

## Still No Gay Games At UBC

VANCOUVER (CUP) - Svend Robinson told the University of British Columbia's board of governors last week that refusing to allow the 1990 international gay athletic games on campus sets a "profoundly dangerous precedent."

Robinson, the New Democrat MP for the nearby riding of Burnaby and an honorary director of Gay Games III, is upset the board based its decision on the "content" of the event rather than on the availability of facilities.

Three weeks ago, UBC President David Strangway said UBC wasn't interested in hosting the Gay Games, which brings together 5000 athletes from around the world.

Said Strangway, "If it's a political statement they're trying to make, I don't think the university is the place to make political statements."

But Robinson, who sat on the university's board of governors as a student representative in the 1970s, said politics have nothing to do with it.

"We're not trying to politicize the university... We're dealing with a business transaction. The NDP uses (UBC's) facilities. No one suggests the university is en-

dorsing the NDP."

The board of governors failed to decide whether to reverse its decision after Robinson's presentation. Its next meeting is December 2.

Strangway said he couldn't understand why gay athletes didn't participate in "normal" athletic events: "Why should we become involved in a third variant of activities?"

But no one says such special interest events as the firefighters' athletic games - which have been held at UBC - are unnecessary, Robinson said. He added that the Gay Games will promote friendship and understanding between gay and non-gay athletes.

Organizer Betty Baxter said the games are open to "anyone who wants to play," regardless of age, sex, or sexual orientation.

Director Ken Smith also denied the political aspect of the games. "If we had wished to be political, we would have gone to the media at the first instance (of UBC's refusal)," he said.

Smith noted that UBC has already hosted a gay volleyball tournament. "We probably could have gone unnoticed. If we wish to go unnoticed, we go unnoticed."

## What the Media Say About Tom McMillan

**"Mr. McMillan is one of the government's most effective performers in the House of Commons."**

*The Wall Street Journal,*  
16 October, 1987

**"In the House of Commons, McMillan has impressed even his critics... Among his colleagues McMillan is reportedly viewed as a superb politician."**

*The Toronto Star,*  
30 November, 1985

**"...the Prime Minister has found in Thomas McMillan a remarkably adept political handyman."**

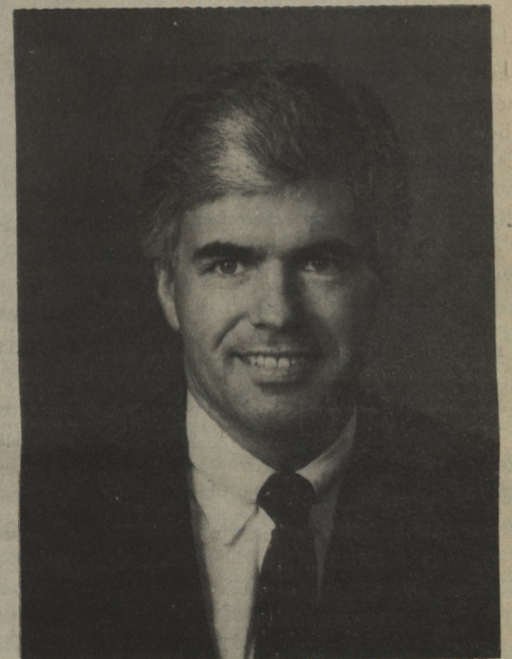
Hugh Windsor, *The Globe & Mail,*  
11 November, 1986

**"At some point, politicians have to make stands on issues that matter more than getting re-elected. Tom McMillan did that."**

David Suzuki, *The Globe & Mail,*  
11 July, 1987

**"Tom McMillan is a hero here in Banff today. The Minister came to this conference... and won standing ovations."**

Greg Dixon, *CBC Radio,*  
8 September, 1985



**"McMillan is a political pro."**

*London Free Press,*  
10 October, 1985

**"He is another in a long line of fine politicians from Prince Edward Island."**

*La Presse,* 21 June, 1986

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Authorized by John Carr, Official Agent for Tom McMillan

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