

HERE AND THERE - Cont'd.....

Indians In N.S. - Cont'd.. not consulted when the law was imposed on the native population of Canada and that band membership and the right to live on reserves should be the sole decision of the band involved.

A strongly worded resolution sent to Indian Affairs Minister, Jean Chretien, blamed Ottawa for making a mess of existing Indian legislation.

According to Stuart Killam, research director with the Union of Nova Scotia Indians, talk about the need for reviewing existing legislation has gone on among Canada's Indians for many years.

However, in the past, Indians have been reluctant to push for reform until they received some iron-clad guarantees that they would be permitted to participate in all discussions leading up to changes in the Indian Act.

Mr. Killam said the Supreme Court decision in the recent Lavell case points out "just how bad the law really is."

Mr. Killam said the Chiefs of Nova Scotia's 12 bands spent a great deal of time discussing this case at a recent meeting. "They feel that such action makes it more urgent that the existing laws be changed."

However, it is still the only protection Indians have.

The Chiefs, who make up the Union's board of directors, hope Mr. Chretien will realize that in light of the Lavell ruling, full revision of the Indian Act by Indians can't be put off any longer.

Mr. Killam added that this situation disturbed a lot of Indians because they thought if non-Indians men were allowed to move to the reserve following their marriage to Indian women and given full Indian status then they would also be eligible to share in band funds.

It seems to Nova Scotia's Indian leaders, however, that the law could be rewritten so that band funds and Indian rights can be protected without there being any need to discriminate against anyone, Mr. Killam said.

Mr. Killam said it was the feeling of the Union's leaders that only a band should be able to decide who is or who

is not allowed to live on the reserve.

"Indians regard this as a fundamental right vested in the band and are no longer happy with the federal government's abuse of this sacred trust by stooping to discriminate against Indian women," he said.

FEDERAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO CANADIAN MUSEUMS

Ottawa - Secretary of State, Hugh Faulkner announced 23 grants totalling \$445,829 to museums, galleries and cultural associations under the National Museum policy.

The National Museum Policy, which was announced in March, 1972 is concerned with making Canadian museum collections available to the widest possible number of Canadians. With the help of these grants, the collections of the large Canadian institutions will be circulated provincially and exchanged with other galleries and museums in other parts of Canada, thus enabling more Canadians to see and appreciate the breadth of Canada's heritage.

The Associate Museums Program provides assistance in order to link the major museums of the country into a Canada-wide network. Some 20 museums, including the National Museum of Canada, are already part of this network.

Training Assistance is being made available to increase the number of Museum professionals by encouraging Museums, Universities and Colleges and the Canadian Museums Association to expand their training programs.

Catalogue Assistance is being made available to museums wishing to catalogue their collections using procedures suggested by the National Museums. This catalogue information will be added to a comprehensive inventory of items to establish a National Inventory of Cultured Treasures.

The Ksan Indian Village Museum received \$75,000 towards construction of an Exhibition Centre which will include space for its invaluable collection of Northwest coast Indian artifacts. This museum was established three years ago by the village council of Hazelton with the assistance of federal and provincial