

world. Year in, year out, Canadians took for granted that their teams would come home with lopsided victories. Then in the 1960s, someone from 11,000 kilometres away figured out how to beat us. They changed the way our game was played. They out-skated and out-shot us. They beat us too ... and kept beating us until we learned how to innovate, how to adapt, how to upgrade and how to outsmart them. And now we are winning again because we have changed. Winning again, but not all the time; competition is tougher today than it was in the 1960s. But we have built our team back to being among the best, and we can remain among the best if we continue to innovate and improve.

As a country we are like our hockey team. We spent our first 100 years living off our resources, and we beat the competition easily. For the next 20 years we lived off our credit, and found we were slipping. Now we have to demonstrate that we can recover our position off the ice as well as on it.

Our history tells us that we can, and individual companies are showing every day that indeed we can, by innovating and upgrading. Now we have to do the same as a country. Whenever we have put our minds to a problem, we have licked it. I have said this morning that we have something to be concerned about Mr. Speaker, and we have. I am reassured by the knowledge that when Canadians roll up their sleeves, the job gets done. I know we can do it.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.