

## Oral Questions

[English]

## INVESTMENT CANADA

**Mr. Ian McClelland (Edmonton Southwest):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Industry. I acknowledge the fact that this matter took place under the previous government.

It was reported in the Auditor General's report that the president of Investment Canada spent \$132,000 of taxpayers' money on renovations to a bathroom and kitchenette in his office. Last weekend the Ottawa *Citizen* had an ad for a whole house for \$105,900.

Would the minister assure the House and explain specifically what steps his department is taking to prevent the recurrence of this kind of lavish and extravagant waste of taxpayers' money.

**Hon. John Manley (Minister of Industry):** Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the question. It gives me the opportunity to underline for the hon. member that in my view every single dollar we receive from the taxpayers of Canada is vitally important and our judgment in how we spend it is always open to review.

I consider this expenditure to be lavish and unworthy of taxpayers.

• (1450)

I would like to remind the hon. member that there are new cooks in the kitchen now and we are going to do a lot better.

**Mr. Ian McClelland (Edmonton Southwest):** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question.

I appreciate the comments of the minister. I wonder if the minister would advise the House whether or not the president of Investment Canada has been called to account for this spending. How can a person in a position of authority and responsibility waste money in this regard and still have a parsimonious impact or effect in his daily job?

**Hon. John Manley (Minister of Industry):** Mr. Speaker, I am advised that the official who authorized this expenditure is no longer in my department. However, it has certainly been made clear within the department that these expenditures are not acceptable.

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[Translation]

## HOCKEY TEAM CANADA

**Mrs. Suzanne Tremblay (Rimouski—Témiscouata):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Canadian Heritage.

Yesterday, in his speech in reply to the Speech from the Throne, the Prime Minister stressed repeatedly the role that Quebecers and French-speaking Canadians play in Canadian institutions. Again this morning, the Minister for Foreign Af-

fairs was mentioning how well treated Quebecers were in Canada. Yet, Quebecers are conspicuous by their absence from Hockey Team Canada, the team which is setting out to represent Canada in the Olympics, in Lillehammer.

My question is the following: Can the Minister tell us why Hockey Team Canada has no room for a player from Quebec and what concrete steps he intends to take to put an end once and for all to this shameful discrimination?

**Hon. Michel Dupuy (Minister of Canadian Heritage):** Mr. Speaker, I thank our colleague for this opportunity to pay tribute to the Canadian athletes who will show us what they can do in the XVII Winter Olympic Games, in Lillehammer. Incidentally, I would say that they are going over there to win medals, not to play politics.

As the hon. member for Verdun—Saint-Paul pointed out earlier, the Canadian Olympic Association released earlier today the list of athletes who are going to Lillehammer. This list released just hours ago clearly indicates who the Canadians participants will be, and I am very proud to report that more than 30 per cent are from Quebec.

**Mrs. Suzanne Tremblay (Rimouski—Témiscouata):** I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Minister, you may have had a different outlook from outside of the country as an ambassador, but hockey is our national sport—

**The Speaker:** The hon. members should always address the Chair. Thank you.

**Mrs. Tremblay:** Mr. Speaker, are we to understand that the Minister washes his hands of the matter and refuses to take concrete steps to correct a glaring injustice towards Quebecers, especially the likes of Mario Lemieux and Alexandre Daigle, who were apparently not good enough—

**Mr. Ouellet:** The teams are different.

**Mrs. Suzanne Tremblay (Rimouski—Témiscouata):** —to be selected to Team Canada.

**Hon. Michel Dupuy (Minister of Canadian Heritage):** Mr. Speaker, I put blame only where it is deserved. The rules of the game are that the Canadian Olympic hockey team members are announced only hours before their first game. When recruiting is over, which it is not, then and only then will we be in a position to pass judgment.

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[English]

## ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS

**Mr. Randy White (Fraser Valley West):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.