



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
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Furber, Darcy	NDP	Prince Albert Northcote
Gantfoer, Hon. Rod	SP	Melfort
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Harper, Ron	NDP	Regina Northeast
Harrison, Jeremy	SP	Meadow Lake
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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
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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
Ottenbreit, Greg	SP	Yorkton
Quennell, Frank	NDP	Saskatoon Meewasin
Reiter, Jim	SP	Rosetown-Elrose
Ross, Laura	SP	Regina Qu'Appelle Valley
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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]

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister Responsible for Advanced Education, Employment and Labour.

Hon. Mr. Norris: — Mr. Speaker, I ask for leave to make a statement relating to the National Day of Mourning.

The Speaker: — The minister has requested leave for a statement regarding the National Day of Mourning. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Agreed. The Minister of Advanced Education.

STATEMENT BY A MEMBER

National Day of Mourning for Workers Killed or Injured on the Job

Hon. Mr. Norris: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I would like to first recognize a number of guests in your gallery who have been invited to the legislature today in honour of the National Day of Mourning. Mr. Speaker, I know all members will wish to join me in welcoming to their Assembly families and friends of those who sadly have lost their lives at work. On behalf of the Government of Saskatchewan, I wish to express our profound condolences for your loss.

Mr. Speaker, today we recognize the National Day of Mourning for workers killed or injured on the job. This is a time for us to turn our thoughts toward those employees, co-workers, and friends as well as family members who are injured and to honour those who have lost their lives while at work.

We join together today in a common commitment — to protect our colleagues and co-workers in their daily endeavours. Since the Day of Mourning was first declared in 1984, April 28 has offered a special opportunity for workplaces across the country to reflect on the impact, the loss of life, and the importance of prevention. Across Canada, workplaces today are observing the Day of Mourning through moments of silence, candle lighting ceremonies, and the donning of pins, ribbons, or black arm bands. Here at the Saskatchewan Legislative Assembly, members wear Day of Mourning pins and the building's flags fly at half-mast in recognition of this sombre day.

Those who lost their lives are being recognized here today. Their names will also be read into the official record and inscribed in the national registry at the Canadian Labour Congress in Ottawa.

Mr. Speaker, in reading names into the official provincial record, Saskatchewan people acknowledge the women and men who have lost their lives in their pursuit of a strong and prosperous future for themselves, for their families, and for their communities.

It saddens me to report that in 2008 the Workers' Compensation Board indicates that 31 Saskatchewan workers lost their lives while on the job. I would ask that all members please rise while I read the names of those who have lost their lives during this year. They are:

Stuart Bangsund	Ronald Benning
Terry Bogner	Rick Boughner
Branden Bourassa	Daniel Brent Boxall
Stanley Brzoza	Ross Castle
Walter Essar	Norman Fletcher
Derek Galbraith	Bertrand Grise
Murray Hill	Benjamin Hingston
Ken Jewsbury	Jeffrey Johnson
Ken Joinson	Alex Kobsar
Stuart Lord	Vernon Lund
Gerald Molleken	Leonard Paetsch
Deon Patey	Arthur Pickering
Celine Reichert	Spencer Skagen
Andrew Smith	Henri St. Pierre
Royden Taylor	Robert Tkach
James Walker	

On behalf of our government, I express my sincere condolences to the families gathered here today and to the loved ones of all those who have lost their lives at work. Regardless of occupation, each death is a tragedy that brings grief and sorrow to our entire province.

On the Day of Mourning and every day, let us make safety a priority on the farm, work site, and in our personal lives. Let us come together in 2009 to embrace a common commitment to building a stronger culture of health and safety in every Saskatchewan workplace. Let us make getting home safely the most important part of our workday. Together, with a renewed commitment to the health and safety of our workplaces, we can prevent injuries and the loss of life that takes such a tragic toll on our families and on our communities.

At this time, Mr. Speaker, I ask that we observe a moment of silence in this Assembly.

[The Assembly observed a moment of silence.]

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

Mr. Iwanchuk: — Mr. Speaker, I too want to welcome the families who are gathered here on this special day to help us commemorate the workers killed on the job. Mr. Speaker, today being April 28, National Day of Mourning, we appropriately commemorate and honour those killed or hurt by workplace injuries or disease. That we do this, that we have been able to set aside a special day where we honour those who are killed at work, that we take time to pause and read the names into the provincial record, that we acknowledge this ultimate sacrifice, we have made progress however small it may be.

Mr. Speaker, workers make the ultimate sacrifice in the course of building our communities, farms, towns, villages, and cities, all to make this province and country what we have today. They do not intend to die or get injured when they leave their homes

on a daily basis. But unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, for many this is the sad reality — the reality that they will not return to their families and loved ones, the reality that they will be injured or killed on the job. We honour them through our speeches. We pledge ourselves to recommit, and we work towards no injuries and no deaths on the job.

But there is a nagging feeling that tugs at us and says we are not doing enough. Mr. Speaker, I feel that we have somehow failed these workers. We have failed their families, because for some reason there are more deaths this year and there are more names to be read. Because of the workers killed or injured at work, we renew our calls for new legislation, stiffer penalties, special prosecutors, more staff, more investigations, and more education. And we hope against all hope that there will be no more deaths and ultimately hoping that we will not read more names again next year.

Mr. Speaker, it is important that we have a financially sound Workers' Compensation Board so that those injured and killed at least have the hope that their families and loved ones have the financial protection for the loss of earnings that they themselves could have provided had they been alive. But, Mr. Speaker, the real solvency will come when there are no more injuries or workers killed on the job.

Mr. Speaker, from myself and for all of us, I know we personally commit to redouble our efforts during this year and to propose solutions for this heavy load that refuses to let us be. I commit that I'll work to implement my suggestions, my proposals, so that they become a reality — a reality which will see no more workers injured or killed on the job. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

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

Mr. Iwanchuk: — Mr. Speaker, to you and through you to all members in the legislature, I would like to introduce someone who has become a very important part of my life, and someone who has a keen interest in the politics of Saskatchewan. And, Mr. Speaker, someone who is obviously not here in Regina for the weather. Mr. Speaker, I would like to introduce to you and all members of the legislature my partner, Ann St. Denis.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Regina Wascana Plains.

Hon. Ms. Tell: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very pleased to introduce to you and through you to the Assembly two special guests who are seated in the Speaker's gallery. With us today is Ruth Smillie, the artistic director and CEO [chief executive officer] of Globe Theatre, Saskatchewan's largest arts organization. A very important part of Globe Theatre's mission under Ms. Smillie's leadership is to work to support and promote Saskatchewan's emerging artists.

Accompanying Ms. Smillie is one of those artists. Mr. Joey Tremblay is originally from Ste. Marthe, Saskatchewan, which I believe is in your constituency, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Tremblay has been the artist in residence at Globe Theatre for the last six years. Today we announced that the Globe Theatre's production of *Elephant Wake*, written and performed by Mr. Tremblay, has been selected by the Vancouver Olympic organizing committee to be presented at the 2010 Cultural Olympiad.

Elephant Wake is a one-man play that tells the poignant story of a Saskatchewan francophone community which is now inhabited by only one remaining citizen. To have this play chosen among the first 20 pieces of VANOC [Vancouver organizing committee for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games] is certainly a very well-deserved honour for Mr. Tremblay and for the Globe Theatre.

And for the province, this is a wonderful opportunity to showcase our Saskatchewan artists and present our cultural talents on the world stage at the Vancouver 2010 Cultural Olympiad.

I ask my fellow members to join me in offering our congratulations.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Regina Lakeview.

Mr. Nilson: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to join together with the minister to welcome Ruth and Joey to the legislature. And I know that they will be observing this place with keen interest because Joey, as a writer and as somebody who creates plays, he always sees opportunities for drama and for real situations in real life. And so, I invite both Ruth and Joey to be here at the legislature and look for good material for future entertainment for Saskatchewan residents. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Hon. Mr. Morgan: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to introduce three people that are seated in your gallery. The first is Philipp Kollenda, a 17-year-old German exchange student from Hannover, Germany. He is here attending Dr. Martin LeBoldus High School. He is not comfortable with our weather. He indicates that the normal low where he comes from is about zero degrees, which we are seeing a lot of these days.

The other student is Christoph Moeller. He is 17 years old. He is from Essen, Germany. He attends Luther High School. He says that he misses home because he misses good quality German chocolate. His mother recently sent him a care package which he very generously shared with me, and I'm not giving any of it back to him.

They are joined today by Elaine Courchene who is their host. They have indicated that they're enjoying their time here. And they're both at an age where they're learning to drive, and

Elaine has told me that she is having some difficulty convincing them that Saskatchewan highways — as good as they are because of our new Minister of Highways — they are not the autobahn, and she is going to ensure that they drive slowly and carefully and appropriately.

I would ask that all members welcome all three of them to the Assembly today.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Ms. Morin: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

[The hon. member spoke for a time in German.]

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Melville Saltcoats.

Hon. Mr. Bjornerud: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to introduce to you and, through you, to all members of the House 10 grade 10 students from the Melville composite school. They are accompanied by their teacher, Stuart Wilson, and I'd like to thank Mr. Wilson for bringing his class in and touring them through the legislature. We all appreciate that. So I would ask all members to help me welcome them to their legislature.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Biggar.

Mr. Weekes: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you, I'd like to introduce to the Assembly a distinguished lady sitting in the west gallery. Hilda Rooke, who is visiting us from Mission, British Columbia, will be turning 101 years old tomorrow. And my information said that in her early years she lived in a mud house at Govan, Saskatchewan. Accompanying Mrs. Rooke is her daughter, Pearl, and son, Norman. Please join me in welcoming them to the Assembly, please.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Cumberland.

Mr. Vermette: — Mr. Speaker, to you and through you I'd like to, in your gallery, introduce a couple of community members from La Ronge — Glen and Mary Ann Halkett of La Ronge. They're here accompanying their sister, Mary Johnson, who lost her husband in a work-related accident. They're here supporting her. And I just want to acknowledge them and thank them for accompanying her. And I guess, you're in our hearts and prayers as a family. And I just want to welcome to their legislature.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — And, members, it's also my pleasure to introduce some guests who have joined us this afternoon.

They're seated in my gallery right at the top with Richard and Joanne Lepp, a group of Sunday school students from the People's Church in Kipling — the one we attend — Chad Bruce, Aimee and Aynslee Hassler, Sarah Barbour, Samuel Toth, and Benno Jooste. And Benno, as his parents just moved to our area from South Africa, so he's getting accustomed to the climate here. And we welcome them. They're accompanied by their teachers, Sharon Barbour, Merodee Hassler, Taryn Rapitta, and of course my wonderful wife, Lois. I'd invite members to welcome this group of students to our Assembly.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

[13:45]

PRESENTING PETITIONS

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Regina Coronation Park.

Mr. Trew: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today it's my honour to present a petition in support of changes to *The Highway Traffic Act*, to be referred to as the Gallenger amendment. The petition reads:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Legislative Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to enact changes to *The Highway Traffic Act*, to be referred to as the Gallenger amendment, which would require all vehicle traffic to slow to 60 kilometres per hour when passing a snowplow with their warning lights activated on Saskatchewan roadways.

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

Mr. Speaker, I'm proud to present these petitions on behalf of people from Vibank, Regina, McLean, Qu'Appelle, and points around. I see Gray and some other places as well, so I'm pleased to present these petitions.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Ms. Higgins: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I rise to present a petition that speaks to the need for the Government of Saskatchewan to recognize the essential role of all health care providers as valued members of the health care team. And it speaks specifically to the issues of utilization and value of the full range of professional skills that are promoted through recruitment and retention and ensuring safe staffing levels are maintained and that this can only be achieved by a commitment to adequate funding and the installation of good faith in the provincial collective bargaining process. And the prayer reads:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Legislative Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to commit to maintaining quality health care services and job security for all public health care providers.

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

Mr. Speaker, I so present on behalf of residents of Central Butte, Saskatoon, and surrounding areas. Thank you very much.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Mr. Iwanchuk: — Mr. Speaker, I rise to present a petition in support of indexing the minimum wage. Mr. Speaker, we all know that indexing minimum wage would ensure the minimum wage earners would be able to maintain a standard of living as the cost of living increases. And the petition 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 cost of living increases.

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

The petitioners are presented from people from Saskatoon, Prince Albert, and Regina. I so present.

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 in support of wage equity for CBO [community-based organization] workers. And we know that many of these workers who work for community-based organizations here in Saskatchewan have traditionally been underpaid, and many continue to earn poverty-level wages. And so, Mr. Speaker, I'd 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 folks come from Grenfell, Esterhazy, Regina, and Montmartre. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Ms. Morin: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to present a petition on behalf of rural residents of Saskatchewan who question why the Sask Party government is leaving them behind with respect to providing safe and affordable water. And 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.

These petitions, Mr. Speaker, are signed by the good residents of Rosthern, Osler, Duck Lake, and Agassiz, BC [British Columbia]. 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 to pave Highway 135 that runs through Pelican Narrows, Saskatchewan. This petition is signed by the leadership and community members of Pelican Narrows First Nation, the village of Pelican Narrows and area. The prayer reads as follows:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Legislative Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to pave the 7 kilometres of Highway 135 through the community of Pelican Narrows, as committed on August 24, 2007.

As in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

It is signed by the good citizens of Pelican Narrows and area. I so present.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Silver Springs.

Children's Health & Hospital Foundation

Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It was my pleasure to join two-thirds of the Saskatoon MLAs [Member of the Legislative Assembly], the Health minister, and a crowd of 600 who attended the 17th annual gala to benefit the Children's Health & Hospital Foundation, held this past weekend in Saskatoon. The atmosphere was electric, largely due to the announcement on March 18 made by the Finance minister of a \$200 million allocation to build our province's very own children's hospital.

After advocating for a provincial children's hospital since 1992, Brynn Boback-Lane, president and CEO, and the entire CHHF [Children's Health & Hospital Foundation of Saskatchewan] team are seeing the dream become a reality.

Earlier last Friday, John and Sonya Remai had delivered a \$1 million donation to purchase equipment for the facility. Generous but generally low-profile philanthropists for many worthwhile causes, the Remais came forward at this time in order to encourage other possible donors to give to the campaign. To quote: "When I saw it in the budget and read it in *The StarPhoenix*, I knew it was now real and time to step up to

the plate,” said John Remai.

At the dinner, the Health minister made a brief presentation. Actually it was so good he did it twice, along with the health region’s Maura Davies, about the collaborative work to come in planning the location of the hospital and operational function and timelines. The 2009 Sponsor Child, Saskatoon’s tuxedo-clad Riley McIntosh, age 11, stole the show as he spoke briefly about his experience in fighting aplastic anemia since 2006.

Mr. Speaker, I’d ask all members to join me in congratulating the Children’s Health & Hospital Foundation for 17 years of advocating for a children’s hospital in Saskatchewan.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Day of Mourning for Workers Killed or Injured on the Job

Ms. Morin: — Mr. Speaker, 21 years ago, Saskatchewan became the first jurisdiction in all of Canada to make today, April 28, a statutory day of mourning for people who were killed or injured on the job. Glenn Hagel, then the NDP [New Democratic Party] MLA for Moose Jaw North, introduced the private members’ Bill, and the Assembly passed it unanimously. Now the day of mourning is observed across the country.

Mr. Speaker, this is a day to solemnly remember those whose lives were changed forever as a result of injury and those who lost their life while working to provide for themselves and their loved ones.

During the year 2008, 31 Saskatchewan people died while working, and over 43,000 Saskatchewan people were injured in the workplace — one every 12 minutes of every workday. Mr. Speaker, New Democrats join with the family and friends of those killed and injured in recognizing that prevention of workplace tragedy rests with meaningful and enforced labour laws to protect workers and concurrently strong unions who advocate for their members’ well-being. Day of Mourning ceremonies will be held across the province today, including a vigil hosted by the Regina & District Labour Council to be held at 5:30 p.m. this evening in front of the cairn at the Regina city hall courtyard.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that all members of this House make a renewed commitment to prevent the loss of life and livelihood in Saskatchewan workplaces, for one name read into the record is one name too many. Thank you.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Biggar.

Knights of Columbus Annual Convention

Mr. Weekes: — I had the pleasure of bringing greetings to the 87th annual State Council Meeting of the Knights of Columbus

of Saskatchewan held in Saskatoon on April 17 to 19. The convention was a call to return to the basics of the Columbian order, a call for Knights to hold fast to the Catholic principles around which the order was founded 127 years ago.

Under the theme Follow Us — Help Us Build Up the Church, state deputy Arden Andreas, the state executive, and the delegates, their families from around the province celebrated the past year’s successes and deliberated on how to better serve the church and the community and to build up the church. The convention included business meetings, guest speakers and passed several resolutions, including deploring the trafficking of women and children; following their bishop’s lead in becoming aware of the issues surrounding the possible expansion of the uranium ministry and the building of a nuclear reactor; reaffirm support and unwavering loyalty to our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, our bishops and priests.

The 87th annual convention of the Knights of Columbus of Saskatchewan was a great success, holding firm to the principles of the order: charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism. The delegates left Saskatoon better informed and inspired to go back to their communities and join together to help build up the church.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Saskatchewan Curling Association Forms Wheelchair Curling Team

Ms. Higgins: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. It’s a pleasure to speak to you today about the Saskatchewan Curling Association’s initiative to assemble a wheelchair curling team. Wheelchair curlers use a stick to push the rock down the ice with a teammate behind them to steady their chair. And wheelchair curling features an eight-end game, and there’s no sweeping involved, which appeals to many of us, Mr. Speaker.

The Saskatchewan Curling Association held a selection camp to choose the team, which has to have at least one member of each gender. The Saskatchewan team made their first appearance at a national competition in Nova Scotia at the end of March. Moose Jaw was well represented by curler Marie Wright and coach Lorraine Arguin, and the team also featured Del Huber, Gil Dash, Darwin Bender, and Calvin Bird, who curled out of the Regina Callie Club.

The competition brought together 10 teams with over 50 curlers from across Canada, and many were joined by family and friends. The Saskatchewan team came very close to making the playoffs, finishing with four wins and five loss record in their first appearance at the event, and the top four teams went on to the playoff round.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that all members join me in congratulating the Saskatchewan Curling Association for this wonderful milestone to include wheelchair athletes, and our Saskatchewan team in their performance in what I’m sure was a memorable event for all. Thank you very much.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Saskatchewan Rivers.

Lakeland Citizen of the Year

Ms. Wilson: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to acknowledge and recognize Peggy Stevenson, one of the hardest working and dedicated women in my constituency. Mr. Speaker, Peggy was recently named Lakeland Citizen of the Year. She is well known in the Lakeland area as a dedicated mother to her two boys and her 11 foster children.

Peggy has devoted her time and motherly love over more than six years to improve the lives of those less fortunate and has welcomed these foster children into her home with open arms. She has also received recognition from the Saskatchewan Housing Authority for 10 years of volunteering on the Northside housing board. For 15 years, Peggy made sure letters to Santa Claus that arrived at the Christopher Lake post office got to the North Pole.

Mr. Speaker, Peggy selflessly gave her time to make life better for the children in her community. Her actions offered hope. She filled her children with hope and taught the rest of us how to bless the lives of others. So, Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in celebrating Peggy Stevenson's achievements and in congratulating her on being the 2009 Lakeland Citizen of the Year. Thank you.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Prince Albert Business Wins Better Business Award

Mr. Furber: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Gus's Automotive of Prince Albert, located in Prince Albert Northcote recently won its first automotive product and services award at the Saskatchewan Better Business Bureau's Torch Awards held in Regina.

Gus's Automotive has a policy of always letting the customer know what is going to be done to their vehicle and how much it's going to cost before their mechanics do anything. They always ensure that their last quote is accurate so that there are no surprises for clients after the work is done. This attitude towards its customers is why this business is nominated for and won the Torch Award.

Mr. Speaker, Torch Awards are handed out each year by the Saskatchewan Better Business Bureau to businesses across our province that demonstrate fair, ethical, and honest business practices with their customers and within their communities. There are seven different categories for the awards, based on different areas of business.

The Better Business Bureau's mission is to be the leader in advancing marketplace trust. The Torch Awards are one of the ways that the Better Business Bureau acknowledges businesses that fall within their mission and vision.

Mr. Speaker, Prince Albert businesses are known for their friendly, efficient, and honest service. Prince Albert citizens know that they can trust the businesses that they patronize. Gus's Automotive has demonstrated that they're fair, ethical, and honest and the Saskatchewan Better Business Bureau has acknowledged something that many in Prince Albert have already known.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that all members join with me in congratulating Gus's Automotive on being a recipient of the 2009 Better Business Bureau Torch Awards. Thank you.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

[14:00]

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Arm River-Watrous.

Arm River Communities Celebrate 100th Birthdays

Mr. Brkich: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise in the House today to speak about the communities in my constituency that are celebrating their 100th birthdays this summer. It has been a pleasure for me to attend these volunteer community-organized events over the past four years.

On Saturday, June 27, the community of Loreburn will be having their 100th event starting with a pancake breakfast, volleyball, horseshoes, and an evening street dance, and finally a fireworks display. My thanks in advance goes to the organizing Chair, Valerie Hagen, and her committee for their good work.

On Wednesday, July 1, the community of Jansen and the RM [rural municipality] of Prairie Rose 309 host their centennial event that includes an antique road show, slo-pitch, bowling, music and talent show, supper, and fireworks. My thanks in advance to the volunteer organizers, Joni Mack, Bruce and Rhonda Elke, Audrey Crowe, Jack Robson, Rodney and Linda and Angel Liebrecht, Charles Wildeman, Dave Renwick, Dwayne Kochinsky, Melissa Klinger, Elmer Kinzel, and Roxanne Schindel.

From Friday, July 3 through to Sunday, July 5, the community of Watrous celebrates their centennial event in conjunction with the 90th anniversary of Manitou Beach, and it includes a golf tournament, street dance, Danceland pancake breakfast, parade, slo-pitch, heritage tours, and a beach boogie.

My thanks in advance to Chair Karen Mark and committee members: Pat Isherwood-Thomas, Lionel Sproule, Charles John, Ralph Schalm, Ed Collins, Christine McIver, Kathy Bergen, Shelley Engele, Margie Borsheim, and Murray Westby, Pat Weichel, and Glenda McArthur, and Helen Leslie-Mason.

And finally from Friday, July 24 through to Sunday, July 26, the community . . .

The Speaker: — The member's time has elapsed.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

QUESTION PERIOD

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Regina Lakeview.

2010 Winter Olympics

Mr. Nilson: — Mr. Speaker, yesterday the minister responsible for the Olympics revealed that Saskatchewan taxpayers will be spending \$3.6 million for a temporary building at the Vancouver Olympics.

I had heard that housing was expensive in Vancouver, Mr. Speaker, but \$3.6 million still seems expensive for only two weeks accommodation. I'm sure my colleagues from the North have better ideas on how to spend 3.6 million on housing.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

Mr. Nilson: — To the minister: what is the benefit of Saskatchewan taxpayers of a \$3.6 million building in Vancouver that will remain standing for just two weeks?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister Responsible for Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport.

Hon. Ms. Tell: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Saskatchewan's presence at the 2010 Olympics is an amazing opportunity to showcase our province to the country and to the world.

Many of the promotional items, Mr. Speaker, such as the high-definition video and the still photos, will be used for years to come and hence creating a legacy product.

This opportunity will be a showcase of Saskatchewan's vibrant arts and cultural community and of course our athletes. We will also highlight the province's strong economy, job opportunities, tourism opportunities, and quality of life. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Regina Lakeview.

Mr. Nilson: — Mr. Speaker, yesterday the media was told that the purpose of the Saskatchewan Olympic pavilion is to attract new people to the province and to promote Saskatchewan business. Those are worthy goals, Mr. Speaker, but past Olympic champions like Catriona Le May Doan have arguably done more to promote the province at an Olympics than a pavilion that will stand for two weeks before being torn down.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

Mr. Nilson: — To the minister: what share of the \$7 million being spent for the Vancouver Olympics is being invested in Saskatchewan athletes?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister Responsible for Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport.

Hon. Ms. Tell: — Mr. Speaker, as I said earlier, Saskatchewan's presence at the 2010 Olympics is an amazing opportunity to showcase our province to the country and the world. Mr. Speaker, this government is looking forward, Mr. Speaker, and looking at what we have here in Saskatchewan to showcase to Canada and the world. The viewership, we anticipate the viewership at the 2010 Olympics will be around 3 billion worldwide, Mr. Speaker. This is part of the reasons why it is so important that we tell the country and the world the Saskatchewan story. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Regina Lakeview.

Mr. Nilson: — Mr. Speaker, yesterday the minister assured the media that any Sask Party ministers in Vancouver during the Olympics will only be there for a "business purpose." Of course, ministers can find reasons to be in a given part of the country if properly motivated — like when seven Sask Party ministers found reason to be in Calgary on the same day as last year's Calgary Premier's Dinner.

To the Premier: will he guarantee Saskatchewan taxpayers that cabinet ministers will not be booking business trips to Vancouver that are conveniently timed to coincide with the Olympics?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister Responsible for Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport.

Hon. Ms. Tell: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for the question. I stand by what I said yesterday, that there will be, for ministers or other members of this government to be at the Vancouver Olympics, it will be for a bona fide business purpose, Mr. Speaker. My mind has not changed. My statement has not changed. Thank you.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Regina Lakeview.

Mr. Nilson: — Thank you. Yesterday the minister compared the \$6 million spent by the Devine government on the 1986 Vancouver Expo with the 7 million the Sask Party is spending on the 2010 Vancouver Olympics. Mr. Speaker, the opposition is willing to concede the point that this government manages public finances as prudently as the government of Grant Devine.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

Mr. Nilson: — Mr. Speaker, Saskatchewan people are asking why, with families paying more for utilities, more for tuition, more for housing, and more to camp in our provincial parks, the Sask Party believes that spending \$7 million on an Olympic

photo op is a priority.

To the minister: why is the Sask Party so out of touch?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister Responsible for Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport.

Hon. Ms. Tell: — Thank you for the question. We said yesterday that Saskatchewan's budget for the Olympics will be about in the middle of the pack out of the provinces within Canada compared to other provinces. We cannot expand on what the other provinces still . . . because the other provinces still have tenders out and lease agreements to sign, Mr. Speaker. To say any more in relation to what the other provinces are spending would betray their confidence and would not be fair to other province.

The one amount, Mr. Speaker, that I can refer to, is Yukon has publicly announced that their province of approximately 30,000 people is spending approximately \$2.6 million. Thank you.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Cumberland.

Future of Former Mill Properties

Mr. Vermette: — Mr. Speaker, news reports over the weekend suggest that Iogen is considering the site of the former Prince Albert pulp mill for its new ethanol plant. The Sask Party has repeatedly stated that the government will not invest public funds in forestry industry or in what it calls "mature industries."

To the minister: can the minister tell us if he's considering Iogen as to be either a forestry industry business or part of a mature industry?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister Responsible for Energy and Resources.

Hon. Mr. Boyd: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we have been talking with a number of people, including Domtar and Iogen, about the possibility of development or redevelopment for the P.A. [Prince Albert] site. This is an approach that we have taken. We have decided that the important thing here is to consult with the companies that may be interested in this, talk about the opportunities, talk about the investment that may be necessary, talk about the type of jobs that would be required in a facility of that type.

Certainly this is a part of an innovation agenda that we have talked about in a number of times and occasions, and we think that this is a potential development for that. And there'll be announcements at an appropriate time with respect to it.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Cumberland.

Mr. Vermette: — Mr. Speaker, we know that the Sask Party believes that Saskatchewan people should "educate themselves," and that failure to ask particular questions is grounds to keep something under wraps. So I'll try to cover all the bases with my next question.

To the minister: what incentives or concessions, direct or indirect, financial, regulatory, or otherwise is the Sask Party willing to provide to Iogen to build an ethanol plant? Is the government prepared to provide indirect support by building or renovating infrastructure?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister Responsible for Energy and Resources.

Hon. Mr. Boyd: — Well thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Member, we have said right from the very outset that if there is a need to look at infrastructure, the province would be prepared to do that. If there is a need to look at potential cogen opportunities, we'd be prepared to look at that.

The one thing that we are not prepared to do is put \$100 million on the table like you suggest we should be doing, as opposed, as opposed, Mr. Speaker, to the member from P.A. Northcote who says they shouldn't be doing it. So the NDP should get their story straight over there. Do you want to put a bunch of money in, like \$100 million, like the former premier and that member would suggest? Or should we do like the former member or the member from P.A. Northcote and not do it, Mr. Speaker?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — Order. Order. I remind members and ministers and those asking the question to place their responses though the Chair. The member from Cumberland.

Mr. Vermette: — Last week the Minister of Energy and Resources hinted that a deal might be close with respect to Weyerhaeuser facilities in Hudson Bay and Carrot River. We know that C & C Wood Products has expressed interest in these facilities in the past, and we know that C & C was at one point seeking major financial concessions from the government in exchange for its investment.

To the minister: will the Sask Party be providing any financial assistance, incentives, concessions, direct or indirect, to C & C Wood Products or any other possible buyer of the mills in Hudson Bay and Carrot River?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister Responsible for Energy and Resources.

Hon. Mr. Boyd: — Mr. Speaker, this government's position has always been that we will provide the best possible business climate for business to do their work here in Saskatchewan. Clearly companies are responding to that. They're moving to Saskatchewan in record numbers.

People are moving from across Canada to this province in

record numbers. And it should come as no surprise, given the fact that now they have a business-friendly environment which to work within. They are coming to this province in unprecedented numbers. This may be just another example of that.

I would say to the member opposite, just stay tuned. There will be announcements when the companies themselves decide to proceed with that.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Severance for Former Public Servants

Ms. Atkinson: — Mr. Speaker, last fall the Sask Party told us that they'd already spent over \$4 million on severance packages for civil servants that were fired without cause when they came to government; that was \$4 million over eight months ago. So to the Deputy Premier: we know the government has finalized more settlements since that fall time. Can he give us the total figure of all of the severance packages that the government has settled to date.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Justice.

Hon. Mr. Morgan: — Mr. Speaker, I can advise the Assembly that these things are an ongoing matter. A number of them are before the courts and it would be inappropriate to try and speculate the different stages that the different matters are at. So it'll all come out in estimates.

And, Mr. Speaker, it is the intention of this government to treat these people with compassion and fairness and it would not be appropriate for this Assembly to be discussing the amount of the various settlements at this time.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Ms. Atkinson: — Mr. Speaker, we are not speaking about an individual case. We are asking a very simple question. The Government of Saskatchewan upon its election terminated a number of people in the classified public service without cause. Last fall they advised us that they had spent \$4 million on severance.

We have had many more severance packages that have been negotiated. Can the Government of Saskatchewan confirm today that as of January they have negotiated over \$7 million in severance to those terminated public employees?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Justice.

Hon. Mr. Morgan: — Mr. Speaker, this is a government that's

known for being open and transparent and accountable. This is a government that will, when those files are settled, we will provide all of the information that has been requested, all of the information that's appropriate to release. And, Mr. Speaker, we are quite prepared to compile the information for the settlements that have been made to date and provide that information as well. It is our intention to provide all of the information to the taxpayers.

When governments change, Mr. Speaker, people are changed, people are let go, people are hired and that is all information that is public record. And it is the intention of this government to be open, transparent, and fully accountable to the taxpayers of this province, Mr. Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Ms. Atkinson: — Mr. Speaker, the minister has the opportunity to be open and transparent. We have a list of employees who have severance packages totalling over \$7 million. There's one employee who has negotiated a severance package that isn't on the list. That employee's name is John Wright, the former deputy minister of Health. Can the minister confirm today that Mr. Wright, when you include his pension benefits that go forward, was able to negotiate a severance package worth over \$1 million?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

[14:15]

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Justice.

Hon. Mr. Morgan: — Mr. Speaker, I indicated earlier that we are not prepared to debate, negotiate, or settle individual cases on the floor of this Assembly, nor are we prepared to give away information that violates the confidentiality and privacy of specific individuals. We will provide the information when the settlements are concluded. We will provide it through public estimates and we will provide information as to all of the settlements, Mr. Speaker, that have been made up to today's date.

Mr. Speaker, the member opposite can ask the questions on a global basis and we will provide that answer. But we will not now or will not at any time discuss cases that are still before the court that have not yet been concluded.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Ms. Atkinson: — Mr. Speaker, I want the minister to be very open and transparent. Mr. Wright has a negotiated severance package; it is not before the courts. The members opposite have been quite prepared to give us a summary of severance payments for public servants that were dismissed after November 30, 2007 up until January 31, 2009.

Mr. Wright has negotiated a severance package. Can the minister confirm that that severance package, particularly when you look at his contributions to the defined pension plan, is worth over \$1 million, and that the taxpayers have paid this amount because that government fired — fired — a long-term public servant, Mr. Speaker?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Justice.

Hon. Mr. Morgan: — Mr. Speaker, if the member opposite thinks that we will now or at any other time discuss an individual case on the floor of this Assembly, she is sorely mistaken. Mr. Speaker, we will take notice of the question, we will look at and determine whether the settlement has been concluded or not, and we will provide appropriate information.

But we will not discuss the matter before it is settled and before we have full and final approval from everybody that has to be involved in it, which may include the courts, it may include officials within the Ministry of Justice, it may include Mr. Wright's personal financial advisers. And it is not appropriate, Mr. Speaker, to be discussing or negotiating that type of matter on the floor of this Assembly, and we will not participate in it.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Disposal of Nuclear Waste

Mr. Furber: — Mr. Speaker, last week the Minister for CIC [Crown Investments Corporation of Saskatchewan] told the members of this Assembly that this government is looking at nuclear waste storage. This is in complete contradiction to the Minister Responsible for Enterprise and Innovation who said quite specifically that the government is not looking at waste storage. Once again, as is too often the case with this government, the right hand doesn't know what the extreme right hand is doing.

To the Minister of Enterprise and Innovation: is the CIC minister right? Is he right? Are they both wrong? Who should the people of Saskatchewan trust?

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 this question. Certainly I stated the answer before, and I'll state it again. This government is not considering disposal of nuclear waste in the province of Saskatchewan.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Mr. Furber: — April 22 in this Chamber, the Minister for CIC

said, and I quote, "And yes, we're going to look at storage." Mr. Speaker, this government talks in circles. Saskatchewan people want to know — and more importantly have the right to know — what will happen to the nuclear waste produced by a reactor.

To the minister: what will his government do with nuclear waste produced at a reactor built in this province?

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. I know that he asks it solely for the purpose of obtaining information.

Mr. Speaker, clearly even in the event that all of the lights turn green and a nuclear reactor is built at some point in this province, it certainly won't happen until the year 2020 at the very earliest, if it ever happens, Mr. Speaker. And by then, Mr. Speaker, it's fully anticipated that the federal government will have a waste disposal facility in Canada.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Mr. Furber: — So how is it that his own consultation, one of the five breakout sessions, is on nuclear waste? It's his consultation. And he says that it's not possible in Saskatchewan. Why is he wasting the taxpayers' money and time?

Mr. Speaker, the UDP [Uranium Development Partnership] says that this report, the government should "Support any willing host community that comes forward through this process . . . [in] the development of the deep geological repository in the context of a broader nuclear development strategy."

To the minister: yes or no, will this government support a Saskatchewan community willing to store nuclear waste?

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 want to say to the member through you, Mr. Speaker, that this government doesn't consider consulting with the people of Saskatchewan a waste of taxpayers' money.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Stewart: — And I've said — now this will be the second time today, Mr. Speaker, and many times in the past — that this government is not considering the disposal of nuclear waste in the province of Saskatchewan.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Mr. Furber: — Mr. Speaker, the Minister for Enterprise and Innovation says clearly waste storage is not an option, yet they have it included in their own consultation, and a year ago the Minister of the Environment, and Energy and Resources, met with the Nuclear Waste Management Organization. To the minister: if nuclear waste storage was never on the table, what were they discussing with the Nuclear Waste Management Organization?

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, but clearly I haven't had a meeting with that organization.

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

Mr. Furber: — Here we go, Mr. Speaker. It's clear that because they're all on different pages, they refuse to answer simple questions. Mr. Speaker, the nuclear power public consultation process is about to get under way. Each forum will include five discussion sessions based on each chapter of the UDP report. One of those chapters is a nuclear waste storage management session. If it's as the Minister for Enterprise and Innovation said March 30 and waste storage is off the table, why is it part of his own consultation?

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 appreciate that question from the member as well, but I've previously stated the answer to that one too, Mr. Speaker. And the answer is that the waste disposal was not originally included in the mandate of the UDP. The UDP came back to this government and asked if we would include it because they felt that it should be discussed in the overall picture of the nuclear cycle. So we consented to allow them to do that. Nothing has changed about our position on the disposal of nuclear waste in the province of Saskatchewan, Mr. Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Mr. Furber: — Could the minister then explain why one of the members of his government said in this House just this week that nuclear storage is indeed on the table and that they're discussing it?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister Responsible for

Enterprise and Innovation.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: — The subject of nuclear waste will clearly be discussed at the public consultation and that's, I'm sure, what the member was speaking of. And you know, I don't know how much more clearly I can say it. This will be what, the fourth time now, Mr. Speaker, that I've answered this question. The Government of Saskatchewan is not considering the disposal of nuclear waste in the province of Saskatchewan.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Mr. Furber: — Maybe he could inform the people of Saskatchewan then who's in charge of this file. Is it that minister, is it him, or is it the Premier?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Hon. Mr. Stewart: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's clearly myself that's responsible for this file, Mr. Speaker, and that would explain the reason why I'm answering the questions.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Mr. Furber: — It's become crystal clear, Mr. Speaker, on this file, what they do is tell people what they think people want to hear. One day no public money will be spent on a reactor. The next day all options are on the table. One day private companies are paying for export grids. The next, these were just hypothetical conversations that they've had. One day they're looking at nuclear waste storage. The next day they're not. One day the Premier says that this decision has to be made by the end of 2009. The next day the minister said a decision is years and years away.

So it's no wonder that people have no trust with them when it comes to this issue, Mr. Speaker. And they mock questions in this Assembly that we're asking on behalf of the people.

To the minister: when will he stop this nuclear process so his government can finally give people some straight answers? On a file as important as this, why are they so clueless?

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 truly do appreciate that question from the member opposite, Mr. Speaker. And it gives me a beautiful opportunity to tell the people of Saskatchewan that one of the reasons that we're pursuing this file as we are, we're pursuing public consultations on the findings of the UDP. One of the reasons we're going

ahead with that, Mr. Speaker, is because every single one of those members voted in favour of a motion to do something.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

**Bill No. 92 — *The Queen's Bench Amendment Act, 2009/*
Loi de 2009 modifiant la Loi de 1998 sur la Cour du Banc
*de la Reine***

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Justice.

Hon. Mr. Morgan: — Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill No. 92, *The Queen's Bench Amendment Act, 2009* be now introduced and read a first time.

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Minister of Justice that Bill No. 92, *The Queen's Bench Amendment Act, 2009* be now read the first time. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion? Agreed . . . [inaudible interjection] . . . Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Agreed.

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

The Speaker: — When shall the Bill be considered a second time?

Hon. Mr. Morgan: — Next sitting of the House, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — Next sitting.

**Bill No. 93 — *The Condominium Property*
*Amendment Act, 2009***

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Justice.

Hon. Mr. Morgan: — Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill No. 93, *The Condominium Property Amendment Act, 2009* be now introduced and read a first time.

The Speaker: — The Minister of Justice has moved first reading of Bill No. 93, *The Condominium Property Amendment Act, 2009*. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Agreed. Carried.

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

The Speaker: — When shall the Bill be considered a second time?

Hon. Mr. Morgan: — Next sitting of the House, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — Next sitting.

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: — Mr. Speaker, I am instructed by the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice to report Bill No. 61, *The Local Government Election Amendment Act, 2008* with amendment.

The Speaker: — When shall the Bill be considered in Committee of the Whole? I recognize the Minister Responsible for Municipal Affairs.

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

The Speaker: — The Minister of Municipal Government has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 61, *The Local Government Election Amendment Act, 2008* with amendment and that its amendments be now read the third time. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

[14:30]

The Speaker: — Agreed. When shall the amendments be read the first time? I recognize the Minister Responsible for Municipal Affairs.

FIRST AND SECOND READINGS OF AMENDMENTS

**Bill No. 61 — *The Local Government Election*
*Amendment Act, 2008***

Hon. Mr. Hutchinson: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that the amendments be now read a first and second time.

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Minister Responsible for Municipal Affairs that the amendments be now read a first and second time. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Agreed. Carried.

Law Clerk and Parliamentary Counsel: — First and second reading of the amendments.

The Speaker: — The minister may proceed to move third reading. I recognize the Minister Responsible for Municipal Affairs.

THIRD READINGS

Bill No. 61 — *The Local Government Election Amendment Act, 2008*

Hon. Mr. Hutchinson: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. 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 Responsible for Municipal Affairs that Bill No. 61, *The Local Government Election Amendment Act, 2008* with 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 Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice.

Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice

Mr. Kirsch: — Mr. Speaker, I am instructed by the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice to report Bill No. 85, *The Municipal Grants Act* with amendment.

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

I recognize the Minister Responsible for Municipal Affairs.

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

The Speaker: — The Minister Responsible for Municipal Affairs has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 85, *The Municipal Grants Act* with amendment and that the Bill and its amendments be now read the third time. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Agreed. When shall the amendments be read the first time?

I recognize the minister.

FIRST AND SECOND READINGS OF AMENDMENTS

Bill No. 85 — *The Municipal Grants Act*

Hon. Mr. Hutchinson: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that the amendments now be read a first and second time.

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Minister Responsible for Municipal Affairs that the amendments be now read a first and second time. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Agreed.

Law Clerk and Parliamentary Counsel: — First and second reading of the amendments.

The Speaker: — The minister may proceed to move third reading. I recognize the minister.

THIRD READINGS

Bill No. 85 — *The Municipal Grants Act*

Hon. Mr. Hutchinson: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. 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 Responsible for Municipal Affairs that Bill No. 85, *The Municipal Grants Act* with 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: — 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 Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice.

Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice

Mr. Kirsch: — Mr. Speaker, I am instructed by the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice to report Bill No. 68, the arts professional Act without amendments.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — When shall this Bill be considered in

Committee of the Whole? I recognize the Minister Responsible for Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport.

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

The Speaker: — The Minister Responsible for Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 68, *The Arts Professions Act* without amendment and that the Bill be now read the third time. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

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

THIRD READINGS

**Bill No. 68 — *The Arts Professions Act*
*Loi sur les professions artistiques***

Hon. Ms. Tell: — 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 Responsible for Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport that Bill No. 68, *The Arts Professions 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: — Carried.

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

The Speaker: — I recognize the Government House Leader.

Hon. Mr. Gantfoer: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In order to facilitate the standing committees on Crown and Central Agencies and the Economy to do their important work, I move this House do now adjourn.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

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

[The Assembly adjourned at 14:36.]

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