

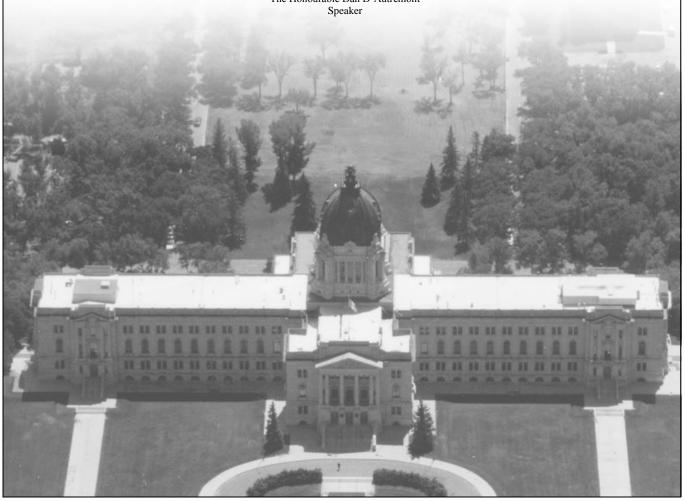
FIRST SESSION - TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

of the

Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

DEBATES and PROCEEDINGS

(HANSARD)
Published under the
authority of
The Honourable Dan D'Autremont



MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF SASKATCHEWAN

Speaker — Hon. Dan D'Autremont Premier — Hon. Brad Wall Leader of the Opposition — John Nilson

Name of Member	Political Affiliation	Constituency
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
Campeau, Jennifer	SP	Saskatoon Fairview
Chartier, Danielle	NDP	Saskatoon Riversdale
Cheveldayoff, Hon. Ken	SP	Saskatoon Silver Springs
Cox, Herb	SP	The Battlefords
D'Autremont, Hon. Dan	SP	Cannington
Docherty, Mark	SP	Regina Coronation Park
Doherty, Kevin	SP	Regina Northeast
Doke, Larry	SP	Cut Knife-Turtleford
Draude, Hon. June	SP	Kelvington-Wadena
Duncan, Hon. Dustin	SP	Weyburn-Big Muddy
Eagles, Doreen	SP	Estevan
Elhard, Hon. Wayne	SP	Cypress Hills
Forbes, David	NDP	Saskatoon Centre
Harpauer, Hon. Donna	SP	Humboldt
Harrison, Hon. Jeremy	SP	Meadow Lake
Hart, Glen	SP	Last Mountain-Touchwood
Heppner, Nancy	SP	Martensville
Hickie, Hon. Darryl	SP	Prince Albert Carlton
Hutchinson, Hon. Bill	SP	Regina South
Huyghebaert, Hon. D.F. (Yogi)	SP SP	Wood River
Jurgens, Victoria	SP SP	Prince Albert Northcote
Kirsch, Delbert	SP SP	Batoche
Krawetz, Hon. Ken	SP SP	Canora-Pelly
Lawrence, Greg	SP SP	Moose Jaw Wakamow
Makowsky, Gene	SP SP	Regina Dewdney
Marchuk, Russ	SP SP	Regina Dewdney Regina Douglas Park
McCall, Warren	NDP	Regina Elphinstone-Centre
McMillan, Hon. Tim	SP	Lloydminster
McMorris, Hon. Don	SP SP	Indian Head-Milestone
Merriman, Paul	SP SP	Saskatoon Sutherland
Michelson, Warren	SP SP	Moose Jaw North
Moe, Scott	SP SP	Rosthern-Shellbrook
Morgan, Hon. Don	SP SP	
	NDP	Saskatoon Southeast
Nilson, John	SP	Regina Lakeview Saskatoon Greystone
Norris, Hon. Rob	SP SP	Yorkton
Ottenbreit, Greg	SP SP	Saskatoon Meewasin
Parent, Roger	SP SP	Melfort
Phillips, Kevin Reiter, Hon. Jim	SP SP	Rosetown-Elrose
Ross, Hon. Laura	SP SP	
	NDP	Regina Qu'Appelle Valley
Sproule, Cathy	SP	Saskatoon Nutana
Steinley, Warren		Regina Walsh Acres
Stewart, Lyle Tell, Christine	SP SP	Thunder Creek
	SP SP	Regina Wascana Plains
Tochor, Corey		Saskatoon Eastview
Toth, Don	SP NDB	Moosomin
Vermette, Doyle	NDP	Cumberland Swift Current
Wall, Hon. Brad	SP	
Weekes, Randy	SP	Biggar
Wilson, Nadine	SP NDB	Saskatchewan Rivers
Wyont Gordon	NDP	Regina Rosemont
Wyant, Gordon	SP	Saskatoon Northwest

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF SASKATCHEWAN May 8, 2012

[The Assembly met at 13:30.]

[Prayers]

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. It's a pleasure to . . . I should first ask from members for leave for an extended introduction.

The Speaker: — The Premier has asked for leave for an extended introduction. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried. I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And thanks to my colleagues for the chance to provide a bit of an extended introduction. I think it's appropriate that we'd use this great institution to introduce some Saskatchewan heroes from time to time, and it's my pleasure to be able to do that. To you and through you today, Mr. Speaker, from White City we have some guests seated in your gallery. And I'm going to ask them maybe just to stand as I introduce them, and then I have a few things that I'd like to share with members of the House.

First and foremost, I want to welcome to the Assembly and introduce 11-year-old Connor Kindred. If we can get Connor to stand. He's here with his mom and his dad, Patti and Tom Kindred. I also want to thank Tom for his service at SaskPower where he serves very ably and well and has for some time. He's also joined by his grandparents. Connor has his grandma Fran and grandpa Herb Kindred are also here as well. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately Connor's three-year-old adopted brother Daniel couldn't be here, but this is a story about him as much as it is about Connor.

At nine years old, Connor was excited to hear that he would be introduced soon to a brand new brother arriving from Ethiopia. So he decided he wanted to buy him, I'm told, an Xbox as a present. Connor was surprised to learn that where Daniel comes from though, they don't have electricity everywhere. They don't have clean water everywhere. So he decided to do something about it, Mr. Speaker. He's worked hard to raise awareness about clean water projects at schools throughout Africa in conjunction with the WaterCan Challenge 2012. Connor's goal was to raise \$40,000. So far he's raised over \$31,000, Mr. Speaker.

He wants to bring clean drinking water and sanitation for people in Ethiopia by doing everything from asking for donations instead of Christmas presents and instead of birthday presents, Mr. Speaker. He's also spoken in front of 175 people at the Kramer IMAX theatre asking for donations. Earlier this year, Connor had an opportunity to visit a primary school in Ethiopia where his fundraising effort is going to be put to use to bring a sustainable source of clean drinking water and basic

sanitation facilities to about 1.000 students and 41 teachers.

Connor is the youngest recipient of the Global Citizen Award from the Saskatchewan Council for International Cooperation. This is from Connor's donation page on the WaterCan webpage:

Besides the air we breathe, nothing is more fundamental to life than access to clean drinking water and basic sanitation!

Many people have no water or they have dirty water that makes them sick. If they have enough clean water they can go to school and [they can] stay healthy. I want to raise money to provide clean water for people in Ethiopia.

 \ldots I would like to help as much as possible — so thanks for donating.

[Signed] Connor Kindred.

Mr. Speaker, Martin Luther King famously said, everybody can be great because everybody can serve. You don't have to make your verb and your subject agree to serve. You don't need a college degree to serve. You need a heart full of grace and a soul generated by love. Today we thank Connor for his heart and his soul and his selfless sacrifice for the people of Ethiopia, and we welcome him today to his Legislative Assembly.

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

Mr. Nilson: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I too want to join in with the Premier and welcome Connor and his family, parents, and grandparents, and say thank you for work well done. I personally have visited water projects in Ethiopia and actually donate through the Lutheran Church for Ethiopian water projects over the number of years. And there is a great need, and so I say thank you very much, Connor, for your good work. Also, working through the Saskatchewan Council for International Cooperation is a very important thing to do. And I know all of us in the legislature are very pleased with the work that you do there and thank you on behalf of all the people in the province.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. McMorris: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, to you and through you to the members in the Legislative Assembly, I want to introduce a number of people. I won't introduce them by name because there's about 30 or a few, 35 I think, individuals from around the province, Mr. Speaker, that have been instrumental in working with the ministry on primary health care redesign.

We had an announcement earlier today in the building. But as I said in my announcement from the podium, when I looked out and saw so many familiar faces, it really is the face of health care in Saskatchewan. And if we can't get it done with that group of individuals, it won't get done, Mr. Speaker. Some of the absolute leaders of the health care system, as I say, too many to mention, but from all parts of the province from La Ronge down to Weyburn, to Swift Current, all across the

province, Mr. Speaker — CEOs [chief executive officer], board chairs, as well as citizens from across the province that have worked very diligently over the last year and a half to get us to where we are now, Mr. Speaker.

Lots more work as we move forward, but I just, on behalf of the government and as the minister, want to thank them for all their work that they've done over the past year and a half. Absolutely could not be done without them. Thank you.

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

Mr. Broten: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to join with the minister in welcoming the many individuals that are here today involved in the delivery of health care here in Saskatchewan.

Here in the Assembly and in committee we often debate health care. We're often talking about the issues that matter to Saskatchewan people, but we do know that it's out in the communities of Saskatchewan in the health regions where service is provided and where leadership is provided by so many people within the province. So I do want to thank all the people that are here today that play a role in the delivery of health care, thank them for being here and thank them for the work that they do throughout the year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Nilson: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's a chance for me today to practice for my member's statement for next Thursday. I'm pleased to welcome my parents and my father's cousin: my father, Pastor Tom Nilson, and my mother, Randi Nilson. And my parents have with them today my dad's cousin from Norway, Reidar Nymark, and his wife, Reidun Nymark. They live at Visnes on the island of Karmoy near Haugesund on the west coast of Norway. Visnes is a famous place because that's where they got all of the copper to build the Statue of Liberty in New York City. Reidar is a retired employee of Norsk Hydro Aluminium, which we recognize in Saskatchewan as the parent company of Yara, which is our fertilizer plant just west of town here. And Reidun is a jeweller with her own shop in Norway.

So, Mr. Speaker . . .

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

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing.

Hon. Mr. Huyghebaert: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you to the rest of the Assembly, I'd like to introduce seven grade 10 students in the west gallery, from the Collège Mathieu in the great village of Gravelbourg, Saskatchewan. Can you give us a wave, please? There they are. Mr. Speaker, they're accompanied by their teacher, Raymond Michaud. And they've done a tour of the building and I'll have a chance to meet with them right after question period and have a little chance to talk to them. So I'd ask all members to please welcome these students and their teacher to their Legislative Assembly.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Highways and Infrastructure.

Hon. Mr. Reiter: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you to this Assembly, it's my pleasure to introduce in the west gallery a group of over 40 grade 4, 5, and 6 students from the great community of Eston. Mr. Speaker, along with them are a number of chaperones and teachers: Troy McIvor, Lisa Watson, Jason Beckstrand and Glenda Olson, Neil Clarke, Beth Williams, Verna Robinson and Nancy Stevenson, and teachers Kristin Dolman, Tawna Hansen, and Jodi Bjornerud. And, Mr. Speaker, if that last name sounds familiar to you, it would be because Jodi's the daughter of our Agriculture minister.

So, Mr. Speaker, I'm looking forward to talking to the students later on this afternoon, and I'd ask everyone to please give them a warm welcome to their Assembly. Thank you.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Agriculture.

Hon. Mr. Bjornerud: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to introduce, through you and to the members of the legislature today, George and Esther Haas, who are from Langenburg, are very good supporters of mine, have worked on far too many campaigns to mention today, and owe them a very lot.

With them today though is their grandson, and his name is John McDonnell. And he's very interested in politics, has been since he learned to talk. And I might mention to the Premier, he has aspirations of sitting in this legislature, and the seat that he's got his eye on is the Premier's. And I'm pleased to hear that because then he won't be bumping me out of mine any time soon. So anyway, you know, there's something about the name John McDonnell that just has a little bit of a political ring to it. So, Mr. Speaker, I would ask all members to welcome George and Esther to their legislature and especially John McDonnell.

And, Mr. Speaker, while I'm on my feet, I would also like to acknowledge my daughter and reconfirm — Jodi Bjornerud — and reconfirm in her mind that very shortly, within the next few weeks, I'll have much more time to spoil her kids and my grandkids. We welcome her here today.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Opposition Whip.

Mr. Vermette: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To my colleagues and members of this Assembly, I'd like to acknowledge one individual. Ron Woytowich is here from La Ronge. Ron has worked for many years with Kikinahk Friendship Centre helping many community members, First Nations, Métis in the community. And he runs a lot of different programs. I just want to acknowledge — I sat on the board for years — I just want to acknowledge Ron. He also has sat on the health board and has done an excellent job.

Ron does what he can. He also sat on council, and he gives his input and advice. Do we always agree? No. But I just want to make sure that Ron knows that myself, as the MLA [Member of the Legislative Assembly] for Cumberland, welcome him here to his Legislative Assembly and thank him for all the good work he has done for the community of La Ronge and area.

And, Ron, I just want to say, and I ask my colleagues to join me, welcome you to your Legislative Assembly.

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

Hon. Mr. Boyd: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to join with the member for Rosetown-Elrose in welcoming the group from Eston. Probably a little bit of an explanation is owed here. Many of the people know of course that I am from Eston, and normally you would think that I'd be the one that introduces them first. However in 2003, through redistribution Eston was moved into the Rosetown-Elrose constituency, much to their chagrin. But nevertheless I would want to add my voice of welcome to the school group from Eston and all of their chaperones and teachers. So welcome to the legislature.

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

Ms. Sproule: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to introduce a good friend of mine, formerly from Saskatoon Nutana who's currently living in Regina, Ms. Carlie Letts who is one of those exemplary volunteers that we are proud of as Saskatchewanians. She volunteers very closely with the Ness Creek Music Festival. She also volunteers with the Jack Millikin Centre, which is a charity that's devoted to developing a cultural centre in northern Saskatchewan. And she's also a volunteer with the Children's Wish Foundation. She's smart as a whip, she's a pleasure to hang out with, and I would like to welcome her through you to her Legislative Assembly.

[13:45]

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

Mr. Docherty: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you and to the rest of this Assembly, seated in your gallery it is with great pleasure that I introduce my mother, Margaret Docherty, and Dan Neeson to this Assembly. Give us a wave.

My mother supported me through all of my endeavours, so I think that this Assembly can feel some of her pain. And I also double-checked whether my tie was straight, so I'm pretty sure it is. And, Mr. Speaker, also I'd be remiss if I didn't wish my mother an early happy Mother's Day, and for somebody that might forget, happy Mother's Day to the rest of you. So I'd like all the members of the Assembly to join me in welcoming my mother and Dan to this legislature. Thank you.

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

Hon. Mr. Hutchinson: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, to you and through you to members of the Assembly, I'd like to introduce a large group of guests in your gallery today. They're high school students and chaperones from Twin Lakes Community School in Buffalo Narrows, from Nisto Awasisak Memorial School in Cumberland House, and Birch Narrows Dene Community School in Turnor Lake.

They're here today, Mr. Speaker, to take part in the government's youth mentorship program. These students have travelled from the North to spend time in our capital city and learn about Saskatchewan's provincial government. Mr. Speaker, the Provincial Capital Commission has once again partnered with Cameco Corporation, the Ministry of Education, and the Government House Foundation to provide an opportunity for students to come to Regina from May 6th to 9.

While here, Mr. Speaker, these students have had the chance to tour the University of Regina, the First Nations University of Canada, Government House, RCMP [Royal Canadian Mounted Police] Depot Division, and the Legislative Building here today, as you can see. This afternoon they meet with several members of this Assembly for a first-hand look at our system of government and the legislative process.

Mr. Speaker, it's my great pleasure to introduce these guests to members of the Legislative Assembly today. Thank you very much.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Opposition Whip.

Mr. Vermette: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to join with the minister to welcome the group. The member from Athabasca and the Speaker and myself at lunchtime had a chance to meet with the students' chaperones. We had a nice visit. They asked some questions. I guess we gave them some answers and we gave them our experience as MLAs sitting in the House. The Speaker did the role of the Whip. And I just want to say I'm pleased to see them coming, and I think this is a worthwhile event to have students from northern Saskatchewan coming. So I commend the government on doing that and continue with that program.

And I just want to say to all members that are here and to join me with welcoming all the students and chaperones. But I want to, of course, being the member from Cumberland, want to make sure, make it very clear there is three students and chaperones from Cumberland House. I want to acknowledge you and say welcome to your Legislative Assembly and ask all my colleagues to please join me.

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

Mr. Brkich: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you, I'd like to introduce to you, Mr. Shawn Bennett. Shawn is a Grade 12 student from Hanley Composite High. Shawn is with the work exploration program. This is his, on his second week of that phase of that program, and he's been doing an excellent job working in my office. I would like to welcome him and ask all members to welcome him to his legislature.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Justice and Attorney General.

Hon. Mr. Morgan: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my privilege to introduce to you and through you to all members, seated in the back row of your gallery, Gary Eagle, who is a councillor from Whitecap Dakota First Nation, somebody I would very much regard as a friend and colleague.

One of the special things about Whitecap is that they aren't encumbered by bylaws as the city of Saskatoon is. In the city of Saskatoon, you're restricted to very small lawn signs. Whitecap has no such restriction, and I'm pleased that Mr. Eagle had a four-by-eight lawn sign that was affixed to his back fence, and I'm sure it increased the value of the entire Whitecap First Nation. So, Mr. Speaker, I'd ask that all members join me in welcoming Gary to his legislature today.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Athabasca.

Mr. Belanger: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I too want to join my colleagues in making sure we make the students from northern Saskatchewan feel very welcome. And I think it's important to note that in my constituency, I'm very proud of all my constituents that travelled such a great distance to be here today, but more so some of the fantastic communities that I have in my area, Buffalo Narrows being one of them of course as well as the community of Turnor Lake, which is also referred to as the Birch Narrows First Nations.

And we have a number of students that are from both of these communities that are here in the Assembly today. And I dearly wish I would have had their list of their names so I could read them into the record, Mr. Speaker, but I don't have the complete list in front of me. But what I want to say to them in Cree because I always told them they're to be proud of who you are and where you're from, and the language.

But very quickly in Cree:

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

And of course some of the students are Dene, Mr. Speaker, and the bit of Dene I know, I want to say:

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

And what I basically said, Mr. Speaker, is it's a pleasure to have them both here and that this Assembly belongs to them and all the people of the province, and that as young students from northern Saskatchewan to have no fear of this building or this Assembly. And I want to make sure that they're welcome here just as much as everybody else is and to point out that it's always great to see people from Birch Narrows, Turnor Lake, and of course Buffalo Narrows as well. Thank you very much.

PRESENTING PETITIONS

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

Mr. Forbes: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to present a petition calling for greater protection for late-night retail workers by passing Jimmy's law. And we know that in the early morning hours of June 20th, 2011, Jimmy Ray Wiebe was shot two times and died from his injuries. He was working at a gas station in Yorkton alone and unprotected from intruders. We know that positive statistics show that convenience store and gas station robberies are down by a third since 1999 largely due to increased safety practices, including two people working together on late-night shifts. But we know armed robberies continue to take place in Saskatchewan, such as in Regina and Saskatoon. I'd like to read the prayer:

We, in the prayer that reads as follows, respectfully request that the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan take the following action: cause the Government of Saskatchewan to immediately enact Bill 601, Jimmy's law, to ensure greater safety for retail workers who work late-night hours.

Mr. Speaker, the people signing this petition come from the city of Lloydminster and from Cut Knife. I do so present. Thank you very much.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Athabasca.

Mr. Belanger: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to present a petition in support of improving Highway 165 near Beauval. And the prayer reads as follows:

Therefore we, in the prayer, respectfully request that the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan undertake to upgrade the section of Highway 165 between Beauval and the English River First Nation by adding proper lighting for pedestrian traffic, by adding space for pedestrians on the highways and its bridges, and by properly surfacing the road with the material needed for a busy heavy-haul road

And, Mr. Speaker, the people that have signed this petition are primarily from Beauval. And I so present.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Regina Rosemont.

Mr. Wotherspoon: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to present petitions on behalf of residents from across Saskatchewan as it relates to the management and accounting of our provincial finances. And the prayer reads as follows:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your honourable Legislative Assembly call on the Sask Party government to provide Saskatchewan people with the fair, true state of our finances by providing appropriate summary financial accounting and reporting that is in line with the rest of Canada, in compliance with public sector accounting standards, and following the independent Provincial Auditor's recommendations; and also to begin to provide responsible, sustainable, and trustworthy financial management as deserved by Saskatchewan people, organizations, municipalities, institutions, taxpayers, and businesses.

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

These petitions today are signed by concerned residents from Swift Current. I so submit.

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

Mr. Broten: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm presenting a petition today on behalf of people in Saskatchewan who are calling on the Sask Party government to support the Saskatchewan seniors' bill of rights:

We, the undersigned residents of the province of Saskatchewan, wish to bring to your attention the following: that many Saskatchewan seniors live on fixed incomes and are victims of physical, emotional, and financial abuse; that Saskatchewan seniors have a right to social and economic security and a right to live free from poverty; that Saskatchewan seniors have a right to protection from abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

We, in the prayer that reads as follows, respectfully request that the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan to enact a Saskatchewan seniors' bill of rights which provide Saskatchewan seniors with social and economic security and protection from abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

Mr. Speaker, I so present.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Opposition Whip.

Mr. Vermette: — Mr. Speaker, I rise today to present a petition on behalf of trappers of Saskatchewan. The current regulations being enforced are creating challenges that are a concern for our traditional trappers. The prayer reads:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your honourable Legislative Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to recognize that the experience gained through practical experience be valued; and in so doing to cause the government to review the current legislation and regulations with respect to trapping regulations and firearm use in consultation with traditional resource users.

As in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

It is signed by many good people of northern Saskatchewan. I so present.

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Saskatoon Riversdale.

National Youth Arts Week

Ms. Chartier: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm pleased to rise today to celebrate a successful National Youth Arts Week. Beginning on May 1st and wrapping up yesterday, young people across Canada and Saskatchewan joined together to host the largest youth-led celebration of creative expression and community involvement this country has ever seen.

Mr. Speaker, National Youth Arts Week was started nationally by the Arts Network for Children and Youth, a national non-profit, community arts service organization with a vision to create sustainable arts programming for children and youth in communities across Canada. I am proud, Mr. Speaker, that Saskatoon held 35 events over the course of National Youth Arts Week, the most of any city in Canada.

From crafting workshops to children's activities to murals to serious discussions about human trafficking and Aboriginal rights, there was no shortage of interesting activities to engage young participants. One of the events of the celebration was in my own constituency at the Core Neighbourhood Youth Co-op where young people contributed to creating a beautiful chalk wall

This amazing week of arts and youth engagement could not have happened without the talent and organizational abilities of Saskatoon's local coordinator for Youth Arts Week, Zondra "Zoey" Roy. Twenty-two-year-old Zoey deserves a huge pat on the back for organizing and promoting all these terrific events.

I would ask that my colleagues join with me in congratulating her for a job well done and for contributing so much for youth in her community. A special thank you also goes out to all volunteers and venues for providing opportunities for children and youth to create, discuss, and think outside the box. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Women Entrepreneurs Week

Ms. Campeau: —Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is my pleasure to bring to the attention of this House that May 7th to 13th is Women Entrepreneurs Week. According to a labour force survey by Statistics Canada, approximately one-third of Saskatchewan's small and medium businesses are owned and operated by women. This demonstrates a growing and positive trend towards the economic growth in both our urban and rural communities.

The goal is to promote entrepreneurship for women and to raise awareness of the various support programs that are available to women entrepreneurs in the province. And that's where organizations such as the Women Entrepreneurs association of Saskatchewan can make such a difference. The Women Entrepreneurs association of Saskatchewan is working to create role models, business contacts, and mentors, all with the same goal — to improve the lives of women and to help them succeed.

This organization has provided business services to women since 1995, and their mission is one that we should all strive for — to create a business culture in which the barriers to success, recognition, and advancement of women entrepreneurs in Saskatchewan are eliminated.

Mr. Speaker, this organization is certainly taking that mission to heart. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize the Women Entrepreneurs association of Saskatchewan and women across the province who are making meaningful contributions to all sectors of our economy and helping to create jobs for Saskatchewan people. Thank you.

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

Jane's Walks

Ms. Sproule: — It's my pleasure to rise in the House today to shine a light on a special event that took place across North America over the weekend. Mr. Speaker, I'm referring to Jane's Walks. Jane's Walks are a series of free neighbourhood

walking tours that help put people in touch with their environment and with each other by bridging social and geographic gaps. Since it began in 2007 in Toronto, Jane's Walks have happened in cities across North America and even internationally.

Mr. Speaker, Jane's Walks began as a way to celebrate the life and legacy of the late legendary urban activist, Jane Jacobs, who championed the interests of local residents and pedestrians over a car-centred approach to planning. Jacobs encouraged people to familiarize themselves with the places where they live, work, and play with words like these: "No one can find what will work for our cities by looking at scale models or inventing dream cities. You've got to get out and walk."

And so, Mr. Speaker, that's exactly what many Saskatoon and Regina residents did this past weekend. In my constituency of Saskatoon Nutana, there was a walk along beautiful Broadway Avenue guided by the Nutana Community Association. And a special mention goes to my friend, Cathy Watts, president of the Saskatchewan Trails Association, who is truly Saskatchewan's champion of trails. She gave not only one walk, but two: one on the Meewasin Valley portion of the Trans Canada Trail and one in her Varsity View neighbourhood.

Thanks to all the local organizers, walk leaders, and participants of Jane's Walks. What a wonderful way to learn about and embrace your home community.

[14:00]

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Regina Walsh Acres

Phase 2 of Distribution Centre Opens at Global Transportation Hub

Mr. Steinley: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm pleased to rise in the House today to highlight an important new development at the Global Transportation Hub. Yesterday it was my pleasure to join with the Premier, the Minister Responsible for GTH [Global Transportation Hub], the Minister of Highways, the Minister of Government Services, and the member from Cypress Hills, representatives of the city of Regina, Canadian Logistics Services, and Loblaws at the official opening of phase 2 of the CLS [Canadian Logistics Services] Regina distribution centre.

As part of one of the largest development projects in Saskatchewan, the CLS distribution centre will have a strong economic impact in the surrounding community and on the province as a whole. The facility is comprised of 1 million square feet in total area and operates three shifts, seven days a week. With access to state of the art supply chain infrastructure, warehousing facilities, transportation systems, and trained manpower throughout Canada, CLS provides customized, efficient, and economical logistics services.

Mr. Speaker, the completion of CLS's phase 2 is great news for our province's already strong economy. It will help to increase the Global Transportation Hub's reputation as Western Canada's best destination for companies seeking to enhance all facets of their logistic and distribution services, and serve the

citizens of Saskatchewan by drawing more people to our great province for business purposes and tourism.

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to take this opportunity to congratulate all the contributors who helped make this project possible. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Yorkton.

Ukrainian Dance Festival and Competition

Mr. Ottenbreit: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On Friday, May 4th, I had the honour to bring greetings on behalf of the Premier and the Government of Saskatchewan to the 11th Annual Kalyna Ukrainian Dance School Festival and Competition again held at the Anne Portnuff Theatre at the Yorkton Regional High School. The event began on Thursday and ran through Sunday from morning to evening, with the opening ceremonies on Friday.

The Kalyna Dance Festival for 2012 had well over 400 entries from all over the province and Manitoba. It has no longer any room to grow. It's at capacity every year. There is no doubt this event brings much to our local economy as there are few, if any, hotel rooms available during the event. For 11 years the event has been attracting Ukrainian dance schools from Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and the United States.

It is so very important to celebrate our heritage and culture, and Kalyna through its many organizers, participants, and volunteers has been doing a phenomenal job of promoting the strong and vibrant Ukrainian culture of Yorkton and our province. Involving children and families in activities is so very important, no matter the age, and this event has participants from 6 to well over 60. Active kids and families are healthy kids and families, and it is proven that activities help kids do better academically and socially.

I commend the volunteers, organizers, and all involved in this event. Congratulations on their past success, and I wish the Kalyna Ukrainian Dance Festival continued success for many years to come. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Rosthern-Shellbrook.

Support for Primary Health Care Services

Mr. Moe: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, today our government made an exciting announcement on strengthening primary health care services across the province. Our government's Patient First Review told us that people wanted more timely access to basic health services through primary health care.

Every day in Saskatchewan, thousands of people experience primary health care. It makes up about 80 per cent of the health services provided, from visits to family physicians, to nurse practitioners, to pharmacists, to therapy services. With the launch of the framework for achieving a high-performing primary health care system, our government has embarked on a process to strengthen primary health care in our province to better serve the needs of residents and communities.

This framework is a road map for patient-centred, community-designed, team-delivered primary health care. It was developed with the collaboration of over 400 people who've contributed their knowledge, experience, and time. We thank them for their commitment and contribution to improving care in our province.

Mr. Speaker, in conjunction with the release of the framework, we are investing \$3.6 million to support regional health authorities, primary health care providers, and community partners to implement eight new models of primary health care delivery. These sites will support innovative practices and help build a primary care system that provides better health, better care, and better value.

Mr. Speaker, primary health care is the foundation of our health system, and our government is committed to ensuring a primary health care system that is sustainable, offers a superior patient experience, and ensures improved access to health care services. Thank you.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Regina Northeast.

Challenges to Natural Resource Industry

Mr. Doherty: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I think I'm finally starting to understand the NDP [New Democratic Party]. At least I now understand why they never had a plan to grow Saskatchewan's economy. They think it's a federal responsibility.

Yesterday, many Canadians, including our Premier, responded to the NDP's wrong-headed suggestion that a strong resource sector is bad for Canada because it kills manufacturing jobs in the East. Various columnists called the NDP leader's comments a bad economic prescription, a recipe for economic mayhem, ill-advised, potentially disastrous, pandering to Quebec, ridiculous, divisive, bizarre, ignorant, and economic suicide. And what did our provincial NDP have to say about all this, Mr. Speaker? Well they completely passed the buck and said, it's a federal responsibility.

When asked by a reporter about the federal leader's comments, the NDP MLA for Nutana said, and I quote, "If there are issues around economics, that's something the federal government has to deal with." There you have it, Mr. Speaker. The NDP would hand over responsibility for our resource sector to the federal government. And if, heaven forbid, Mr. Speaker, the federal NDP were ever our national government, well they would view the strength of our resource sector as a disease, a disease that can only be cured by slowing down our resource sector and killing thousands of jobs.

Mr. Speaker, we don't need that sort of economic prescription for Canada from the federal NDP leader, and the people of Saskatchewan don't need that sort of abdication of responsibility from the provincial NDP. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

QUESTION PERIOD

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

Takeover of Grain Marketing Company

Mr. Nilson: — Mr. Speaker, I think that's a perfect example of why the Premier should stick to his knitting and attend to the tasks here in this province. Mr. Speaker, at the end of March, the Premier announced that he was hiring Informa Economics to analyze and make a recommendation to the government on the Glencore takeover of Viterra. The Premier received the report yesterday and he said that it shouldn't take longer than a week to review the report. My question to the Premier: when will he make the report public?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — Mr. Speaker, we'll be making the report public shortly. But in the preamble to his question, the Leader of the Opposition, in a passing reference I guess was commenting on what his federal leader has been saying about the resource sector of this country and specifically the resource sector of this province that is this day driving new investment, creating new jobs, creating the kind of environment in Saskatchewan for people to come literally from the rest of Canada and all over the world to find their hopes and opportunity right here in the province of Saskatchewan. It's part of the Saskatchewan advantage.

And yesterday he had a chance to go out to the media and stand up for this province against his federal leader. Instead he sent the critic out, who came out, was pretty equivocal. It sounded like she supported what Mr. Mulcair is now saying about the resource sector of Western Canada. Now's a good opportunity for him as Leader of the Saskatchewan NDP to stand up, condemn what Mr. Mulcair has said, and stand up for the province of Saskatchewan.

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

Mr. Nilson: — Mr. Speaker, the Viterra takeover is an important issue for this province, and the effects of the Viterra takeover deal are going to ripple right across the province. Not only do we stand to lose head office jobs in Regina; there could be job losses in other communities across the province.

It's been over a month since the Premier hired US [United States]-based Informa Economics to analyze the takeover. My question to the Premier: has he spoken with any agricultural groups, any producers, any regional enterprise committees so he can be better informed when he makes a decision on this takeover of Viterra?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Agriculture.

Hon. Mr. Bjornerud: — Well thank you, Mr. Speaker. And, Mr. Speaker, Informa Economics' report is due right away. I'm hoping to have the opportunity to review it this afternoon. We all do. We want to have a good look at it. In fact we're very interested to see what it has to say about the jobs in the province of Saskatchewan and the impact on those jobs. Also the impact on competition, whether it's on the grain handling side, whether it's on elevator structures right across this province, how that will work out. And with Richardson and Agrium also being involved in the sale farther down the road, I think we would like to see what effect that will have on

producers and the economy of the province of Saskatchewan.

But also I think one of the most important issues I think that producers have, that we've talked to, whether it's producers' organizations or individual farmers in the province, is on the input side where I think many of them feel right now that fertilizer prices are very high, and they want to make sure that that doesn't lead to higher prices even into the future.

So, Mr. Speaker, with that we are looking forward to see the Informa report and will release it either later this week or early next week, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Nilson: — Mr. Speaker, approximately half of Viterra's assets will be sold by Glencore in the takeover, and the minister has referenced that issue around the inputs for farmers. Yesterday when asked about job losses though, Chris Mahoney who's the director of agricultural products for Glencore said, "Look, there will some relocation."

My question to the Premier is: how many head office jobs will be lost in Regina, and how many jobs will be lost across Saskatchewan?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Agriculture.

Hon. Mr. Bjornerud: — Well thank you, Mr. Speaker. Well, Mr. Speaker, to the member, I don't think anyone knows at this point exactly how many jobs will be lost. I think that's why this report is going to be so important, that they've done the work from an independent perspective to see what the job loss possibly will be or the job gain might be down the road. I know Richardson and Agrium will have an effect on those jobs, being that they're located outside of the province. But we don't know yet that exact number right now. I think that's why a lot of the information in this report is going to be very valuable to us, again coming from an independent body that will be giving us that report very shortly.

Mr. Speaker, I think the member would know too that when it comes to the fertilizer costs in this province, there's been concerns for many, many years. As grain prices go up, right away it seems instantly that fertilizer prices go along with that. And I think that both sides of this House would agree that sometimes we don't feel that there's a justification for that. I think what we want to make sure is that this transaction, if it goes ahead, will not affect commodity prices of fertilizer and will not cost the producers to pay more for that product.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Saskatoon Riversdale.

Support for the Film Industry

Ms. Chartier: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. People in the film industry have not minced words. They believe the government's new non-refundable tax credit will do nothing except lead to the industry's demise in our province. And yet this minister is optimistic that it's all going to just be fine. It's not clear who in the industry, if anyone, the minister consulted who has told him the non-refundable credit will work. Will the

minister admit he has nothing to back up his claim that the non-refundable tax credit will work, except what he has heard perhaps from a few well placed people in the Southland Mall food court?

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

Hon. Mr. Hutchinson: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We welcome the member's question as always. Mr. Speaker, the old grant program has created a transient industry that moves from province to province and state to state, wherever the biggest subsidy happens to be right now. The new tax credit program moves away from this bidding war and is aimed at building a more permanent Saskatchewan-based industry.

Add in our three-point plan's increased focus on developing digital technology and using it to support film and the other creative industries as well, plus transforming the sound stage which is currently underused into a new centre of excellence for all of them to develop new ideas and new companies together under one roof, and you have a solution that is practical, innovative, and fair to taxpayers and other industries as well.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Saskatoon Riversdale.

Ms. Chartier: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This minister is having a real problem with full disclosure on this issue. Yesterday he claimed that to be able to receive the full tax credit of \$1.7 million, a Saskatchewan-based company would only have to make \$14.6 million. But when asked by the media how many Saskatchewan-based film companies would qualify by making enough money, the minister had no idea.

It has now been 24 hours, lots of time for the minister to gather the information. Will the minister please tell us how many of these Saskatchewan-based companies actually make \$14.6 million and would qualify for his full credit?

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

Hon. Mr. Hutchinson: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Well in the example presented by the film industry that the member references, it was assumed that a \$7 million production would result in a tax credit of up to \$1.7 million. Further, our friends in SMPIA [Saskatchewan Motion Picture Industry Association] calculated that there would need to be \$85 million of taxable income to claim this credit. An enormous amount, admittedly, but it's just not accurate. In fact the actual income required is \$14.6 million.

And, Mr. Speaker, that's taxable income, not profits as mentioned by the critic. She's actually wrong on that. \$14.5 million, by the way, is less than a fifth of the amount that SMPIA's suggesting. Here's the reason. SMPIA assumed that the full \$85 million is taxed at the 2 per cent small-business rate, which is an easy mistake to make. After the first \$500,000 though, the rate is 12 per cent. And I know, Mr. Speaker, this is all rather technical. So let's skip to the bottom line, shall we?

We have had valuable and forthright discussions with the film

industry and support the bonus structure and the all-spend approach they proposed. We have more on the table than that and we're looking forward to more discussions with the industry.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Saskatoon Riversdale.

Ms. Chartier: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again to the minister, who did not answer the question: again, how many companies would qualify?

[14:15]

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

Hon. Mr. Hutchinson: — Well, Mr. Speaker, the member's referring to the \$1 million or thereabout estimate that was produced by the Ministry of Finance and our folks from Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport.

Let's talk about what that means and where it came from. This is provided by the officials themselves. We're proposing an all-spend credit which, by the way, Mr. Speaker, is exactly what the industry representatives have asked from government. We're doing that. Saskatchewan, they go on to say, does not have experience with this credit. But because different spending will now be eligible, it may be possible that use of the credit will increase.

They go on to mention this second point. Digital is now included. That's all brand new too of course, Mr. Speaker. And new corporations may become eligible. Again it's prudent to plan for the possibility that greater access to the credit may result in additional benefit to Saskatchewan taxpayers and companies.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Saskatoon Riversdale.

Ms. Chartier: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. One more time: how many companies would qualify for the benefit?

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

Hon. Mr. Hutchinson: — Mr. Speaker, we welcome the opportunity to indicate that the member's trying to change the channel because it's just not working for them.

But I want to bring this back, is something that she raised before. You know, Mr. Speaker, one of the keys to success for our film industry is to get on board with digital technology. As we have mentioned before, digital is changing the way we work, communicate, and buy products in an environment that is mobile, interactive, and virtual. Developing digital technology and adapting to support film and other creative industries is part of our three-point plan, and it's how we're going to grow Saskatchewan-based companies that can compete successfully, both in our country and around the world.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Saskatoon

Riversdale.

Ms. Chartier: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It appears to many that the government was so desperate to get out of a political jam that it hastily announced a program that even the minister cannot properly explain or provide clear details, as we just saw here today, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, can the minister tell this Assembly if it is a problem with the program, with the minister or, more likely, with both?

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

Hon. Mr. Hutchinson: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As we have said many times in this Assembly — and I'm sure we're going to say it many times more — all industries create economic spinoffs, but only one industry gets grants, and that's the film industry. We have a brand new program that will benefit any company that pays tax in this province, any company.

Now sadly, Mr. Speaker, the NDP wants us to believe that Saskatchewan's film industry can't possibly survive unless we continue to provide these grants that no other industry gets. They're assuming that there's no ability to pay tax. I don't think that's true. As mentioned before, we have a lot more faith in the ingenuity and the creativity and the resourcefulness of our film industry than those folks do. It's a shame. We're very disappointed in their pessimistic attitude.

We believe that a broadly based program that takes into account all production costs — again, something that the film industry has actually requested — and actually reduces tax payable, that we're after, is a good start. Even better, we're proposing a new focus on digital technology, as mentioned, and a new home for all of our creative industries to work together under one roof. Mr. Speaker, that's leadership.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Saskatoon Riversdale.

Ms. Chartier: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In an interview yesterday, the minister said that despite what the industry is saying about the tax credit, he really knows better than they do: "I think we've got a program that actually meets the real needs of the film industry."

Is it possible for this government and this minister to be any more condescending? I don't actually think so. The people who know best are the people who actually work in this industry, and spending a day on the set of *Corner Gas* does not mean the Premier has that knowledge.

To the minister: is this minister and this Premier so arrogant to believe that they know better than those who work in the industry, or are they simply content to have the end of the film industry in Saskatchewan be their legacy?

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

Hon. Mr. Hutchinson: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. You know, in reference to the member's question, we're actually

responding to the specific requests of the industry itself. What it said was, you know what, we do need a different kind of tax credit program, one that includes all the spending. You know, what we have right now, Mr. Speaker, is just one that recognizes the employment cost. What about transportation? What about accommodation? What about food? What about equipment rental?

What they said to us was, would you please come up with a new program that recognizes and accommodates all those expenses? That's exactly what we've done. We've actually gone farther than that, Mr. Speaker. We recognized that digital is the future of this industry and in fact all creative industries. We propose to pull them all together into a centre of excellence in the currently underused sound stage. Mr. Speaker, this has the ability to make Saskatchewan a leader in digital technology and in all creative industries support from coast to coast.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Regina Rosemont.

Funding For Education

Mr. Wotherspoon: — Mr. Speaker, yesterday we raised concerns over education funding shortfalls, particularly the fact that funding fails to meet the demands of population growth. Educational leaders, directors, and school board Chairs have spoken out with concern on this front because of the negative impacts for their students. The minister was dismissive of their concerns and disrespected them in the rotunda saying, "They are crying."

Mr. Speaker, educational leaders are looking for a good faith partner in government. Instead the minister belittles them and dismisses real concerns. Will the minister stand up and apologize to these educational leaders here today?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Education.

Hon. Ms. Harpauer: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What this minister will do, and has been doing, is meeting with the different school boards, different trustees, anyone who requests a meeting. I have never refused a meeting with any school division in our entire province. I have also promised the school divisions that we will work with them on the new funding formula and we will be listening to the issues that they raise.

And it isn't just this issue. There's other different calculations that school divisions have questions about. I said that there will be a conference or meetings held this fall, which is one year from when we first introduced the funding formula calculations to the school divisions, in which case they can raise their concerns, Mr. Speaker.

I do not believe that giving school divisions over a 20 per cent increase in the last five years is disrespectful. I do not believe that investing a half a billion dollars into school capital projects is disrespectful. I do not believe that keeping communication with school divisions is disrespectful.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Regina Rosemont.

Mr. Wotherspoon: — Mr. Speaker, the education sector hasn't just been disrespected by words but also process. The education priority capital list is a place to provide a transparent and fair mechanism for the education sector, for parents and students, and for communities as they work towards improvements in their schools. It provides a clear order. The number one school on the 1A priority health and safety capital list and the number three school on the list received funding. This is good. But strangely, Pleasant Hill, the number two school on the list, was overlooked entirely. Why was Pleasant Hill passed over? Why was the priority list not followed?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Education.

Hon. Ms. Harpauer: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm more than happy to give that member opposite the answer that I gave to the Saskatoon Public School Division, because I met with them and they raised this question. And it was an opportunity for our government to clarify that position. It was interesting though. I heard from many trustees that it used to be the past practice to randomly pick on the priority list, and our government had never done that, not once. We have put through over 50 projects, and we have never, ever looked at somewhere else on the list.

The reason is this, Mr. Speaker. The reason is this. The critical capacity in Martensville has reached a very, very concerning level. Martensville is the fastest growing city in all of Canada, and the space pressures in Martensville is becoming alarming. So that is why Martensville, the expansion in the Martensville High School, went up on the list. I know that we however are committing a lot of dollars in that Pleasant Hill area in St. Anne School.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Regina Rosemont.

Mr. Wotherspoon: — Mr. Speaker, either government has an objective process or it doesn't. Not only was Pleasant Hill jumped over, as it's been stated, by the number one and the number three project, but also by Martensville that was highlighted here.

Certainly this too is an important project. But that being said, the priority list of the ministry is clear. Projects on the health and safety list come first. The process has been set aside in favour of arbitrary choices of that government who intervene to scrap the process, cause schools to jump the queue. And how is this fair and transparent?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Education.

Hon. Ms. Harpauer: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. You know, it's interesting. Today and yesterday, the minister was demanding that this government take consideration to growth. I mean he is demanding that we're overlooking growth. In this situation I just explained, this was getting critical of pressure, of capacity, and we made the decision to expand a school in Martensville because of the astounding growth — the fastest growing city in Canada.

Mr. Speaker, I correct the school that I spoke earlier. It was St. Mary's that we are building a brand new school in that area. I

have talked to the trustees of the Saskatoon Public. I explained the situation that it is not a crisis with a one-year delay. But you know, what they can count on is each and every year this government has committed money into major capital projects, unlike the previous administration who ignored capital pressures year over year over year over year.

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

Review of Labour Legislation and Workplace Safety

Mr. Forbes: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, this week is North American Occupational Safety and Health Week, a time to renew our commitment to workplace safety. And we all know that in Saskatchewan we have the second highest injury rate in Canada. Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, though, this omnibus so-called labour consultation is all about labour standards and trade unions and clearly not workplace safety. My question to the minister: there are 185 sample questions in this document but not a single question about occupational health and safety.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Justice and Attorney General.

Hon. Mr. Morgan: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Later today we are going to have a Bill before the House that deals with occupational health and safety. In particular, Mr. Speaker, that Bill increases penalties for breaches regarding occupational health and safety. The member opposite asked questions about the Bill last night and we provided some very specific answers. Mr. Speaker, we take health and safety in our workplace very seriously.

I spoke yesterday at the North American Occupational Health and Safety lunch in our province, and I made comments regarding the need for us to improve safety. It is a problem that we have had for many years in our province and it is going away. In spite of the fact that we are still the second highest, our injury rate and our death rate has continued to fall. We have a lot of work to do, Mr. Speaker, in that area because the only acceptable injury rate is one of zero. We have a Mission: Zero program with occupational health and safety and Workers' Compensation. We will continue to do that, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Forbes: — Mr. Speaker, the Bill that he's referencing, the occupational health and safety Bill, Bill 23, is part of a requirement of that legislation that requires that it is looked at every five years. So this is something that should be done and of course is being done because it's a legislative requirement, not anything that this government does on their own.

But, Mr. Speaker, clearly this minister should be resolving outstanding issues in this department, especially issues like essential services, but there aren't discussion questions about retail workers and making their workplace safer, especially late at night. Of the 185 discussion questions in this sweeping review, not one is about workplace safety. There's not any suggested discussion questions about safety concerns on farms, for example, or for migrant workers or transportation home at night for late-night shift workers. These kind of questions

would make some common sense to be included in this kind of

To the minister: why is the minister ignoring important areas of occupational health and safety in this review?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Justice and Attorney General.

Hon. Mr. Morgan: — Mr. Speaker, yesterday I cut the member opposite some slack because he'd been away and hadn't had a chance to read the paper. Obviously he was in committee last night, and he hasn't read the paper yet. If he reads through the paper, it asks a myriad of issues and a myriad of questions. Mr. Speaker, we are having that discussion. The very Bill, the very Bill that the member opposite is referencing that's before the House, one of the key points of that Bill is to increase the penalties and increase the fines, and increase them by a very substantial amount. It also will allow for summary offence tickets to be given out. Mr. Speaker, that's the purpose of that.

Mr. Speaker, the member opposite says we have a mandate to do that. We followed through on that mandate. The mandate says we'll look at the Bill. We looked at the legislation, and one of the things that we're doing is we've introduced major changes to that legislation. It doesn't need to be in a discussion paper because we're not talking about it any more, Mr. Speaker; we're doing it, and we're going to continue doing it, Mr. Speaker. In spite of what that member opposite says, we're doing it.

[14:30]

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

Mr. Forbes: — Mr. Speaker, this minister is all over the map. This report is full of holes. Yesterday he said in the *Hansard*, and I'll quote page 1432:

Mr. Speaker, we are doing nothing more than asking the question whether people want to continue that practice, bury the practice, or make it more streamlined or easier. There is no preconceived notions in this whatsoever.

But then he's reported in the paper as saying this about holidays. This is what he says, and I quote:

"I just want to make it clear. If the document isn't clear, I want to make it clear. There will be no reduction in the number of holidays," Morgan said.

So he's asking these questions, but he's saying that the answers are already fixed. I say to the minister: this is the time; withdraw this sham and do it right. But today he's got it all wrong. Do it right; withdraw it now.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Justice and Attorney General.

Hon. Mr. Morgan: — Mr. Speaker, workplace safety is something that we take very seriously in our province. Through the good work done by Workers' Compensation Board and the

people at OH & S [occupational health and safety], we have driven down injury rates. We have a lot more work to do because the members opposite left us a terrible rate. It has gone down in each and every year that we have been in government, Mr. Speaker. We will continue to do that process. We have a Bill before the House today and I'd urge...

[Interjections]

The Speaker: — Will the Opposition Whip come to order. I recognize the Minister of Justice and Attorney General.

Hon. Mr. Morgan: — Mr. Speaker, I will conclude by saying this. It is Occupational Health and Safety Week. Mine workers, for an example, play an important role. We have a high injury rate in our mines.

I'll tell you what we've done. We inspect mines more frequently than any other workplace. The mine safety unit conducted last year 499 inspections and issued 344 notices of contravention in 2011, up from 287 in the previous year. Mr. Speaker, that's the type of thing we're doing and that's the type of thing we're going to continue to do. And I'd urge the members opposite to support the legislation when it goes through.

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing.

The Serious Violent Offender Response

Hon. Mr. Huyghebaert: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm pleased to stand in the House today and talk about the details of an important initiative announced earlier this morning.

In 2011, our government promised to make communities safer by targeting high-risk violent offenders. The Ministry of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing and the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General will invest 1.9 million this year as the first instalment of a 3 million, four-year commitment to reduce violent crime in the province. We made this election promise to the people of Saskatchewan last fall, and once again we are keeping our commitment.

We are calling this commitment the serious violent offender response. It builds on best practice and past successes and will enhance services for serious violent offenders. My ministry, Corrections, Public Safety and Policing, will invest 1.23 million to hire four police officers, six probation officers, two support staff, and one clinical director. These folks will be located in the Saskatoon area and North Battleford area. They will work to better track high-risk offenders in those centres as well as the smaller rural and northern communities.

The Ministry of Justice and Attorney General will be adding five prosecutors and five support staff. These individuals will be dedicated to handling criminal cases involving high-risk offenders. I believe this is the right time for this program. Our government is committed to reducing the risk of reoffending by violent offenders, and research indicates that close supervision and comprehensive case management make a big difference in decreasing their reoffending behaviour. And that is exactly what the serious violent offender response will do.

We are building on a number of programs that have produced great results so far. The one-year courage to change field study worked with in-custody offenders to look at their own criminal behaviour as a way to change them. It resulted in a 30 to 50 per cent reduction in violence and misconducts. The Regina auto theft strategy provided intense supervision to known young offenders and some adult offenders. It reduced auto theft rates by 62 per cent.

Community safety plans for high-risk, violent young offenders decreased reoffending by 30 per cent. And the Saskatoon crime reduction partnership provided intense supervision to known young offenders and some adult offenders. This helped reduce break and enters by 50 per cent. So we're not only preventing and reducing crime and violence; we are reducing the amount of re-offences as well, and that is great news.

I'm pleased to announce, along with the Minister of Justice, that the Government of Saskatchewan is building on those successes. Thanks to the Minister of Justice and his ministry for their support, and to our public safety partners. We appreciate working with them on this very important initiative. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Opposition House Leader.

Mr. McCall: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to rise and respond to the ministerial statement just delivered in the House. I thank the Minister of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing for providing a copy of the remarks before the House convened today.

We think that, to speak on behalf of the official opposition, we think that these are good investments. We think that these are reasonable investments. We think that in general, Mr. Speaker, it's not just enough to be tough on crime. You need to be tough on causes of crime and you need to be smart about how you fight crime. And I guess, Mr. Speaker, we're glad to see, in these investments, that thoughtful, intelligent approach to fighting crime that needs to be taken with these measures. Again the instalment of \$1.9 million this year, the first of a total \$3 million investment over four years, we're glad to see that enlisted in the fight against violent crime, Mr. Speaker.

We'll be interested to see how the four police officers, the six probation officers, the two support staff, and the clinical director are deployed. But again, Mr. Speaker . . . And what the rationale was behind the particular geographic deployment of those individuals, how that works in conjunction with the way that the situation is presenting across the province. We'd like to get a bit more information about that, Mr. Speaker. We're glad to see the investment in the Ministry of Justice around the five prosecutors and five support staff. Again important, important parts of the system if you're going to respond effectively.

But I guess the thing that we are most encouraged by seeing in this announcement, Mr. Speaker, and that we think is important if you're going to fight crime not just fiercely but intelligently, we're glad to see the impact of evidence-based practice on this effort. We're glad to see the referencing of the courage to change field study. We're glad to see this being brought forward in the terrain of the Regina auto theft strategy. We're glad to see this brought forward in the terrain of the community safety plans. And we're glad to see this brought forward in the terrain of the Saskatoon crime reduction partnership. Again, Mr. Speaker, those targeted, focused efforts in fighting crime bore some fruit and certainly have resulted in overall declines.

We're glad to see this approach being brought to bear on the situation with violent crime. But it does leave us with other questions, Mr. Speaker, in terms of how these good efforts on the one hand are impacted by the changing situation as regards the implementation of C-10 and what the federal government might be passing on to the province in terms of demands and stresses on the provincial system, and how that in turn impacts the situation around fighting crime. We're interested in seeing how the current anti-gang strategy measures that are so important in terms of this targeted approach to fighting crime, how they are supported or not supported in terms of work the federal government is doing and how the province is partnering alongside that.

But to recap, Mr. Speaker, we think this measure in and of itself is worth support. We're glad to see it coming forward.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

Strengthening Primary Health Care

Hon. Mr. McMorris: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a ministerial statement as well. Mr. Speaker, I was pleased to announce today that our government is investing \$3.6 million to support our goal to strengthen primary health care services in the province. Our government is firmly committed to a health system that provides better health, better care, and better value. That is why we have set bold targets to improve access to high quality, sustainable care.

As part of our efforts, we are strengthening primary health care, which is a foundation of our health care system, and the routes most patients use to access basic health services. Primary health care is not new to Saskatchewan. We have many positive examples across the province. However our investment today in primary care is guided by the release of a new framework called the *Framework for Achieving a High Performing Primary Health System in Saskatchewan*. This framework was developed over many months with the participation of communities, municipal organizations, patients, health professionals, and the Ministry of Health. It recognizes the efforts in the past to impose a rigid model of primary health care that was designed in isolation by government was not the right solution.

That is why I am pleased to announce today the \$3.6 million in funding will contribute to the patient-centred, community-designed, team-delivered approach to primary health care in the province. Eight primary health care sites have been identified, and they're at varying stages of development.

They are: the Meadow Lake clinic, where service design is improving access for patients to a whole team of health professionals; Moose Jaw, where the team will focus on an integration of services like immunization and Well Baby clinics; Yorkton, where they will take a team approach to the management of chronic disease; Regina in its inner city, where enhancements, after-hour access, and new ways of linking to other community services will be integrated; in Lloydminster, where a team will be developed and work with, commence the redesign services around the patient; Leader, where technology will be used to support communications between urban and rural team members; Whitecap Dakota First Nation in the Saskatoon Health Region will partner to begin integration for the First Nation and health region services; Fort Qu'Appelle, Balcarres, and Lestock will work with the All Nations' Healing Centre in Fort Qu'Appelle in a multi-community partnership that will ensure enhancement of care delivery.

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to thank everyone who contributed their time and expertise to the development of the primary health care framework and to the work that is under way to ensure these eight sites are successful. Primary health care is truly the foundation of our health system, and by strengthening primary health care, we will ensure that we have a more sustainable system with superior patient experience and better ensure access to all health care services, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Broten: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the opportunity to have a chance to make a few comments about the ministerial statement that was just provided. Certainly primary care is so very important in the delivery of health care to Saskatchewan people, and that applies to our cities, our large cities, our medium-sized cities, our small towns, and rural areas, Mr. Speaker. And so when we see the possibility for improvements and the possibility for additional resources for the delivery of primary care, Mr. Speaker, I think that is a good thing, and I think that's what many Saskatchewan people do, in fact, want to see.

It is often, Mr. Speaker, when dealing with primary care delivery, challenging to have different professions working together under one roof and developing those relationships, so I look forward, Mr. Speaker, to seeing the results of the different locations that the minister listed, to see what sort of progress and changes can be made for the better. At the same time, Mr. Speaker, we recognize that there are concerns still in many communities beyond the ones the minister listed with respect to physician recruitment or recruitment of nurse practitioners or the availability of OTs [occupational therapists] and speech language pathologists. So you know, Mr. Speaker, there does remain a tremendous amount of work to do for a tremendous amount of patients and communities in Saskatchewan.

So I thank the minister for the remarks. I look forward to seeing the outcome of the dollars that were allocated today, and we on the official opposition will continue to watch what is occurring. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

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

Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice

Mr. Michelson: — Thank you. Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased to be instructed by the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice to report Bill No. 19, *The Assessment Appraisers Amendment Act, 2011* without amendment.

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

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

The Speaker: — The Minister of Municipal Affairs has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 19, *The Assessment Appraisers Amendment Act, 2011* and that the Bill now be read a third time. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

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

[14:45]

THIRD READINGS

Bill No. 19 — The Assessment Appraisers Amendment Act, 2011

Hon. Mr. Hickie: — 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 Municipal Affairs that Bill No. 19, *The Assessment Appraisers Amendment Act, 2011* 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 chairman of the Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice.

Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice

Mr. Michelson: — Thank you. Mr. Speaker, I'm again

instructed by the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice to report Bill No. 20, *The Planning and Development Amendment Act, 2011* without amendment.

The Speaker: — When shall this Bill be considered in committee? I recognize the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

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

The Speaker: — The Minister of Municipal Affairs has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 20, *The Planning and Development Amendment Act, 2011* and that the Bill now be 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. 20 — The Planning and Development Amendment Act, 2011

Hon. Mr. Hickie: — 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 Municipal Affairs that Bill No. 20, *The Planning and Development Amendment Act, 2011* 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 chairman of the Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice.

Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice

Mr. Michelson: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am further instructed by the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice to report Bill No. 41, *The Miscellaneous Statutes (Municipal Affairs — Municipal Taxation) Amendment Act, 2012* without amendment.

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

Hon. Mr. Hickie: — 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 Municipal Affairs has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bill No. 41, *The Miscellaneous Statutes (Municipal Affairs — Municipal Taxation) Amendment Act, 2012* 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. 41 — The Miscellaneous Statutes (Municipal Affairs — Municipal Taxation) Amendment Act, 2012

Hon. Mr. Hickie: — 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 Municipal Affairs that Bill No. 41, *The Miscellaneous Statutes (Municipal Affairs — Municipal Taxation) Amendment Act, 2012* 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 chairman of the Human Services Committee.

Standing Committee on Human Services

Mr. Kirsch: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm instructed by the Standing Committee on Human Services to report Bill No. 17, *The Child Care Amendment Act, 2011* without amendment.

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

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

read for the third time.

The Speaker: — The Minister of Education has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bill No. 17, *The Child Care Amendment Act, 2011* and that the Bill now be 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. 17 — The Child Care Amendment Act, 2011

Hon. Ms. Harpauer: — 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 Education that Bill No. 17, *The Child Care Amendment Act*, 2011 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 chairman of the Human Services Committee.

Standing Committee on Human Services

Mr. Kirsch: — Mr. Speaker, I'm instructed by the Standing Committee on Human Services to report Bill No. 27, *The Education Amendment Act*, 2011, a bilingual Act, without amendment.

The Speaker: — When shall this Bill be considered before Committee of the Whole? I recognize the Minister of Education.

Hon. Ms. Harpauer: — 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 Education has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bill No. 27, *The Education Amendment Act, 2011* and that the Bill now be 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. 27 — The Education Amendment Act, 2011/Loi de 2011 modifiant la Loi de 1995 sur l'éducation

Hon. Ms. Harpauer: — 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 Education that Bill No. 27, *The Education Amendment Act*, 2011 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 chairman of the committee on Human Services.

Standing Committee on Human Services

Mr. Kirsch: — Mr. Speaker, I'm instructed by the Standing Committee on Human Services to report Bill No. 28, *The Education Consequential Amendments Act*, 2011 without amendment.

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

I recognize the Minister of Education.

Hon. Ms. Harpauer: — 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 Education has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bill No. 28, *The Education Consequential Amendments Act, 2011* and that the Bill now be 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. 28 — The Education Consequential Amendments Act. 2011

Hon. Ms. Harpauer: — 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 Education that Bill No. 28, *The Education Consequential Amendments Act, 2011* 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 answers to questions 380 through 384.

The Speaker: — The Government Whip has tabled answers to questions 380 to 384.

I recognize the Government House Leader.

Hon. Mr. Harrison: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In order to facilitate the work of committees both this afternoon and this evening, I move that this House do now adjourn.

The Speaker: — The Government House Leader has moved that the House do now adjourn. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried. This House stands adjourned to 1:30 p.m. Wednesday.

[The Assembly adjourned at 14:52.]

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