

level of 165,000 units, which is a very significant increase compared to last year. Again, that has been the result of hundreds of millions of dollars that this Government has put into the development of housing and the expansion of housing construction. This is a result of measures taken by this Government and approved by this Parliament. The Hon. Member must have been outside the House or quite absent minded when these were considered. I do not know where he has been, frankly.

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### CUSTOMS AND EXCISE

#### IMPORTATION OF PORNOGRAPHIC VIDEO CASSETTES

**Mr. Lorne Greenaway (Cariboo-Chilcotin):** Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of National Revenue. It concerns the importation of pornographic material to Canada. The Minister will know that at least 95 per cent of this material in Canada is imported. Recent reports indicate that video cassettes form a large portion of this. One method of getting them in is to change the labels on the cassettes so that the customs officials do not know what is in them. What action, if any, is the Minister taking to try to cut down on the importation of pornographic material into Canada?

[Translation]

**Hon. Pierre Bussières (Minister of National Revenue):** Madam Speaker, the importation of pornographic material is regulated by legislation, and the relevant regulations are generally known to Hon. Members. It is, of course, extremely difficult, when importation is carried out by individuals or when parcels are addressed to a specific individual, to keep a close watch on such activities especially, as the Hon. Member just pointed out, when the labelling on a video cassette, for instance, has been removed or changed. However, I can assure the Hon. Member that we are taking all necessary measures to enforce the laws of this country as strictly as possible, and I may also remind him that not long ago, the Department of National Revenue, through its Customs and Excise division, took action in this area and banned the entry of cassettes considered by a large majority of Canadians to be immoral.

[English]

#### APPLICATION OF TAX WRITE-OFFS—REQUEST THAT LEGISLATION BE AMENDED

**Mr. Lorne Greenaway (Cariboo-Chilcotin):** Madam Speaker, my supplementary question for the same Minister concerns tax write-offs for films produced in Canada as outlined in the income tax form, item 28(H). Will the Minister confirm that nowhere in the Income Tax Act is there a provision that would have the effect of excluding the producers of pornographic films from claiming this write-off? Furthermore, if this is so,

will the Minister assure the House that he will table amendments to the Income Tax Act that will discourage rather than encourage the production of pornographic movies in Canada?

[Translation]

**Hon. Pierre Bussières (Minister of National Revenue):** Madam Speaker, as far as the first part of the question is concerned, I would like to point out to the Hon. Member that it is not the purpose of the Income Tax Act that its provisions should be used to judge the morality or immorality of items that may or may not be financed through the Income Tax Act itself. Furthermore, as far as amendments to the Act are concerned, I may remind the Hon. Member that matters of policy fall under the jurisdiction of the Department of Finance.

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[English]

### STATUS OF WOMEN

#### PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH STANDING COMMITTEE—MINISTER'S POSITION

**Mr. David Kilgour (Edmonton-Strathcona):** Madam Speaker, my question is for the Minister responsible for the Status of Women. Following the questions from the Member for Yukon and the Member for Calgary West, will the Minister tell us what she thinks of the idea of having a standing committee dealing with problems of women, particularly single mothers?

**Hon. Judy Erola (Minister of State (Mines)):** Frankly, Madam Speaker, I am very amused to hear that the Opposition is finally interested in the status of women.

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mrs. Erola:** When I suggested publicly approximately a month ago that such a study be launched, I heard no support whatever from the other side of the House.

**Mr. Kilgour:** In other words, the Minister does not choose to answer the question.

#### FINANCING OF "VIDEODROME" MOTION PICTURE

**Mr. David Kilgour (Edmonton-Strathcona):** Will the Minister then tell us what she thinks about the movie "Videodrome" which is playing in Ottawa now and consists of scenes such as burning women with cigarettes, a movie financed in large part by the Canada Film Development Corporation? Does she think that the taxpayers' money should be going to finance films like this or does she think that money should be going to Family Allowances and pensions instead?

**Hon. Judy Erola (Minister of State (Mines)):** Madam Speaker, this Government has an excellent record on this subject.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!