



608, 505 - 8 Avenue S.W.
Calgary, Alberta
T2P 1G2

November 24, 1980

Joint Clerks
Special Joint Committee on the
Constitution of Canada
Postal Box 1044, South Block
Parliament Building
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A7

Attention: Mr. Serge Joyal

Dear Sir:

As a group of deeply concerned Canadians in the West, we would like to express to you our principle concern about the Constitution, which we believe transcends political affiliation.

We, as Canadians with various regional strengths, desire equal opportunity regardless of where one chooses to reside in our country. A Constitution with the amending formula as proposed by the Federal Government does not provide for this.

It is imperative, for national unity to exist, that each province have an equal position within the framework of our Constitution.

Our fundamental concern is that Canada will be everlastingly divided if the Federal Government's present constitutional proposals are ratified by the United Kingdom's parliament and returned to Canada. Why will Canada be divided? Because of an amending formula that the majority of the provinces have not agreed to . . . a formula that relegates eight provinces to permanent second class status.

We urge you to help defuse the potentially explosive confrontation that is developing. How? By using your influence to see that a First Ministers' conference is convened to approve only an amending formula with the guarantees all regions of Canada need to ensure a strong, united country.

Yours sincerely,



E. R. Elenko
President
Calgary Fish Creek Constituency
Provincial Progressive
Conservative Association