



KANADAN SUOMALAINEN KULTTUURILIITTO
FINNISH-CANADIAN CULTURAL FEDERATION

SUBMISSION
TO THE
SPECIAL JOINT COMMITTEE
ON THE
CONSTITUTION
OF CANADA

December 11, 1980

B R I E F
ON CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM

The Finnish-Canadian Cultural Federation is a national "umbrella" organization representing over forty local clubs and associations across Canada. These local community organizations in turn are made up of Canadians whose roots originated in Finland.

In preparing this brief, local leaders from different parts of Canada joined in the meetings and discussions. Since we represent Finnish-Canadians from all areas of Canada, our mandate is necessarily restricted to those issues on which a consensus has been achieved. As many of the communities we represent have specific views and diverse priorities on many of the issues arising from the question before this Committee, and may also be participants in the general debate on the Constitution, we do not propose to address ourselves to all the issues which are subject to the Joint Committee's inquiry.

The Joint Committee has or will be made aware of the specific concerns of some of our constituent organizations and we will not repeat them. The Federation, however, wishes to make recommendations in two major areas in which we feel we have the unqualified support of our member organizations and the substantial number of Canadians they represent.

We realize that the Joint Committee is hearing many recommendations from many groups in Canada and have therefore restricted our comments to these two main points which we feel have the most urgent priority from the viewpoint of the people we represent.

for the Finnish-Canadian Cultural Federation, Inc.
Board of Directors

Bert V. J. Kivimaki
President