

*Adjournment Debate*

Speaker, with the Montreal Olympics and it should not be done in terms of the Calgary Olympics.

I believe I have demonstrated, Mr. Speaker, that the agreements are different, that there is a lot of falsification of the public record, and a lot of false statements made in that press release. I hope that the Parliamentary Secretary will stand up and tell us it is the fault of the bureaucrats, and not the Minister. I hope that the Parliamentary Secretary will set the record straight, take us out of the bureaucrats' hands and put us back in the hands of the Minister.

**Mr. Douglas Fisher (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, the organizing committee for the Olympics in Calgary is responsible for the planning and staging of the 1988 Olympic Winter Games. I am personally confident that it will be a successful and enjoyable event.

I would like to take a moment now to extend my personal best wishes to everyone who is involved in the games. I am sure that Canadians everywhere are looking forward to this as another hallmark of national pride. I know that if Calgary lives up to its famous reputation for western hospitality people all over the world will enjoy these Games immensely.

In exercising its responsibility, the organizing committee has been consulting for several months with all of its Games partners, which includes the Government of Canada, on the financial and other arrangements for the Games. In this spirit of consultation, the Minister of State for Fitness and Amateur Sport (Mr. Olivier) met representatives of the organizing committee, and other Games partners, on December 22 to discuss the principles which might later be embodied in a government financing proposal. These consultations have produced an offer by the Canadian Government to provide \$200

million in direct financial assistance to the games. I stress the word "direct". Indeed, never before has any Canadian Government invested that much money in a sporting event.

● (1835)

The Hon. Member used Montreal as a parallel. I hope he will have the courtesy to research how all of that money was earned, and then draw parallels with other involvements. I stress to him that this is a direct financial investment, not indirect.

Our proposal, however, is not a blank cheque. It includes the appropriate terms and conditions to ensure that we know how our money will be spent. Comparisons with Montreal should include the fact that conditions and terms were applied there as well. The Games have now also received \$386 million from the sale of U.S. television rights. That is a record figure, some 250 per cent above the amount paid for the current games in Sarajevo.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, let me assure the Hon. Member that discussions are continuing on this issue. I personally expect that an agreement will be reached soon between the organizing committee and the Canadian Government, and that all Games' partners will be pleased by our generous mutual investment in the enduring benefits to high performance sport in Canada. Let me again wish everyone all the best. All of us are looking forward to a great time in Calgary.

[*Translation*]

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Herbert):** The motion to adjourn the House being deemed to have been adopted, this House stands adjourned until tomorrow at 11 a.m.

At 6.36 p.m. the House adjourned, without question put, pursuant to Standing Order.