

have it as a public document. We have laid out a whole set of elements.

• (1550)

Let me indicate simply one of the critical ones. That is we have torn a page out of President Reagan's book when he introduced in the United States a minimum corporate tax. He noticed, as we do in Canada, that thousands—as a matter of fact the last count in Canada was 69,000 probable corporations—do not pay a single cent in income tax. The American administration said that this was wrong. We are saying this is wrong, and we are saying that we should introduce a minimum corporate tax in this country so that those 69,000 profitable companies pay their fair share.

I think it is wrong, as do all Canadians, when the teller in the Royal Bank pays more income tax in some years than the entire Royal Bank of Canada. We say that is a wrong tax system.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

[*Translation*]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): Order, please. Just a few words to explain exactly what is going on. The NDP leader asked that the 20-minute period be shared by two speakers, and I was under the impression that the period of questions and comments would follow the two speeches. I apologize, for I should have recognized a member on the other side, but I will make up for it after the next speech. The hon. member for New Westminster—Burnaby now has the floor for ten minutes.

[*English*]

Ms. Dawn Black (New Westminster—Burnaby): Mr. Speaker, today it is two years since I was first elected, and it is the second anniversary of the re-election of this government on the other side. The motion that we have before us today only confirms what the Canadian people are saying: that it is time that this government stepped down. It is time that this Prime Minister stepped down and that we had an election in this country. That is what Canadians from coast to coast are asking.

On the second anniversary of the re-election of this government, I would like to take a look at its record for women in this country. This government has been an absolute disaster for the women of Canada. After making countless promises during the last election campaign on where it stood on equality for women in

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Canada, it has done nothing. It has done worse than nothing, Mr. Speaker. It has taken the women of Canada backward.

This government has been an absolute disaster for the women of Canada. Never mind the fact that, as the House leader for the New Democrats said, it cares nothing about public opinion; as evidenced by its introduction of a criminal abortion law which violates the values of the majority of the Canadian people.

After three years with no criminal law on abortion, this government puts it back in the Criminal Code. After three years in which there has been no evidence of an increase in the number of abortions in this country; after three years in which Canadian women have proven themselves to be people of integrity and have proven themselves to be people who can be trusted, this government puts abortion back in the Criminal Code.

Never mind the big promises of the Prime Minister, one of which I will quote from the election campaign. The Prime Minister said that a "Conservative government will not be inhibited by dollar amounts" when it comes to supporting equality-seeking endeavours. This government has not only broken that promise, Mr. Speaker, it shattered the "sacred trust"—words of the Prime Minister—of 52 per cent of the Canadian electorate: the women of Canada.

In the last budget alone, the finance minister proclaimed cuts to women's programs and to women's groups, a \$1.6 million cut from the Secretary of State Women's Program; cuts to child care, a \$1.75 million cut from Health and Welfare's Child Care Initiative Fund.

By the way, where is that national child care program we keep hearing about? Where is that national child care program we heard about in the 1984 election campaign, the national child care program which we heard about again in the 1988 election campaign? Where is that for the children of this country? Where is the \$6.4 billion that was promised over and over again?

Not only that money has disappeared, so has the Prime Minister's credibility disappeared. Salt is being rubbed into the wounds of women through additional cuts to the Canada Assistance Program in Ontario, in Alberta, and in my province of British Columbia. It is important to understand that the Canada Assistance Plan is the current federal-provincial funding mechanism for shelters for battered women. It is also the current funding formula for child care spaces in our country, and this