

general public. I cannot confirm that each and every event will have 70 per cent availability. The Board of Directors of the organizing committee is currently reviewing the situation for specific events but I can guarantee the Hon. Member, the House and Canadians, that 75 per cent of total sales of tickets for the Calgary Olympics will be made available to the public.

REQUEST THAT MINISTER INTERVENE

**Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa):** Mr. Speaker, with respect to the Minister, he knows that the issue is not 75 per cent of tickets in general. The people of Canada want access to the most popular events. Will the Minister take steps to ensure that the general public will have full access to hockey games, speed skating and figure skating, and that at least the same percentage of the general public will be able to attend these Olympics as attended recent Olympics? Will the Minister give us that guarantee?

**Hon. Otto Jelinek (Minister of State (Fitness and Amateur Sport)):** Mr. Speaker, I can assure the Hon. Member that there will be an improvement over the sales that took place in Los Angeles. While I have the opportunity, I would also assure the House that the Olympic Games in Calgary will be the best ever Winter Olympic games in the history of the Olympic movement for Canada and for Canadians.

ALLOCATION OF TICKETS TO CORPORATE SPONSORS

**Hon. Douglas C. Frith (Sudbury):** Mr. Speaker, my question is also for the Minister responsible for fitness and amateur sport. Canadian taxpayers are putting out \$200 million in revenue for the Calgary Olympics. They put out \$62 million to build the Olympic park and \$35 million to build the speed skating oval. How can the Minister explain to the Canadian public that big business will have access to the best seats in the house while the ordinary taxpayer will get the leftovers?

**Hon. Otto Jelinek (Minister of State (Fitness and Amateur Sport)):** Mr. Speaker, once again the Hon. Member is totally wrong. The taxpayers are not making any direct contributions to the Calgary games. The \$200-million contribution made by the federal Government is non-tax-revenue dollars. I am glad to inform the Hon. Member of that.

**Mr. Broadbent:** Where does it come from?

**Mr. Blackburn (Brant):** What did you do, print it?

**Mr. Jelinek:** Second, the best seats will be available to the public, but the organizing committee is abiding by International Olympic Rule No. 60 which ensures that 25 per cent of tickets go to the Olympic family. That is not only big businesses that are investing in Canada and in the Olympic Games for the sake of Canadians—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

*Oral Questions*

SEAT ALLOCATION DISTRIBUTION

**Hon. Douglas C. Frith (Sudbury):** Mr. Speaker, would the Minister not agree that the seat allocation to the Olympic family and corporate sponsors is greater for the Calgary Olympics than it was for the Los Angeles Olympics and for the Montreal Olympics? I will tell you what the average guy in Sudbury wants to hear from you. He wants to hear that you are going to go up to bat so that he has a better than fifty-fifty chance to get the best seat in Calgary—

• (1430)

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The Hon. Member did ask a question.

**Hon. Otto Jelinek (Minister of State (Fitness and Amateur Sport)):** Mr. Speaker, I do not have to go to bat for the public to get a fifty-fifty chance. I have already gone to bat for the public to get a 75 per cent chance and the best available seats.

TICKETS FOR HOCKEY FINAL

**Mr. Iain Angus (Thunder Bay—Atikokan):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of State for Fitness and Amateur Sport. Will the Minister confirm that what he is saying is that an elite is going to have as much as 50 per cent of the tickets to the final hockey game at the Calgary Olympics?

**Some Hon. Members:** Shame, shame!

**Hon. Otto Jelinek (Minister of State (Fitness and Amateur Sport)):** I have just made it as clear as I possibly could that 75 per cent of all ticket sales for the Calgary Olympics are going to the public, and 25 per cent are going to the so-called Olympic family. If the Hon. Member is asking me to look into specific events with specific cases, I will be very happy to do so. But I remind the Hon. Member that the responsibility for the ticket sales rests with the organizing committee. I will stay on top of the issue and make certain that the Canadian public, and indeed the public at large, are treated fairly and equitably.

REQUEST THAT MINISTER INTERVENE WITH OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

**Mr. Iain Angus (Thunder Bay—Atikokan):** By way of a supplementary question does the Minister know that according to the current policy only 8,200 of the 16,000 hockey seats for the final game will be available? Will he intervene directly with OCO and say on behalf of the Canadian people that they have to have 75 per cent of those tickets for the hockey game, for speed skating, for figure skating, and for the other major events? Will he make that commitment?

**Hon. Otto Jelinek (Minister of State (Fitness and Amateur Sport)):** I repeat that the Olympic Organizing Committee is reviewing the whole process on a case-by-case basis. I will make representations to OCO to make certain that Hon. Member gets as good a seat as possible.