# Excise Tax Act

### Mr. Hnatyshyn: Mr. Speaker-

**Mr. Speaker:** I am in some difficulty given the fact that we are past six o'clock p.m. of this parliamentary day. I suggest that those matters could be discussed outside the House in context.

#### Some Hon. Members: No.

**Mr. Speaker:** If the Members wish to discuss this matter by unanimous consent, we are going to run into a problem. The Hon. Government House Leader, briefly.

**Mr. Hnatyshyn:** Mr. Speaker, suffice it to say that of course we are amenable, with respect to the Criminal Code amendments, to working on the basis of consensus. As the Opposition House Leader will know, I have had discussions with both opposition Parties. At this point in time it is not possible to arrive at a consensus with respect to this matter, but I take it that he is opening that matter up for discussion.

With respect to the second item, I guess he will have to make up his mind, Mr. Speaker. If he wants to discuss matters in House Leaders' meetings and then ask for a response here, come on to the floor of the House of Commons and start negotiating in public, I guess he will have to decide how he wants, on behalf of his Party, if he indeed speaks for his Party, to conduct the negotiations with respect to House business. I am happy to carry on the tradition of dealing in a spirit of co-operation in House Leaders' meetings with the opposition House Leader, but I am not going to sit and negotiate publicly a matter that he initiated privately.

**Mr. Speaker:** The rules require me to find that it is after six o'clock p.m. The Hon. Member for Hamilton Mountain (Mr. Deans) on the same point of order.

**Mr. Deans:** Mr. Speaker, I cannot see that anything useful is being achieved at the moment. I would like to invite my colleagues to join me and perhaps we can discuss these matters.

#### Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

**Mr. Speaker:** It being after six o'clock p.m., this House stands adjourned until eleven o'clock a.m. later this day.

At 10.54 a.m. the House adjourned.

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# NAYS Messrs.

Allmand	Frith	McCurdy
Althouse	Fulton	Mitchell (Ms.)
Angus	Garneau	Murphy
Baker	Gauthier	Nicholson (Miss)
Blaikie	Gray	(Trinity)
Boudria	(Windsor West)	Nunziata
Broadbent	Guilbault	Nystrom
Caccia	(Saint-Jacques)	Orlikow
Cassidy	Jewett (Ms.)	Ouellet
Copps (Ms.)	Johnston	Penner
Deans	(Saint-Henri-Westmount)	Pépin (Mrs.)
de Corneille	Kaplan	Prud'homme
Dingwall	Keeper	Riis
Epp	Lapierre	Robichaud
(Thunder Bay-Nipigon)	MacLellan	Skelly
Finestone	Malépart	Waddell-44.
(Mrs.)	Marchi	

• (1050)

Mr. Speaker: I declare the motion carried.

**Mr. Hnatyshyn:** I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker. I should rise at this time to indicate that when the House reconvenes for business today at the normal hour, eleven o'clock this morning, we propose to call forward for second reading the Bill dealing with amendments to the Criminal Code. If that were to pass we would then consider going on to the currency Bill which should receive first reading later today. The borrowing Bill would be the third option.

**Mr. Gray (Windsor West):** Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Hon. House Leader a question? Firstly, what is the disposition of the Government to split the Bill amending the Criminal Code so that the drunk driving provisions can go through possibly immediately? I say this by way of inquiry. Secondly, when will I get a response to the very reasonable request that was made by our Leader in the House yesterday for a special debate on the subject of the protection of our social programs, before the House rises for Christmas?

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