



FIRST SESSION - TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

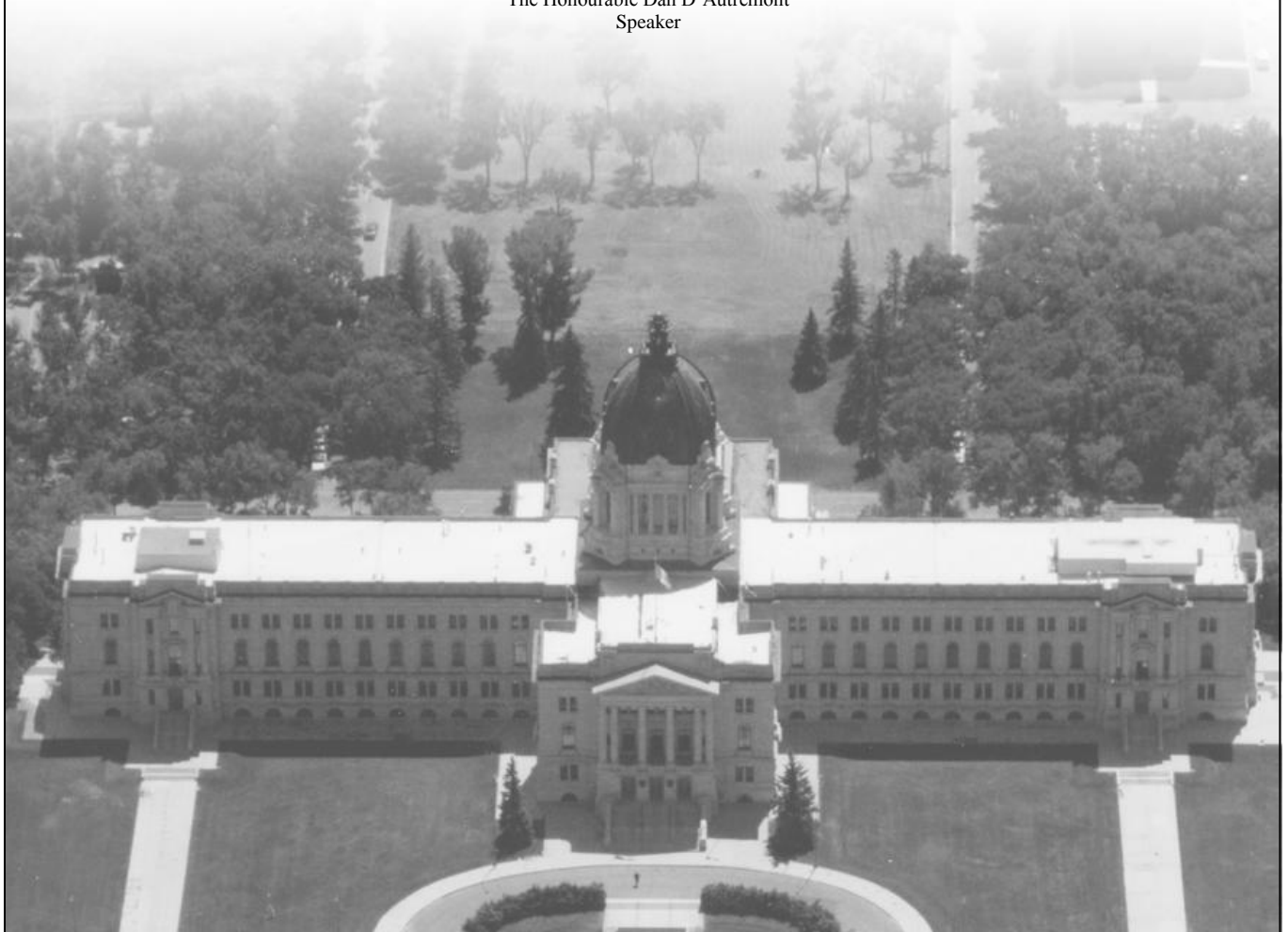
of the

Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

**DEBATES
and
PROCEEDINGS**

(HANSARD)

Published under the
authority of
The Honourable Dan D'Autremont
Speaker



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	Wood River
Jurgens, Victoria	SP	Prince Albert Northcote
Kirsch, Delbert	SP	Batoche
Krawetz, Hon. Ken	SP	Canora-Pelly
Lawrence, Greg	SP	Moose Jaw Wakamow
Makowsky, Gene	SP	Regina Dewdney
Marchuk, Russ	SP	Regina Douglas Park
McCall, Warren	NDP	Regina Elphinstone-Centre
McMillan, Hon. Tim	SP	Lloydminster
McMorris, Hon. Don	SP	Indian Head-Milestone
Merriman, Paul	SP	Saskatoon Sutherland
Michelson, Warren	SP	Moose Jaw North
Moe, Scott	SP	Rosthern-Shellbrook
Morgan, Hon. Don	SP	Saskatoon Southeast
Nilson, John	NDP	Regina Lakeview
Norris, Hon. Rob	SP	Saskatoon Greystone
Ottenbreit, Greg	SP	Yorkton
Parent, Roger	SP	Saskatoon Meewasin
Phillips, Kevin	SP	Melfort
Reiter, Hon. Jim	SP	Rosetown-Elrose
Ross, Hon. Laura	SP	Regina Qu'Appelle Valley
Sproule, Cathy	NDP	Saskatoon Nutana
Steinley, Warren	SP	Regina Walsh Acres
Stewart, Lyle	SP	Thunder Creek
Tell, Christine	SP	Regina Wascana Plains
Tochor, Corey	SP	Saskatoon Eastview
Toth, Don	SP	Moosomin
Vermette, Doyle	NDP	Cumberland
Wall, Hon. Brad	SP	Swift Current
Weekes, Randy	SP	Biggar
Wilson, Nadine	SP	Saskatchewan Rivers
Wotherspoon, Trent	NDP	Regina Rosemont
Wyant, Gordon	SP	Saskatoon Northwest

The Assembly met at 13:30.]

[Prayers]

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Advanced Education, Employment and Immigration.

Hon. Mr. Norris: — Mr. Speaker, thank you very much. Mr. Speaker, to you and through you to all members of this Assembly, I'd like to welcome members of various newcomer communities from right across the province. We understand the significant contribution that newcomers are making to the new Saskatchewan: making sure that our province is increasingly diverse, dynamic, and cosmopolitan; building more inclusive communities, more inclusive workplaces. And I just want to say, on behalf of the government, how pleased we are that so many have come to their Assembly. And so again, to you and through you, Mr. Speaker, I'll ask all members to join me in welcoming all of these newcomers to their Assembly.

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

Mr. Broten: — With leave to make an extended introduction please, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — The member has asked for leave to make an extended introduction. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

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

Mr. Broten: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to colleagues. I would like to extend a very special welcome, a very warm hello to all of the guests who have joined us today, especially those who have come to the legislature today to express their concerns around the Saskatchewan immigrant nominee program and the family class. Thank you to everyone from the community who came to the rally that was outside and, Mr. Speaker, I know also that there are many outside of this Assembly who are unable to sit in here today since it is so full.

Today, Mr. Speaker, we have representatives from the Pakistani community, the Indian community, the Bangladeshi community, the Sikh community, the Hindu temple, as well as some from the Filipino community, Mr. Speaker, and these are individuals from Saskatoon and Regina.

I would also, Mr. Speaker, at this time send across a letter to the minister from the Saskatoon Gujarati Cultural Association. It wasn't in the correct format for a petition, but I will share this with the minister as they requested me to do so. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Government Deputy House

Leader.

Mr. Wyant: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you to members of the legislature, I'd like to introduce 32 grade 6 students from St. Angela's elementary school in Saskatoon. You can give us a wave. Where are they? There they are, sitting in your west gallery, Mr. Speaker.

St. Angela's is in the heart of Saskatoon Northwest, so we sure wish them a good visit today. With them is their teacher, Curtis Wagner. They're also accompanied by their chaperones, Karen Janzen, Bryan Best, Sharla Bertrand, Anita Kanak, Lisa Laskowski, and Michelle Wessner. So I would ask all the members of the legislature to welcome them to their legislature today, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Chartier: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you and to all members of the legislature, I'd like to extend a welcome to all the folks from the film and television industry who are here today. They're in the east galley and throughout the building, actually in room 255, which is packed. The galleries are packed, which I think says a great deal, Mr. Speaker. So with that I would like, I ask my colleagues to join me in welcoming the folks from the film and television industry to their Legislative Assembly.

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

Mr. Parent: — Mr. Speaker, to you, through you, and to all members of the Assembly, I would like to introduce 21 grade 6 students and their teacher, Patrick Brennan, and the chaperones, Trevor Perkins, Rosanna Perkins, Adine Sander, and Tracey Hendricks. They are from the St. Anne elementary school, seated in your west gallery. Can you give us a wave?

Mr. Speaker, St. Anne School opened its doors in 1976. The school was named for St. Anne, who was the mother of the Virgin Mary. She is often considered the patron saint for mothers and grandmothers. Mr. Speaker, all of my daughters attended and completed elementary school as well at St. Anne's. Mr. Speaker, I invite all members to welcome these students to their Legislative Assembly.

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

Mr. Forbes: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to rise and introduce to you and through you, some very special guests today sitting in your gallery. And if they could wave, first I'd like to introduce John Parry, former Member of Parliament for Kenora-Rainy River under . . . He served with Ed Broadbent in the NDP [New Democratic Party] caucus at that time. John is a real fighter for social justice. He lives in my riding, and I'm glad that he could make it and visit the House today.

As well we have two very special guests that I've been spending a lot of time with. We've been doing these midnight tours. I have Aaron Nagy — Aaron — and Darren Kaytor. Aaron of course has done a lot of work on Jimmy's law, and

he's been introduced in the House before. Many of you have got to know him.

Darren Kaytor though, this is his first time in the House, and I want to pay special recognition to Darren. He's a late-night retail worker. In fact Darren is a survivor of two attacks at the Fas Gas that he worked. The first time he was held up with a shotgun, and the second time with a samurai sword. And so he has taken this cause of Jimmy's law to heart because it really means a lot; he has survived the kind of working conditions we're working to improve. So I would ask all members of the House to welcome Darren, Aaron, and John to their legislature. 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 another 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, Saskatchewan, alone and unprotected from intruders.

We know that from positive statistics that show that convenience store and gas station robberies are down by one-third since 1999, largely due to increased safety practices including two people working together on late-night shifts. But we know provinces have taken action, including British Columbia, by introducing safety precautions including that workers cannot work alone during late-night, early morning hours. And if they are required to work, they must have protective barriers such as locked doors and protective glass. 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 Regina, Moose Jaw, Yorkton. In fact today I present the petition that Jimmy Wiebe's mom signed, Annie. Thank you very much.

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

Mr. Wotherspoon: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to present petitions on behalf of concerned residents from across Saskatchewan as it relates to education in our province. The prayer reads as follows:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your honourable Legislative Assembly call on the Sask Party government to make education a top priority by establishing a long-term vision and plan, with resources, that is responsive to the opportunities and challenges in providing the best quality education and that reflects

Saskatchewan's demographic and population changes; that is based on proven educational best practices, and that is developed through consultation with the education sector, and that recognizes the importance of educational excellence to the social and economic well-being of our province and students for today and for our future.

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

These petitions today are signed by concerned residents of Weyburn, Carnduff, and 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 signed by Saskatchewan residents who are calling for fair changes to the Saskatchewan immigrant nominee program.

We, the undersigned residents of the province of Saskatchewan, wish to bring to your attention the following:

The family class stream of the Saskatchewan immigrant nominee program has been very effective in allowing new residents to establish social and economic roots in our province; that many families relocated to Saskatchewan from other provinces based on the widely advertised and promoted parameters of the program; that families uprooted their lives, sold homes, and sold businesses in other provinces in order to move to Saskatchewan; that the vast majority of families applying to the program are hard-working, law-abiding, and taxpaying members of society; that the recent changes to the family class stream are unnecessarily extreme and occurred without notice and without consultation with the community; that many families who are planning and expecting to access the family class are feeling a sense of betrayal by the Sask Party government; that the Sask Party government has failed to properly defend and promote the Saskatchewan immigrant nominee program in dealing with the federal government.

We, in the prayer that reads as follows, respectfully request that the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan take the following action: to cause the provincial government to hold meaningful consultations with community members affected by these extreme changes to the family class stream and work towards a solution that adequately recognizes the good faith and sacrifice demonstrated by the families who moved to Saskatchewan, based on the promises made through the Saskatchewan immigrant nominee program.

Mr. Speaker, I so present.

The Speaker: — I would like to remind the guests in the gallery that while they are welcome here, they are not to participate in events on the floor, which includes applause. I recognize the member for Saskatoon Riversdale.

Ms. Chartier: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm pleased to

present a petition today on behalf of folks who would like the film and television industry here in Saskatchewan to continue to grow and thrive. They're concerned about the cut to the employment tax credit and then the government's unilateral introduction of a tax credit that will do absolutely nothing for this industry, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to read the prayer:

We, in the prayer that reads as follows, respectfully request that the Government of Saskatchewan continue to provide a tax incentive for film, video, and television employment to leverage investment, employment, and growth in the province's film video and television sector.

This petition, Mr. Speaker, is signed by citizens of Moose Jaw. With that, I so present.

The Speaker: — Again I remind the guests in the gallery, they are not to be participating in events on the floor. You're here as guests of the legislature, and please act as such.

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

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

School Supports Shannen's Dream

Mr. Wotherspoon: — Mr. Speaker, I'm proud today to share a meaningful project taken on by St. Bernadette students and staff this year, and specifically the work of teacher Ms. Karen Goodon. I was pleased to join with Elder Mike Pinay, teachers, students, and the community to recognize Project of Heart on April 19th and to launch the next step in their initiative, working towards achieving Shannen's Dream.

This project encompasses several strategies and programs that acknowledge and remember the lives lost in residential schools across Canada. Sadly, residential schools oppressed and segregated First Nations people and led to thousands of children never returning to their families or communities. The students created memorial tiles that will be part of a permanent monument that will be displayed in the Canadian human rights museum in Winnipeg. Each tile will represent a child's life that was lost at a residential school.

Further to this event, the students and staff at St. Bernadette have taken on a social justice issue, Shannen's Dream. This project highlights the inequities in education for First Nations students today. And these students are calling for equal opportunity and fair education funding for all students.

Mr. Speaker, despite the fact that residential schools are a sad part of our history, I believe all Canadians need to become aware and educated on this history. It truly was an inspirational and touching day to witness the learning of these bright students and their commitment to a fair and just Saskatchewan. I ask all within the Assembly to join with me to commend Ms. Goodon and the students, teachers, and administration and the community of St. Bernadette for their leadership and work. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Newspaper Celebrates 100th Anniversary

Mr. Moe: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A hundred years ago in the community of Shellbrook, a young man embarked on a business venture and a dream. On May 11th, 1912, Ernest Pickup published the first edition of the *Shellbrook Chronicle*. On May 11th, 2012, at a community event honouring a century of service, Clark Pepper, the current publisher, discussed some of the changes that have occurred throughout the past 100 years.

During this time the newspaper's incorporated new technologies such as using offset print methods in the 1960s and incorporating computers in the 1980s. At different points in time, the business also published the *Canwood Times*, the *Shell Lake Eagle*, the *Meadow Lake Progress*, the *Loon Lake Star*, the *Glaslyn Chronicle*, and the *St. Walburg Enterprise*.

Current publications include the *Shellbrook Chronicle* and the *Spiritwood Herald*. Notwithstanding the amount of change in the industry over this time, one constant in the business has been family ownership.

The founder, Ernest Pickup, was succeeded by his son-in-law, Frank Pepper, followed by his son, Alfred Pepper, and now Clark Pepper, the fourth generation publisher of the Saskatchewan economy whether it's an agricultural producer, an auto dealer, a retail business owner, or one of Saskatchewan's many weekly newspapers.

As many of our Saskatchewan communities celebrate 100 years of existence, it was an honour to celebrate a rural, family-owned business with the same century of service. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

[13:45]

The Speaker: — I recognize the Opposition House Leader.

Community Development Leadership Gala

Mr. McCall: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. On May 9th I had the pleasure of attending the YMCA [Young Men's Christian Association] of Regina's third annual Community Development Leadership Gala. Every year the YMCA recognizes the children, youth, and young adults in their programs whose story inspire others to work towards building healthy, inclusive communities. The leadership gala raises funds to support the people who access the Y's programs, and the money goes a long way in supporting children, youth, and families in our community.

Perhaps the YMCA's best known community program is its employment training program which trains students to be cooks while teaching them life skills that will apply to all workplaces. Students in the program learn the basics of cooking and food preparation while running the YMCA Community Cafe in addition to gaining hands-on skills in an office environment. What a treat it was, Mr. Speaker, to dine on the delicious food prepared by those students. The food was fantastic.

Other programs the YMCA supports are the tomorrow's wise

leader program to encourage Aboriginal leadership; the alternative suspension program which offers support for students who for different reasons are temporarily suspended from the school they attend; and the Virtual Y program, a literacy-based course focusing on academic support and social growth to build self confidence. These are just a few of the excellent leadership programs aimed at supporting youth at the Y [Young Men's Christian Association].

Mr. Speaker, it was an enjoyable and worthwhile event. I would like to take this opportunity to extend my warmest congratulations to the YMCA on a successful evening. And of course, a special mention goes out to the talented and outstanding participants who continue to inspire organizers and instructors to continue their hard work in shaping our future leaders. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Estevan.

Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Month

Ms. Eagles: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, May is MS [multiple sclerosis] Awareness Month in Canada. Across the country, the MS Society will work to inform the public about their services and mission and engage supporters in the fight to end MS. MS is an inflammatory disease that affects the ability of the nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord to communicate properly with each other. There is no known cure for MS.

Saskatchewan has the highest per capita rate of multiple sclerosis in Canada. Our government is committed to helping find viable treatment options for MS patients. We have provided \$2.2 million so that people from this province could have the opportunity to be directly involved in advancing research into the liberation therapy as a treatment option for MS. Mr. Speaker, we are now well into the process of identifying Saskatchewan patients who may participate in a liberation therapy clinical trial in Albany, New York. Eighty-six randomly selected people will have the opportunity to be involved in this clinical trial.

Mr. Speaker, Saskatchewan is proud to be taking action in this area. This is a big step for MS research, for patients and their families. We look forward to a successful research project, one that will provide answers that the MS patients need and deserve. In the meantime, Saskatchewan remains open to joining other provincial or federal MS research initiatives as they develop. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Thunder Creek.

Saskatchewan Municipal Awards 2012

Mr. Stewart: — Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased to rise today to speak about the 2012 Saskatchewan Municipal Awards which took place this past Friday in Regina. Since 2006 the annual Saskatchewan Municipal Awards has served as an opportunity to recognize excellence in Saskatchewan's municipal governments.

The municipal awards program is a great example of success through collaboration. SARM [Saskatchewan Association of

Rural Municipalities], SUMA [Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association], RMAAS [Rural Municipal Administrators' Association of Saskatchewan], UMAAS [Urban Municipal Administrators' Association of Saskatchewan], and New North partner with Municipal Affairs on this valuable initiative.

I'd also like to thank the municipal awards selection committee of Jim Angus, Holly Hetherington, Bob Linner, Murray Mandryk, and Senator Pamela Wallin.

The awards were handed out to communities across Saskatchewan that demonstrated several quality municipal practices such as good governance, sustainability, and innovation. Some of the notable awards presented include the Municipal Innovation and Service Excellence Award to the town of Carrot River and the RM [rural municipality] of Moose Range No. 486, the Economic Development Leadership Award to the town of Maple Creek, the Environmental Stewardship Award to the town of Unity, and the Heritage Conservation Leadership Award to the town of Maple Creek.

I would like to acknowledge the organizers, partners, and attendees for once again making this event a success. On behalf of the province of Saskatchewan, I ask all members to congratulate the winners of the 2012 Saskatchewan Municipal Awards for demonstrating municipal excellence and innovation. Thank you.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Government Deputy House Leader.

University of Saskatchewan President Honoured

Mr. Wyant: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to rise today to recognize Peter MacKinnon, president of the University of Saskatchewan. Recently President MacKinnon was honoured by the non-profit Canada Public Policy Forum as the inaugural Prime Ministers of Canada Fellow. The Prime Ministers of Canada Fellowship was created to engage Canadian thought leaders to help guide the policy forum's public service and governance work as well as recognize the former prime ministers of Canada for their contribution to Canadian good governance.

Originally from Prince Edward Island, President MacKinnon has called Saskatoon home since 1975. He was educated at the University of Saskatchewan, Queen's, and Dalhousie; articulated in Kingston; and was appointed Queen's Counsel in 1990. He was a member of the Ontario and the Saskatchewan bar. He is currently the president and vice-chancellor of the University of Saskatchewan and has long contributed his expertise and knowledge as a public policy leader and legal scholar. Regrettably he will be retiring as president effective July 1st, 2012 after 13 years of service.

President MacKinnon has authored and edited many works and received extensive recognition by way of professional and service awards, including the Saskatchewan Centennial Medal and the Queen Elizabeth II Golden Jubilee Medal. In 2011 he was made an Officer of the Order of Canada for his contributions to education and for his commitment to innovation and research excellence.

The people of Saskatchewan are proud of their accomplished residents, Mr. Speaker, and it's truly special to speak about such a recognized contributor to our province and Canadian society. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Natural Resources Policy

Mr. Doherty: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Saskatchewan NDP strategist Erin Weir has revealed that the Saskatchewan NDP supports federal NDP leader Thomas Mulcair's assessment that the way to create manufacturing jobs in eastern Canada is to kill resource jobs in the West.

In a column in the May 11th Saskatoon *StarPhoenix*, Weir called Mulcair's now infamous Dutch disease comments a balanced approach and said the solution is to increase royalty rates, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, Erin Weir was responsible for costing out the NDP's platform — disastrous 2011 election platform — as noted in the October 21st, 2011, *StarPhoenix* column entitled, "NDP platform begins to resemble a wholesale shopping spree." The NDP platform that Mr. Weir endorsed prescribed the same bad medicine — a massive increase in royalty rates that would have killed thousands of jobs in Saskatchewan.

Now instead of standing up to the federal NDP's attack on our resource sector, the Saskatchewan NDP is now defending their federal leader from Quebec and agreeing with his assessment that the way to help job creation in the East is to kill jobs in the resource sector in the West. So has that NDP learned anything, Mr. Speaker? Absolutely not. Fortunately Saskatchewan voters remember how the NDP's destructive economic policies have crippled our economy in the past, and they're not going to let it happen again. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

QUESTION PERIOD

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

Immigration Policy

Mr. Broten: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Immigration has always been part of Saskatchewan's story. While the sending countries have changed over time, Mr. Speaker, the desire for families to start a new life and to look out for one another and support one another has been constant. That's why the NDP introduced the family class stream within the Saskatchewan immigrant nominee program. Saskatchewan people understand that in order to have strong economic ties there needs to be strong social ties, and that means families, Mr. Speaker.

The Sask Party recently gutted the family class stream of the immigrant nominee program, and the minister admitted in committee that this was at the urging of the federal Conservatives. My question to the minister: why was he so quick to follow the urging of the federal Conservatives and gut the family class stream of the immigrant nominee program?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Advanced Education, Employment and Immigration.

Hon. Mr. Norris: — Thanks very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as we were first elected in 2007, one thing was obvious is that the NDP, for all the rhetoric, had put little attention into immigration. That was obvious from the numbers, Mr. Speaker. And so, Mr. Speaker, the track record of the members opposite when it comes to population was seeing people leave the province. That needed to change, Mr. Speaker, and we've made a number of changes along the way. Every one of those, Mr. Speaker, have been contemplated. Every one of those, Mr. Speaker, we've taken a lot of time to think about.

We actually are defending the family category, Mr. Speaker. That's why what we've said with these recent changes is actually we'll take a quarter of the provincial nominee program, the SINP [Saskatchewan immigrant nominee program], and we'll actually continue to dedicate it to families, Mr. Speaker.

Now there are some people, Mr. Speaker, that would have us change that. For example, *The StarPhoenix* has recently had an editorial on May 3rd where they've said, "Let feds decide family eligibility." Mr. Speaker, this is not our approach. We're actually focusing on protecting, sustaining, and securing the family class, Mr. Speaker, when it . . .

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

Mr. Broten: — Mr. Speaker, the minister can try to spin these changes as improving the program, but families in Saskatchewan know that's ridiculous. The families that came to the legislature today know that is ridiculous. People see, Mr. Speaker, that the Sask Party government is gutting the family class and essentially turning it into a work permit program and rendering it useless for reuniting loved ones here in Saskatchewan. Successful immigration requires social ties, Mr. Speaker, and that means families have to matter.

My question to the minister: does he admit that his decision to follow the urging of the federal Conservatives is short-sighted and it will hurt hundreds of families here in Saskatchewan?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Advanced Education, Employment and Immigration.

Hon. Mr. Norris: — Mr. Speaker, we are going to continue to focus on protecting the family class category. Mr. Speaker, there are some changes that we've had to make to improve the program.

First and foremost, Mr. Speaker, we have had to ensure that there is greater connectivity between the labour market needs, where today there are more than 11,000 jobs open and available in Saskatchewan, and the provincial nominee program. And I'll quote, Mr. Speaker, from the federal minister: "I believe it is important that non-labour market streams within your respective PNP's be closed and phased out."

We actually disagree with this, Mr. Speaker. We disagree. What we've said is, let's make sure we can protect this. Yes, there have to be greater connections to the labour market, but we also

want to make sure it's continually fair for Saskatchewan families. It's one of the reasons, Mr. Speaker, that we've also come forward and we've said, let's make sure that each family can, one at a time, continue to sponsor other family members. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Broten: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the minister's defence of gutting the program, he's been talking about families that have been nominating too many people and using an example of 20 people as one instance. And perhaps that is true, Mr. Speaker, perhaps. But with my experience, most individuals that I have spoken to want to nominate two, three, or four people — a couple of siblings or a niece and a nephew, for example.

The minister is using the typical Sask Party approach of taking an outlier, presenting it as the norm, and then using that as justification for taking extreme measures, Mr. Speaker, in this case gutting the program. If the minister was really concerned about the number of people, he could have taken a compromised position of two, three, or four concurrent applications.

My question to the minister: why is he suggesting to the honest families who are here in Saskatchewan that they are looking to take advantage of the SINP simply as a means for him to justify his gutting of the program?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Advanced Education, Employment and Immigration.

Hon. Mr. Norris: — Mr. Speaker, as I've said, we're actually working to protect the family class program, Mr. Speaker. What I can report is that there are 560 families, most of them newcomer families, that have a range between 3 and 18 nominations, not simply for individuals, Mr. Speaker, but in fact for other families. Mr. Speaker, given the other family class members that are sponsoring only one at a time, we thought it was fair for us to be able to focus on the same opportunities for all of those families.

Mr. Speaker, it's important to recognize that we have a federally mandated cap of 4,000. The members opposite, well they were so poor at immigration, Mr. Speaker, the notion of having a cap imposed, they didn't need it. For example in 2003, 173 newcomers arrived, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, this year alone we'll have 12,500 people arrive through the provincial nominee program. Mr. Speaker, we're going to sustain it. We're going to make sure it continues to be credible, that it continues to be recognized among the best in Canada. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

[14:00]

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

Mr. Broten: — Mr. Speaker, people that are concerned about this process may actually agree that there needs to be some changes, some sort of cap. Their position, Mr. Speaker, is that

the minister's position has been too extreme and hurts families.

The minister has also suggested that he has needed to gut the program because of immigration fraud, Mr. Speaker. I think this is an insult to the many families who have followed the rules and who have come here and have now established roots here in Saskatchewan, Mr. Speaker. In my experience, the immigrants that I've met are among the hardest working and the most honest people that I have met among those people, Mr. Speaker. If the real problem is immigration fraud, Mr. Speaker, then why not crack down on the bad apples as opposed to gutting the program and causing harm for so many families? If people are cheating on taxes, Mr. Speaker, we go after the specific people cheating on taxes, not make onerous rules so that everyone suffers.

My question to the minister: will he admit that the real reason for gutting the program is not immigration fraud, but it is once again the Sask Party's inability to ever stand up to the federal Conservatives and defend Saskatchewan's interests?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Advanced Education, Employment and Immigration.

Hon. Mr. Norris: — Mr. Speaker, we are standing up for Saskatchewan families, Mr. Speaker. We are continuing to focus on fairness for Saskatchewan families, Mr. Speaker. We know how important immigration is today in the new Saskatchewan, Mr. Speaker, and that is a stark contrast to when the members opposite were in power, Mr. Speaker — the number of 173, Mr. Speaker. This year we're going to see 12,500.

Mr. Speaker, we do need to make sure, we do need to make sure that we recognize the contributions of all newcomers. That being said, we have put in place, because it wasn't in place under the other folks, we put in place a program integrity unit to make sure that for the hard-working families, those newcomers, Mr. Speaker, that are the overwhelming majority, we can actually crack down on those bad apples, that we can identify them, Mr. Speaker, and we can make sure that there is integrity in the system. That way when we talk about to Ottawa increasing that cap from 4,000 to 6,000, Mr. Speaker, they know that it's a credible voice right here in Saskatchewan on behalf of all the people in the province.

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

Mr. Broten: — Mr. Speaker, I've met hundreds of people who have moved here to Saskatchewan from places like Montreal, Vancouver, and Toronto because of their understanding, Mr. Speaker, that they could sponsor loved ones through the family class. These individuals in other cities, they sold businesses, they sold houses, they took children out of schools that they were comfortable in, Mr. Speaker, and came to Saskatchewan. Since coming, Mr. Speaker, they've started businesses, they've purchased houses, and they're paying their taxes, Mr. Speaker. These individuals have lived up to their end of the bargain and they're asking this minister to stay true to the promises made through the program so that they are able to sponsor their loved ones that come here to Saskatchewan.

My question to the minister: what does he have to say to the hundreds of people that are here in the Assembly today, Mr. Speaker, and the hundreds throughout Saskatchewan that are concerned with these changes and are feeling betrayed by the Sask Party government?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Advanced Education, Employment and Immigration.

Hon. Mr. Norris: — Mr. Speaker, when it comes to nominating family members — and we know how important that is, Mr. Speaker — what the member opposite either doesn't know or isn't talking about is that the provincial nominee program has a family referral class, Mr. Speaker. It's still within the economic stream. It's the federal government that has a family reunification class. And so what I would say directly to those, as I have over the course of five years of working with newcomers, Mr. Speaker, we are here to help. We are here to ensure that if it is about family reunification, then let's work together through the federal stream that focuses on family reunification and ensure that more families have more opportunities to enjoy the benefits of being here in Saskatchewan — benefits, Mr. Speaker like having the lowest unemployment rate in the country, Mr. Speaker, benefits like having record employment, Mr. Speaker, and the only balanced budget among any Canadian province.

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

Mr. Broten: — Mr. Speaker, if this is the minister's idea of helping immigration and helping Saskatchewan families in Saskatchewan, he needs to rethink his course of action. Since he's announced that he's gutting the family class, Mr. Speaker, I've been contacted by scores of people who feel like their lives have been turned upside down. They're now struggling with the task of telling an overseas relative, Mr. Speaker, whether they can or cannot come, recognizing that there were perhaps two, three, or four that were considering coming.

These people, Mr. Speaker, are feeling betrayed, but they're also being very reasonable and being very measured in their response I think, Mr. Speaker. Members that I've spoken to are asking for some sort of compromise from the Sask Party government to recognize the sacrifice and the goodwill that they have made in coming to Saskatchewan, in playing by the rules, and in wanting to sponsor their loved ones. They're asking for some sort of grandfathering provision, some sort of allowance to recognize the people that came here under the existing rules.

My question to the minister: will you sit down with representatives today, hammer out some sort of compromise that recognizes the important commitment these people have made to Saskatchewan?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Advanced Education, Employment and Immigration.

Hon. Mr. Norris: — Mr. Speaker, we have newcomers arriving from 180 different countries. They are settling in more than 320 Saskatchewan communities. And the answer is, including just today, of course we'll continue to meet with the

newcomer communities, Mr. Speaker. Of course we're going to continue the dialogue, Mr. Speaker, the dialogue that has seen record immigration. Mr. Speaker, the only thing that the member opposite can have reference to are the tens of thousands of people that used to leave Saskatchewan. We have more newcomers in Saskatchewan today than we've had for decades.

Mr. Speaker, we're intent on sustaining our provincial nominee program. We are intent on ensuring that we have secured and can sustain the family class category. We're committed to having a quarter of our Saskatchewan immigrant nominee program, Mr. Speaker, committed to families. That's fair for all families, Mr. Speaker. It's connected to the labour market, Mr. Speaker, and it ensures that immigration will continue to be a key priority for Saskatchewan for years to come.

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

Funding for Education

Mr. Wotherspoon: — Mr. Speaker, many new Canadians have chosen to build their lives in Saskatchewan. Many have joined us here today, providing a tremendous opportunity. But this requires support for English as an additional language education, something we've been calling for all session long.

Unfortunately government has brushed off those concerns. It has gotten to the point, Mr. Speaker, that the Saskatoon Catholic board has had to send a letter out to parents to call on the government to address this matter and as well to highlight a shortfall that exceeds \$6 million and its reality — cuts and the impacts on students. Mr. Speaker, quite simply, English as an additional language education is underfunded. Mr. Minister, Mr. Speaker, how is this fair to students?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Education.

Hon. Ms. Harpauer: — Mr. Speaker, I have answered this question a number of times in this Assembly as well as in estimates in committee. And I guess I need to remind him again that the Government of Saskatchewan does not directly employ the employees within school divisions. That is decisions made by school divisions. They do the staffing and they are the employer. As such, the number of English as an additional languages has been increased quite considerably over the last few years.

I know that the Saskatoon school divisions are struggling with their budget allocations even though the Saskatoon Catholic School Division has received just about a 6 per cent increase and the Saskatoon Public School Division has received a 7 per cent increase. Both school divisions are still not at the student enrolment levels that they were in 2001-2002. However they are seeing an increase in students each and every year and we'll be working with them on how to address that.

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

Mr. Wotherspoon: — Mr. Speaker, the minister represents a picture that's different than the reality that boards are facing,

that students are facing. Another one of those major challenges that school boards and students are facing is enrolment growth that is not funded by this government. Saskatoon Catholic expects an additional 500 students next year with no funding from the government to provide for their educational needs. For Saskatoon Public, it's over 700 additional students. In Regina, it's hundreds of students, Mr. Speaker.

Instead of listening to educators, educational leaders, and parents and students, the minister shamefully accused them of crying. Mr. Speaker, this is something that needs to be addressed this year. It's about meeting the demands of growth by funding boards of education on the number of students in the actual year. Why can't this government step up and make this commitment to students?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Education.

Hon. Ms. Harpauer: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And as I've identified in these same questions in the past, in actuality the funding that the school divisions have received is more than, in the case of Saskatoon Public, and just 55 students less than, in the case of Saskatoon Catholic, than the enrolment that they have today. We used the numbers of September 1st.

Yes, we're having the conversation of how we address projected increases in enrolment and we said that our ministry will be working with the Advanced Education, Employment and Immigration in order to get those numbers. And we are going to be making adjustments to the funding formula when we have the discussion of things we can do to strengthen it in this fall.

So, Mr. Speaker, all those conversations are taking place. I know that the members opposite like to stand up and have a lot of outrage over conversations that are taking place. What is not going to be tolerated is going back to the NDP, in which case the school divisions had to go to the taxpayer time and time and time again because the NDP underfunded education and the property tax payer picked up the tab.

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

Mr. Wotherspoon: — Mr. Speaker, the Education minister tries to stand up and say that the budget's a good deal for students. What we're hearing from the school board Chair in Saskatoon is that it's been the most challenging in recent memory. The government preaches growth, but fails to respond in a responsible fashion in education for students. All session we've been making education our priority. We put forward and championed solutions for English as an additional language and enrolment growth pressures. Instead of working with the education sector, students, and parents, the government has brushed off these concerns and belittled educational leaders.

Mr. Speaker, it's a dynamic time in Saskatchewan, a time that requires responsive government focused on responsible growth. When is this minister and that government going to make education a priority in our growing province to meet the needs of students?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Education.

Hon. Ms. Harpauer: — Well, Mr. Speaker . . . [inaudible] . . . education, as I said in the last answer, we used to be heavily reliant on property tax funding and now it isn't, Mr. Speaker. We've increased the provincial share of funding to school divisions by 62 per cent — more than the NDP. And now our government funds education by over 65 per cent through the General Revenue Fund.

Property tax used to be increasing by an average of 5 per cent per year; now they're not, Mr. Speaker. Our government now sets the property tax mill rate and we've reduced property tax burden by 165.7 million. We used to have tax revolts in our province, Mr. Speaker; now we don't. We used to have crumbling schools around our province, Mr. Speaker. Now we've invested half a billion dollars in school capital projects. The school division debt used to be hidden, Mr. Speaker; now it's open and it's transparent. The development of child care space didn't happen in our province, Mr. Speaker; now we've increased child care by 42 per cent and pre-K [pre-kindergarten] programs by 85 per cent. You know what, Mr. Speaker? We've done all that with a balanced budget.

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

Support for the Film Industry

Ms. Chartier: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Premier is virtually the only provincial leader in Canada who doesn't support his province's film and television industry. From BC [British Columbia] to Newfoundland, these premiers get it. Even Republicans in the United States get it and support their film industries. Last week both Democrats and Republicans in Ohio supported that state's film tax credit. The Bill's Republican sponsor said, "Expanding the successful film tax credit program means more economic development, more jobs, and more opportunity for our state's economy to grow and prosper."

Why is the Premier so bound by his ideology that he's the only one in North America who refuses to get it?

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

Hon. Mr. Hutchinson: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We've been very clear that the old refundable tax credit which was just a grant would be withdrawn. We don't give grants to businesses, and we can't support a program that benefits companies that don't even pay income taxes in Saskatchewan. It's time for a new approach based on sustainable growth and tax fairness — one that benefits all film, video, and yes, digital companies too, that do pay income tax here.

Mr. Speaker, they talk about ideology. Where will we get the money? Well we're not going to get it by clawing back funding from farmers and municipalities like the provincial NDP leader would have us do. And we certainly won't get it by destroying the energy industry like the federal NDP leader would have us do. Mr. Speaker, we're going to get the money from existing revenues within our balanced budget, the only balanced budget in Canada.

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

Ms. Chartier: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The real choice the Premier is making is to lose the people and the companies who help pay for the services we all value like health care and education. The Premier refuses to get it. This is about arts and culture, but it's also about business people and those they employ who pay corporate taxes, income taxes, sales taxes, fuel taxes, property taxes, and others.

The Premier can make a choice. Will he do the right thing for the people of Saskatchewan, get back to the table with the film industry and find a solution that works for everybody?

[14:15]

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

Hon. Mr. Hutchinson: — Thank you again, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we certainly recognize that in moving away from the old model of direct grants and the bidding war that goes along with it, we are in fact taking a different path than other provinces that have retained and in some cases even enhanced their old program: provinces like New Brunswick with its \$200 million deficit; provinces like Manitoba with a \$600 million deficit; and how about Alberta with an almost \$900 million deficit?

That's not to say that their film tax credit programs alone made balanced budgets impossible for them to achieve. Not at all. But it is true to say that continued fiscal prudence and discipline here in Saskatchewan by this government, including difficult choices like replacing the old FETC [film employment tax credit] program with something that is more sustainable, is what has allowed us to table a balanced budget, and again, the only one in the entire Dominion of Canada.

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

Protection for Night Shift Workers

Mr. Forbes: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Time is running out on this session, but there's still a major issue that needs to be dealt with and that's the protection of late-night retail workers.

Since introducing Jimmy's Law, which would offer protection for late-night workers here in the province, I have toured retail outlets in the eight communities late at night to see what's already in place. In places where there is protection, like people working together or a barrier, there's a feeling people are much more safe, and they're comfortable as opposed to those who are working alone without any protection.

Mr. Speaker, there is a definite need for some form of protection for these workers. Will the minister agree to getting something done sooner rather than later?

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

Hon. Mr. Morgan: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I answered questions on this earlier and at that time I offered sympathy on behalf of all members to Jimmy Ray Wiebe's family and friends. Mr. Speaker, I certainly appreciate the opportunity to restate that our sympathy is very much with his family and his friends, and I very much want to commend the friends for their work and the support that they've given. And I think everything that the government does should be done in his memory and recognition of the contributions that were made by the family and friends in support of late-night workers.

Mr. Speaker, I can advise the members opposite and advise the Assembly that our workers at OH & S [occupational health and safety] have ramped up inspections. They've worked with a number of employers that were not in compliance. Employers are required to have a plan in place to assess risk and provide some, a system of protection. We will be doing regulations that will go further, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Forbes: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. And we know that in the last year, there's been at least a dozen dangerous occurrences at late-night outlets including the shooting death of Yorkton's Jimmy Ray Wiebe. And Sunday morning we heard about Sunday's incident here in Regina. It's just the latest episode of late-night workers in a dangerous situation. These are not the safest jobs, and if we can do more to protect them, then we definitely should.

Now it is encouraging to hear that we have people going out and inspecting, but we need more than that. We need laws. We need regulations that really safeguard people late at night. What concrete plan of action does this minister have to bring in the changes that would provide greater protection to the province's late-night retail workers?

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

Hon. Mr. Morgan: — Mr. Speaker, I thank the member for the question. I've met with the member, and we've had discussions with him and with officials from the occupational health and safety unit. We know, Mr. Speaker, that we want to have regulations that will work well, that will include things such as physical barriers, notices to customers that cash is limited, good lighting, visible cameras, alarm buttons. We are not going to go out and do a knee-jerk reaction and mandate that two workers be provided at any given time. Mr. Speaker, having two workers on site does not guarantee that there's any safer situation. We saw the situation in Kyle, Saskatchewan earlier where two workers were murdered.

Mr. Speaker, we will have a careful, reasoned analysis, and that will be done soon, Mr. Speaker. And we will implement regulations that will work and will provide good safety for our workers. In the meantime, Mr. Speaker, we will continue with ramped-up enforcement. We are doing that now, Mr. Speaker.

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Social Services.

Ministry Partners with First Nation to Provide Child and Family Services

Hon. Ms. Draude: — Thanks, Mr. Speaker. I am very pleased to rise in the House today to inform members about an important initiative under way to provide timely and culturally appropriate child and family services to children, youth, and families in northern Saskatchewan.

The Ministry of Social Services is working with the Lac la Ronge Indian Band and family services agency to begin the transition of child welfare services for children and families in La Ronge and area by December of this year.

One of the key themes of the Saskatchewan child welfare review panel's final report and of our government's child welfare transformation strategy is the need to work differently with our First Nations and Métis partners. This partnership is an excellent example of what we're doing right now. The Lac la Ronge agency provides quality culturally sensitive services to all clients in the La Ronge service area, and it is the first First Nations agency in all of Canada to be accredited by the Canadian Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities.

In January of 2011, the ministry entered into a service agreement with the La Ronge agency to provide after-hours emergency child welfare services off-reserve in the La Ronge area. Under this new agreement, the agency would also assume child protection services, child services including foster care, extended family care, and other out-of-home care for children; also recruitment, retention, and support of foster families and other family givers; and service to 16- and 17-year-olds.

Mr. Speaker, under our current arrangement, confusion often arises due to the splitting of responsibilities on- and off-reserve between the ministry and the La Ronge agency. This new arrangement will reduce duplication of services and lessen the likelihood of clients falling through the cracks created by two service providers among a population that regularly moves on- and off-reserve. It also saves on time and resources, ultimately providing better services to the area residents.

Mr. Speaker, the staff in our La Ronge office have done an excellent job of serving the people of La Ronge and area despite ongoing recruitment and retention challenges in the North, and I want to sincerely thank them for their hard work and their dedication. I look forward to a new and expanded relationship with the La Ronge agency as we continue to work together towards better outcomes for northern children, for families, and for youth. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Chartier: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a few things to say here. I want to commend actually the La Ronge Indian Band and child and family services for doing the work that they've had to do in working with the ministry to take over child and family services, Mr. Speaker. There's report after report that points to the need to right the wrongs that have taken place over the past, and one of the ways to do this is to make sure that First Nations and Métis people have some more

control or autonomy over the services that are important to them and important to us as Saskatchewan citizens. So it's been very good work on the part of the Lac La Ronge agency, Mr. Speaker.

As well, looking at foster care numbers, we have seen in the last couple of years a slow decrease, but numbers are still higher than they were a few years ago, Mr. Speaker. And one of the things that the Children's Advocate highlighted is social determinants of health being absolutely critical, whether it's in a First Nations system or in the Saskatchewan ministry system of child welfare. The reality is social . . . The child welfare review panel found that poverty-related conditions are at the heart of the challenges affecting children, youth, and their families. So this goes to income and income distribution, education, unemployment and job security, early childhood development, food insecurity, housing. So until, Mr. Speaker, until we start to address some of those systemic issues and those social determinants of health, we will still have far too many children in care, Mr. Speaker.

But I do want to congratulate once again the Lac La Ronge Indian Band child and family services for the work. And I think the ministry is definitely moving in the right direction, so I commend her for that work in that regard. But I think we would all, including the Children's Advocate, be very happy to see the government look at a holistic approach when it comes to the social determinants of health and seeing what puts kids in care in the first place. So thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Advanced Education, Employment and Immigration.

Saskatchewan Advantage Scholarship

Hon. Mr. Norris: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Earlier today I had the opportunity at Regina's Balfour Collegiate to officially launch our government's latest investment in post-secondary students and post-secondary education. I'm delighted that I was in some very good company with some great friends and government MLAs [Member of the Legislative Assembly] — the MLA from Regina Douglas Park, the MLA for Rosthern-Shellbrook, the MLA for Regina Dewdney, the MLA for Regina Walsh Acres, and the MLA for Regina Northeast. It was a terrific morning to be with such good friends and good colleagues and most especially to be able to learn as much as we did with the students.

This morning I was pleased on behalf of the Premier to announce the Saskatchewan advantage scholarship, an investment of more than \$4.5 million that will provide all new Saskatchewan grade 12 graduates who enrol at the Saskatchewan post-secondary institutions with up to \$500 per year to a lifetime maximum of \$2,000 over the course of their studies. The scholarship is going to actually help reduce tuition for students entering post-secondary programs after April 1st of this year.

The new scholarship provides an incentive for all high school graduates to pursue a post-secondary education. This government understands the importance of post-secondary education. We are committed to making post-secondary education increasingly accessible and affordable for more

students. We also understand how important it is to connect the endeavours of learning with those of earning.

Mr. Speaker, overall our government invests almost \$10 million a year in scholarships. Mr. Speaker, this is a record. We're also committed to ensuring that there is a full continuum of support for students. The Saskatchewan advantage scholarship, Mr. Speaker, the new Saskatchewan opportunities and innovation scholarship, Mr. Speaker, for those already enrolled and, Mr. Speaker, the graduate retention program, Mr. Speaker, the most progressive and aggressive youth retention program across the country offering post-secondary graduates up to \$20,000 back just to stay in Saskatchewan and succeed in their work and raising their families and helping to revitalize our communities.

Mr. Speaker, we know how important it is for Saskatchewan students to have affordable and accessible linkages into post-secondary education. We also understand the significance of having that education and skills training and transferring from learning to earning, Mr. Speaker. Today in Saskatchewan there are more than 11,000 jobs open and available, and this scholarship, the Saskatchewan advantage scholarship, is going to allow more students to have more education. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Opposition House Leader.

Mr. McCall: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I thought you were going to get the egg timer into play there. But it's a pleasure to stand and respond on behalf of the official opposition to the announcement made today. Of course any dollars that are brought forward from the members opposite in aid of more affordable post-secondary education, we think that's a good thing.

What we worry about — and the minister made the connection explicitly in his remarks and it's certainly here in the written remarks that were provided to the official opposition before question period, and we thank the minister for that courtesy — we're worried about what happens when you give on the one hand and then take on the other. So if we're into an era where tuition increases are going back up, scholarship monies are given on the front end. Are they going to be eaten up by the tuition increases on the back end? And again, Mr. Speaker, this budget, we need to look no further in terms of that dynamic.

So we're glad to see the increased scholarship on the one hand. But on the other hand, Mr. Speaker, our concern remains about those gains, those advantages being eaten up by tuition increases on the other hand. So we'll be watching how this plays out for the next gain in terms of affordability and accessibility for students. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — Why is the member on his feet?

Mr. Parent: — To make an introduction.

The Speaker: — The member has asked for leave to introduce guests. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon

Meewasin.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Mr. Parent: — Mr. Speaker, to you and through you and to all members of the Assembly, I would like to introduce 21 grade 6 students and their teacher, Patrick Brennan, and chaperones Trevor Perkins, Rosanna Perkins, Adine Sander, and Tracey Hendricks. They are from St. Anne Elementary School, seated in your west gallery, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, St. Anne School opened its doors in 1976. The school was named for St. Anne who was the mother of the Virgin Mary. She is often considered the patron saint for mothers and grandmothers. Mr. Speaker, all of my daughters attended and completed elementary school at St. Anne School. Mr. Speaker, I invite all members to welcome these students to their Legislative Assembly.

[14:30]

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The Speaker: — I recognize the chairman of the Standing Committee on the Economy.

Standing Committee on the Economy

Mr. Toth: — Mr. Speaker, I am instructed by the Standing Committee on the Economy to report that it has considered certain estimates and to present its first report. I move:

That the first report of the Standing Committee on the Economy be now concurred in.

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Chair of the Standing Committee on the Economy:

That the first report of the Standing Committee on the Economy now be concurred in.

Is the Assembly ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

The Speaker: — Does the Assembly approve the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried. I recognize the Chair of the Standing Committee on Human Services.

Standing Committee on Human Services

Mr. Kirsch: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am instructed by the Standing Committee on Human Services to report that it has considered certain estimates and to present its first report. I move:

That the first report of the Standing Committee on Human Services be now concurred in.

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Chair of the Standing Committee on Human Services:

That the first report of the Standing Committee on Human Services now be concurred in.

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. I recognize the Vice-Chair of the Standing Committee on House Services.

Standing Committee on House Services

Mr. McCall: — Mr. Speaker, I am instructed by the Standing Committee on House Services to report that it has considered certain estimates and to report its second report. I move:

That the second report of the Standing Committee on House Services be now concurred in.

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Vice-Chair of the Standing Committee on House Services:

That the second report of the Standing Committee on House Services be now concurred in.

Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to . . . No. 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.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The Speaker: — I recognize the Government Deputy Whip.

Mr. Ottenbreit: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table the answers to questions 399 through 402.

The Speaker: — The Government Deputy Whip has tabled answers to questions no. 399 to 402.

Law Clerk and Parliamentary Counsel: — Committee of Finance.

The Speaker: — Committee of Finance. I do now leave the Chair.

COMMITTEE OF FINANCE

Motions for Supply

The Chair: — I'll call the committee to order. The business before the committee is resolutions for final supply. I recognize the Minister of Finance.

Hon. Mr. Krawetz: — Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. Mr. Chair, I'll move to resolution no. 1:

Resolved that towards making good the supply granted to Her Majesty on account of certain charges and expenses of the public service for the fiscal year ending March 31 of 2012, the sum of \$284,624,000 be granted out of the General Revenue Fund.

I so move.

The Chair: — The Minister of Finance has moved resolution no. 1:

Resolved that towards making good the supply granted to Her Majesty on account of certain charges and expenses for the public service for the fiscal year ending March 31st, 2012, the sum of \$284,624,000 be granted out of the General Revenue Fund.

Is the committee agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — That's carried. I recognize the Minister of Finance.

Hon. Mr. Krawetz: — Thank you, Mr. Chair. Resolution no. 2:

Resolved that towards making good the supply granted to Her Majesty on account of certain charges and expenses of the public service for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2012, which to the extent that they remain unexpended for the fiscal year are also granted for the fiscal year ending on March 31, 2013, the sum of \$10,000,000 be granted out of the General Revenue Fund.

I so move.

The Chair: — The Minister of Finance has moved resolution no. 2:

Resolved that towards making good the supply granted to Her Majesty on account of certain charges and expenses of the public service for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2012, which to the extent that they remain unexpended for the fiscal year are also granted for the fiscal year ending on March 31, 2013, the sum of \$10,000,000 be granted out of the General Revenue Fund.

Is the committee agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — That's carried. I recognize the Minister of Finance.

Hon. Mr. Krawetz: — Thank you, Mr. Chair. Resolution no. 3:

Resolved that towards making good the supply granted to Her Majesty on account of certain charges and expenses of the public service for the fiscal year ending March 31st, 2012, the sum of \$130,987,000 be granted out of the General Revenue Fund.

I so move.

The Chair: — The Minister of Finance has moved resolution no. 3:

Resolved that towards making good the supply granted to Her Majesty on account of certain charges and expenses of the public service for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2012, that the sum of \$130,987,000 be granted out of the General Revenue Fund.

Is the committee agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — That's carried. I recognize the Minister of Finance.

Hon. Mr. Krawetz: — Thank you, Mr. Chair. Resolution no. 4:

Resolved that towards making good the supply granted to Her Majesty on account of certain charges and expenses of the public service for the fiscal year ending March 31st, 2013, the sum of \$10,552,644,000 be granted out of the General Revenue Fund.

I so move.

The Chair: — The Minister of Finance has moved resolution no. 4:

Resolved that towards making good the supply granted to Her Majesty on account of certain charges and expenses of the public service for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2013, the sum of \$10,552,644,000 be granted out of the General Revenue Fund.

Is the committee agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — That's carried. I recognize the Minister of Finance.

Hon. Mr. Krawetz: — Thank you, Mr. Chair. Resolution no. 5:

Resolved that towards making good the supply granted to Her Majesty on account of certain charges and expenses of the public service for the fiscal year ending March 31,

2013, which to the extent that they remain unexpended for the fiscal year are also granted for the fiscal year ending on March 31, 2014, the sum of \$275,300,000 be granted out of the General Revenue Fund.

I so move.

The Chair: — The Minister of Finance has moved resolution no. 5:

Resolved that making good the supply granted to Her Majesty on the account of certain charges and expenses of the public service for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2013, which to the extent that they remain unexpended for the fiscal year are also granted for the fiscal year ending on March 31, 2014, the sum of \$275,300,000 be granted out of the General Revenue Fund.

Is the committee agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — That's carried. I recognize the Minister of Finance.

Hon. Mr. Krawetz: — Thank you, Mr. Chair. Mr. Chair, I move that the committee rise and that the Chair report that the committee has agreed to certain resolutions and asks for leave to sit again.

The Chair: — The Minister of Finance has moved that the committee rise and that the committee has agreed to certain resolutions and asks for leave to sit again. Is the committee agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — That's carried. The committee stands adjourned.

[The Speaker resumed the Chair.]

FIRST AND SECOND READING OF RESOLUTIONS

The Speaker: — I recognize the Chair of committees.

Mr. Hart: — Mr. Speaker, the Committee of Finance has agreed to certain resolutions, has instructed me to report the same, and ask for leave to sit again.

The Speaker: — When shall the resolutions be read the first time? I recognize the Minister of Finance.

Hon. Mr. Krawetz: — I move that the resolutions be now read a first and second time.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

Principal Clerk: — First and second reading of the resolutions.

The Speaker: — When shall the committee sit again?

Hon. Mr. Krawetz: — Next sitting, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — Next sitting. I recognize the Minister of Finance.

APPROPRIATION BILL

Bill No. 44 — *The Appropriation Act, 2012 (No. 1)*

Hon. Mr. Krawetz: — By leave of the Assembly, I move that Bill No. 44, *The Appropriation Act, 2012 (No. 1)*, be now introduced and read the first time.

The Speaker: — The Minister of Finance has moved that Bill No. 44, *The Appropriation Act, 2012 (No. 1)*, be now introduced and read the first time. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

Principal Clerk: — First reading of this Bill.

The Speaker: — When shall this Bill be read a second time? I recognize the Minister of Finance.

Hon. Mr. Krawetz: — By leave of the Assembly and under rule 72(2), I move that the Bill be now read a second and third time.

The Speaker: — Is leave of the Assembly granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Minister of Finance that Bill No. 44, *The Appropriation Act, 2012, (No. 1)* be now read a second and third time. 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.

Principal Clerk: — Second and third reading of this Bill.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Government House Leader.

Hon. Mr. Harrison: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To facilitate the meeting of the committee this afternoon, I move that this House be now adjourned.

The Speaker: — Before calling the question, I would like to remind all members that the CPA [Commonwealth Parliamentary Association] annual meeting will be taking place immediately in the Chamber. And that meeting is for all members.

The Government House Leader has moved adjournment of debate. 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 14:44.]

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Norris	1513
Broten	1513
Wyant.....	1513
Chartier	1513
Parent.....	1513, 1523
Forbes	1513

PRESENTING PETITIONS

Forbes	1514
Wotherspoon	1514
Broten	1514
Chartier	1514

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

School Supports Shannen's Dream

Wotherspoon	1515
-------------------	------

Newspaper Celebrates 100th Anniversary

Moe.....	1515
----------	------

Community Development Leadership Gala

McCall	1515
--------------	------

Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Month

Eagles	1516
--------------	------

Saskatchewan Municipal Awards 2012

Stewart.....	1516
--------------	------

University of Saskatchewan President Honoured

Wyant.....	1516
------------	------

Natural Resources Policy

Doherty	1517
---------------	------

QUESTION PERIOD

Immigration Policy

Broten	1517
Norris.....	1517

Funding for Education

Wotherspoon	1519
Harpauer	1519

Support for the Film Industry

Chartier	1520
Hutchinson	1520

Protection for Night Shift Workers

Forbes	1521
Morgan	1521

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

Ministry Partners with First Nation to Provide Child and Family Services

Draude	1522
Chartier	1522

Saskatchewan Advantage Scholarship

Norris.....	1522
McCall	1523

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Standing Committee on the Economy

Toth.....	1523
-----------	------

Standing Committee on Human Services

Kirsch.....	1523
-------------	------

Standing Committee on House Services

McCall	1524
--------------	------

ORDERS OF THE DAY

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

Ottenbreit	1524
------------------	------

COMMITTEE OF FINANCE

Motions for Supply

Krawetz.....	1524
--------------	------

FIRST AND SECOND READING OF RESOLUTIONS

Krawetz.....	1525
--------------	------

APPROPRIATION BILL

Bill No. 44 — *The Appropriation Act, 2012 (No. 1)*

Krawetz.....1526

GOVERNMENT OF SASKATCHEWAN

CABINET MINISTERS

Hon. Brad Wall
Premier of Saskatchewan
President of the Executive Council
Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs

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

Hon. Bill Boyd
Minister of Energy and Resources
Minister Responsible for SaskTel
Minister Responsible for The Global
Transportation Hub Authority

Hon. Ken Cheveldayoff
Minister of First Nations and Métis Relations
Minister Responsible for Northern Affairs
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan
Gaming Corporation

Hon. June Draude
Minister of Social Services
Minister Responsible for the Status of Women
Minister Responsible for the Public Service Commission

Hon. Dustin Duncan
Minister of Environment
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan
Water Corporation
Minister Responsible for SaskEnergy Incorporated

Hon. Donna Harpauer
Minister of Education

Hon. Jeremy Harrison
Minister of Enterprise
Minister Responsible for Trade

Hon. Darryl Hickie
Minister of Municipal Affairs

Hon. Bill Hutchinson
Minister of Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport
Minister Responsible for the Provincial
Capital Commission

Hon. D.F. (Yogi) Huyghebaert
Minister of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing

Hon. Ken Krawetz
Deputy Premier
Minister of Finance

Hon. Tim McMillan
Minister Responsible for Crown
Investments Corporation
Minister Responsible for Information
Technology Office
Minister Responsible for Information
Services Corporation
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan
Government Insurance
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan
Liquor and Gaming Authority

Hon. Don McMorris
Minister of Health

Hon. Don Morgan
Minister of Justice and Attorney General
Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety
Minister Responsible for the Saskatchewan
Workers' Compensation Board

Hon. Rob Norris
Minister of Advanced Education,
Employment and Immigration
Minister Responsible for Innovation
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan
Power Corporation
Minister Responsible for Uranium
Development Partnership

Hon. Jim Reiter
Minister of Highways and Infrastructure
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan
Transportation Company

Hon. Laura Ross
Minister of Government Services