidential citation being awarded to the 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, now based in Winnipeg.

General Dextraze commanded the 2nd Battalion, Royal 22nd Regiment ("the Van Doos") in Korea. The battalion is returning to Quebec City this month after a six-month tour with the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus.

Personal exemptions increased for 1976 taxation

Personal exemptions and tax brackets will be increased by 11.3 per cent for the 1976 taxation year as a result of the indexing plan for personal income taxes, Finance Minister Donald S. Macdonald announced recently. This will reduce federal revenues in 1976 by \$1,025 million.

The indexing plan, approved by Parliament in 1973 and introduced with the 1974 taxation year, provides for an increase in the major personal exemptions and deductions and tax-bracket limits each year to reflect changes in the consumer price index. In this way taxpayers are prevented from being pushed into higher tax brackets by purely inflationary increases in income.

For 1976, the basic personal exemption will be increased to \$2,091 from the current level of \$1,878, the married exemption will rise to \$1,830 from \$1,644 and the deduction for the aged and disabled will be increased to

\$1,307 from \$1,174. In addition, the maximum exemption for dependent children under 16 will rise to \$392 from \$352, while for children age 16 or over the corresponding increase is to \$719 from \$646.

The adjustment for 1976 was obtained by dividing the average consumer price index for the 12 months ending September 1975 by the corresponding average for the 12 months ending September 1972. This will result in the major personal income tax exemptions and the tax bracket limits being raised by 11.3 per cent from their current levels or by 30.7 per cent from the levels that prevailed in 1973, the last year prior to indexation. These percentages are calculated using the consumer price index as revised by Statistics Canada in August 1975. This revision, which entails a change in the base year from 1961 to 1971, does not affect the percentages used for indexing.

Quebec's controversial language law

In July 1974, the province of Quebec made French its official language, giving it precedence over English for most governmental, commercial and legal purposes. Bill 22, now Act 22, has been attacked by both French- and English-speaking Canadians.

The French contend that Act 22 is too much concerned about the English minority to achieve its goal of protecting and promoting the French language.

The English-language opposition centres on the curtailing of the right once enjoyed by Quebec parents to choose whether their children will be educated in French or English. Under the new law, most children in public schools must study exclusively in French unless their own language is English.

The argument came to a peak at the beginning of the school year in September, when students of Italian immigrants in the Montreal suburb of St. Leonard, who passed tests in English, were refused entry into English-language schools because of the quota system imposed by the act. Quebec authorities have been disturbed because the overwhelming majority of immigrants prefer to have their children educated in English. A census showed that of 140,000 immigrants, 48 per cent speak English at home and only 2 per

Canadian music featured during World Music Week

The Canadian Music Council, which was recently host to the sixteenth general assembly of the International Music Council, was responsible for many events to celebrate World Music Week, held in conjunction with the IMC meetings. Delegates from over 50 countries were in Canada from September 26 to October 5 attending conferences and concerts in five cities: Calgary, Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal and Quebec.

Delegates attended 25 musical events and various seminars. The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, The International Music Centre of Vienna and the American-Canadian Music Critics' Association sponsored discussion groups on subjects relating to music as a dimension of life, music education and audience development, the broadcasting and recording industries and noise pollution. All the concerts included works by Canadian composers, with many pieces specially commissioned for World Music Week. Most performances were recorded by the CBC and are scheduled for international broadcast. A film, *Musi-Canada*, by the National Film Board, and several exhibitions of Canadian musical artifacts drew further attention to the role of music in Canadian life.

The executive committee of the International Music Council held preliminary meetings in Calgary, Alberta, September 24 and 25. In the opening IMC concert, contralto Maureen Forrester performed an all-Canadian program, including the première of *Three Métis Songs from Saskatchewan* by Malcolm Forsyth, commissioned by the CBC.

For the next three days, special sessions were held in Toronto to discuss music on radio and on record, and music through the visual media of television and film.

The general assembly of the International Music Council opened on September 27 with an address by retiring president Yehudi Menuhin. That evening members attended a performance of the Canadian music drama *Louis Riel* by Harry Somers, produced by the Canadian Opera Company. Several other concerts followed.

World Music Week began September



The seagull dance from Breath of our Grandfathers, a stage version of a 2,000-year ceremony of investiture of a new chief, performed by 'Ksan singers and dancers from British Columbia. A special presentation, arranged by the National Museum of Man, was performed at the National Arts Centre, for World Music Week delegates from over 50 countries.

29. Following a recital by organist Hugh McLean, the Council met for a special session with addresses by Mitchell Sharp, President of the Privy Council, representing the Canadian Government, Laurence Harold Cragg, President, Canadian Commission for UNESCO, Alexandre Blokh, Cultural Development Division of UNESCO, and International Music Council president Yehudi Menuhin.

The next day, the Council moved to Ottawa, where seminars on the role of the media in music continued. An extraordinary illustration of the ritual and music of Canada's West Coast Indians, *The Breath of our Grandfathers* was presented that evening at the National Arts Centre by the people of 'Ksan. 'Ksan represents an Indian village and the performance tells of a way of life 100 years ago.

Menuhin concert

October 1 was the first World Music Day. Events in Canada were echoed

by musical events around the world, including 24 hours of music in the streets in Madras. Retiring IMC president Yehudi Menuhin gave a violin concert before a distinguished audience including Prime Minister Trudeau and Governor-General Jules Léger. Mr. Trudeau presented IMC awards to Menuhin, to Ravi Shankar and, posthumously, to Dmitri Shostakovich in appreciation of their contribution to music. The world première of *Portrait imaginé* by Luis de Pablo was presented that afternoon by the University of Ottawa Music Department. In the evening, the National Arts Centre Orchestra, under Mario Bernardi, opened their 1975-76 season with a gala concert featuring two new works: *Overture* by André Prévost and *Spiral* by Robert Aitken.

Other events followed in Ottawa, Montreal and Quebec City, where delegates attended a folk-music recital by Edith Butler and Felix Leclerc on October 4.

The Montreal Symphony Orchestra, under its new conductor Rafael Fruhbeck de Burgos, performed the final concert of World Music Week on October 5.

Canadian music compliment

In a parting interview, Yehudi Menuhin made a special point of praising the Canadian music he had heard during World Music Week. "The Canadian attachment to nature is revealed in an ability to listen to the sounds and silences around him...this sensitivity to natural sounds is a quality that permeated all the music I've heard. I have met many Canadians in many parts of the world, but I have never met any one who bragged about their music education, chamber music or anything else about music achievements. Canadians have every reason to feel proud of their level of music-making."

The next IMC assembly will be held in Czechoslovakia in 1977 under the new executive: Narayana Menon of India, President; Egon Kraus, Germany, John Roberts, Canada and Tibor Sarai, Hungary, Vice-Presidents.

The Canadian Music Council received grants from the Secretary of State, the Department of External Affairs, the Canada Council and the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation.

Stamp honours Royal Canadian Legion

A new 8-cent stamp, issued November 10, designed by Rudy Kovach of Vancouver, British Columbia, commemorates the Royal Canadian Legion. In red, gold and grey with black lettering, it measures 40 mm by 24 mm.



The Royal Canadian Legion, an organization dedicated to the welfare of war veterans and their dependants, was formed after a unity convention of smaller veterans' groups in Winnipeg, Manitoba, in 1925. Most of them merged to form the Canadian Legion which, in 1960, became the Royal Canadian Legion by royal assent.

Work of the Legion

Money from the sale of poppies, worn by many people each year on November 11, Remembrance Day, is given by the Legion to needy veterans and their dependants.

The organization has helped thousands to press claims for government benefits and has lobbied for improved veterans' legislation. As early as April 1926, the group sought amendments to the Pensions Act, the Soldier Settlement Act, and the Civil Service Superannuation Act. Such efforts procured assistance, unheard of following the First World War, for people being discharged after the Second.

During the Second World War, Can-

adian Legion War Services provided members of the Forces with recreation, personal guidance and opportunities for education.

More recently, the group has sought reform in various fields and has provided many community services; there are, for instance, many places in Canada where the Legion Hall is the only social centre.

Ocean dumping controlled by new law

It is now illegal to dump any substance at sea without a permit, and one will not be granted to dump substances known to cause harm to the marine environment.

The Ocean Dumping Act, which has received Royal assent, also covers disposal of wastes on ice and incineration at sea. Permits may be issued to allow dumping under controlled conditions of substances not deemed too hazardous, and annexes to the Act cover specific substances in "prohibited" and "restricted" categories.

Environment Minister Jeanne Sauvé commented: "This Act and the London Convention on the Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter, are needed to protect Canadian fisheries, recreational areas and coastal waters from dumping by ships plying Canadian waters. Contamination of ocean waters anywhere in the world has to be prevented, and Canadian vessels will have to conform with the Act wherever they may be. Foreign vessels will be subject to its provisions while in Canadian waters."

The London Convention, which Canada and some 80 other nations signed in 1972, covers marine waste disposal throughout the world and will come into force automatically as soon as 15 nations have ratified it. Thirteen have already done so.

"Within 90 days of the convention coming into force," said Mrs. Sauvé, "the ratifying nations will meet to shape future development of the convention. I have been anxious to see our ocean-dumping legislation passed because it is important that Canada be represented at that meeting."

The Act, which provides penalties of up to \$100,000, applies to deliberate dumping by ships, aircraft and from platforms at sea. Discharges incidental to normal operations are not

offences under the Act. Also, the Act does not apply to discharges that result from exploration for seabed mineral resources and their exploitation.

Alberta University scholarship for British students

A two-year post graduate study seat at the University of Alberta has been established for British students.

The scholarship, presented as a gift from the province of Alberta, will provide for study at the masters or doctoral level in petroleum engineering. It provides the candidate with \$5,000 for tuition and return air fare, and will be available every two years to a British student nominated by his government. The first scholarship will be for the academic year 1976-77.

Quebec's controversial language law (Continued from P. 4)

cent speak French at home.

Parents in St. Leonard kept some 100 students out of schools while they protested and the regulations are being challenged in the courts on constitutional grounds by individuals and groups.

The quotas were raised to accommodate the protesting students and Jérôme Choquette, Quebec Minister of Education, resigned rather than go along with this conciliatory policy of Premier Robert Bourassa.

An English-language radio station conducted a four-day broadcast against the language bill and enlisted half a million signatures on a protest petition. This campaign has been condemned as racist and extremist. In a counter move, *Le Journal de Montreal* sent Premier Bourassa a petition with 100,000 names asking him to stand firm.

Other aspects of the law under attack include the use of French in air-traffic control at some airports, which English-speaking pilots say is a safety hazard, and the requirement that business in Quebec must be conducted in French.

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