

pushed through the House, it will create jobs. There will be people needed to sell the lottery tickets. There are two million unemployed Canadians out there, some of whom are watching the House of Commons this evening. I suggest to every one of them that they write to the Prime Minister and say, "I want a job selling lottery tickets". They could go one step further. If they do not obtain the jobs, they could ask the Prime Minister for a list of those who got the jobs and ask him to put a little asterisk beside the ones who were on unemployment insurance or who were unemployed. I bet there will not be many asterisks, that those jobs will not go to unemployed Canadians. They could ask him to put two asterisks opposite the names of those who donated money to the Liberal Party in the last year, and I bet there would be quite a few of those asterisks.

We are not dealing tonight with a piece of legislation that makes any sense in relation to funding the Olympics. We have the experience of the Province of Quebec trying a similar idea which is going bankrupt. It will not make money, it will not get the job done. It leaves volunteers in the City of Calgary, people who are donating their time and effort to the success of this endeavour, on the horns of a dilemma. Because there is no guaranteed funding, they cannot plan.

The reputation of Canada is at stake in the international community. Our Party has made a firm commitment. If we were the government, and when we become the government we will write a cheque to the Calgary Olympic Authority and give it the money it needs to protect Canada's reputation in the international community. That is our promise, that is our commitment. It has been clear and it has been consistent.

I urge some free-thinking Members of the Liberal Party of Canada when the vote comes to be absent from the House or to have the courage to rise and vote against it. I encourage them to take their lead from the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Miss Bégin) who stated in committee that she despised lotteries. We do not need one. We do not want one. We should keep our commitment to the Calgary Olympics, but we should get rid of this piece of legislation and move on to something else.

[Translation]

Mr. Pelletier: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Hon. Member if he is prepared to accept questions.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): I ought to interrupt the Hon. Member for Sherbrooke (Mr. Pelletier), but—

[English]

Apparently he seeks the unanimous consent of the House to pose a question to the Hon. Member for Calgary West (Mr. Hawkes), but it has to be sought before he proceeds. Is there unanimous consent for the Hon. Member to ask a question?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

[Translation]

Mr. Pelletier: Mr. Speaker, I am flabbergasted at the Hon. Member's speech.

Athletic Contests and Events Pools Act

This is the party which in 1979 abolished Loto Canada and assistance to amateur sport. I remember quite clearly that universities and provinces and many people involved in amateur sport in this country protested against this action, and the Hon. Member, who was the Minister responsible for Sports at the time, received requests from a great many people in this country. People asked him to make sure that amateur sport would be protected. Since the Hon. Member had been involved in professional sports, he said that Canadians themselves would take care of that and that people across the country in the private sector would be able to help amateur sport. This plan was bound to fail. And now the Hon. Member is saying that the Liberal Party is responsible for the lack of funds for the Calgary Games. That is simply ridiculous. If there is one party in Canada that is responsible for having practically done away with amateur sport in this country, it is the Hon. Member's party, which did not bother to protect Loto Canada—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): Order please. The Hon. Member asked for unanimous consent in order to ask a question. I have yet to hear the Hon. Member's question.

Mr. Pelletier: Mr. Speaker, first of all, I would like to know whether the Hon. Member consulted Canadian universities about the cuts that were made when his party was in power, and second, because I also happen to know very well the people who are organizing the Calgary Olympics, I would like to know—

● (2120)

[English]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): Order please. One at a time.

Mr. Hawkes: Mr. Speaker, it may interest the Hon. Member to know that I was a member of the academic community in the university for some considerable period of time prior to my election, and I stay in touch with those organizations on quite a regular basis. I am fully aware of the negative impact on those institutions of the recent budget cuts by successive Ministers of Finance in terms of transfer payments. They are in fact very, very difficult for the university to deal with and absorb.

In my previous incarnation as an academic, I taught the issue of policy making and policy development. One of the fundamental principles of that is that any group, organization or Government is forced to make choices. It is not always possible to do all things. I point out to the Hon. Member that in two Crown corporations, Petro-Canada and Canadair, the Government has chosen to spend \$2,400 million in the last 12 months in subsidies. The Olympic bill would be \$200 million spread over eight years. That is \$2,400 million of choice which the Cabinet has made essentially because the backbenchers in that Party have not held the Cabinet accountable to make decent public policy choices.