

the federal government to name its judges from a provincial or territorial lists. A provision would also be made for the appointment of interim judges when the need be.

The reforms on the House of Commons include a change to better, more accurate representation by population -- no province will have less than 95% of the seats it is entitled to by population. Quebec will be given at least 25% of the seats in the House of Commons.

Okay, the next part of the accord provides protection mecha

"Quebec is acknowledged as a distinct society..."

nisms for inter-government agreements and for the rights of aboriginal peoples. It also gives provincial legislatures exclusive jurisdiction over culture, forestry, mining, tourism, housing, recreation, municipal, and urban affairs. It entrenches the federal government's responsibilities to the provinces in spending, immigration regional development, telecommunications and declaratory power.

As mentioned early on in this monster, Aboriginal peoples were given the right to self-government. With this right, the Aboriginal communities get the right to protect and develop their languages, cultures, economies, identities, institutions and traditions as well as strengthen their relationship with their lands, waters and environments. The Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms should apply to all the Aboriginal governments, and all people should be given those rights and freedoms by all government. It is also stated that the federal and provincial governments are committed to the Indian, Inuit, and Metis people and negotiation with these peoples.

The final area of change is the process of amending the constitution. Amendments to the senate will require unanimous agreement of the Parliament and provincial legislatures. The nomination and appointment of Supreme Court judges though would remain under the general amending procedure. New provinces shall only become part of this formula with unanimous consent of all the provinces and the federal government.

Okay, so if you actually hung in here and kept reading until now, congratulations you may actually know what's going on within this referendum. You now know the basics of what is in the Charlottetown Accord so you can decide how you want to vote. ■

Assault at UPEI

Another assault has made the news at UPEI, only weeks after an alleged sexual assault on the campus. This assault was not a sexual but instead a physical assault, as authorities and news agencies have stressed from the start. The incident occurred this past Saturday evening October 17, when a fight broke out outside a residence on campus. One male was seriously injured and was kept in hospital overnight for observation, though at this writing the nature and extent of the injuries he received are as yet undisclosed. City police were notified and they conducted a joint investigation with UPEI Security. As of this writing, two individuals have been charged and taken into custody. ■

CONSTITUTIONAL BLARNEY

At long last, that date for the national referendum on the constitution is almost here. After weeks of posturing, analyzing, and polling: Canadians will finally have a chance to put the constitutional debate to rest. Last week our Prime Minister was in town making his pitch for a "yes" vote on October 26th to the students of Holland College. Joining him were his wife, Mila; Joe and RoseEllen Ghiz; and Mayor Jack Ready. The gymnasium at Holland College was packed with students of Holland College, several familiar faces from U.P.E.I., and other local residents. The crowd proved to be a friendly one, giving loud applause for the introduction of all of the dignitaries.

Both Joe Ghiz and Brian Mulroney gave speeches on the Accord, then the floor was opened for questions. Joe Ghiz proved that he can give a speech as well as anyone else in the country. He went through the Accord step by step outlining the benefits of the different parts of the Accord to different regions of Canada. He stressed that, while the deal is not perfect, it is a "good Canadian Compromise."

Mulroney's speech, if more melodramatic, was no less effective than Ghiz's. He went through the Accord in a different way, challenging people to consider what the "no" side has to offer us. The Prime Minister's main emphasis was moving on beyond the constitution to do some work on the economy. Both speeches were quite impressive and convincing. Mulroney's emphasis was less on a "yes" vote or else and more on what can be done after the vote, no matter which way it goes.

One part of the afternoon I was disappointed with was the question period which followed the speeches. The audience seemed to be very apathetic. There were few questions