

# Politics

By Jim-beau Lieyeah

Jan.9, 2001- HAPPY NEW YEAR to all!! After a most restful holiday, I am ready to take on Canadian events with my own particular spin.

Today, I am surrounded by a white winter wonderland. Sometimes, I can not help but wonder if a white landscape is ingrained in our Canadian psyche. Snowdrifts and manmade piles of snow isolate us from our neighbours for months at a time. Deaf to sound and only white tunnels to see through have transformed this country.

Once a Native nation, snatched away by white Europeans, whose only distinction Natives could recognize were the varying languages coming out of their mouths. The numbers of languages spoken in this land have grown over time and are reflected in the umbrella term we give society known as multiculturalism.

But recent events caught attention because their rotter claws revolved around racism and you're open. While much has been fiftyth birth-progress in these areas, it couple of incidents for to rise up from the ground. Here is my spin on those 63.

Joyeuse Hanukkah?? am is a superior carpet because removed more

It was a Happy removed more some in Quebec for ferent reasons. The b. Yves Michaud. Why? Nh, a sado-a long time separatist vtrocuted for lacks any sort of tact. uck so many that he wanted to run for his body that provincial party, the Pa. short circuit in (PQ), in the downtown ring the elec- ing of Mercier. He become known as, a h. ver convicted racist, which means that e death sen- country now. Why does he funny gag In a December radio inte. mouth shared these events with the pi. mouth Michaud was getting an.

when Senator Leo Kolber, wi Québécois of Jewish decent, w lead- in. Although adversaries they eng:

in some small talk that went something like, "Are you still a separatist Yves," to which he responded, "Yes, yes, I am a separatist just as you are a Jew." Not surprisingly the conversation continued to degenerate.

Michaud, the astute historian, then points out that it took Jews 2000 years to have their own country. He too was prepared to wait for his eventuality. Kolber refused to bite on this attempted comparison between Québécois and the Jews drive for self determination. This really got Michaud going.

Baited, he then pointed at other races that have suffered discrimination like the Armenians (millions of whom died at the hands of Turks in the 20<sup>th</sup> century's first holocaust), the Palestinians. After all, they are their sisters.

**FACT:** In most elections, less than half the population votes.

**OPINION:** More people would vote if candidates cursed more during speeches.

**FACT:** In the 1968 presidential election, a pig named Pigasus ran for president.

**OPINION:** I bet if livestock ever get elected, the sex scandals in Washington would be more interesting.

**FACT:** 80% of the presidential elections in the past 50 years were won by the tallest candidate.

**OPINION:** Short people should not run the country. They should stick to working at the circus, riding little horses and repairing shoes.

**FACT:** According to an old wives'

have achieved more.

But out of this breach of free speech, the PQ party is beginning to show signs of fracturing. The hardliners like Michaud because he is a throwback to the Jacques Parizeau days where sovereignty needed to be achieved at any cost.

Bouchard has taken more of a moderate tone looking for an opportunity to have another referendum that has a chance of winning. He realizes that losing another could have devastating consequences on the movement. He is also trying to take a moderate tone to try to calm the waters that rose up in a tidal wave like fashion when Parizeau uttered the now famous words on why the PQ lost the referendum because of, "money and ethnic votes." Bouchard wants a separate Quebec that all Québécois can feel a part of whether they are pure laine (pure wool), coton (cotton), or polyester. I think that he is right to try to achieve this although as a betting I do not like his chances.

So where does that leave the body. Federalist Québécois can't find comfort in this situation, which is why to calm down. The pot is on the table and the lobsters are on hold. The separatists are becoming divided between the hardliners and those more moderate. A real showdown will be in the cards if you when the party has its answers.

**FACT:** For the first time could put a smile on part of the cheek at least 50.58% of the population el paint that

use in assembly. **OPINION:** That's the second world war pink.

**FACT:** A favorite of the Chinese in China are spicy. **OPINION:** When he said it, chicken feet are good of mankind than where they served because priceless art from

the ravages of war. While this statement is shocking it must be viewed in context.

The director was on the hot seat when asked if any art in his gallery might have been attained through some earlier plundering. He is right in one sense that art is something man-made that outlasts the creator (in most cases anyway). But his faux-pas was in finding some sort of bizarre silver lining in this tragedy.

Imagine if war broke out here on the Island between say the easterners and the westerners. Someone comes into your town and summarily begins arresting everyone with a family name that starts with say M. They bring them into the town circle and summarily shoot everyone in the head. Then, before the buzzards even have a chance to start picking at the corpses, a free-for-all ensues whereby all of the worldly possessions of a family home are taken. A family portrait by Yousef Karsh (a famous Canadian photographer) is taken for its frame, a one of a kind gold Birks neckless is stolen, a gem-covered Christmas ornament is snatched, and an Alex Colville original is liberated. Any way you flip this hypothetical situation it stinks.

Would mankind be better off because of these liberators? Perhaps the whole thing needs to be flipped on its head. Maybe it is better off that these things get destroyed in a random bombing. Why? To serve as a testament that ill gotten gains are better left to the ill.

Lumsden is an art lover. In his eye's, art belongs to humanity, not the highest bidder at a Sotheby's auction. And perhaps he is right. But art that has survived the holocaust of war thanks to pillaging should never be viewed from any other perspective than it has been stolen from people who were murdered.

GONZO OUT