

Point of Order—Mr. Gray (Windsor West)

the Minister taking to protect Canadian consumers in light of the recently announced increase in wheat prices and in light of the fact that in the last five years profits have gone up while wheat prices have fallen?

Mr. Bill Domm (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs and Canada Post): Mr. Speaker, I welcome the opportunity to advise the House on behalf of the Minister that a committee is currently studying this issue. It is chaired by our colleague, the Hon. Member for Crowfoot.

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[Translation]

REGIONAL INDUSTRIAL EXPANSION**APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS BY MAGNA INTERNATIONAL OR SUBSIDIARIES**

M. Jean-Claude Malépart (Montreal—Sainte-Marie): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion. Could the Minister confirm to the House that his department has other applications for grants that were filed by Magna and its subsidiaries, mainly Multimatic Inc.?

[English]

Hon. Sinclair Stevens (Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion): Mr. Speaker, I will take that as a representation. I will check as to whether there are any applications.

I would emphasize once again, though, that there may well be applications pending, coming out of the Memorandum of Understanding to which I referred, that was signed by Mr. Lumley. I emphasize that if one listens to the Opposition, they are saying in effect that it is okay as long as it is a Liberal Government that is dealing with this company, but a Conservative Government—

Mr. Broadbent: You don't understand the issue.

Mr. Stevens: —should not be dealing with them. Why they continually malign companies such as Magna International and Hyundai, I just don't understand.

Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra): That is the problem.

Mr. Broadbent: You don't understand.

Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra): That is the real problem.

Mr. Speaker: Order.

[Translation]

REQUEST THAT MINISTER REFRAIN FROM MAKING DECISIONS ON GRANTS

Mr. Jean-Claude Malépart (Montreal—Sainte-Marie): Mr. Speaker, I am surprised that in a case like this, the Minister doesn't know whether his company has filed further applications for grants. Could the Minister give the House the

assurance, considering our information that there have been further applications for grants, that he will not be the one to decide whether or not these companies are eligible for the grants?

[English]

Hon. Sinclair Stevens (Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion): Mr. Speaker, I thought I made that clear. I said that I heard the Hon. Member and would take his question as a representation and would check. However, the normal process in our Department is that these applications proceed without any reference to me or any other Minister until a recommendation is in hand. It then comes to our economic development board which is made up of five Ministers and dealt with either on a positive or negative basis.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. It is three o'clock.

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POINT OF ORDER**REQUEST THAT MINISTER TABLE DOCUMENT CITED**

Hon. Herb Gray (Windsor West): Mr. Speaker, I will defer asking the business question until after a House Leaders' meeting which will take place later this afternoon. However, during the Question Period, the Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion appeared to be quoting from or citing a document under the jurisdiction of the Government. I would like to ask him to follow the usual practice and table that document.

● (1500)

Hon. Sinclair Stevens (Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion): Mr. Speaker, I think what the Hon. Member was referring to were notes I had of certain transactions.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Gray (Windsor West): The Minister held up a document—

Mr. Benjamin: A Memorandum of Agreement.

Mr. Gray (Windsor West): —and it would appear that he referred to it as the "Memorandum of Understanding", according to my recollection. He pointed to a table in it. I think he should live up to the long-standing traditions of this House and table the document in question.

Mr. Hnatyshyn: Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member may not be satisfied with the clear answer given by the Minister, but when the Minister says they are notes, they are notes, and that is too bad for the Hon. Member for Windsor West (Mr. Gray).

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!