



SECOND SESSION - TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

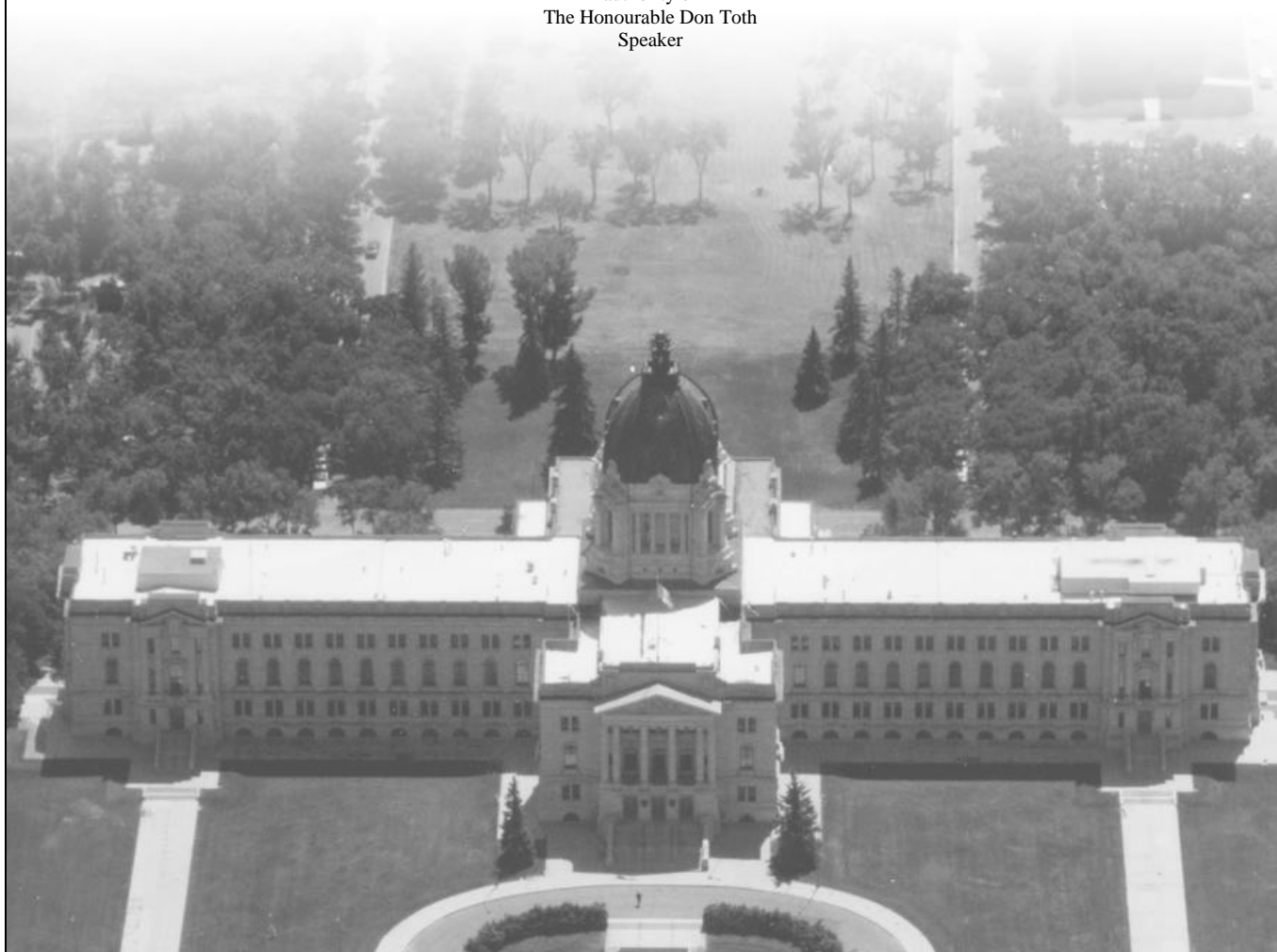
of the

Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

**DEBATES
and
PROCEEDINGS**

(HANSARD)

Published under the
authority of
The Honourable Don Toth
Speaker



MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF SASKATCHEWAN

Speaker — Hon. Don Toth
 Premier — Hon. Brad Wall
 Leader of the Opposition — Lorne Calvert

Name of Member	Political Affiliation	Constituency
Allchurch, Denis	SP	Rosthern-Shellbrook
Atkinson, Pat	NDP	Saskatoon Nutana
Belanger, Buckley	NDP	Athabasca
Bjornerud, Hon. Bob	SP	Melville-Saltcoats
Boyd, Hon. Bill	SP	Kindersley
Bradshaw, Fred	SP	Carrot River Valley
Brkich, Greg	SP	Arm River-Watrous
Broten, Cam	NDP	Saskatoon Massey Place
Calvert, Lorne	NDP	Saskatoon Riversdale
Cheveldayoff, Hon. Ken	SP	Saskatoon Silver Springs
Chisholm, Michael	SP	Cut Knife-Turtleford
D'Autremont, Hon. Dan	SP	Cannington
Draude, Hon. June	SP	Kelvington-Wadena
Duncan, Dustin	SP	Weyburn-Big Muddy
Eagles, Doreen	SP	Estevan
Elhard, Hon. Wayne	SP	Cypress Hills
Forbes, David	NDP	Saskatoon Centre
Furber, Darcy	NDP	Prince Albert Northcote
Gantefoer, Hon. Rod	SP	Melfort
Harpauer, Hon. Donna	SP	Humboldt
Harper, Ron	NDP	Regina Northeast
Harrison, Jeremy	SP	Meadow Lake
Hart, Glen	SP	Last Mountain-Touchwood
Heppner, Hon. Nancy	SP	Martensville
Hickie, Hon. Darryl	SP	Prince Albert Carlton
Higgins, Deb	NDP	Moose Jaw Wakamow
Hutchinson, Hon. Bill	SP	Regina South
Huyghebaert, Yogi	SP	Wood River
Iwanchuk, Andy	NDP	Saskatoon Fairview
Junor, Judy	NDP	Saskatoon Eastview
Kirsch, Delbert	SP	Batoche
Krawetz, Hon. Ken	SP	Canora-Pelly
LeClerc, Serge	SP	Saskatoon Northwest
McCall, Warren	NDP	Regina Elphinstone-Centre
McMillan, Tim	SP	Lloydminster
McMorris, Hon. Don	SP	Indian Head-Milestone
Michelson, Warren	SP	Moose Jaw North
Morgan, Hon. Don	SP	Saskatoon Southeast
Morin, Sandra	NDP	Regina Walsh Acres
Nilson, John	NDP	Regina Lakeview
Norris, Hon. Rob	SP	Saskatoon Greystone
Ottobreit, Greg	SP	Yorkton
Quennell, Frank	NDP	Saskatoon Meewasin
Reiter, Jim	SP	Rosetown-Elrose
Ross, Laura	SP	Regina Qu'Appelle Valley
Schriemer, Joceline	SP	Saskatoon Sutherland
Stewart, Hon. Lyle	SP	Thunder Creek
Taylor, Len	NDP	The Battlefords
Tell, Hon. Christine	SP	Regina Wascana Plains
Toth, Hon. Don	SP	Moosomin
Trew, Kim	NDP	Regina Coronation Park
Van Mulligen, Harry	NDP	Regina Douglas Park
Vermette, Doyle	NDP	Cumberland
Wall, Hon. Brad	SP	Swift Current
Weekes, Randy	SP	Biggar
Wilson, Nadine	SP	Saskatchewan Rivers
Wotherspoon, Trent	NDP	Regina Rosemont
Yates, Kevin	NDP	Regina Dewdney

[The Assembly met at 13:30.]

[Prayers]

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Agriculture.

Hon. Mr. Bjornerud: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, to you and through you to all members of the Assembly, I'd like to introduce representatives of the canola industry. Just to start with, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to introduce Kelvin Meadows, chairman of the Saskatchewan Canola Development Commission; Catherine Folkersen, executive director of the Saskatchewan Canola Commission; Dave Hickling, vice-president of the canola utilization, Canola Council of Canada; and Jim Everson, vice-president of corporate affairs, Canola Council of Canada.

Mr. Speaker, as we all know, canola is a vital part of our agriculture industry in Saskatchewan. Last year alone Saskatchewan producers grew about 7.7 million acres of canola which generated about \$2 billion in farm cash receipts and 5 billion in overall economic activity in Saskatchewan.

Mr. Speaker, my colleagues and I will be joining and meeting with them later on at a reception. And I would ask all members to welcome them here to their legislature today.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Nutana.

Ms. Atkinson: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. On behalf of the official opposition, I too want to welcome members of the Canola Commission to our legislature this afternoon. I know that all members are looking forward to the reception between 5 and 7 this evening.

I will note, Mr. Speaker, that I think that they were quite ingenious in terms of how they got us to that reception with a little kit of crushing canola. We want to thank them for that. The more that we can raise the profile of canola in our province and in our country, we certainly will add to the advancement of this particular agri-food industry.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. It's a pleasure for me to introduce to you and through you to all members of this Assembly, a special guest who's joined us in your gallery today. The consul general for India, Mr. Ashok Das, is with us today in the province of Saskatchewan meeting with officials, elected and otherwise, in our province. And we want to welcome him here to this Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Speaker, it's important to note that India is now the second

largest customer for Saskatchewan exports in terms of the global economy — \$1.114 billion worth of exports to India last year, Mr. Speaker. And you will know that our government is very interested in further diversifying our export interests. And frankly, we're very interested in developing an even stronger relationship with India, with its entrepreneurs and companies, and linking them to our own businesses and companies here in the province of Saskatchewan.

So I get to meet with the consul general later this afternoon, and we'll be talking about these and other matters. In the meantime, I want to ask all members to help me welcome him to this Legislative Assembly today.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Calvert: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to join with the Premier in welcoming the consul general to the legislature and to Saskatchewan on his first visit. And I wish the Premier and he well, and all that you will meet with, to foster and build that relationship which is so important between our province and India, not only in the trading aspect of our relationship but in the human aspect. We have a large and growing Indo-Canadian community in Saskatchewan — which I'm sure, sir, that you will encounter while you're here — contributing a great deal to the culture of our province, both economically and culturally. And on behalf of the official opposition, I'd want to extend our deep welcome.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Regina Walsh Acres.

Ms. Morin: — Mr. Speaker, c'est mon plaisir de vous présenter 65 étudiants de l'École St. Mary à la circonscription électorale Regina Walsh Acres. Les enseignants avec les étudiants sont Mme. Carrie Vany — merci beaucoup — Mme. Erin Dubord, M. Frank Gelinas, et le directeur-adjoint, M. Paul Tourigny. Ce matin les élèves ont eu la chance de visiter le palais législatif. Ensuite ils ont fait une tournée autour du lac Wascana pour finir un projet. Ça me fait grand plaisir d'accueillir ces élèves et leurs enseignants ici cet après-midi pour observer notre procès législatif. J'invite mes collègues de leur souhaiter la bienvenue et on leur envoie nos meilleurs vœux pour leur succès à l'école. Merci beaucoup.

[Translation: Mr. Speaker, it's my pleasure to introduce to you 65 students from École St. Mary in the Walsh Acres constituency. The teachers with the students are Mrs. Carrie Vany — thank you very much — Mrs. Erin Dubord, Mr. Frank Gelinas, and the vice-principal, Mr. Paul Tourigny. This morning the students had the chance to tour the Legislative Building. Then they walked around Wascana Lake to finish a project. It gives me great pleasure to welcome these students and their teachers here this afternoon to observe our legislative process. I ask all members to welcome them, and we wish you every success at school. Thank you very much.]

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Toth: — Members, I would also like to inform you of a group that are visiting the Chamber — actually the second time — a group of students from Cowessess Community Educational Centre. We have five students from 7 and 8. They're accompanied by their teachers, Ann Dusterbeck and Warren Daniels. They have come back to the Assembly just to spend a bit more time to observe the proceedings, not just question period but the transition to the business section as well. So I invite members to join with me in welcoming these students to the Assembly.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

PRESENTING PETITIONS

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Moose Jaw Wakamow.

Ms. Higgins: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Well, Mr. Speaker, it's well known that inadequate access to quality and affordable child care is a major roadblock for parents who want to access the labour market or further their own education and that too many Saskatchewan families are struggling or unable to find quality child care for their children, and this truly limits their future. And the prayer reads:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Legislative Assembly may be pleased to cause the government through consultation with the child care community to immediately invest in growing the capacity of the early child care community to enable new child care spaces. This investment must include infrastructure funding for new facilities and expansion, funding to significantly increase the number of early childhood diploma and certificate training seats, and funding to ensure that the sector is able to increase its wages and benefits to attract and retain the needed personnel.

And as in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

On behalf of Saskatchewan families, Mr. Speaker, I so present.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Fairview.

Mr. Iwanchuk: — Mr. Speaker, I stand and present a petition in support of the indexing minimum wage. Increases to minimum wage help low-income individuals and families improve their standard of living and build a better future, Mr. Speaker. And the prayer reads:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Legislative Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to commit to indexing Saskatchewan minimum wage to ensure that the standard of living of minimum wage earners is maintained in the face of the cost of living increases.

And as in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

The petition is signed by residents of Regina. I so submit.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Centre.

Mr. Forbes: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to present a petition calling for wage equity for CBO [community-based organization] workers. And we know that many of these workers in community-based organizations in Saskatchewan have traditionally been underpaid and many continue to earn poverty level wages. I would like to read the prayer.

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Assembly may be pleased to cause the development and implementation of a multi-year funding plan to ensure that CBO workers achieve wage equity with employees who perform work of equal value in government departments.

And as in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

And these petitioners come from Moosomin, Maryfield, Whitewood, Rocanville, Kennedy, Langenburg, Weyburn, Carlyle, and Regina. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Regina Walsh Acres.

Ms. Morin: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise to present a petition on behalf of rural residents of Saskatchewan who question why the Sask Party government is leaving them behind when it comes to providing safe and affordable water. Mr. Speaker, the prayer reads as follows:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Legislative Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to financially assist the town of Duck Lake residents for the good of their health and safety due to the exorbitant water rates being forced on them by a government agency, and that this government fulfills its commitment to rural Saskatchewan.

As in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

I so present, Mr. Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from The Battlefords.

Mr. Taylor: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I'm pleased to rise today to present a petition in support of a new Saskatchewan Hospital. Mr. Speaker, the petitioners note that Prairie North Regional Health Authority has indicated the construction of a new Saskatchewan Hospital is a priority and has committed resources to develop preliminary facility and site plans. Mr. Speaker, the petitioners ask:

... the Legislative Assembly to call upon the government of Saskatchewan to immediately recommit funds and resources for the continued development and construction of a new Saskatchewan Hospital at North Battleford and provide the Prairie North Regional Health Authority with the authority

necessary to complete this essential and much-needed project.

Mr. Speaker, the petitioners all come from The Battlefords and area. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Massey Place.

Mr. Broten: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand to present a petition in support of expansion of the graduate retention program to ensure fairness for all post-secondary students here in the province. The prayer reads:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Legislative Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to immediately expand the graduate retention program to include master's and Ph.D. graduates.

And as in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

Mr. Speaker, the individuals who signed this petition are students from the University of Regina as well as the University of Saskatchewan. I so present.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Cumberland.

Mr. Vermette: — Mr. Speaker, I rise today to present a petition in support of a long-term care facility in La Ronge. The prayer reads as follows:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Legislative Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to immediately invest in the planning and construction of long-term care beds in La Ronge.

And as in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

Mr. Speaker, the petition is signed by the good people of La Ronge, Stanley Mission, and area. I so present.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from P.A. [Prince Albert] Carlton.

Prince Albert Parkland Health Region Volunteer Recognition Event

Hon. Mr. Hickie: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Last night I had the honour of attending the Prince Albert Parkland Health Region's greatest natural resource volunteers recognition event with my colleague, Health minister, Don McMorris.

The Prince Albert Parkland Health Region has 3,500 volunteers and over 48,000 hours of time volunteered yearly. The region is the third largest of the province's health regions, and also

provides a range of specialty services in neighbouring regions.

Last night 218 volunteers were recognized; some with 5-, 10-, 15-, 20-, and 25-year awards, and even a few with 30- and 35-year awards. These individuals give of their time selflessly year after year, and I was pleased to be in attendance for their recognition. Without these volunteers, the city of Prince Albert and its health region would not be where they are today.

There were also volunteer groups recognized with the Royal Canadian Legion Ladies Auxiliary Branch No. 122 receiving an award for 55 years of volunteering with the health region. One particular individual caught my attention and touched my heart. Alexis Chamberlain received her five-year volunteerism award, and she is only nine years old. With children like Alexis contributing to our province, the future is truly bright.

So today, Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join with me in thanking the 218 volunteers that were recognized last night in Prince Albert, and the thousands more that give of their time in our great province.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Eastview.

World Health Day

Ms. Junor: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When diplomats from around the globe came together to form the United Nations in 1945, one of the items they discussed was starting up a global health organization. This came to be known as the World Health Organization or WHO. The WHO's constitution came into force on April 7, 1948. Each year, countries around the world celebrate April 7 as World Health Day.

Each year, World Health Day picks a specific health theme to highlight a priority area of concern for the WHO. Over the past 61 years, World Health Day has brought to light numerous health issues. Previous World Health Day themes have included: protecting health from the adverse effects of climate change, make every mother and child count, safe motherhood, active aging makes a difference, and mental health.

World Health Day 2009 focuses on the safety of health facilities and the readiness of health workers who treat those affected by emergencies. The WHO recognizes this as an important theme due to the changing nature of the world's climate and the increasing number of incidences of natural disasters that have arisen over the past few years. And most recently, we've seen the earthquake in Italy. The WHO points out that 11,000 medical institutions were damaged in China's Wenchuan earthquake in May 2008, forcing tens of thousands of people to seek treatment elsewhere.

World Health Day is marked by activities that extend around the globe and beyond the day itself. Events this year will advocate for safe facility design and construction, to build awareness and momentum for widespread emergency preparedness, and acknowledge countries around the world that are working to keep hospitals safe and to improve preparedness in order to protect lives. This day serves as an important

opportunity to focus on worldwide awareness of these global health priorities. Thank you.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

[13:45]

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Regina Qu'Appelle Valley.

Paragon Awards

Ms. Ross: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, on April 2, the annual Paragon Business Excellence Awards, sponsored by the Regina & District Chamber of Commerce were held at the Queensbury Convention Centre in Regina. The Paragon Awards represent the recognition of the chamber of commerce for its members of the business community that have demonstrated exceptional performance in a number of specific areas.

The categories and their award recipients for this year are business of the year, Viterra; export achievement, Viterra; young entrepreneur, Barry Chamryk of Wee-Haul Delivery; community involvement, Group Medical Services; community alliance, Z99 Adopt a Family; marketing and promotional achievement, 1-800-Got-Junk?; customer service, 1-800-Got-Junk?; new business ventures, Imagination Ink; diversity, Partners in Employment; environmental excellence, La Bodega.

Congratulations to all the businesses for their hard work, their innovation which has won them the praise of their peers.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to also take this opportunity to offer a special congratulations to Bill Thorn, the Regina franchise owner of 1-800-Got-Junk? He's a resident of my constituency of Regina Qu'Appelle Valley. Congratulations to all of the winners. Thank you.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Moose Jaw Wakamow.

Moose Jaw Artist Exhibits Work

Ms. Higgins: — Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to speak about one of Moose Jaw's great artists, Gus Froese. Mr. Froese has painted more than 100 murals across Canada and around the world, and now he has a collection of works on display at the Moose Jaw Cultural Centre, representing 50 years of painting and sketching. Many of the pieces were inspired by the artist's life experiences but, Mr. Speaker, my favourites are the ones that depict the history of our community and our province.

Mr. Froese said, "It was like writing my memoirs," when assembling the pieces for the show. The earliest piece for display dates back to 1958 and the latest, from 2008, labelled a retrospective of his work. Many of the paintings are landscapes, but there are some portraits as well. The Saskatchewan Dragons commissioned Froese to paint two portraits of Prince

Edward who is the honorary commander of the military reserve unit based in Moose Jaw. One of the portraits was taken to Buckingham Palace and presented to Prince Edward.

While Gus made time for art during his many years as a teacher, it took 23 years before he was able to live his life as a full-time artist. Mr. Froese has given many weekend art instructions and workshops over the years and contributed greatly to our community. Mr. Speaker, I ask that the members join me in congratulating Gus Froese on his exemplary work. Over the years he has found satisfaction in sharing his love of art, and I thank him.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Batoche.

Wakaw Couple Donates Ambulance to Congo

Mr. Kirsch: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm pleased today to pay tribute to two very special constituents of mine. Fernand van Hulle and Chantal Nkandu of Wakaw are to be applauded for donating a 1994 Hummer to be used as an ambulance in an isolated area of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Chantal, who was born and raised in the Congo, moved to Belgium to attend university. It was there that she met Fernand and they eventually married. Since 2004, Chantal has been raising money to send to the Congo through the Aid to the Development of Ntongo organization. Ntongo is the largest centre in this area and serves a dozen villages spread over a large distance and has the only hospital in this sprawling jungle. The Hummer will be stationed here at the same location where Chantal's father works as a doctor.

In order to raise enough money for the Hummer, Chantal and Fernand sold some of their own farm land. The Hummer was then loaded in a container and then started a three-month journey to the southern African country. With the vehicle went bicycles, mattresses, and hospital linens.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to express my sincere thanks to this kind of generous and thoughtful Wakaw family who are practising the true Saskatchewan spirit of goodwill toward those less fortunate. Thank you.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Athabasca.

Profile of a Hockey Player

Mr. Belanger: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to profile a hockey player and a great Canadian, Mr. Trent Campbell of English River First Nation or Patuanak. Trent is currently playing in the American Hockey League with Worcester, which is a San Jose affiliate.

And Trent began his career when his brother, TK, encouraged him to play hockey, and his parents drove him two days a week from Beauval to Meadow Lake for the minor hockey experience. From there he went on to play with the Eagles and then moved on to the La Ronge Ice Wolves, where Trent came

third in scoring in his last year in La Ronge. Trent then played for four years at Lake Superior State University in Michigan, where he received a degree in business management.

Trent then took a short hockey stint in France and returned to the East Coast South Carolina Stingrays in 2007-08. He also played 17 games with Portland and finally settled with Worcester of the AHL [American Hockey League].

There's no question that we're all very proud very proud of Trent and want to tell him that all of our prayers for him shall be the wind beneath his wings. His proud father once told Trent, there's a boss in every stage of life, whether it's a teacher, an employer, or a coach. Once you realize that, you'll be fine. That advice has helped Trent with his attitude, his perseverance, and work ethic.

Today he's a role model in Patuanak, being a community known for hockey legends such as Abe Apeis, Ovide McIntyre, Vincent Gunn, and many others. We can now add a younger hero in Trent Campbell to that impressive list of hockey players.

There are five special people that cheer a bit more. And these include three siblings, brothers TK, Tal, and sister Tenille, and two of the proudest parents that I have ever met — Isidore and Ornella Campbell. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Sutherland.

Saskatchewan Internet Child Exploitation Unit

Ms. Schriemer: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am proud to rise today to recognize the incredible work of the Saskatchewan Internet child exploitation team also known as the ICE [Internet child exploitation] unit. The ICE unit is an essential component used in fighting sexual exploitation on the Internet. In the 2008-09 budget, this government fully staffed and integrated a 13-member ICE team. This team includes municipal as well as RCMP [Royal Canadian Mounted Police] officers located in Regina, Saskatoon, and Prince Albert.

Police investigators from the ICE unit receive specialized training for this very demanding job. Mr. Speaker, in excess of 20,000 pornographic images of children are posted on the Internet each week. What is also frightening is that Internet chat rooms can lead to child luring. We need only remember the recent case from Swift Current.

Mr. Speaker, last week the results of the ICE unit's work is evident. Project Salvo, the largest coordinated investigation into Internet child abuse in Canada, resulted in over 100 criminal charges nationwide. Saskatchewan's ICE unit arrested and charged two men in Saskatoon, two in Regina, and one in Estevan. ICE coordinator Sergeant Pat Nogier said, it's the integration and dedication that makes this unit successful.

Mr. Speaker, I ask this House to join with me in thanking the ICE unit for their tireless commitment to the safety and protection of Saskatchewan's most trusting, innocent, and

loving citizens — our children. Thank you.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

QUESTION PERIOD

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Nutana.

Choice of Vehicles

Ms. Atkinson: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. A year ago exactly today, the Minister for Crown Corporations announced SGI's [Saskatchewan Government Insurance] 20 per cent green rebate program. At the time he described the green rebate, and I quote, "... a great incentive for Saskatchewan people to choose environmentally responsible vehicles and help create a cleaner, healthier environment, which benefits everyone in our province."

To the minister: does he still believe that Saskatchewan people should choose environmentally responsible vehicles in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister Responsible for Crown Corporations.

Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Yes indeed, that was a promise made during the election campaign, and it was a promise kept by the Saskatchewan Party government. I understand about 3,450 people in Saskatchewan take advantage of that rebate and we hope that more continue to do so.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Nutana.

Ms. Atkinson: — So there you have it, Mr. Speaker. The Sask Party encourages Saskatchewan people to drive environmentally responsible vehicles, but not Sask Party cabinet ministers.

Mr. Speaker, we know that this issue received a lot of attention when it was raised last fall. To the minister: how many Sask Party cabinet ministers have turned in their keys to their Jeep Libertys?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister Responsible for Government Services.

Hon. Mr. D'Autremont: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'm more than pleased to answer this question. Mr. Speaker, we did promise to have the most fuel-efficient vehicles available for Government Services. And we have carried through with that promise, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, the member asked a question about the vehicles

that are driven by cabinet. Mr. Speaker, the first one to receive one of these vehicles, a Jeep Liberty, was the Leader of the Official Opposition. Mr. Speaker, he drove that vehicle for about four months throughout the summer months before he finally returned it to CVA [central vehicle agency] sometime in September, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, cabinet members continue to drive those vehicles because they are in the top 20 per cent, Mr. Speaker, of fuel efficiency for vehicle in their class. Mr. Speaker, the members opposite, the members opposite disagree with that. Perhaps they can explain the four-wheel-drive trucks they drive, the Suburbans they drive for two blocks to come to the legislature.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Nutana.

Ms. Atkinson: — Sask Party ministers continue to drive these Jeep Libertys, but we know the Crown Corporations minister drives a Jeep Grand Cherokee Hemi. A Hemi is a muscle car which auto reviews online criticize for its gas-guzzling nature. It's a gas guzzler, not a sipper.

Now meanwhile, the government central vehicle agency has purchased a number of new and greener vehicles, hybrids and the Smart cars, for public servants to use when conducting government business.

Now last fall, the Sask Party Government Services minister explained that Sask Party cabinet ministers do a lot of travelling and that's why they needed their Jeep Libertys. So to the minister: why are the government's new hybrids and Smart cars safe enough for Saskatchewan's public service but not good enough for Sask Party ministers?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister Responsible for Government Services.

Hon. Mr. D'Autremont: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Government Services did an experiment with hybrids, Mr. Speaker, and fact is the former premier, the Leader of the Official Opposition, had a hybrid and turned it back in for a Jeep Liberty, Mr. Speaker. So, Mr. Speaker, we have done a pilot project with the Ford hybrids, Mr. Speaker. It turned out they were much less efficient than the Libertys were, Mr. Speaker. It took more fuel to drive those vehicles up and down the highway, and besides that, Mr. Speaker, they cost 50 per cent more money to buy initially.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Nutana.

Ms. Atkinson: — Well, Mr. Speaker, last fall when that minister was asked why they drive Jeep Libertys, he defended the decision by saying, we didn't buy Hummers and we didn't buy Escalades. Now the Sask Party is so out of touch they want us to be grateful that their vehicles aren't even bigger gas

guzzlers and more extravagant. To the minister: why does there seem to be one standard for Sask Party ministers and insiders, and quite another for Saskatchewan families struggling to keep pace with the rising cost of utilities and auto insurance?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister Responsible for Government Services.

Hon. Mr. D'Autremont: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as I mentioned earlier, we did a pilot project with the Ford hybrids which turned out to be more expensive to operate, Mr. Speaker, than the Jeep Libertys.

In the city we continue to provide those particular vehicles because they're not on the highway, Mr. Speaker. They're efficient around town, but they don't do the job on the highways, Mr. Speaker.

As well as the pilot project, we found out that the hybrids don't work well in cold weather. They don't start properly. They don't heat up in the middle of the wintertime at 40 below. And while the members opposite have talked in the past about global warming, this past winter seemed to indicate the global warming wasn't a problem in Saskatchewan this past winter, Mr. Speaker.

So, Mr. Speaker, the Jeep Libertys that we are using are in the top 20 per cent of fuel efficiency for vehicles in their class, Mr. Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Prince Albert Northcote.

Consultation and Study on Energy Sources

Mr. Furber: — Mr. Speaker, yesterday the Saskatchewan Party said that 14 days of debate on the nuclear issue is enough. But 150 people at a rally on the steps of Prince Albert city hall last night don't agree.

Janis McKnight opened last night's rally by telling the crowd, "I'm not an anti-nuclear activist. I'm just a concerned citizen that wants to get my voice heard." She closed with a simple but powerful message saying, "All we are asking for here is transparency."

Meanwhile an editorial in yesterday's P.A. *Herald* questioned the makeup of the UDP [Uranium Development Partnership], saying, "But given that the panel included several noted pro-nuclear members, how much merit does that report have?"

To the Premier: why isn't he listening to people like Janis McKnight and to major media outlets that are telling him we need more time to consider the province's energy future?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

[14:00]

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister Responsible for Enterprise and Innovation.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: — Well thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I thank the member for that question as well. Mr. Speaker, it's certainly not accurate to say that two weeks is what's been allotted for public consultations. The public consultation process started last Friday, April 3, and will conclude on June 15, Mr. Speaker. That's two and a half months the way I calculate it.

During that time there will be nine public consultation meetings held around the province. There will also be three days of stakeholders consultation meetings — one dedicated to First Nations and Métis people around the province, Mr. Speaker. And in the meantime, any citizen of this province can respond by letter or by email to the Government of Saskatchewan with their views on the subject, Mr. Speaker.

Thank you very much for the question, member, but I hope that members will stick to the facts in the future.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Prince Albert Northcote.

Mr. Furber: — Well the facts are that people feel that they haven't been consulted, and they're not going to be consulted appropriately by the government. Mr. Speaker, Saskatchewan people are saying that they need time to compare costs, benefits, and environmental impacts of nuclear with other energy sources, but they've not been given the appropriate time.

Métis Nation president Robert Doucette noted yesterday that only one day has been scheduled for Métis consultation on the future of uranium. Given the impact of uranium and nuclear development on their traditional territory, that is clearly inadequate. But the Sask Party has taken a position that two weeks is enough for everyone, and a single day is enough for the Métis Nation.

To the minister: why are Métis people being excluded from a decision so critical to their future as a people? Why is the Sask Party refusing to take time to do a proper consultation?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister Responsible for Enterprise and Innovation.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: — Well thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I thank the member for that question as well. But my math must be getting worse, Mr. Speaker. It appears that the two and a half months between April 3 and June 15 has now shrunk to one day.

Mr. Speaker, Métis people are well distributed around this province, and they will have every single opportunity that any other individual in the province will have for two and a half months to respond to the UDP report. As well, Mr. Speaker, there will be one day dedicated solely to First Nations and Métis people on top of that, Mr. Speaker — one day more than

the whole rest of the population of this province. I think that ought to do it.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Prince Albert Northcote.

Mr. Furber: — Well when it comes to what ought to do it, I'll take the word of Robert Doucette over that minister any day of the week.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

Mr. Furber: — Mr. Speaker, the duty to consult and accommodate the interests of First Nations and Métis people is a provincial government responsibility. It's not a responsibility of the private sector or anyone else.

Yesterday MNS [Métis Nation of Saskatchewan] president, Robert Doucette, told the CBC [Canadian Broadcasting Corporation], and I quote: "You can talk all you want but you have to accommodate the interests of Métis people and that's the thing I don't see or hear from the province right now." Additionally, FSIN [Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations] Vice-chief Robert Wapass said that First Nations should also be part of the decision-making table.

Mr. Speaker, like all Saskatchewan people, First Nations and Métis people want input on the province's energy future. To the minister: how does the Sask Party plan to fulfill its duty to consult and accommodate the interests of Métis and First Nations people in this province?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister Responsible for First Nations and Métis Relations.

Hon. Ms. Draude: — Mr. Speaker, to the member opposite. I think it's just a little hypocritical of anybody on that side of the House to talk about a consultation policy with First Nations and Métis people when they drew up a whole policy overnight without talking to them even once, without any consultation with First Nations and Métis people.

My colleague has indicated that the Métis people and First Nations people will have an opportunity at nine separate meetings. Three of them are in the North. They'll have a separate day for discussions as well.

Mr. Speaker, I've had an opportunity to speak to some of the chiefs who are saying that they are thinking about nuclear. They will continue to be in talks with people like Bruce Power. They're interested in the future of a nuclear industry in this province, and are interested in getting ahead. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from The Battlefords.

Mr. Taylor: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday

on CBC, a call-in show, when the Minister of Enterprise and Innovation was asked if this government would provide funding to study sustainable energy sources, the minister said, and I quote, “We, the Sask Party, have already at this point committed a billion dollars to study clean coal technology.”

Is the minister referring to the clean coal project in Estevan, and if so, when did the government’s share of this project increase from 760 million to \$1 billion?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister Responsible for Enterprise and Innovation.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: — Yes, Mr. Speaker, and I appreciate the question from that member, Mr. Speaker. Certainly we’re talking about the Estevan clean coal project, the one that the NDP backed out of, and yes, the cost will be about \$1 billion.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from The Battlefords.

Mr. Taylor: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I am assuming this means the budget will now be amended to include the new number that the minister has given us.

At the same time, Mr. Speaker, the minister earlier asked us to pay attention to his math, Mr. Speaker. Well let’s pay attention to the math.

Yesterday, during the same call-in show, the minister said, “We, the Sask Party, spent hundreds of millions of dollars on wind technology and wind power generation.” Mr. Speaker, the NDP [New Democratic Party] built every megawatt of wind power in this province. The NDP built enough wind power capacity to service 73,000 homes.

Mr. Speaker, I know that the Sask Party likes to take credit for the NDP’s work so my question to the minister is: what has this government done on its own to the tune of hundreds of millions of dollars to explore wind technology and wind power generation?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister Responsible for Enterprise and Innovation.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I thank the member for that question as well. He seems to be fixated on what the NDP did. And I was referring as well to what the province has done, Mr. Speaker, not necessarily what the Saskatchewan Party government has done. And I didn’t say the Saskatchewan Party, Mr. Speaker. And if that member checks his facts, he’ll find out that that’s correct.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from The Battlefords.

Mr. Taylor: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Call-in shows and blogs, as well as emails and letters that are being sent to the government and opposition offices, are calling on this

government to ensure that an objective and unbiased discussion on nuclear power and alternative options takes place. There is considerable concern among Saskatchewan people that this government is not providing all the information needed for informed discussions to occur. In fact, Mr. Speaker, even the *Prince Albert Herald* said yesterday, and I quote: “The provincial government hasn’t done much to spawn productive discussion . . .”

To the minister: will this government listen to Saskatchewan people and commit today to spending \$3 million — the same amount they spent to get the UDP report in place — to study other sources of energy such as wind, hydro, geothermal, or solar energy?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister Responsible for Enterprise and Innovation.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: — Mr. Speaker, this government has embarked upon the most comprehensive public consultation process ever in the history of the province on this — or frankly any other issue — but certainly on this issue, Mr. Speaker. And you know, the people of Saskatchewan have been engaged in this debate for many years — even decades. Those members may have missed it, Mr. Speaker, because their heads have been buried in the sand, but certainly the debate has raged on without them.

Here’s what Dwain Lingenfelter had to say about it. Here’s what he had to say about the length of consultations. He said:

If you believe, as I do, that nuclear power production can be a powerful economic engine for Saskatchewan, how do we make it happen? We can start by ensuring that a healthy and vigorous debate occurs in the coming weeks.

Not years, but weeks.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from The Battlefords.

Mr. Taylor: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Premier said yesterday that the nuclear discussions will be difficult because things are always evolving. Mr. Speaker, the Premier also said he thought Saskatchewan people should inform themselves, do their own darn research, Mr. Speaker, and come to the public consultations with more knowledge of the issues being discussed.

To the minister: taking the Premier’s comments into consideration, will this government delay the consultation process until more information is brought forward by this government concerning the issue of nuclear power compared to wind, solar, or any other potential energy source?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister Responsible for Enterprise and Innovation.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I thank the member for that question as well, although it appears that his head is not wholly out of the sand as yet.

Mr. Speaker, over the last number of months, the Uranium Development Partnership has been engaged in exactly that process. And, Mr. Speaker, I'm proud of the report that they've provided to the people of this province. It's been available on the website since last Friday, Mr. Speaker, and will continue to be so. And people have had an opportunity since then, and will be able until June 15, Mr. Speaker, to make their submissions as to how they feel about the issue. And, Mr. Speaker, there will be plenty of opportunity for comparison of the costs and benefits of all methods of generating power in this province.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Leader of the Opposition.

Development and Export of Electrical Power

Mr. Calvert: — Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Enterprise indicates that he would like some facts brought into the debate. Perhaps he can bring some facts into the debate. The UDP that we've all read, the panel report, indicates that for a reactor or reactors to be feasible in our province, a significant component of the electricity generated must be exported. Initially, at least 50 per cent and more must have an export market.

Now I believe we're all aware that Manitoba has existing and potential hydro resources. We're aware that Alberta is considering, actively considering, as is the Sask Party, the construction of nuclear reactors in Alberta. Will the minister inform the House today where he anticipates this significant export market will be?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — Mr. Speaker, I think it is fair to say that the case for nuclear power in terms of conventional, available technology today in our province is dependent on export. The minister has indicated that. The Minister of SaskPower has indicated that. I think that's pretty clear.

One of the obvious customers would be the province of Alberta, should this be. It's a hypothetical discussion we're having, but one of the customers for Saskatchewan power, whatever its source, would be the province of Alberta. Another potential customer would be the United States of America. Mr. Speaker, you will know that under the previous administration the province of Saskatchewan engaged with Manitoba and Alberta in looking at a transmission grid that we can co-operate on and build together, ostensibly for the purposes of export and better transmission within our province.

Mr. Speaker, we're not going to make any decisions with respect to new energy sources for the province without ensuring that that energy is environmentally, sustainably delivered, that it is safe, and that it is affordable for Saskatchewan people. And, Mr. Speaker, people will be engaged in that very important discussion about our energy future. We welcome members of

the opposition to join in that discussion.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Calvert: — Mr. Speaker, the Premier indicated in his response to my question to the Minister of Enterprise that the export potentials that they're aware of are "hypothetical." Well it is not typically advisable in my view, Mr. Speaker, to invest in a project or to invest in a company who have hypothetical customers.

Mr. Speaker, there is a very key issue here about the feasibility of a reactor in Saskatchewan. It is dependent — according to Bruce Power, according to the UDP, and according to this government — it is dependent on having export customers, export realities, Mr. Speaker.

For these public hearings that the government is providing, will there be available to the people of Saskatchewan a more definitive answer on who it is that we expect, or who it is that we've contracted with, to buy the power from the nuclear reactor?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — Mr. Speaker, the reason that obviously final decisions on new energy sources have not yet been made, Mr. Speaker, whether it's nuclear or anything else, is captured in the preamble of the hon. member's question. No final decisions have been made, Mr. Speaker.

Obviously there's a process through consultation as a result of UDP. There will be possibly another process should the Bruce Power report back that there is ongoing feasibility. So what we have in the province today can be reflected in the following words: "Ongoing assessments of the potential for a nuclear reactor to supply Saskatchewan's domestic requirements or for export are regularly carried out by SaskPower."

These are not the words of the Saskatchewan Party government. These were the words of the previous government. That is exactly what's happening today. And, Mr. Speaker, when will members on that side, when will the Leader of the Opposition stand up and acknowledge that what is happening today is precisely what they were prepared to say in small print in their documents, if not talk about at their political conventions, Mr. Speaker?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

[14:15]

The Speaker: — I recognize the Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Calvert: — Mr. Speaker, yesterday in the rotunda of this legislature, in the presence of journalists, the Premier indicated that this decision must be made soon. It must be made soon. Hence this rush to have this consultation process, hence this truncated ability for people to participate in the process.

If the decision is now on a rush mode, before that decision is made and before the people of Saskatchewan can voice an intelligent opinion on the decision, we need to know — according to Bruce Power, according to the panel — we need to know the reality or the unreality of the export potential. Surely, surely this government, having advanced the theory this far, having advanced this project this far, have some substantive views on what is the real export potential.

I challenge the minister or the Premier to give us something more than a hypothetical example of where, maybe, we might sell the power from a machine that the people of Saskatchewan are going to pay for.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — Mr. Speaker, when that member sat in this chair, presiding over the government as the Premier, he said that his government would be engaged in ongoing assessments of the potential for a nuclear reactor to supply Saskatchewan's domestic requirements or for export. They are being regularly carried out by SaskPower. Mr. Speaker, not a single day, not a moment, not a website, not a phone line of consultation precipitated that claim by that member in that government, Mr. Speaker.

The difference on this side of the House is this: we've been pretty clear that our vision for this growing economy is that we're going to need more power from all the sources. Our vision's pretty clear that we want to add value to uranium. We've been transparent about that, Mr. Speaker, but more to the point, unlike anything we saw from members opposite when they were the government, we will engage the people of this province. We will take this discussion to them in their communities right across the province. We'll take it to the stakeholders.

And the NDP need to drag themselves out of the past, where they refuse even to have the discussion or say anything too loudly, and join us in 2009 for the rest of the province, Mr. Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Calvert: — Mr. Speaker, the Premier would be well-advised to take that document that he is quoting from and implement the entire plan. He would be well-advised.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

Mr. Calvert: — Now, Mr. Speaker, I ask on behalf of the people of Saskatchewan — the taxpayers and the consumers who are going to foot the bill for any future power generation in our province — the Premier today has said our potential for export is hypothetical. He even went so far as to say that there's a hypothetical possibility that we might export into the United States of America.

Well then, as they are assembling the facts to share with people

at this truncated process over two weeks of public meetings, will they bring answers to these questions? Precisely, Mr. Speaker, how much will the transmission lines cost to establish linkages to export into the United States? And who will be expected to pay for those transmission line costs?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — Well, Mr. Speaker, the hon. member raises an interesting point. He says, adopt their plan, adopt the NDP plan from 2007. Contained in this plan, foundational to this plan, are the targets set for emissions reductions by that member, the members opposite, adopted, adopted, Mr. Speaker, by all members of this Legislative Assembly — all parties.

But we need to have that discussion about those specific targets because, Mr. Speaker, that hon. member will know that depending on the price of carbon — never mind what we do with nuclear power — those targets could cause significant increases in electrical bills in this province, Mr. Speaker.

And so maybe it is time for this Legislative Assembly, for the all-party committee to engage the people of the province. Maybe the NDP will in fact join us in the debate on nuclear power and on the targets we ought to be setting, our plan for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, Mr. Speaker, or maybe, as *The StarPhoenix* said not very long ago, the editorial:

Regardless of where this debate goes — and the smart money is on some progress finally coming to a province that has been held back for far too long — the NDP has a choice. They can either embrace a modern and sensible nuclear debate or slide back into earlier generations of political ignorance, expediency and Saskatchewan's eventual decline.

Mr. Speaker, they do have a choice. I think the people of the province have made theirs, Mr. Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of the Environment.

New Environmental Protection Model

Hon. Ms. Heppner: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today marks the introduction of a new model for environmental protection for Saskatchewan. It is a model that will deliver enhanced environmental protection by focusing on the results that a company delivers.

The current system is based on ensuring that developers and operators do what we tell them to do, exactly the way we tell them to do it. It is prescriptive, time consuming, and frustrating, and it does not even guarantee the best possible environmental protection because it is essentially a one-size-fits-all model.

Under the new results-based model of environmental regulation, we will describe the environmental protection that is

to be achieved, but we'll leave the how to those who run the plants, factories, and mines. They'll have the flexibility to design effective environmental safeguards that make sense for their operation. The government's job will be to ensure that they do what they promised to do. The result, Mr. Speaker, will be better environmental protection because the processes and tools will be custom-designed for the specific situation.

The results will be more innovation as companies adapt and market those processes and tools for use in other situations. The results will be a more competitive climate in Saskatchewan as we finally move our environmental approvals and processes into the 21st century.

The adoption of the new results-based model is based on a great deal of preparation. Last year we asked a consultant to provide a review of Saskatchewan's environmental regulation which involved reviewing the current regulatory model, including a review of the current legislation; benchmarking our regulatory framework against the current models in Ontario, Manitoba, Alberta, and British Columbia; holding consultation sessions; and providing a recommended implementation plan.

We now have the final report, which is available for all to see on the Ministry of Environment website. Over the past eight months, we have engaged industry, communities, non-governmental organizations, and Aboriginal organizations in discussions about the need to update and streamline our approach.

During the fall and winter of 2008, Ministry of Environment staff and the consultants held 18 meetings attended by 74 stakeholder organizations. We heard an endorsement of the move to a results-based model, while always ensuring that protection of the environment is our first priority.

We have a clear plan, Mr. Speaker, for implementing results-based environmental regulation. That plan is also posted on the ministry website. We will begin by streamlining, consolidating, and modernizing our environmental legislation, starting with *The Environmental Assessment Act*, *The Environmental Management and Protection Act*, and *The Forest Resources Management Act*.

We will develop a Saskatchewan environmental code that will set the framework for improved environmental management through clear statements of desired environmental outcomes and standards. We will modernize the operations of the ministry, providing an electronic platform for environmental information and program delivery, including web-based environmental applications and reporting.

This will mean a streamlined application process and transparency in reporting results, and we will continue to engage the public, First Nations and Métis, and stakeholders in consultation as the design and implementation of the new regulatory framework moves forward. We will be holding a second round of consultations on the details of implementation of this new regulatory system. We also welcome input from the general public as we move forward.

Mr. Speaker, Saskatchewan is a remarkable place and the quality of our natural environment is second to none. The new

results-based environmental regulatory framework is a major step forward in modernizing and improving our efforts to protect the environment and ensuring Saskatchewan stays a remarkable place for future generations. Thank you.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Regina Walsh Acres.

Ms. Morin: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to thank the minister for the advanced copy of the ministerial statement. A review is always a good thing, and the proof obviously will be in the action and the outcomes of the review, and the changes to legislation.

The minister speaks about the fact that the information is currently online. And I received the ministerial statement 15 minutes prior to entering into the House today and it was not yet online, so clearly I am looking forward to being able to review it again once I leave the Chamber, and perhaps by that point it will be online.

I'm certainly looking forward to being able to review the legislation. Our province has been a leader in this area, and we should obviously continue to do so. Some of the concerns obviously would be that we have adequate staff resources and supports which need to be in place, prior to any changes being made, to ensure that those regulations can be properly enforced, and that we also have some concerns with respect to the media stories currently with respect to the federal rush to ensure that shovel-ready projects can hit the ground running. And there are concerns around that with respect to whether or not all the environmental concerns will be taken into account.

Clearly the government does not want to hear what I have to say on this matter, so I will speak to you, Mr. Speaker, and make sure that at least you know what I'd like to convey to the residents of Saskatchewan. We look forward to obviously the next steps of public engagement and input because clearly this is something that is of great importance to the citizens of Saskatchewan, the residents of Saskatchewan. The minister and I can agree on a point most definitely, and that is that Saskatchewan is a remarkable place and the quality of our natural environment is second to none and should always be second to none.

So I look forward to being able to review what's going to be posted online. Hopefully it'll be there, like I said, after I leave the Chamber, and I look forward to being able to review legislation that's coming forward.

We've already heard that there's apparently been 18 meetings that have taken place. I certainly hope that there will be considerably more because of the importance of this matter, and that the government takes heed on the importance that they've given this matter, with respect to public consultations and the amount of time that they're giving it, to be able to properly consult all the stakeholders when they're doing their nuclear consultations with the residents of Saskatchewan, so they also get to have the same length of debate and the same length of input, and be allowed to put the same importance on that issue that they're applying to the results-based environmental

regulations. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The Speaker: — I recognize the Chair of the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice.

Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice

Mr. Kirsch: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am instructed by the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice to report Bill No. 69, *The Enforcement of Maintenance Orders Amendment Act, 2008* without amendment.

The Speaker: — When shall the Bill be considered in committee?

I recognize the Minister of Justice.

Hon. Mr. Morgan: — I request leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on this Bill and that the Bill be now read the third time.

The Speaker: — The Minister of Justice has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — The Minister of Justice may proceed to move third reading.

THIRD READINGS

Bill No. 69 — *The Enforcement of Maintenance Orders Amendment Act, 2008/Loi de 2008 modifiant la Loi de 1997 sur l'exécution des ordonnances alimentaires*

Hon. Mr. Morgan: — I move that this Bill do now be read the third time and passed under its title.

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Minister of Justice that Bill No. 69, *The Enforcement of Maintenance Orders Amendment Act, 2008* without amendment be now read the third time and passed under its title.

Is the Assembly ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

The Speaker: — Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Agreed. Carried.

Law Clerk and Parliamentary Counsel: — Third reading of this Bill.

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The Speaker: — I recognize the Chair of the Committee of Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice.

Standing Committee of Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice

Mr. Kirsch: — Mr. Speaker, I am instructed by the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice to report Bill No. 50, *The Missing Persons and Presumption of Death Act* without amendment.

The Speaker: — When shall the Bill be considered in Committee of the Whole?

Hon. Mr. Morgan: — Mr. Speaker, I request leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on this Bill and that the Bill be now read the third time.

The Speaker: — The Minister of Justice has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — The minister may move to proceed with third reading.

THIRD READINGS

Bill No. 50 — *The Missing Persons and Presumption of Death Act*

Hon. Mr. Morgan: — I move that this Bill be now read the third time and passed under its title.

The Speaker: — The Minister of Justice has moved that Bill No. 50, *The Missing Persons and Presumption of Death Act* without amendment be now read the third time and passed under its title.

Is the Assembly ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

The Speaker: — Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Agreed. Carried.

Law Clerk and Parliamentary Counsel: — Third reading of this Bill.

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The Speaker: — I recognize the Chair of the Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice.

**Standing Committee of Intergovernmental
Affairs and Justice**

Mr. Kirsch: — Mr. Speaker, I am instructed by the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice to report Bill No. 70, *The Summary Offences Procedure Amendment Act, 2008* without amendment.

The Speaker: — When shall the Bill be considered in Committee of the Whole? I recognize the Minister of Justice.

Hon. Mr. Morgan: — Mr. Speaker, I request leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on this Bill and that the Bill be now read the third time.

The Speaker: — The Minister of Justice has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole. Is the Assembly agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — The minister may proceed to third reading.

[14:30]

THIRD READINGS

**Bill No. 70 — *The Summary Offences Procedure
Amendment Act, 2008***

Hon. Mr. Morgan: — I move that this Bill be now read the third time and passed under its title.

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Minister of Justice that Bill No. 70, *The Summary Offences Procedure Amendment Act, 2008* be now read the third time and passed under its title. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

The Speaker: — Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

Law Clerk and Parliamentary Counsel: — Third reading of this Bill.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The Speaker: — I recognize the Government Whip.

Mr. Weekes: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table the answer to questions 329 through 338.

The Speaker: — Questions through 329 through 338 are tabled. I recognize the Government House Leader.

Hon. Mr. Gantfoer: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In order to

allow the work for the standing committees to proceed, I move that this House do now adjourn.

The Speaker: — The Government House Leader has moved that in order to facilitate the work of committees, this House do now adjourn. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Agreed. Carried. This Assembly stands adjourned until tomorrow afternoon at 1:30 p.m.

[The Assembly adjourned at 14:32 p.m.]

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GOVERNMENT OF SASKATCHEWAN

CABINET MINISTERS

Hon. Brad Wall
Premier

Hon. Bob Bjornerud
Minister of Agriculture
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan
Crop Insurance Corporation

Hon. Bill Boyd
Minister of Energy and Resources
Minister Responsible for Intergovernmental Affairs

Hon. Ken Cheveldayoff
Minister of Crown Corporations

Hon. Dan D'Autremont
Minister of Government Services
Minister Responsible for the Saskatchewan Liquor and
Gaming Authority
Minister Responsible for the Information
Technology Office

Hon. June Draude
Minister of First Nations and Métis Relations
Minister Responsible for Northern Affairs

Hon. Wayne Elhard
Minister of Highways and Infrastructure
Minister Responsible for the Public Service Commission
Provincial Secretary

Hon. Rod Gantefoer
Minister of Finance

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Minister Responsible for the Workers'
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