

MR. CAMERON, EXAM. BY MR. MERRICK

1 A. I would say that --

2 Q. -- this might engage some more --

3 A. Well --

4 Q. -- interest in these issues?

5 A. -- it's a philosophy that goes against -- if you're
6 talking about safety, it's a philosophy that goes against
7 almost every other jurisdiction and goes against our
8 brand new legislation, that one person at the top could
9 be responsible. The philosophy is clearly the very
10 opposite, and this was developed by an awful lot of
11 people. So if you're saying that, I think that there's
12 enough evidence around that would show that that would be
13 harmful to the health and safety of our workers in this
14 province. In fact, I think the studies show that. So I
15 don't agree with that concept.

16 What I will tell you is that, as Premier, if you
17 allow a Minister or a Deputy Minister to do a job that is
18 not up to scratch, then that's your responsibility.

19 And, in fact, I installed a Deputy Minister in the
20 Premier's Office, the first person to do it, because I do
21 have confidence in the Civil Service in the Province of
22 Nova Scotia, and I wanted to have a direct link and
23 understand what was going on the departments. And I was
24 the first one to install a civil servant, not a political
25 appointment, but a civil servant as a Deputy Minister in