

Brad Trost, MP
Saskatoon – Humboldt

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News Release

MP Trost concerned about High Concert Ticket Prices

Conservative government refers matter to Competition Bureau for Review

OTTAWA – Brad Trost, Member of Parliament for Saskatoon-Humboldt, asked the following question about consumers' complaints about concert ticket prices in the House of Commons during Question Period today, Wednesday, March 4, 2009:

Mr. Bradley Trost (Saskatoon—Humboldt, CPC): “Mr. Speaker, for Canadians to secure tickets to their favourite sporting events and concerts, it can often be a very costly process. Often as tickets go on sale, consumers complain of immediately being redirected to websites where prices are exponentially higher than face value.

“I note that this week the Ontario attorney general announced that he is launching a probe into Ticketmaster's practices, and the government of Saskatchewan is also investigating this matter.

“Could the minister please inform this House of the actions our government is taking?”

Hon. Tony Clement (Minister of Industry, CPC): “Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the member for Saskatoon—Humboldt for the question. It is very timely. As a regular concertgoer myself, I have noticed this trend.

“I can assure this House that the government will not stand idly by when there is potential that companies are engaged in uncompetitive practices that are hurting consumers.

“That is why I am referring this matter directly to the Competition Bureau for its review. If there are any uncompetitive practices that are being used, Canadians can rest assured that this government will take actions.”

For more information, contact the Ottawa office of MP Brad Trost at (613) 992-8052.