

# 'Accusatory statements' spark Strachan attack

**Sun Victoria Bureau**  
VICTORIA — An angry Transport Minister Bob Strachan accused a Sacred MLA on Wednesday of making "accusatory statements" in the guise of seeking answers during the legislature's question period.  
Bob McClelland (Langley) asked Strachan if there might be a conflict of interest because Insurance Corporation of B.C. vice-president D. A. Scrivener might be associated with two insurance adjusting companies on the Prairies.  
Strachan promised to investigate, but added that McClelland should research his facts before posing questions in the house.  
Later, outside the house, Strachan said he checked McClelland's allegation and found it was not true.  
"It's just as I thought," declared Strachan. "This kind of nonsense has been going on for two years. Every time I check this man (McClelland) out he is wrong."  
Strachan said Scrivener began selling his interests in the two adjusting firms, Scrivener, Countryman and Western Ltd., of Alberta, and D. A. Scrivener Co. Ltd. of

Saskatchewan, before he joined ICBC in July, 1974.  
He also said McClelland used a list of adjusting companies prepared in December, 1973, before Autoplan was formed, from which he culled the two names.  
Outside the house, McClelland claimed that the list named preferred companies used by ICBC outside the province and suggestion to agents what companies they should use.  
"I have no idea if he still continues with the companies," said McClelland of Scrivener.  
But, since the companies still bear his name, McClelland contended, some agents may be influenced in using them.  
Strachan responded that when Scrivener sold out he sold the companies' names as well.  
"What citizen of Saskatchewan would ever care that a man who works for ICBC has the same name as a company there?" Scrivener said D. A. Scrivener, headquartered in Regina, before he came to ICBC, said Strachan, and negotiations for the sale of the associated company, Scrivener, Countryman and Western Ltd., were completed six months after his arrival.

## Driver's licences now available

**Sun Victoria Bureau**  
VICTORIA — Motor Vehicle Branch offices are now allowed to issue new driver's licences, including Insurance Corp. of B.C. driver's certificates, despite the ICBC strike, Transport Minister Bob Strachan said Wednesday.  
Under an agreement reached between the Public Service Commission, which represents the government as an employer, and the B.C. Government Employees Union, it has been decided to allow the branch to continue its normal duties, he said.  
All offices and agents for the branch will be able to issue new driver's licences, renew driver's licences and issue special permits for such things as oversize loads and farm equipment, he said.

But, as has been the case since the ICBC office workers' strike began, the branch will not be allowed to write any Autoplan insurance while the strike continues, he said.  
Although Motor Vehicle Branch offices and agents will also be able to issue ICBC driver's certificates, added Strachan, the moratorium on laying charges against motorists without up-to-date certificates will continue for the present.  
The RCMP earlier issued instructions that drivers not be charged during the strike on the supposition that they would be unable to renew their certificates.  
That decision is under review, Strachan indicated.

## Legal aid to be provided for all districts in B.C.

**Sun Victoria Bureau**  
VICTORIA — Distribution of legal services throughout the province will be one of the responsibilities of the Legal Services Commission.  
Attorney-General Alex Macdonald said Wednesday the commission will take over the administration of seven community legal aid offices.  
"That will be expanded and in that way bring legal services to people in communities who otherwise wouldn't have them at all," he said.  
Establishment of the commission is authorized in legislation given first reading in the legislature Tuesday.

Bill 96, the Legal Services Commission Act, empowers the commission to "plan the development of legal services."  
However, Macdonald said, the commission's main responsibility will be to take over legal aid services from the Legal Aid Society, administered solely by the legal profession.  
Other responsibilities of the commission, set out in the legislation, are to:  
Develop and co-operate in experimental legal programs.  
Promote research on legal services throughout the province and evaluate existing and proposed legal service programs.  
Consult with local and regional governments, school, community and professional groups about the provision of legal services.  
Co-operate with educational institutions, the Law Society of B.C., the B.C. branch of the Canadian Bar Association, the Society of Notaries Public and others on the educating of people providing legal services.  
The commission will be made up of five members — two appointed by the cabinet, two by the Law Society of B.C. and one by the attorney-general after discussion with the federal justice minister.  
Macdonald said Tuesday the commission will be set up in "another couple of weeks" and will have a \$4.2 million budget for its first year.  
Members will be ap-

## FEDERAL 'STRANGLEHOLD' ON B.C. PORTS CHARGED

**Sun Victoria Bureau**  
VICTORIA — The National Harbors Board has a "stranglehold" on B.C. ports, Economic Development Minister Gary Lauk charged Wednesday.  
He said the provincial government has attempted in every possible way to get an equal voice on the administration of provincial ports with no success.  
"We constantly run up against a monolithic bureaucracy which seems more in control of the political arm rather than the other way around," he said during the debate on estimates for his department.  
Only when the provincial government has an equal say in administration, "will we see an efficient and visionary use of ports for the entire region," Lauk said.  
He also said that freight rates and tariff structures discriminate against the western provinces.  
However, he continued, the economy of the province is basically sound and moving

ahead, and pointed out that 100,000 jobs have been created in B.C. during the last year and a half.  
The province, he said, had seen the "greatest incorporation of small businesses since 1972."  
This, Lauk added, would lay the base for the development of secondary industry.  
Don Phillips (SC-South Peace River) charged that the government's policies had cost the province "tens of thousands" of jobs, and policies in lumber, mining and petroleum had driven out "millions and billions" of capital dollars.  
"He (Lauk) is a do-nothing minister," Phillips said. "The department of economic development is a disaster."  
He said Lauk had been a "complete and total failure" in dealing with Ottawa for development grants.  
"He's left millions and millions of dollars on the table in Ottawa which could be used to help our sagging economy."

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LONDONERRY STATION, N.S. (CP) — The Johnson family has a nagging buzzing in their ears that gives them bats in the belfry, or should it be bees in the attic?  
Some 40,000 Italian bees have taken up residence in the attic of Eugene Johnson's home in this Colchester County community and stubbornly resist all attempts to evict them.  
The insects have defied fire, insecticides and direct physical attacks and show no signs of ending their seven-month stay.  
Johnson tried blocking all openings to the attic but the bees always found some way back to their hive.

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9	\$90	9	\$90
10	\$100	10	\$100
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