



FIRST SESSION - TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

of the

**Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan**

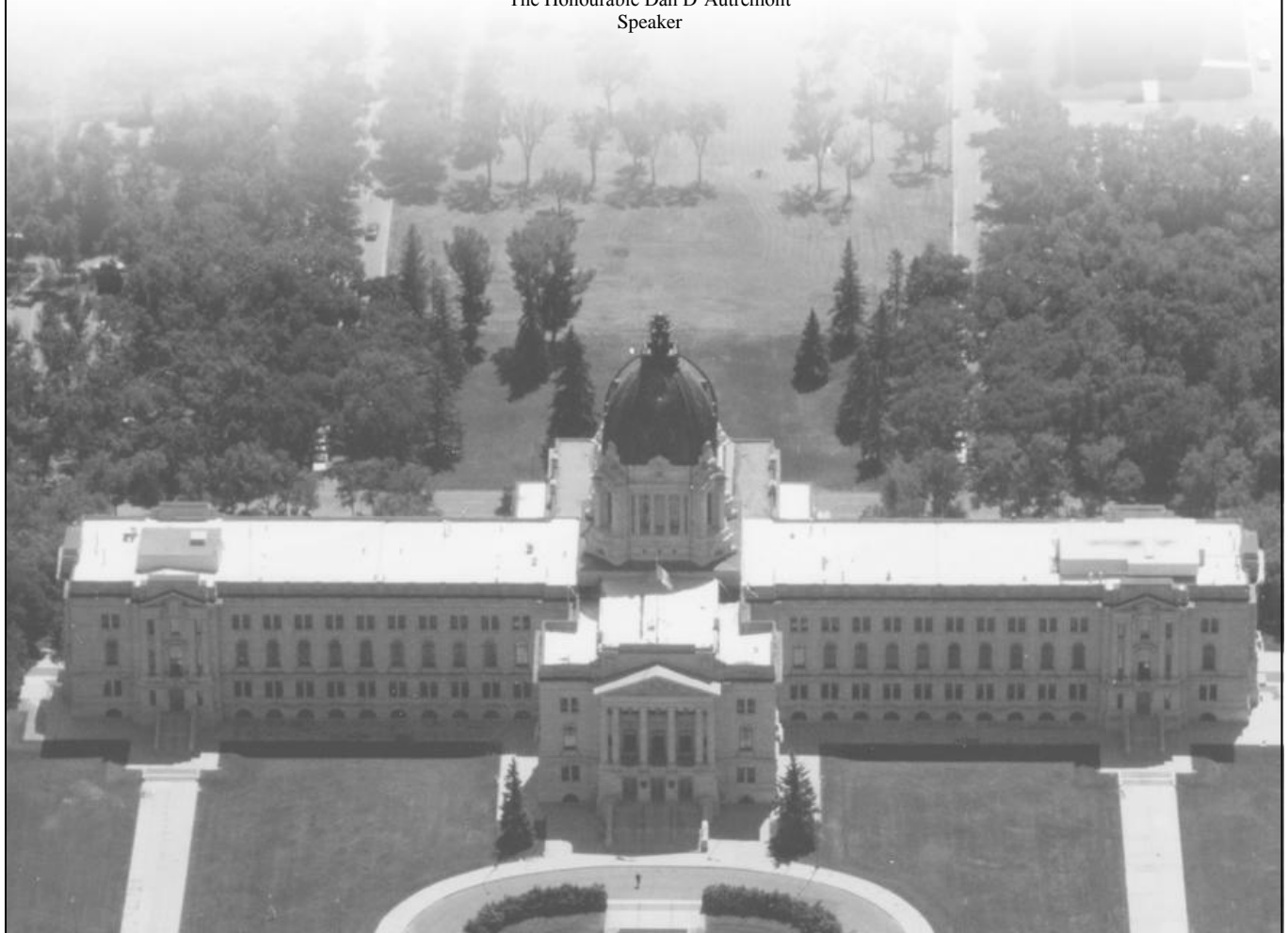
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**DEBATES  
and  
PROCEEDINGS**

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(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

<b>Name of Member</b>	<b>Political Affiliation</b>	<b>Constituency</b>
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 10:00.]

[Prayers]

## ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

### INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

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

**Ms. Chartier:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm pleased today to introduce many guests here today from the film and television industry. They're here because they hope the government recognizes the short-sightedness of its decision to cut the film employment tax credit. These are people who want to continue to work in Saskatchewan and stay in Saskatchewan and invest in Saskatchewan. Actually I'm going to do a Health minister here, and I'm going to read the names from my phone this morning, Mr. Speaker.

Today I'd like to welcome Janet Robinson, Carmen Kotyk, Tracy George, James Lague, Crystal Van Pelt, David Cormican, Terry Silva, Lori Lumax, Jerry Paul, Warren St. Onge, Jackie Dzuba, Kim Wall, Rob King, Terry Mialkowski, Noah Draper, Kristie Patterson, Layton Burton, Marshall Burns, Mike Burns, Stacey Caldwell, Matt Yim, Allan Roher, Brendan Olenick, Sheree Fondeur, and I see Alan Bratt there as well.

So with that I'd ask my colleagues to welcome these folks to their Legislative Assembly. Thank you.

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Minister of Crown Investments Corporation.

**Hon. Mr. McMillan:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my pleasure to welcome a school group here today, Mr. Speaker, from Hillmond, Saskatchewan. As members will know, in my first four and a half years as MLA [Member of the Legislative Assembly], I've never had a school group before. So I'm very pleased to have this fine group of 37 grade 7 and 8 students, so if members would help me with a round of applause to welcome them to their Legislative Assembly.

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Opposition House Leader.

**Mr. McCall:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. It's my pleasure to introduce to you and through you to all members of the Legislative Assembly, an individual seated in your gallery. I'm speaking of course of Elliott Bourgeault. Elliott is working with me this term in the Saskatchewan legislative internship program. He had worked a term previous with the member from Rosthern-Shellbrook. They did a lot of snow sledding, Mr. Speaker. I'm going to have a hard time topping that in terms of the experience for Elliott working with me, but we're going to give it a try.

Elliott is finishing off a double major in terms of political science and German language at the University of Regina and knows his way around the world, knows his way around the province, is an accomplished musician and a quick mind and

pretty quick on the research notes as well. So I'd ask all members to join with me in welcoming Elliott Bourgeault to his Legislative Assembly.

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Deputy Premier.

**Hon. Mr. Krawetz:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it is also my pleasure to introduce a school group this morning here in the legislature. This is a group of grade 6 to 9 students. There are 10 of them. They're seated in the west gallery. And, Mr. Speaker, the interesting thing about this group is they are from the Riverdale School in Kenville, Manitoba.

Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure to introduce those students along with teacher Darcy Wohlgemuth, parents Wendy Wohlgemuth, Verlin Barkman, Lana Barkman, Doug Penner, Kristi Penner, Lyle Penner, and Donella Penner. Mr. Speaker, many of the students live in the Canora-Pelly constituency in the area around Arran, Saskatchewan. So I want to welcome the students that reside in Saskatchewan to their legislature, but also extend a warm welcome to the students from Manitoba. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Ms. Sproule:** — Mr. Speaker, it's my pleasure to introduce through you my intern for this session, and that's Mr. Cody Gieni seated in the gallery, in the Speaker's gallery. And Cody has been a wonderful student so far. We've been working together for the last month or so, and his enthusiasm and his excitement to be here is palpable. He's a master's student in political studies at the University of Saskatchewan, I think the Johnson-Shoyama school, and he is bound to be involved in politics at some point in his life, Mr. Speaker. So he's getting a real education here, and I'm certainly learning a lot from Cody as well. So I'd like to welcome him to his Legislative Assembly.

**The Speaker:** — I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce to the legislature the visitor services team for May 17th, 2012. This Victoria Day weekend, the summer hours go into effect at the Legislative Building. Beginning on Saturday, tours will be offered daily from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. And these extended hours will remain in effect until Labour Day, Monday, September the 3rd, 2012 and will accommodate the many visitors who will be touring the building this summer.

In keeping with their tradition, we have the visitor services team in the gallery today. And it's my pleasure to introduce our front-line staff to this Assembly today. The six information officers, they used to be known as tour guides, for the summer season of 2012 are — and if you would wave, please — Marita Clark, Brittany Love, Troy Smith, Allyssa Bredohl, Daniel Fortier, and the newest member to our team that just got sworn in this morning, Marie Digney.

The second row is the permanent staff of the visitor services branch: Lorraine deMontigny, director of visitor services; Marianne Morgan, assistant director of visitor services; Arnold McKenzie, senior information officer; and Kelly Liberet, senior information officer.

Following all the staff meetings this morning, this team will be enjoying birthday cake for our most senior information officer, Arnold McKenzie. I'm not sure if Arnold was here when the cornerstone was laid, but he was here when I came to the building. I ask all members to join me in welcoming the visitor services team, and wish Arnold a happy birthday.

### PRESENTING PETITIONS

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

**Mr. Forbes:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I rise to present a petition calling for greater protection for late-night retail workers by passing Jimmy's law. And we know that Jimmy Ray Wiebe was shot and died from his injuries. He was working at a gas station, alone and unprotected from intruders. But we also know that positive statistics 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. 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, I present this petition on behalf of many people who have signed this petition from across the province. I do so present. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Nilson:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to present a number of petitions that are raising questions about the number of politicians that the government plans to increase in Saskatchewan. And the prayer reads as follows:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your honourable Legislative Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to not increase the number of politicians in the Saskatchewan Legislative Assembly, and to continue including those individuals under the age of 18 in the determination of constituency boundaries.

These people who have signed these petitions come from right across the province. And this issue, I think, will continue to resonate throughout the province. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Wotherspoon:** — Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased to rise to present petitions on behalf of concerned residents from across Saskatchewan as it relates to education in our province. And 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, 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 Esterhazy and Regina. I so submit.

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

**Mr. Broten:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Presenting a petition today signed by Saskatchewan people who are calling on the Sask Party government to support the Saskatchewan seniors' bill of rights. The petition reads:

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 will provide Saskatchewan seniors with social and economic security and protection from abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

I so present, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Ms. Chartier:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm pleased today to present a petition signed by citizens concerned about the film and television industry and the need, that this industry needs a competitive tax program if it wants to be competitive on the national and global stage, Mr. Speaker. But I think the petition speaks for itself:

After 25 years of hard work and investment in the people of Saskatchewan, our province has become a national leader in film, television, and digital media. The success of acclaimed programs including *Corner Gas*, *Little Mosque on the Prairie*, *Wapos Bay*, and *The Englishman's Boy* has contributed to our growing prominence on the world stage and brought renewed respect to our Prairie heritage.

We, in the prayer that reads as follows, respectfully request that the Government of Saskatchewan work with industry partners to develop a new incentive program which allows film, television, and digital media to

continue to flourish in our province.

Mr. Speaker, this petition is signed by citizens of Indian Head, Watrous, Nipawin, Saskatoon, Carnduff, and Beaver Creek. I so submit.

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

**Ms. Sproule:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my pleasure to rise to present a petition to keep open the Western Development Museum. And the petitions reads as follows:

We, the undersigned residents of the province of Saskatchewan, wish to bring to your attention the following: that underfunding to the Western Development Museum has led to the Monday closing of the museum to patrons, an increase in admission fees, and the layoff of staff; that vacant positions at the Western Development Museum will not be filled as a result of a lack of funding; that the lack of support by the provincial government has resulted in unpaid leaves of absence by some staff at the museum.

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your honourable Legislative Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to properly fund the Western Development Museum to ensure its branches are open on Mondays and its admission fees are affordable.

As in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

And this is signed by citizens of the province from Moose Jaw, Regina, Cut Knife, Lashburn, Waseca, Lloydminster, Saskatoon, and Fort Qu'Appelle. I so present, Mr. Speaker.

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Opposition House Leader.

**Mr. McCall:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I rise to present a petition in support of improving Highway 165, a critical transportation link between Beauval and the English River First Nations. It's a very busy road, Mr. Speaker, and a lot of industrial traffic on it as well. The prayer reads as follows:

Respectfully requesting that the legislature in the Legislative Assembly in Saskatchewan undertake to upgrade the section of Highway 165 between Beauval and the English River First Nations by adding proper lighting for pedestrian traffic, by adding space for pedestrians on the highway and its bridges, and by properly surfacing the road with material needed for a busy, heavy-haul road.

This petition is signed by individuals from Beauval. I so present.

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Opposition Whip.

**Mr. Vermette:** — Mr. Speaker, I rise today to present a petition on behalf of Saskatchewan residents who wish this government to reassess the Saskatchewan wildfire management policy. Mr. Speaker, the policy has been in place for a long time

without a review. Groups and individuals like trappers, fishermen, outfitters, northern leaders, and many residents of northern Saskatchewan have been asking for this policy to be fully reviewed. It is long overdue.

The prayer reads:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your honourable Legislative Assembly may be pleased to cause the provincial government to recognize that the people of Saskatchewan deserve the very best in protection services as it relates to forest fire management policy, and in so doing cause the provincial government to immediately implement a full review of the Saskatchewan wildfire management policy, as it has been years since this program was last assessed.

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

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

[10:15]

#### STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

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

#### International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia

**Ms. Sproule:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On this day, May 17th, I am proud to recognize the International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia.

Here in Canada, recognition for lesbian and gay communities has been first and foremost an acceptance brought about by the adoption of the Charter of Human Rights. However, until social acceptance of homosexuality is achieved and homophobia wiped out, there is still a long way to go. To achieve this goal, the Fondation Émergence of Quebec proposed in 2003, along with partners, to hold each year a special day dedicated to the social recognition of homosexual experience.

May 17th, Mr. Speaker, is symbolic because of its significance in the improvement of the status of gays and lesbians. In removing homosexuality from its list of mental illnesses on May 17th, 1990, the World Health Organization put an end to over a century of homophobia in the medical field. After decades of political and legal battles, gays and lesbians have won important protection against discrimination in human rights law and legal recognition of same-sex couples in equal marriage. Despite these important victories however, lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered citizens and their families continue to experience oppression and discrimination.

So, Mr. Speaker, today I'm encouraging all members of the Assembly to reach out to those who are particularly vulnerable to homophobic and transphobic bullying and to acknowledge the dedicated organizations and community members who fight these injustices every day. We are proud in this caucus to recognize and affirm the fundamental rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and trans-identified people and their families. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Premier.

### Canadian Progress Club

**Hon. Mr. Wall:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I rise to draw some attention to an amazing group of women in our capital city, the Canadian Progress Club Regina Wascana, have been working hard to help people in all walks of life in Regina and area.

Over the years, the Canadian Progress Club Regina Wascana has raised almost \$1 million through things like a charity dinner and auction, with funds going to Camp Circle of Friends, the Plywood Cup where members build a boat and race across Wascana Lake, Special Olympics, Dress for Success. Perhaps they're best known, Mr. Speaker, for the Festival of Trees, which celebrated its 21st year this past Christmas. The money raised by the Festival of Trees is donated to the Regina Palliative Care Inc. in the Greystone Bereavement Centre, Mr. Speaker.

At their annual general meeting this week, my administrative assistant, Ruth Gaura, who has long been a professional public servant in the province of Saskatchewan, was the recipient of the Outstanding New Member Award, Mr. Speaker. This past weekend, Ruth, along with several members of their group participated in Caring Hearts Camp at Dallas Valley Ranch, a bereavement camp and retreat for kids who are grieving the death of someone significant in their lives, Mr. Speaker.

I'd ask all members to help me thank the Progress Club Regina Wascana for all they do and to salute a long-time professional public servant in the province of Saskatchewan, Ruth Gaura, who has a heart for service in government but also a heart for service in all of her volunteer activities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

### Norwegian Constitution Day

**Mr. Nilson:** —

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

Mr. Speaker, in Saskatchewan 100 years ago there was a census held that was part of the Dominion of Canada census, and the numbers that we can look at show that 17 per cent of the people at that time who lived in Saskatchewan said they were of Norwegian ancestry. So, Mr. Speaker, we in Saskatchewan have the largest percentage of descendants of any province in Canada. So it's very important that we continue to recognize that.

Here in Saskatchewan there will parties and parades throughout the province as people remember their families, but here in the legislature, we're also especially pleased to have a number of members who will join with me, as the member from Regina Lakeview, as Norwegian descendents. So we have the member from Saskatoon Massey Place, the member from Melville-Saltcoats, the member from Regina Wascana Plains, the member from Saskatchewan Rivers, the member from Rosthern-Shellbrook, and the member from Regina Northeast.

All of us welcome the congratulations on this important date. Thank you.

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

### Art Work on Louis Riel Trail

**Mr. Brkich:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Over the past decade, Davidson area farmer and artist Don Wilkins has created several metal sculptures along Highway 11 related to his statues as the historic Louis Riel Trail. Recently Don informed my office that he's completed another set of statues, those being of a Cree mother and her Métis son, an integral part of our early fur trading history in Saskatchewan.

Don is currently working with Highways and Tourism officials to establish a new site for these statues near the town of Kenaston at the junction of Louis Riel Trail and Highway 15. This is yet another historic site of the many that Mr. Wilkins has made with his home-built metal sculptures along the Louis Riel Trail.

Don started with a Red River cart; that's his signature piece. He makes them 20 per cent larger than real life so they can be viewed more easily from the highway. Don just finished his 12th Red River cart to be added to this new site at Kenaston.

Don currently has five major sculptures positioned along Highway 11. They are one-eighth of an inch thick. The big ones have internal frames. One sculpture at Chamberlain represents a surveyor, an important figure in the context of Euro-Canadian settlement in the Plains region. Don also erected a cart and ox at Aylesbury. Craik has a sculpture of the Métis buffalo hunter holding a buffalo gun. Dundurn has a bone gatherer figure combined with a horse and cart.

Don's work certainly stands out because of the attention to detail. Most importantly for us, people stop for a moment and take in a bit of the significance of the events that took place in time over this territory. Other sites along the Louis Riel Trail include the buffalo at Girvin, the two-dimensional, open-framed buffalo at Chamberlain, another one at Buffalo Plains, Balgonie. I would ask that members join me in congratulating Don Wilkins on his continuing artistic contributions to preserving Saskatchewan's history.

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

### National Early Learning Conference

**Mr. Lawrence:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the planning committee of the Imagine Our Future national early learning conference recently held in Moose Jaw. I had the pleasure of attending this event on each of the three days. The event was fantastic, the speakers first-rate, and the conference came off without a hitch with well over 600 attendees.

A nurtured, loved, and educated child has a far better chance of reaching beyond their potential as they reach adulthood. The immense return on proper early childhood development was

explained by Nobel prize winning economist, James Heckman.

Mosaic Place was a perfect venue for this conference, and Moose Jaw is indeed the welcome recipient of many events now that we have this remarkable facility. Having a national conference of this level held in the friendly city is a testament of our growth and prosperity. Local hotels, shops, restaurants, and other businesses have for years profited from a vibrant tourism industry and now are benefiting even further as these events occur more regularly in the heart of our city.

The Imagine Our Future conference was a huge success, and I want to congratulate Christine Boyczuk, Joan McMaster, Gerry Turcotte and Melody Mitchell, along with the many volunteers on a job well done. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

### Natural Resources and the Canadian Economy

**Ms. Tell:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The NDP's [New Democratic Party] national leader continues to diagnose our economy as a disease. The provincial NDP leader seems to come down with a sudden case of politically induced laryngitis. Yesterday the Leader of the Opposition was asked several times if he agrees that our resource sector is a disease. And time and time again, Mr. Speaker, he refused to answer and skirted the question. In fact one reporter said he didn't think big guys could dance like that.

Mr. Speaker, the evidence against Mulcair's position is mounting. Yesterday StatsCan said the resource sector is actually leading Canada's manufacturing growth. The Conference Board said the resource sector is driving the growth in our economy. Mr. Speaker, Mulcair's Dutch disease diagnosis is faulty economics, and it's divisive politics. Economists and commentators and premiers have all said so. Yet when the NDP is given the choice between their political masters in Ottawa and Saskatchewan's resource sector, they chose to side against this province.

Mr. Speaker, it's now very clear which leader in this House speaks for Saskatchewan and which one suddenly loses his voice when it is time to defend our province. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member for Estevan.

### Appreciation for Caucus Staff

**Ms. Eagles:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity, as the spring season nears an end, to thank our Saskatchewan Party caucus office staff. To Blaise, Enninyah, Kim, Patric, Terri, Steve, and of course Michael, thank you. And a particular thank you to caucus chief of staff, Gerald Proctor. He's more than just their boss, he is a mentor and a friend to his staff. Mr. Speaker, this group of men and women don't work for us, they work with us.

They research, write speeches, develop communication plans, plot strategies, and occasionally over lunch, solve the world's problems. At times, their work goes unnoticed or unused, not

because it isn't worthy, but because of the pace in which we work, it sometimes becomes yesterday's news before it can be used.

Mr. Speaker, at the end of the day, we know that we wouldn't be able to do our jobs without them. And as this session is nearing its end, we know that the caucus staff will be working tirelessly over the summer to answer our questions, help with MLA reports, draft speeches for events, and work to prepare us for the fall session. And so to my colleagues, I would encourage you to take a moment to thank this fine group of people when you see them. And when you're in the building over the summer, perhaps offer to buy them lunch. I understand they are particularly fond of poutine. Thank you.

### QUESTION PERIOD

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

### Performance of Government and Opposition

**Mr. Nilson:** — Mr. Speaker, after this session is over, MLAs will be talking to thousands of people who have signed petitions, have made phone calls, and have written letters to say they didn't want more politicians. But yesterday the Premier controlled his team, and they all voted to spend millions of dollars on more politicians. This wasn't in their election platform, and it wasn't what the people of Saskatchewan expected.

Mr. Speaker, how does the Premier and all of the members across plan on justifying the millions that they're going to spend on more politicians when they didn't campaign on this issue?

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Premier.

**Hon. Mr. Wall:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As members will know, this province's population is growing like it never has in the history of Saskatchewan. And so after the census, the election immediately after a census, we take the time to redraw the boundaries.

Mr. Speaker, we made the decision not to go to the highest number of MLAs the province has ever seen, around 66; actually going to pull that back to about 61. Here's something else, Mr. Speaker — here's something else — we're going to do this without increasing the cost to the taxpayers at all, Mr. Speaker. And so when we do break from this place for the summer, we'll talk about that particular issue. We'll also talk about a session where this side of the House kept the promises it made in the last campaign, and we'll talk about the only balanced budget in the Dominion of Canada.

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

**Mr. Nilson:** — So, Mr. Speaker, the legislation passed by the Sask Party excludes people under 18 from the electoral boundary count. The Sask Party doesn't value the needs and concerns of Saskatchewan youth. Not only was excluding young people not part of the Saskatchewan Party's platform; the Children's Advocate said that it could be a violation of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms under our constitution. When

students come to the legislature, we say we value them. Why would the Sask Party government now count them out?

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Minister of Agriculture.

**Hon. Mr. Bjornerud:** — Well, Mr. Speaker, I can tell you what we don't need is any more NDP MLAs in this province. Mr. Speaker, I remember back in 1991 when there was all kinds of NDP rural MLAs across this province, and what did they do, Mr. Speaker? Well they closed the hospitals in rural Saskatchewan — 52 hospitals . . . No, that's not quite right — 53 hospitals, including the Plains that was very convenient for rural Saskatchewan. Mr. Speaker, they ripped up GRIP [gross revenue insurance program] contracts for farmers and ranchers in this province.

Mr. Speaker, under their watch, highways fell apart across rural Saskatchewan. Mr. Speaker, they slashed funding for RMs [rural municipalities] and raised property taxes right across this province. Mr. Speaker, that's why I ran in '95. That's why I helped, assisted to support the forming of the Saskatchewan Party. Mr. Speaker, I'm very proud to be part of a Saskatchewan Party government that values all of Saskatchewan, including rural Saskatchewan.

[10:30]

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

**Mr. Nilson:** — Mr. Speaker, when that member got up instead of the Premier, I thought he was going to ask me a question in Norwegian.

But, Mr. Speaker, the costs of more politicians is in the millions. The Premier doesn't seem to think seniors are a priority because he's charging them more for their health care. He doesn't think students are a priority either because he's forcing universities to raise tuition and pressuring school boards to make cuts to programs and services. Why is the Premier willing to spend millions on more politicians and not on the things that matter to Saskatchewan people?

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Premier.

**Hon. Mr. Wall:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Well the premise of the question is false. We're going to achieve increased representation in the province for a growing population without adding any more money to the budget, without costing the taxpayers any more money.

And in the meantime, Mr. Speaker, that member references seniors. In this budget, in the platform that we ran on and represented in this budget, will be the tripling of the seniors' assistance plan, Mr. Speaker, a program for low-income seniors that was ignored by those members opposite for 16 years. We doubled it in our first term. We'll get to tripling it by the end of the second term.

He references students, Mr. Speaker. Just this week, this side of the House announced the Saskatchewan advantage scholarship — cheques in the mail to every young person graduating grade 12 totalling \$2,000 to come right off their tuition. This in addition to historic funding over our first four years for

post-secondary, Mr. Speaker. All of that has been part of the growth plan on this side of the House, part of the Saskatchewan advantage that has this province leading the country.

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

### Support for the Film Industry

**Ms. Chartier:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Premier didn't campaign on more politicians, and he certainly didn't campaign on gutting the film and television industry in Saskatchewan. He did say last June in a letter to the industry that Saskatchewan "boasts globally competitive tax credit incentives through the Saskatchewan film employment tax credit program." And he might want to take a look at page 35 of his platform where he boasts of increasing the funding to the film employment tax credit.

Yesterday the Premier had a chance to clear things up and address his contradictory position. He walked away from the scrum and never returned with an answer. Will the Premier admit today he campaigned on supporting the film industry but has done everything since then to destroy it?

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Premier.

**Hon. Mr. Wall:** — Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker, that member asked that exact same question yesterday, and I answered that question yesterday. Mr. Speaker, the industry asked for a letter of support. They were going to go on a mission to attract more films. Yes, that one. We provided that particular letter because it was asked for by the industry. They went down and unfortunately the results weren't very good. In fact one major picture had a look at this province and chose to go to Quebec, where they're prepared to actually spend more in terms of a grant for the film industry.

We've made another choice, Mr. Speaker. It was a difficult one, but we have said, no more grants. We're not going to use taxpayers' dollars in these kinds of bidding wars. Mr. Speaker, what we're going to do is focus on health care, focus on the infrastructure needs of this province, focus on our plan to keep this province growing, focus on the only balanced budget in the Dominion of Canada.

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

**Ms. Chartier:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Sask Party has done nothing but disparage the film and television industry and the reputations of those who work in it. They've claimed that those in the film industry don't pay taxes when in fact they do. They've claimed that the industry wants nothing but handouts when in fact it's an industry that brings much new money and jobs into our province, and so much more. They've called these hard-working people transients when in fact these are people who live, work, and raise their families in our province. And they've said this is an industry in decline when in fact already this year SaskFilm has over \$50 million in production applications for the current refundable tax credit, which is a 100 per cent increase over last year.



Will the Premier press reset on his relationship with the film industry and get back to the table?

**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, there used to be growth in our film industry, as the Premier mentioned yesterday, much of it predating the old grant program. The whole environment for the film industry is remarkably different today, however. It's in significant decline, with almost a 70 per cent reduction in production volumes in the last five years, almost 20 per cent in the last year alone.

Certainly we're proud of our industry professionals, just as the Premier's letter states. We've been saying all along that we know that we have talented and skilled crews here in Saskatchewan. But we're not prepared to go on with a program that is just a grant and isn't cost-effective, and we're certainly not going to continue in a bidding war with other jurisdictions that we just can't win. We want our creative industries to succeed here in Saskatchewan and for their companies to pay taxes here. That's what our new plan is about, Mr. Speaker: rewarding Saskatchewan-based companies, tax fairness, and increased emphasis on new technology and new opportunities, all within Canada's only balanced budget.

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

**Ms. Chartier:** — And the misinformation continues, Mr. Speaker. I asked the Premier on Monday a very simple question: does he want a film industry in Saskatchewan — yes or no? He didn't answer this question, so I'd like to give him another opportunity to clear this up for all those who think this decision to gut an entire sector is both short-sighted and petty. If he says yes, then his government needs to get back to the table and work with the industry to come up with something that will in fact sustain and grow the industry. If the answer is no, then he needs to be straight with both the public and the people working in the industry, stop hiding behind a program that won't work. Does the Premier want a film industry here in Saskatchewan — yes or no?

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

**Hon. Mr. Hutchinson:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, in yesterday's *Leader-Post* there is an article about two University of Regina film students whose short film has made it to the student showcase at the very prestigious Toronto International Film Festival. Mr. Speaker, according to the article, this is the first time a U of R [University of Regina] live action film has actually made it to the TIFF [Toronto International Film Festival] showcase.

What's interesting about this of course is that the film didn't begin shooting until after the announcement that the old film employment tax credit program was being discontinued. Mr. Speaker, we believe this demonstrates that the old grant program is not essential to producing high-quality

Saskatchewan film productions and that there is indeed a future for Saskatchewan filmmakers in this province, particularly the coming generation. It looks like the little hillbillies, as actor Kim Coates called Saskatchewan residents on CFCR radio, are going to be all right after all, Mr. Speaker.

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

### Review of Labour Legislation

**Mr. Forbes:** — You know, Mr. Speaker, we've been speaking a lot about sham consultations, and the Premier didn't include his sweeping labour review in his platform either. We knew the Premier and his Sask Party government were going to war on organized labour, but we didn't know until after the election they were also going to war on all working people. His sweeping labour review means putting at risk protections and rights that all working people here in Saskatchewan have earned and are entitled to. Why was the Premier afraid to campaign on his attack on the rights of working people?

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

**Hon. Mr. Morgan:** — Mr. Speaker, it's always a worthwhile exercise to look at and review legislation. And, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to do a brief quote from *Hansard* on May 8th, quoting the member for Saskatoon Nutana:

All right, Mr. Chair. I think certainly the proposed changes to this, *The Commissioner for Oaths Act* make sense, and we know that modernization is always a good thing in terms of keeping things more efficient. And so thanks to the officials for work on this Bill . . .

Mr. Speaker, the same member on the same night talking about *The Court Officials Act*. "Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. I don't have very many questions on this Bill either. Again I want to commend the minister and his officials and his staff for making these kind of change, modernizing the Bills as is necessary."

Mr. Speaker, the same member speaking again to *The Court Officials Act* said, "All right, again I think these types of modernization of these . . . makes a lot of sense, and that's the only question I would have . . ." Mr. Speaker, modernization and moving forward is just plain common sense and I'd urge the members opposite to support it.

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

**Mr. Forbes:** — I don't think we're talking about the same kind and size of changes that this government is proposing, you know. But what we are hearing is this Premier talking about a growing economy here in this province and that smart growth, we know, means a strong workforce, and that means fair wages and a safe working environment.

But the sham of a consultation could take us back 100 years. It provides insufficient time for meaningful questions, and not one public meeting that's open to the public anywhere in this province. Why has the Premier put his disdain and ideology ahead of common sense?

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

**Hon. Mr. Morgan:** — Mr. Speaker, this is nothing more than petty politics on the part of the opposition. Prior to the last election, we brought forward legislation requiring voter ID [identification], a common sense solution to a problem that may or may not have been big or little but, Mr. Speaker, a good idea. The members opposite said the sky will fall in; the world will end. Mr. Speaker, a good election was had and a good result was obtained.

Mr. Speaker, we also passed legislation dealing with the Human Rights Commission. We want consultation. We want this, this, and this. We now have one of the most progressive Human Rights Commissions in Canada.

Mr. Speaker, labour legislation is something that will move forward and will move upward, and it will protect the women and men in our province who work hard. They earn money and, Mr. Speaker, we want to value and protect everything that the working men and women in our province do. And, Mr. Speaker, the members on this side of the House are for the workers in this House and we will continue to support them. And I urge the members over there to do the same.

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

**Mr. Forbes:** — Well, Mr. Speaker, from what we've seen from this government and this party, they have a strange way of showing that they are for working people here in this province. And this is not a petty issue. This is not a petty issue. And for example, this minister said that he will keep the submission secret. And we know, and we have a strong sense that they already know which proposals will be going ahead. It's a sham of a consultation when the submissions are hidden and the outcomes are already predetermined. Considering that we've already established this consultation is a sham, will the Premier agree to scrap it?

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

**Hon. Mr. Morgan:** — Mr. Speaker, a letter in the May 15th *Leader-Post*:

The paper is the start of a process that is needed in our province. It will result in an up-to-date, employment-related legislative regime right for our time. Perhaps those engaging in fear-mongering would like to give the process a chance and concentrate more on the value and importance of the opportunity to participate in the consultative process.

Mr. Speaker, this is a government that has produced the largest debt reduction in Saskatchewan history, the largest income tax cut in Saskatchewan, the largest property tax cut in Saskatchewan's history. It's providing a new children's hospital in Saskatoon, a new bridge in Saskatoon, a new transportation hub in Regina.

Mr. Speaker, this is a government that is moving Saskatchewan forward and upward, and we are taking the working women and

men in our province with us. And, Mr. Speaker, when you ask the women and men — and I've talked to a lot of them on their doorsteps — they're happy that this is the direction we're going, and they're supporting this, Mr. Speaker, and the members opposite should as well.

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

### Funding for Education

**Mr. Wotherspoon:** — Mr. Speaker, the Education minister has not allocated sufficient funding to school boards. When they raised concerns on behalf of students, she told them to quit crying — actually belittled educational leaders, Mr. Speaker. They've asked school boards to go into the classrooms and find places to cut; all the while that minister has dismissed and disregarded the concerns of teachers, parents, school boards, and educators.

You know, Mr. Speaker, if this minister and this government isn't willing to cut this idea of three more politicians, how does this government expect school boards to make cuts for students?

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Minister of Education.

**Hon. Ms. Harpauer:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And again I will go through the numbers of how we've increased, quite frankly, in the support for school divisions yet again for the member opposite. And if he wanted to give the quote in its entirety, I have said time and time again that we do not look for cuts in the front-line services within government and we do not want to look for cuts in front-line services in school divisions as well. But we all need to be looking for efficiencies, and although that newspaper article that he uses as his research is what he's quoting from, he could also go the press release, quite frankly, where we talked about how we're going to do an efficiency review within our school divisions. This is not a big surprise, although it might be to him.

We've increased funding, operating funding only. This does not take in the capital funding which has also been substantially increased. We increased our operating funding to school divisions over the last five years of 21 per cent. In this past budget, it was an increase of 5.

[10:45]

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

**Mr. Wotherspoon:** — Mr. Speaker, smart growth means having the right resources to place in education and to improve education in Saskatchewan. It's about meeting the demands of a growing population.

That government has cut literacy programs, cut in community education, not acted to improve First Nations and Métis outcomes, failed to provide funding for increased enrolments, and left new Canadians without adequate support for English as an additional language.

Mr. Speaker, it's a prosperous time in Saskatchewan. This presents a tremendous opportunity. Why is this government not making education a top priority?

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Minister of Education.

**Hon. Ms. Harpauer:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again I will have to refresh the statistics that I've given to the member a number of times, both in estimates committee and also here in this House. We increased funding for our literacy programs by about 7 per cent, Mr. Speaker, which includes a very core funding for literacy camps. He has the information. He knows how effective those camps are, particularly in the northern communities.

Mr. Speaker, we have funding for just specific First Nations programming that school divisions can access when they like, over and above their budgets, of over \$4 million, Mr. Speaker. We have invested about half a billion dollars, Mr. Speaker, in capital projects, something that never happened under the NDP — we just allowed our schools to crumble. We've made education a priority and we're going to continue to do so.

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

### Surgical Care

**Mr. Broten:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This past week, the regional medical association held an extraordinary meeting in order to deal with the problems facing the operating rooms within the Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region. This is the second such meeting in the past five months, Mr. Speaker, and at this rate the extraordinary meetings will soon be called ordinary.

Surgeons are rightfully frustrated that ORs [operating room] are sitting idle and patients are having surgeries cancelled. I've heard from families, Mr. Speaker, who have had specific dates set for surgeries. The dates have been cancelled; the reason given is that the ORs were not available. And no new date was given for the surgery. The minister cannot deny this.

My question to the minister: in this spring session, how many surgeries in the Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region have been cancelled or delayed?

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Minister of Highways . . . Health.

**Hon. Mr. McMorris:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'm certainly glad to answer this Health question. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to start by talking about a news release that was sent out by the SMA [Saskatchewan Medical Association] yesterday. And the statement says that neither the SMA or the Regina Qu'Appelle Regional Medical Association are accusing the health region of intimidating physicians, Mr. Speaker. That was the premise of the members' questions opposite a couple days ago.

And I said I didn't believe that that was the case, Mr. Speaker, because what we need is the physicians to be involved to find solutions. That's why there was a meeting last night. That's

why there have been meetings the last couple of weeks, Mr. Speaker, to help the health region deal with the surgical wait times in Saskatchewan. Yes, Mr. Speaker, Regina Qu'Appelle hasn't met its target this year, but I can report that it is a mile ahead of what was left under the NDP.

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

**Mr. Broten:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's not only the surgeons who are having extraordinary meetings to deal with this issue. Yesterday there was an emergency meeting by nurses to discuss the issues facing the ORs in the Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region, that being the fact that operating rooms are not operating at full capacity. Many are sitting idle, Mr. Speaker, and surgeries are being cancelled.

What nurses have told me, Mr. Speaker, is that the inability for the ORs to operate at full capacity is due to the shortage of nurses as well as anesthesiologists, and what they have told me, that at least part of the blame for this problem, Mr. Speaker, is the fact that the minister's for-profit approach with the surgical clinics is draining resources from the existing operating rooms within the Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region. In fact right now on saskjobs.ca, Mr. Speaker, the Sask surgical centre is advertising positions for nurses.

As surgeries are cancelled, Mr. Speaker, patients are frustrated and families are worried. My specific question to the minister which he didn't answer in the first question: how many surgeries have been cancelled and delayed in the Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region in this spring session?

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Minister of Health.

**Hon. Mr. McMorris:** — Mr. Speaker, I have said all the way along that there are some challenges in Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region. That's why we're working on it. Part of it, the issue is not enough OR nurses due to maternity leave and some injury, Mr. Speaker. Saskatoon had anticipated that, trained more operating room nurses, and that's what Regina Qu'Appelle is doing right now.

But I will tell you, Mr. Speaker, that if we ever go back to the NDP days, they will shut those private clinics down. That would be 2,000 more people on the wait-list that got their surgery done in Saskatchewan that never would have got it done because of ideology from the NDP, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, people waiting 12 months are down by 80 per cent, the number of people waiting, Mr. Speaker. And I can report today, the number of people waiting for surgery today in Saskatchewan is the lowest it's ever been since 2004, since records were kept, Mr. Speaker. This government is proud of its surgical care initiative. Mr. Speaker, we'll never go back to the NDP days.

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

### The Government's Record

**Mr. Nilson:** — Mr. Speaker, we've been hearing from people time and time again that the Premier doesn't listen to the

people. Leadership is about listening to everybody, even to those who may disagree with you. And there have been literally hundreds of people in the legislature this week raising issues like the immigrant family nominee program, child care, film industry. The Premier's refused to go out and see them, meet with them.

Now there's a whole number of choices that the Premier has made during this session, and there was no warning that these choices would be presented to the people. He's abandoned the film industry; he's been attacking working people; he's spending millions on more politicians. The Premier said this session, "The best indicator of future behaviour is past behaviour." Based on his past behaviour, who's next in the province to be blindsided by the Premier's bad choices?

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Premier.

**Hon. Mr. Wall:** — Mr. Speaker, this side of the House listened very carefully to the people of this province during the election. They sent some strong messages to all members of this House. They sent a message that we don't need a \$5.5 billion promises we can't afford that'll drive us into deficit. They said we wanted STARS [Shock Trauma Air Rescue Society] to proceed, the helicopter ambulance program. It's happened this session. They said we wanted the Saskatchewan advantage scholarship to be, that promise to be kept. It's in the budget. They wanted 500 new child care spaces — it's in the budget. They wanted \$10,000 tax credits for new homeowners — that's in the budget. They wanted a balanced budget, and obviously that's part of the budget, Mr. Speaker.

And here's one other thing they said they wanted. They wanted to keep this province moving forward. They wanted to keep it in leadership in the country. Yesterday the Conference Board released a report and said we'll have the lowest unemployment rate again next year. We'll have the lowest rate the year after that. This province will lead the country in economic growth. The greatest threat to working people in this province and to families sit right over there and sit in Ottawa in their federal counterparts. Mr. Speaker, this side of the House will always take a stand in favour of our economic interests in this province. The question is, where are the NDP?

## ORDERS OF THE DAY

## WRITTEN QUESTIONS

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

**Mr. Nilson:** — Mr. Speaker, in the NDP we've been asking lots of questions, but I'm pleased to say that we got some answers this morning. And so in accordance with rule 15(2), I request to withdraw items in my name. On day 42 I gave notice of written questions no. 406 to 449. I request that these items be withdrawn. I hope I get a lot more answers as the days proceed. Thank you.

**The Speaker:** — Written questions no. 406 to 449 are withdrawn.

I recognize the Government House Leader.

## MOTIONS

### House Adjournment

**Hon. Mr. Harrison:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to make a few comments before I ask leave to adjourn this Assembly. This day marks the end of the fifth legislative session of the Sask Party government. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank both you and the Clerks at the Table for your guidance and wisdom while guiding members through the procedures of the Legislative Assembly. There are many other people who rarely receive the credit they deserve for allowing the House to proceed seamlessly, such as broadcast services, library services, Journals, and Hansard.

I'd also like to thank the Sergeant-at-Arms and the commissionaires for the duties they silently perform in the House and the building. The building staff, the cafeteria staff, the Pages, the interns and the tour guides, Mr. Speaker — you truly help to make our jobs as legislators that much easier with your hard work, positive attitudes, and friendliness. I would also like to offer my thanks to the media for keeping the public up to date on what's happening in the legislature and the work that happens here. I would also like to thank the Opposition House Leader for his co-operation as we both work to represent the interests of our respective parties.

Last but of course not least, I would like to thank our families for the continued support they provide to us. It's truly their sacrifices that allow us to do this work on behalf of the people of this great province. Our spouses, children, and other family members often have to endure extended absences as we put in often long hours that this work requires. And for that I offer my sincere gratitude. Mr. Speaker, I'd also like to wish everyone a safe and happy summer as we continue with our duties outside the Assembly.

So, Mr. Speaker, by leave of the Assembly I move:

That when this Assembly adjourns at the end of the sitting day today, it shall stand adjourned to the date and time set by Mr. Speaker upon the request of the government and that Mr. Speaker shall give each member seven clear days notice if possible of such date and time.

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Opposition House Leader.

**Mr. McCall:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I just want to add a bit to the words of the Government House Leader — words of thanks, words of appreciation. Certainly this will be a bit redundant in terms of the list, but we want to make sure that these folks are referenced. Certainly we want to thank the Table officers, the Clerk and all in the Clerk's office. As a new House Leader, Mr. Speaker, I've benefited greatly from their instruction and guidance and assistance, and probably not as much as the wisdom on offer, but we'll keep working at it, Mr. Speaker.

We want to thank those in members services, the Hansard and Journals folks, the audio-visual folks, security and commissionaires, those in the library, those in the cafeteria. You'll probably note, Mr. Speaker, that I benefit greatly from the work of those in the cafeteria as well. I want to thank all of

the staff of the Legislative Assembly, those in the press gallery for bringing the proceedings of the legislature to the broader public. I want to thank the caucus members. I want to thank members on both sides of the House. And I want to thank the caucus staffs and those that work to help us do the work that we do.

I want to . . . [inaudible] . . . those in the constituency office who are keeping the home fires burning for us in terms of serving the people in our respective constituencies and that we'll be there working alongside them very shortly, Mr. Speaker, as we get a chance to shift focus with the conclusion of the session.

I want to thank the House biz folks, Mr. Speaker. I want to thank Cole Goertz on the opposite side working with the Government House Leader. And I want to thank the Government House Leader as well for working in a straightforward, co-operative manner to ensure that — we may not always agree, Mr. Speaker — but to make sure that process doesn't become the issue as often as possible but that we can focus on the issues in front of us in terms of policy and ideas. On our side, I want to thank Kyall Glennie and the particular work that he has done in aid of that.

Lastly, Mr. Speaker, I want to thank our families and friends and those who support us, as referenced by the Government House Leader, and helping us to do the work that we do in service of the people.

I guess in thinking about what I wanted to say today, Mr. Speaker, I'm reminded of the remarks of a Scottish writer, Ian Maclaren, who said, let us be kind, one to another, for most of us are fighting a hard battle. And I know, Mr. Speaker, that in some ways this Assembly is like a big family, kind of a brawling family sometimes, kind of a dysfunctional family sometimes, but we know that a lot of different people are going through a lot of different things. But still they come to work every day. They help us out in the work that we're doing. And I guess in that regard, Mr. Speaker, I want to, I want to say, if I haven't been as kind as I should have been, I'll work harder on that. But it's certainly inspiring the work that people do while struggling with difficulties with loved ones, struggling with difficulties themselves oftentimes, Mr. Speaker.

So the last person I thank is you, Mr. Speaker, for putting up with me and not throwing me out of the House yet. But I'm sure there's time for that on the docket. But I guess I'll end off by saying, obviously our work does not conclude. We're not off on summer holidays, but the work shifts venues. But this Assembly, where we strive to serve the people of Saskatchewan, is a very important . . . It's a great privilege to serve in this Assembly, and I thank all of those who help us to do this work of service. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

[11:00]

**The Speaker:** — I'd like to take this opportunity as well to join with the House leaders with a few comments. I'd like to thank the caucuses on both sides and the House leaders on both sides for their co-operation and good work, and the Whips. I can't forget the Whips because they are certainly a very important part of this operation on the floor of the House as well. I would

like to note from the Opposition House Leader's comments that the boys from Cannington are serving both sides in the House Leader business.

Also I'd like to thank all the legislative staff, especially the Clerks at the Table, the Hansard people, the Sergeant-at-Arms office, the libraries, and certainly the cafeteria which is extremely important for most of us members, and also all of the other staff members that make it possible for us to carry on the duties as MLAs and to display this building in the best possible light — the cleaning staff, the tour guides that we saw earlier today, and all of those that participate here with us. Also I think we need to thank our families.

It has been moved by the Government House Leader:

That when this Assembly adjourns at the end of this sitting day, in accordance with the parliamentary calendar, it shall stand adjourned until 10 a.m. on October 25th, 2012, unless earlier recalled by Mr. Speaker upon the request of the government, and if recalled, Mr. Speaker shall give each member seven days clear notice if possible of such date.

Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Carried. I recognize the Government House Leader.

**Hon. Mr. Harrison:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that this House do now adjourn.

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

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — This House stands adjourned to the call of the Speaker.

[The Assembly adjourned at 11:03.]



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# GOVERNMENT OF SASKATCHEWAN

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**President of the Executive Council**  
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Minister of Agriculture  
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan  
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**Hon. Bill Boyd**  
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Minister Responsible for SaskTel  
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