

Borrowing Authority Act

The President of the Treasury Board says we are getting top value for our tax dollars. That is rhetoric this House cannot stand. I have great respect for the ability of the President of the Treasury Board but I do not agree with his ideologies. I think we have reaped the benefit of his opportunity and policies in government. I have a great deal of trouble accepting what is valid in any statement the President of the Treasury Board makes. When I sat on the other side of the House, I listened to him every single day saying that he would resign if interest rates went above 14 per cent. Every single day he said that.

Mr. Mazankowski: Another Liberal broken promise.

Mr. Huntington: Yes, another Liberal broken promise. Then he stands here today, Mr. Speaker, and tell us that he is delivering top value for the tax dollar. I remember \$34 million being given to Maislin, given to a friend of the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau), after the company was in a bankrupt condition. The President of the Treasury Board was the Minister responsible for delivering that bail-out. How, then, can you accept the validity of what is right in what the President of the Treasury Board says, Mr. Speaker, when he overruled the Enterprise Development Board when he was Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce and delivered \$9 million to a friend in his riding building a Hilton Hotel on an interest-free loan? Is this giving the people of Canada top value for their tax dollars? It is this kind of behavioural aberration that destroys the rhetoric that is delivered here. Are we getting top value for our tax dollars, Sir?

In the month of February alone I found a whole series of ads paid for by Canadians. They are for art, Summer Works Canada; and there are more, and more, and more of them. These ads cost hundreds of thousands of dollars. They are full page ads. One reads: "Good news from CMHC", a housing authority. We have a "fall rhapsody". This ad constitutes a full page in a magazine. This is top value for our Canadian dollar? We have ad after ad after ad. I have one for human resources. It is in colour. Isn't that marvelous? We are getting top value for our dollar? Our fish are dying in streams because the Department of Fisheries and Oceans does not have the few dollars needed to send out a crew of students or unemployed people to wash off the silt smothering the eggs. There is something wrong with the priorities here. This Government feeds our tax dollars out to a publishing industry full of advocacy nonsense. These ads include fish recipes. And we are getting top value for our dollar, Mr. Speaker?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. As Hon. Members know, displays are not allowed in the House.

Mr. Harquail: That is shameful.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. I really do not know how to interpret the Hon. Member's gestures, but I would simply make that comment and invite him to co-operate.

Mr. Mazankowski: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. When you are dealing with corruption, Sir, you use every conceivable device at your disposal.

Mr. Harquail: That is provincial jurisdiction. Admit it.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. Hon. Members surely know the rules of debate. I invite them to respect them.

Mr. Thacker: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. It has always amazed me that this is the only place in the country where telling the truth can get you sanctioned.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Chair was not commenting on the Hon. Member's speech in any way, shape or form. I simply suggest that in keeping with earlier rulings from the Chair there should not be displays in the House. I will not prevent the Hon. Member from demonstrating his ire. That is not for me to say or to do.

Mr. Huntington: I trust, Mr. Speaker, that this myriad of interventions will be added on to the time I have for my speech. Usually the Government gives me the courtesy of extended time.

An Hon. Member: No way.

Mr. Huntington: No way?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I will resolve that matter immediately. The Chair will exercise its usual discretion.

Mr. Huntington: I am perfectly satisfied with that, Mr. Speaker, because I find you are very fair.

While we are talking about top value for our dollar, let us move on to Winnipeg. Only two Liberals have been elected west of the Lakehead. This Minister is able to deliver \$780 million to his city. Every time this Government stands up with its perfect, beautiful, massaged, professionally-written speeches, it always talks about equity and fairness. I remember \$1.3 million in the City of Winnipeg being spread around in advertisements and speeches by the Minister from Winnipeg. It was a make-work project for Canadians to go into the Max Bell Athletic Centre.

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All of this rhetoric, and what do they do? We have in Canada one of the finest, most renowned experts in the world on the design and building of track and athletic facilities. He has even had design awards from Italy, the mother base of design talent. This man, who lives in my riding, is in desperate need of work. He has a small staff he is trying to keep employed. This Minister with the \$780 million, delivering \$1.3 million in make-work projects supposedly for Canadians, hires an American as the consultant to work on the design of this track facility in Winnipeg. Why does he hire an American when Canadian designers need that work in Canada? Canadian designers gave of their talent before the Government came through with the money. This is what is going on. In his speech, the Minister talked about top value for the tax dollar.