

SECOND SESSION - TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

of the

Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

DEBATES and PROCEEDINGS

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NO. 56A WEDNESDAY, MAY 1, 2013, 1:30 p.m.

MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF SASKATCHEWAN

Speaker — Hon. Dan D'Autremont Premier — Hon. Brad Wall Leader of the Opposition — Cam Broten

Name of Member	Political Affiliation	Constituency
Belanger, Buckley	NDP	Athabasca
Bjornerud, 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, Hon. 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, Hon. Nancy	SP	Martensville
Hickie, Darryl	SP	Prince Albert Carlton
Hutchinson, Bill	SP	Regina South
Huyghebaert, 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, Hon. 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, Rob	SP	Saskatoon Greystone
Ottenbreit, Greg	SP	Yorkton
Parent, Roger	SP	Saskatoon Meewasin
Phillips, Kevin	SP	Melfort
Reiter, Hon. Jim	SP	Rosetown-Elrose
Ross, Laura	SP	Regina Qu'Appelle Valley
Sproule, Cathy	NDP	Saskatoon Nutana
Steinley, Warren	SP	Regina Walsh Acres
Stewart, Hon. Lyle	SP	Thunder Creek
Tell, Hon. 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, Hon. Randy	SP	Biggar
Wilson, Nadine	SP	Saskatchewan Rivers
	SP NDP SP	Saskatchewan Rivers Regina Rosemont

[The Assembly met at 13:30.]

[Prayers]

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I request leave to make an extended introduction.

The Speaker: — The Premier has requested leave to make an extended introduction. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. It's truly a pleasure to be able to introduce to you and through you to all members of the House, a very, very, special guest that's seated in your gallery. Her Excellency Miriam Ziv, the ambassador of Israel to Canada, has returned to the province of Saskatchewan, has joined us here in the Legislative Assembly, Mr. Speaker.

Her Excellency has been posted to Canada since September of 2008, and it's our honour to welcome her back to Saskatchewan, Mr. Speaker, on what is her farewell tour of Canada. She has been providing public service to her country now for over 40 years. And so maybe the retirement goes beyond this particular posting, though, Mr. Speaker, based on my observation of her energy and her passion, my counsel would be that she not just do that yet, Mr. Speaker, in whatever other endeavours she might be interested in.

I know Ambassador Ziv has already met with at least two government members, Mr. Speaker, including the member for Greystone who, as a minister of the government, travelled to Israel to further develop relationships there, and also the member for Saskatoon Northwest. The ambassador will also meet with representatives from the government and the University of Regina during her stay in the province.

Mr. Speaker, our province has a strong relationship with Israel, particularly in the area but not limited to innovation and educational collaboration. Researchers from Israel and Saskatchewan are working together on a wide variety of products such as the development of new varieties of canola, and there have been numerous joint university programs and exchanges. In fact, Mr. Speaker, later this day the ambassador will meet with U of R [University of Regina] officials to explore the development of a joint MBA [Master of Business Administration] program in public safety. The program is being developed by the U of R's Faculty of Business Administration and The Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Mr. Speaker, Canada and Israel have an economic relationship, but we also have a shared history. We have common values that bind us together. Canada played a part in the creation of Israel, voting for Israel's membership in the United Nations, and contributed to peacekeeping efforts in the Middle East to help stabilize the region in those early years.

Former prime minister Brian Mulroney, when speaking in 1989 said this of the relationship, and I quote, "Most of all, in the daring and difficult period of Israel's infancy, when your nation needed friends — true friends — Canada was there. Canada was there over 40 years ago . . ." and Mr. Mulroney went on to say that the support remains even to that day.

Mr. Speaker, 24 years has not changed these sentiments, has not changed the commitment. Our province and the people of Saskatchewan are proud to be good allies, steadfast friends to Israel, who we see as such a stable and hopeful source of democracy in the Middle East and a defender of freedom.

Mr. Speaker, I just want to thank the ambassador for her dedication to this post. She's been a very, a very active ambassador, taken great interest in all the regions of our country, and specifically in the province. And so with apologies in advance for pronunciation, I say this:

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

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

Mr. Broten: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to join with the Premier this afternoon in welcoming Ambassador Ziv to the Legislative Assembly. And as the Premier has said, I wish the ambassador all the best as she moves on with the next stages for what is in store for her.

We do thank her for the work that she has provided to her country but also for what that has meant to Canadians and to people in Saskatchewan on the social front, as well as with the economic ties that are between our countries. Canada's relationship with Israel is important to Canadians and to Saskatchewan people, so we thank you for being here today and thank you for your service.

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

Hon. Ms. Draude: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, to you and through you, I have the privilege to introduce to members some remarkable young men and women who are seated with us on the floor of the Chamber today. They're all involved in the quality of life recreation programs delivered through the Saskatchewan Abilities Council, and they all live right here in Regina. With us today we have Bruce Kaufman, Steve Fiessel, Denise Frigon, Florence Matt, and Mark Mould. Along with them today is Lynne Demuele, the program supervisor; and Sarah Ottenbreit, who is another one of the talented staff that's involved in the program.

I had the opportunity to meet with the individuals after they had a tour of the building and had lunch. And we discussed the fact that this Legislative Building belongs to the people of the province, to them. So I'm asking all members to join with me today in welcoming these individuals to their Legislative Building. **The Speaker**: — I recognize the member for Saskatoon Centre.

Mr. Forbes: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. On behalf of the opposition, I would join with the minister in welcoming the folks from the Abilities Council here. We welcome them to their legislature. It's very good to see you out today and it's also great when we have people come to our legislature. So welcome.

While I'm on my feet, Mr. Speaker, I would like to introduce several people in your gallery. Today is International Labour Day, and we have several working men and women who have come to mark that day with us. And I'd like to introduce several of those people. With us is Jen Britton, recording secretary of the SFL [Saskatchewan Federation of Labour] — if Jen could give us a wave — and she is with CEP [Communications, Energy and Paperworkers Union of Canada]. As well we have Paul Guillet from RWDSU [Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union]. Paul's over up there. Also, Alex Furlong, the prairie director for the Canadian Labour Congress; Alex is here as well.

And we have many more. I don't want to get to everyone, but the people I do have a list for, and that's SEIU [Service Employees International Union]. They're a very active union and have a lot of concerns. SEIU-West is represented by Janice Platzke; and Terry Nanowski from acute care; Lori Klus, long-term care; Kathleen Jackson from the CBO [community-based organization] sector; Gail Field, long-term care; Sherry Lynds, long-term care; Karen Trafford, acute care; Lisa Zunti, acute care. And I think Tom Howe is up there somewhere. He's a staffer. Is Tom ... Anyways, these are folks from SEIU and working men and women.

And we also have people who've now retired. The Saskatchewan Federation of Union Retirees are also here as well. So I would ask all members to join with me in welcoming them to their legislature. Thank you.

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

Hon. Mr. Morgan: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to join with the member opposite in welcoming these individuals to the legislature today. On behalf of the government members, and I think on behalf of all members, I think it's fair to say we respect and value the work that these people do. They make an enormous contribution to the growth and success of our province and it's certainly their, very much their right to organize and present their views collectively. And we thank them for the good work that they do.

I would say to them that no matter who is in government, there's going to be the odd bump and hiccup on the road. As a province we have a very good record of having settlements. Over 90 per cent of the people that work in our province have settlements that were arrived at without job action. Unfortunately we don't have a great record of getting there, and that's something that we want to deal with more proactively in the provisions of Bill 85. And in any event, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to welcome them on behalf of all members.

The Speaker: - I recognize the Minister of Crown

Investments.

Hon. Ms. Harpauer: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's truly an honour today to introduce to you and through you and all members of the Assembly, 42 great students, grade 12 students from the Humboldt Collegiate. And accompanying them is their teacher Mr. David Millette. Mr. Millette has brought his classroom to this Assembly for a number of years now, and it's always an honour to have them with us. And I hope they enjoy the proceedings, and welcome them to their Legislative Assembly.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Regina Elphinstone-Centre.

Mr. McCall: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you, I'd like to join with the Premier and the Leader of the Opposition in saying hello to the Israeli ambassador.

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

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce, seated in the Speaker's gallery, Peter Siarkos, who is the summer student in my office. This is the third year that Peter has served in this position. He is a third year student at the University of Saskatchewan, studying at the Edwards School of Business. And I would ask members to welcome him to his legislature.

PRESENTING PETITIONS

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Athabasca.

Mr. Belanger: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I'm very pleased to stand today to present a petition on cellphone coverage for the northwest part of Saskatchewan. And Mr. Speaker, the prayer reads as follows:

To undertake, as soon as possible, to ensure SaskTel delivers cellphone service to the Canoe Lake First Nations, along with the adjoining communities of Cole Bay and Jans Bay; Buffalo River First Nations, also known as Dillon, and the neighbouring communities of Michel Village and St. George's Hill; English River First Nations, also known as Patuanak, and the hamlet of Patuanak; and Birch Narrows First Nations along with the communities in each of these areas.

Now, Mr. Speaker, this particular petition has been signed by people from all throughout Saskatchewan. And on this particular page, Mr. Speaker, the people that have signed are from Dillon and from Saskatoon. And I so present.

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

Mr. Broten: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand today to present a petition calling for better seniors' care here in Saskatchewan:

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 immediately undertake meaningful steps to improve the quality of seniors' care in our province, including creating more spaces and more choices for seniors; ensuring higher standards of care in public facilities, private facilities, and for home care; ensuring appropriate staffing levels in seniors' care facilities; and providing more support to help seniors remain independent in their own homes for as long as they desire.

Mr. Speaker, I so present.

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

Mr. Forbes: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to present petitions calling for the reconsideration of passing Bill 85, *The Saskatchewan Employment Act*. And we know since the employment Act was introduced in December, literally hundreds of hours of study and comparison have been carried out in the interests of due diligence. And, as the minister has said, labour relations are generally good in this province, and there's no necessity to rush this omnibus bill through that will likely govern workplace relations for decades to come. Labour relations in all sectors run the risk of being thrown into turmoil as a result of Bill 85's sweeping changes. Thousands of represented workers stand to lose their rights to bargain collectively and be represented by the union of their choice. I'd like to read the prayer:

We, in the prayer that reads as follows, respectfully request the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan take the following action: cause the Government of Saskatchewan to not pass Bill 85, *The Saskatchewan Employment Act* in this current session before the end of May and to place it on a much longer legislative track to ensure greater understanding and support for the new labour law.

Mr. Speaker, the people signing this petition come from Yorkton, Prince Albert, Regina, Saskatoon, Foam Lake, Weyburn, Battleford, Lloydminster, Moose Jaw, Hudson Bay, Swift Current, and Maple Creek, among many other places. I do so present. Thank you.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Opposition Whip.

Mr. Vermette: — Mr. Speaker, I rise today to present a petition asking for repaving, repairs, and maintenance of northern road Highway 102 from La Ronge to Sucker River. This road is a major highway used by buses transporting our students to school, tourism for camping and fishing, and by the mining and forestry industries.

Mr. Speaker, people are very concerned for their safety. The prayer reads:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your honourable Legislative Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to recognize that the repair and maintenance on the La Ronge north road, Highway 102, is important to northern residents and must be undertaken immediately. As in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

Mr. Speaker, it is signed by many La Ronge and area residents. I so present.

[13:45]

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

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

National Day to End Bullying

Ms. Campeau: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. May 1st has been declared Belonging: National Day to End Bullying by the Boys and Girls Clubs of Canada in partnership with CIBC [Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce]. Mr. Speaker, this great campaign is designed to increase public awareness by showing support to all young people who have been affected by bullying, in addition to showing support for anti-bullying initiatives that have been designed to ensure all children and youth feel a sense of safety and belonging. To help raise awareness for the campaign, the Boys and Girls Clubs of Canada sold T-shirts with anti-bullying messages during the month of April to be worn today.

Mr. Speaker, our government recognizes that bullying is a growing issue facing youth in Saskatchewan. In my new role as Legislative Secretary to the Minister of Education, I look forward to travelling the province and engaging communities in public consultations to discuss anti-bullying initiatives, as well as developing a Saskatchewan action plan to help guide our government's decisions on how to best address this issue.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that all members of this Assembly join me in recognizing May 1st as the National Day to End Bullying, and encourage everyone to get informed and speak out against bullying. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

May Day

Mr. Forbes: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I stand today with workers across the world as we recognize May Day. May Day, also known as the International Labour Day, originated as workers organized for an 8-hour work day. Ironic, Mr. Speaker, that this issue continues to be relevant over 100 years later as we see Bill 85 attempt to change this hard-fought right and allow moves towards a 10-hour work day.

In my own community of Saskatoon, there will be a rally taking place this afternoon protesting Bill 85. The people of Saskatchewan are asking that the Sask Party government slow down the bill. There are also people here in the gallery today with the same demand.

Achievements that we are happy to see so far this session are Howard's law and Jimmy's law. The passing of Howard's law makes Saskatchewan the first province in Canada to have a mandatory asbestos registry for public buildings. And Jimmy's law is an important step in protecting late-night retail workers. Mr. Speaker, May Day has never been more relevant to workers than it is today. The factory collapse in Bangladesh, with over 380 deaths, reminds many of us that we cannot disconnect our purchasing habits from the working conditions of people in other countries.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask that all members of this House join with me in recognizing May Day. I am honoured to stand with solidarity with workers throughout this province and add my voice to theirs in a call for fair, safe working conditions. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Opening of New Mounted Police Detachment

Ms. Jurgens: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday morning, along with the Minister of Corrections and Policing and the member from Saskatchewan Rivers, I was happy to attend the grand opening of the new RCMP [Royal Canadian Mounted Police] detachment in Prince Albert.

Throughout its history, the RCMP's members have earned our trust and respect. They come from all over Canada to serve and are key contributors to the communities in which they live and work. The RCMP has a long history of serving this province. In 1886, Prince Albert was the headquarters for the North-West Mounted Police. Today there are more than 1,000 RCMP members in Saskatchewan. They represent, day in and day out, the values of our people. They also work with municipal and First Nations police services and are an important part of successful integrated policing operations.

Mr. Speaker, our government is supporting the RCMP. We made a commitment in 2007 to provide 120 additional officers in this province. We kept that promise and 76 of those officers went to the RCMP. The renewed provincial police service agreement, which was signed in August of 2011, will see the RCMP continue to fulfill this important role in our province for the next 20 years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in congratulating the Prince Albert RCMP on their new detachment, which facilitates effective, community-oriented policing and allows us to enjoy the peace of mind that comes from living in a safe and secure community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Athabasca.

Green Ribbon of Hope Campaign

Mr. Belanger: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Child Find Saskatchewan is marking the 22nd annual Green Ribbon of Hope campaign, which will be taking place throughout the month of May. Next week, May 5th to 11th, is Missing Persons Week in Saskatchewan.

Mr. Speaker, it is every parent's worst nightmare to imagine their child going missing. Sadly, this is a tragic and devastating reality for far too many parents. According to the most recent data from the RCMP, anywhere from 50,000 to 60,000 youth are reported missing each year in Canada. These are heartbreaking stats.

The Green Ribbon of Hope is a symbol to remember all missing children and to seek their safe return to home. Child Find supports families of missing children through their connecting families program, as well as working to locate children and reunite them with their families. In addition to this important work, Child Find also provides educational programs to children and youth on Internet safety and to raise awareness about the need to protect children, including running ID [identification] clinics throughout the province.

Mr. Speaker, Child Find's motto is, a missing child is everyone's responsibility. These are important words that speak to the role we all play in our communities protecting children and youth.

Mr. Speaker, I invite all members of the House to join with me in recognizing the Green Ribbon of Hope campaign and the work of Child Find Saskatchewan. We are all very thankful for the important work that the staff and many volunteers do to protect our children and youth and support the families of missing children. Thank you.

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

Support for Multiple Sclerosis Research

Mr. Docherty: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. May is Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Month. In communities across the province, most of us know someone who is living with MS [multiple sclerosis] or has been touched by it. Saskatchewan has the highest prevalence of this disease, so that estimated 3,500 people in this province living with MS. MS is a chronic, debilitating disease in which the communication ability of nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord is impaired or destroyed.

Mr. Speaker, in addition to augmenting our province's primary health care services that can help people who live with chronic diseases, the Government of Saskatchewan supports research into MS, including the clinical trial in Albany, New York that is testing a procedure that opens constricted veins. Saskatchewan was the first province to move forward and advance the research into this area, and we will continue to be a champion for MS research.

The research team is currently working to assess the Saskatchewan patients who were randomly chosen from over 600 people who put their names forward. Up to 86 Saskatchewan residents will travel to Albany to participate in the study. Mr. Speaker, we don't know whether angioplasty addresses the degenerative symptoms of MS but we want to help find answers. That is why we're committed to MS research and to helping the people who are affected by this disease. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Saskatchewan Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services

Ms. Wilson: - Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm pleased to rise in

this House to advise all members that May has been proclaimed Speech and Hearing Awareness Month here in Saskatchewan.

Mr. Speaker, hearing loss is the fastest growing disability in North America and affects one out of every five people. In Saskatchewan alone, ten thousands of people are impacted by some forms of hearing loss. Fortunately, those people have been able to turn to Saskatchewan Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services for support since 1981. This organization has been a primary mission of promoting a world without barriers for people who are deaf, deafened, or hard of hearing.

They offer a number of services including sign language interpreter, and computerized note-taker services, a community service worker program, a discount hearing aid battery program, and access to information and a wide range of technical aids and devices.

Mr. Speaker, we are proud to work with Saskatchewan Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services and our many partners in the disability community. In fact, this year's budget provided more than 34 million to support the inclusion of people with disabilities in the social and economic life of our province.

Working together, we will ensure Saskatchewan is the best place to live in Canada for people with disabilities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Carrot River Valley.

Statements by New Democratic Party Members

Mr. Bradshaw: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Last night during estimates, the member from Athabasca accused the Minister of Highways of firing 90 front-line highway workers. But just like his leader the day before, the member from Athabasca is wrong, Mr. Speaker.

On Monday the NDP [New Democratic Party] leader stood in this House and falsely claimed twice that there were 47 patients stranded in the hallways of St. Paul's Hospital in Saskatoon last week. We now know that's not true, but the NDP leader still hasn't had the decency to stand up, retract his statements, and set the record straight. So last night the member from Athabasca decided to follow his leader's bad example. He claimed 90 highway workers were fired, when in fact not a single front-line highway worker was fired.

So just to review, the Leader of the Opposition talks about 47 patients in the hallways that didn't exist. The NDP Highways critic talks about 90 fired highways workers that don't exist. It kind of reminds me of Dwain Lingenfelter's 1,100 phony NDP memberships that didn't exist. Mr. Speaker, the members opposite may have a different leader, but they're still the same old NDP.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

QUESTION PERIOD

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

Labour Legislation

Mr. Broten: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today is International Workers' Day, and the contributions of working men and women are being celebrated with holidays and parades all over the world.

Here at home, Mr. Speaker, the opposition would like to celebrate International Workers' Day by seizing an opportunity to be co-operative and productive in the interests of maintaining a balanced labour environment that benefits everyone. The opposition is prepared to put our values into action by reaching out and offering co-operation in building fair labour laws.

My question to the Premier: will he direct his cabinet to be constructive in resolving the flaws in the essential services Act and the proposed Saskatchewan employment Act and join the opposition in concrete discussions on how to fix these laws?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — Well, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker, the new leader of the NDP has yet to ask a question in question period on Bill 85, and we were expecting some questions on that. Maybe there is one to come. He wants to touch rather on some other pieces of labour legislation, specifically essential services.

Mr. Speaker, of course we've just had a ruling from the Court of Appeal, a ruling that the government welcomes, Mr. Speaker, both with respect to the right to strike and specifically on the essential services legislation. That ruling notwithstanding, the minister has been working on some adjustments and improvements with partners on that particular piece of legislation.

In the last election, that member campaigned on a platform of eliminating, tearing apart any essential services legislation in the province. Is that still his position?

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

Mr. Broten: — Mr. Speaker, this issue matters to us a great deal. In this session, Mr. Speaker, we've asked questions 11 times. We've had over seven hours of time spent in adjourned debates, petitions, every day, Mr. Speaker, because this issue matters to all Saskatchewan people.

Mr. Speaker, we know that the government's essential services Act could be challenged in the Supreme Court of Canada and a decision could be years away. We also know that the government has been pushing through Bill 85 before fully considering the consequences *The Saskatchewan Employment Act* could have on working people.

Mr. Speaker, today is a chance to commit to co-operatively work on both laws using common sense alternatives that will benefit everyone. And that's why we're coming forward, Mr. Speaker, in a constructive way. My question to the Premier: will he delay passage of Bill 85 in order to allow the Minister of Labour and the opposition Labour critic to sit down to address problems with Bill 85 while working in a fair and reasonable essential services section? The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — Well, Mr. Speaker, this is very good news. This is very good news. That member, that Leader of the Opposition helped write the NDP platform for the last election. He wrote the tree booklet. We all have a copy of it. Now that's gone from their website. It's like they've purged everything that has to do with Mr. Lingenfelter. It's like even if they mention his name, he might apparate in the Assembly, Mr. Speaker.

The bottom line though is this. That member ran on a platform that we don't need essential services legislation, that we should repeal this government's efforts with respect to exchange of information in the workplace or a secret ballot. So, Mr. Speaker, I do welcome this because now, today, the leader of the NDP is saying, in principle they do support essential services legislation. Mr. Speaker, I can assure the member that notwithstanding the ruling by the Court of Appeal that our legislation is frankly fine the way it is, we're working to make those improvements.

With respect to Bill 85, Mr. Speaker, for well over a year we've been listening to both sides of the equation, employers, Mr. Speaker, and union leaders. There was a discussion paper released, then legislation tabled, Mr. Speaker. There's already been many adjustments. There are more to come in terms of amendments because we have been listening, Mr. Speaker. So we welcome now the NDP's position in favour of essential services legislation and assure them that all sides have been heard and their interests will be reflected in the new bill.

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

Mr. Broten: — Mr. Speaker, we've seen the Sask Party's approach to labour legislation here in the province. It's been an approach that has been predetermined. It's been an approach that hasn't been about proper consultation with working people with the entire province. And, Mr. Speaker, we believe in the opposition that there is a better, there is a constructive, and there is a co-operative way forward in dealing with issues like the labour legislation we've seen the Sask Party bring forward.

We see, Mr. Speaker, that the essential services legislation may end up in the Supreme Court of Canada, a decision that is years away. In the meantime, Mr. Speaker, there's a responsibility to address the flawed legislation that has been brought forward by the Sask Party government through Bill 85 and through the previous essential services legislation.

Today, Mr. Speaker, we offer to work co-operatively and constructively with the government. The suggestion is that the Labour minister and the Labour critic can sit down and talk about ways to fix the legislation, something that all working people believe needs to happen. Will the Premier, will the Premier respond to this constructive suggestion of finding a solution that benefits all Saskatchewan people?

[14:00]

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — It's interesting — 53 days into his leadership that he asks the first question on Bill 85 or, frankly,

on labour legislation. Mr. Speaker, it's also interesting that he references the hours they spent in debate on this. Mr. Speaker, they have up to 20 hours to spend on debate, to suggest these constructive alternatives. They had up to 20. What did they take? They didn't actually take seven; they took six hours and 40 minutes or so, according to the count of the House Leader. Mr. Speaker, there has been days and days and days of opportunity for those members to say, here are some specifics. We haven't waited for them, Mr. Speaker, because they frankly haven't been very interested in Bill 85.

So the minister has been meeting with the stakeholders involved, Mr. Speaker. The discussion paper elements, some of the discussion paper elements have already been removed from the legislation because of the feedback we received thousands of submissions received to the government, Mr. Speaker, over a year of consultations. More adjustments to come to clarify, for example, overtime; to clarify the workweek that's reflected in other provinces that we want for the province, Mr. Speaker; to maintain stat holidays. There's a long list of changes already made, adjustments made. Mr. Speaker, we welcome this new-found interest of the Leader of the Opposition, but much of the work is already under way.

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

Mr. Forbes: — Mr. Speaker, I think the Premier should check his facts. We know the Leader of the Opposition has given a second reading speech on Bill 85 just shortly after being elected the leader. So check your facts.

But we know, Mr. Speaker, we know no one asked for Bill 85's massive overhaul of workplace and employment laws. And the reason no one asked for it is because the laws in place today are largely working, as the Minister of Labour acknowledged earlier today. They're productive; our workplaces are productive. We have general labour peace and co-operation between employers and working women and men. But following the limited feedback period with no public consultations, the Sask Party unveiled the draft of Bill 85 on the final days of the legislative session in December.

Mr. Speaker, I'm willing to work on a fair solution. My question to the minister is: will he use today, May Day, International Workers' Day, to commit to put Bill 85 on hold and work with me and stakeholders on a better set of labour laws that will benefit everyone?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — Mr. Speaker, we're not going to wait for May Day. The hon. member references the fact that there is labour peace in the province today. This notwithstanding the fact that every other labour legislation suggestion that had been brought forward by this side of the House has been met by that side of the House with predictions of the dire consequences, that the labour relations in the province would self-destruct if we brought in construction labour relations reform — they were wrong; that the labour relations of the province would sour if we simply brought in secret ballot certification — they were wrong. Mr. Speaker, we have labour peace. They predicted a disaster if we allowed for freedom of expression in the workplace for workers or for the employers. They were wrong, Mr. Speaker.

We have labour peace in Saskatchewan. And even more importantly, in terms of the wealth of working people in the province, there are 25,700 more working people in Saskatchewan today, 50,600 since we took office; a 3.9 per cent unemployment rate, the lowest in the country; average weekly earnings up over \$700 a month, 24 per cent since our government took office, Mr. Speaker. That is the best measure of all in terms of the health of working families in this province.

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

Mr. Forbes: — Mr. Speaker, the people of Saskatchewan stand to lose protections in this bill that are very important to our way of life here that we enjoy in Saskatchewan. Mr. Speaker, there were 60, 60 lives lost in workplace deaths last year. And one is too many, and one is tragic. And the record number of deaths should point to a need to review the occupational health and safety laws. But, Mr. Speaker, that's not what Bill 85 will accomplish. As has been raised by so many people, Bill 85 does not address the serious concerns workers have about OH & S [occupational health and safety], about their own safety.

Mr. Speaker, it's clear that Bill 85 needs much more work, and how can the Sask Party plow ahead with passing Bill 85 when there's so much that is not understood about its implications on the workplace?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — Mr. Speaker, we take very seriously the issue of workplace safety in this province, and the minister responsible has laid out plans through the various mechanisms of government, the pieces of legislation, to seek those improvements, Mr. Speaker.

But the hon. member refers to changes that the Act will bring that are going to hurt workers. Doesn't get into any specifics. I kind of think I know what he's talking about because there's some misinformation going around the province today about what Bill 85 is and isn't. For example, Mr. Speaker, there is a concern that there'll be no more lunch breaks because, under this particular bill, a break can be refused in the case of an emergency, which is exactly the case today in the province of Saskatchewan.

Mr. Speaker, members of the minister's advisory committee have asked for the definition to go back into the Act, and so amendments are going to take care of that particular issue, if that's what he's talking about.

With respect to hours of work, Mr. Speaker, in terms of the four days of 10-hour shifts, Mr. Speaker, hundreds of agreements have been in existence for years of four days, 10-hour shifts approved by permit by those members opposite when they were in government. In fact our information was that they never turned one down, Mr. Speaker. These kinds of shift organizations occur today in Alberta, in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Ontario, and PEI [Prince Edward Island].

Mr. Speaker, this is not an excuse not to pay overtime, and amendments will be brought forward to clarify that as well, Mr.

Speaker. If the member wants to work through systemically the concerns that he has or that others have, we can do that because we've been listening and the clarifications are coming, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Forbes: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Now one of the biggest flaws in the sweeping rewrite of the province's labour laws is how much is left out of law, left to regulation to be dictated by the government when it suits them.

Six months after the Sask Party government tabled its labour bill, they still haven't revealed what's in the regulations. And, Mr. Speaker, with so much left to be determined by regulation, it's clear the provisions in the bill just don't cut it. And that's exactly why this legislature should not be passing this bill. We do not know all the consequences that could result from those regulations.

Mr. Speaker, workplace safety and workplace rights are at stake. Will the Sask Party government do the right thing and delay the passage of Bill 85 until all of the work, including the consideration of its regulations, have been completed?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — Mr. Speaker, in all honesty we heard similar concerns presented by the NDP in advance of the passage of the construction labour relations legislation of this government. In advance of the labour amendments we made, we heard their predictions of peril and destruction if we were to pass those legislations, and the harm they would cause to the labour environment of the province. And now by their own admission, by the admission of the Leader of the Opposition and the critic, there is labour peace in the province of Saskatchewan.

We have a growing economy. We have more families working today. We have higher wages being paid to those families, Mr. Speaker. I would also say to the member this, that the measure of what's going to happen in regulations or in other parts of the bill might be found in actions we've taken at the behest of union leaders who asked that this province index minimum wage — we're doing it, Mr. Speaker; that we would provide unpaid leave to attend citizenship ceremonies — we're going to do it; unpaid leave to donate an organ — we're going to do it; standardization and reduction of qualifying periods for parental, maternity, and adoption leave — we're doing all those things, Mr. Speaker, not because business asked for them, but because labour did.

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

Health Care Staffing and Capacity

Mr. Broten: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We continue to hear more and more troubling stories here in Saskatchewan about the level and quality of care for seniors in our province. We've heard about calls for help, Mr. Speaker, from seniors that have gone unanswered. We've heard about seniors being left on toilets unattended for hours because the right amount of staff were not present. We've heard about seniors not receiving baths

Lynne Seaborne has joined us in the gallery today to add her voice to the many voices we've been hearing. Her husband, Adrian, has been in a care home for almost 12 years and she has seen both the decline in the quality of care offered to other residents and a significant decline in staff morale. My question to the Premier: does he agree with Lynne that chronic understaffing in care facilities is a problem that needs to be addressed?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker, we take very seriously the individual cases that are brought forward by members of this Assembly wherever they sit, whether they're brought forward in terms of constituent work by MLAs [Member of the Legislative Assembly] on this side or on the floor of the legislature. Mr. Speaker, we would want to look into the particular concerns that have been referenced here now by the Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Speaker, we can go over the fact that there is a greater complement of health care workers now in the province than there ever has been, with the admission that there needs to be more work done on the issue. The minister has taken steps with respect to long-term care.

I would also say this though, Mr. Speaker. It would help, for example, in the cases being raised by that member, by the Leader of the Opposition, if he would ensure that his facts are correct. And I'm sure they are in this case; they are in this case. But just a few days ago, Mr. Speaker, he stood in his place and said there were 47 patients at St. Paul's Hospital in the hallway waiting for care when he knew — I would assume, because he was a health care researcher prior to politics — that the number was four to five, Mr. Speaker. He's had a chance to apologize. He's had a chance to do the right thing. He's not done that, Mr. Speaker. I hope he will because the cases that are raised, the situations he raises are serious and we want to look at them in a very serious way. He needs to commit that the facts are presented to the House, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Broten: — Mr. Speaker, these situations are serious. The situation that Lynne brings forward today is serious, and that's why it's so concerning, Mr. Speaker, to have the Health minister, to have members of the front bench say there is no cause for alarm when these issues have been brought forward to the floor of the Legislative Assembly. That has indeed been said, Mr. Speaker.

Understaffing, Mr. Speaker, is a huge problem in our care facilities, specifically the staffing ratios. Lynne says she knows of a situation where two staff were responsible for 33 residents on the morning shift. She has met with administration and management to raise concerns four times in just the last year. She's come here today, Mr. Speaker, because she is seeing a growing concern, a decline in morale of the health care workers

who want to provide the very best possible care and a decline in the morale of the residents, Mr. Speaker, who deserve the very best care here in the province.

My question to the Premier: is he satisfied with a situation where there are just two staff members responsible for 33 residents on a morning shift?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Duncan: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as the Premier has indicated, as I have indicated in the past, Mr. Speaker, first of all we want to thank those individuals that work in long-term care facilities all across this province, Mr. Speaker, who do a tremendous job for our residents, Mr. Speaker, knowing that for these residents this is in fact their home, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, any time that there are concerns that are raised, I take those concerns very seriously, Mr. Speaker. I had an opportunity to meet with the board Chairs of all of our health regions just two weeks ago, Mr. Speaker. As I've indicated in the past, what I want to see happen, Mr. Speaker, is I want our front-line staff to see the CEOs [chief executive officer] and the senior management of our health regions who make the determination on staffing levels, Mr. Speaker - knowing that they've received record levels of funding from the provincial government over the last six years, Mr. Speaker - that they actually go to the floor and see first-hand the conditions. As well, Mr. Speaker, to meet with our resident family councils, Mr. Speaker, and where we have long-term care facilities without a resident council, Mr. Speaker, that we have one created in every single facility so that we can address these problems head-on, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Broten: — Mr. Speaker, we've heard from Lynne Seaborne. We've heard from Carrie Klassen. We've heard from other family members that have come forward with the concerns that they have experienced because of the care of their loved ones. And, Mr. Speaker, we've heard from front-line health workers, workers who want to provide the very best possible care to residents but they are put in a situation where they know they're not providing the best possible care that they could be because the staffing ratios are not adequate.

We've heard from the Provincial Auditor who has said that there are concerns and the proper level, proper regulations are not there. We've heard from Carrie. We've heard from Lynne. We've heard from many families. But we do not see the response from the Sask Party government that this deserves. We see them, Mr. Speaker, suggesting that CEOs should tour facilities. Well that might be an okay step, Mr. Speaker, but it's hardly a solution for the problem of poor staffing ratios. This requires leadership, Mr. Speaker, when it comes to care for our seniors in the province.

My question to the Premier: is he satisfied with the staffing ratios in care facilities for seniors here in Saskatchewan?

[14:15]

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Duncan: — Mr. Speaker, frankly I'm surprised that the Leader of the Opposition would take issue with having the senior management and the CEOs actually go to the floor of long-term care facilities, Mr. Speaker, because when we see work that's being done within our health care system, on our quality improvement work, Mr. Speaker, that is being driven by front-line staff, Mr. Speaker, working in concert with the management, the senior leaders within the health care system, Mr. Speaker. That's where we're seeing great gains being made in areas of Releasing Time to Care, Mr. Speaker, and in other areas of quality improvement. So I find it surprising that the Leader of the Opposition would see so little value in this step.

Mr. Speaker, from that though what we want to see coming back through the Ministry of Health from the review of our long-term care facilities, Mr. Speaker, are recommendations on how we do assessments within long-term care facilities, Mr. Speaker, whether or not the assessment tools that were put in place by the members opposite are in fact adequate to what the needs are of our residents, Mr. Speaker. And I look forward to having that input from our CEOs.

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

Mr. Broten: — Mr. Speaker, what we see here is the Sask Party's unwillingness to accept the situation that families are experiencing. When people come forward with concerns, when family members come forward and talk about the situation that their loved ones are in, we see a dismissive attitude, Mr. Speaker, where we're not tackling the issue in the way that it needs to be addressed.

We know that staffing ratios are a concern, so why ignore the reality, Mr. Speaker? In the same way, at St. Paul's Hospital, Mr. Speaker, there's a hospital printout showing overcapacity in the hospital by 47 individuals. That is a report, Mr. Speaker, and why is it simply dismissed?

My question to the Premier: does he really think that the CEO tours — the CEO tours, senior executives going to a facility — does he really think that is a solution compared to fixing the staffing ratios that affect the care of seniors here in the province?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Duncan: — Mr. Speaker, on the issue of St. Paul's that the Leader of the Opposition raised a number of days ago, if the Leader of the Opposition would only go to the very same spreadsheet that he referenced and actually add up the over-under column that he's referencing, he would see the 47 ... It doesn't even add up to 47, Mr. Speaker. So first of all, he's wrong on the facts on that measure.

Mr. Speaker, as well what St. Paul's has indicated is that there was hallway care for four to five residents for a very brief period of time because of a Norwalk outbreak, Mr. Speaker, that closed one unit, Mr. Speaker. But there were beds available, Mr. Speaker, in other areas that don't show up on the census, Mr. Speaker.

The Leader of the Opposition does have a responsibility to hold the government to account, Mr. Speaker. He also has a responsibility to provide the facts when he does so in the premise of his questions.

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

Funding for Technology Organizations

Mr. Wotherspoon: — Mr. Speaker, that government's been embroiled in its IPAC [International Performance Assessment Centre for geologic storage of CO_2] affair, conflict that possibly shows corruption, Mr. Speaker, since going back to 2008. It relates to CVI [Climate Ventures Inc.] and ClimbIT, Mr. Speaker, and we know that the issues were presented to government members of the board back in 2009. We know that the CEO of IPAC started an investigation in 2010, and we know that they've had a report for over two years that condemned those companies' business practices. It says to be vigilant with these companies and all players because of their inappropriate actions. Yet despite the condemning reports, dollars continued to flow, including through sole-sourced contracts.

Mr. Speaker, hundreds of thousands of dollars flowed through the Public Service Commission, through Energy and Resources, through SaskTel and SaskPower. At least one of those contracts was in the last fiscal year. With so many red flags, why would the Sask Party continue to dole out taxpayers' bucks to these companies with an obvious conflict?

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

Hon. Ms. Harpauer: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the member opposite pointed out, there was an issue that happened with a contract that was sole sourced. There was a conflict of interest. It happened under the management of the U of R and that was four to five years ago now.

Mr. Speaker, there was no board at that time, but when the board was informed that steps had been taken by the U of R that were not acceptable by government, there was then steps taken by the board. Those steps was to sever the contract, Mr. Speaker, to move the control of the funding from the U of R to the IPAC agency. Then there was a forensic investigation ordered to follow the money.

Mr. Speaker, we have identified that, yes indeed, there was a sole-source contract, that there was a conflict of interest, and that the contract was higher dollars than what should have been paid, Mr. Speaker. But going forward, IPAC has done some great work and they have had clean audits ever since.

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

Mr. Wotherspoon: — Mr. Speaker, the minister references the very deal with CVI, the IPAC affair. But she didn't reference, as the question related, to the hundreds of thousands of dollars doled out by that government after they knew of the concerns as it related to these contractors. And the language couldn't be more clear and condemning. Those contractors, in the very report back to this government . . . This is CVI of course, Mr. Speaker, that was funded with taxpayers' dollars by that

government back in 2008, Mr. Speaker; ClimbIT with its direct relationship.

But the dollars didn't just stop there, Mr. Speaker. One of the key players in the noted conflict of interest from CVI in the IPAC affair went over to the PTRC [Petroleum Technology Research Centre] and did the exact same thing in 2011, with the Sask Party shipping over another 250,000 bucks of taxpayers' dollars back to the same players in the same companies. How, with all the allegations of waste, with the years of battling with these companies, the same ones started by that very government, would that government dole out ...

The Speaker: — Will the member please place his question.

Mr. Wotherspoon: — With all of those circumstances, why would that government continue to dole out more money? And why won't that the government finally come clean in its IPAC affair, lay the information on the table, and clean up its mess?

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

Hon. Mr. McMillan: — Mr. Speaker, it seems that every time the member opposite gets on his feet to ask a question, we have to separate the wheat from the chaff before we get down to the question, Mr. Speaker.

As we've laid out several times, Mr. Speaker, CVI was a company, Mr. Speaker. It's a private sector company. It is not a company related to the Government of Saskatchewan, Mr. Speaker. We, as the government, supported the university in their attempts to commercialize their research, Mr. Speaker. They did a report. They moved forward with it. It is not related to us, Mr. Speaker.

As far as the member's further assertion about PTRC, Mr. Speaker, we are a funder of the PTRC. We have one member on the board, Mr. Speaker. It's a private . . . It's a non-profit that was established in 1999, Mr. Speaker. We expect that all funding that we put through the PTRC, Mr. Speaker, is handled with the responsibility that we would expect of any tax dollars we give to any organization, Mr. Speaker. And we ensure that that is in fact the case. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Nilson: — Mr. Speaker, I'd like to raise a point of order.

The Speaker: — Would the member please state his point of order.

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. Nilson: — Yes, Mr. Speaker. In the recent question period exchange, the Premier stated that the Leader of the Opposition intentionally misled the House, and I would ask the Premier to stand up and apologize for that statement. Thank you.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Government House Leader.

Hon. Mr. Harrison: — Mr. Speaker, I believe if you review the *Hansard* transcript, the Premier made no such comment as

indicated by the Deputy Opposition House Leader.

The Speaker: — I will take the point of order under advisement and review *Hansard* for a determination tomorrow.

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The Speaker: — I recognize the chairman of Human Services Committee.

Standing Committee on Human Services

Mr. Kirsch: — Mr. Speaker, I'm instructed by the Standing Committee on Human Services to report Bill No. 70, *The Education Amendment Act, 2012 (No. 2)* without amendments.

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

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

The Speaker: — The Minister of Education has requested leave to waive consideration of Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 70, *The Education Amendment Act, 2012 (No. 2)* and that the bill be now read the third time. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — The minister may proceed.

THIRD READINGS

Bill No. 70 — The Education Amendment Act, 2012 (No. 2) Loi nº 2 de 2012 modifiant la Loi de 1995 sur l'éducation

Hon. Mr. Marchuk: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that this bill be now read the third time and passed under its title.

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Minister of Education that Bill No. 70, *The Education Amendment Act, 2012 (No. 2)* be now read the third time and passed under its title. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

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

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The Speaker: — I recognize the chairman of Human Services

Committee.

Standing Committee on Human Services

Mr. Kirsch: — Mr. Speaker, I am instructed by the Standing Committee on Human Services to report Bill No. 58, *The Workers' Compensation Act, 2012* with amendments.

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

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

The Speaker: — The Minister of Education has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 58, *The Workers' Compensation Act, 2012* and that the bill and its amendments be now read the third time. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — When shall the amendments be read the first time? I recognize the minister.

FIRST AND SECOND READINGS OF AMENDMENTS

Bill No. 58 — The Workers' Compensation Act, 2012

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

The Speaker: — It is moved by the Minister of Advanced Education that the amendments be now read a first and second time. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

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

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

THIRD READINGS

Bill No. 58 — The Workers' Compensation Act, 2012

Hon. Mr. Morgan: — Mr. Speaker, I move the bill be now read the third time and passed under its title.

The Speaker: — The minister has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole ... [inaudible interjection] ... Third reading of this bill. Is the Assembly ready for the question on third reading? Is the Assembly in agreement with the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

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

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The Speaker: — I recognize the chairman of the Crown and Central Agencies Committee.

Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies

Mr. Brkich: — I am instructed by the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies to report Bill No. 46, *The Municipal Employees' Pension Amendment Act, 2012* without amendment.

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

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

The Speaker: — The Minister of Finance has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 46, *The Municipal Employees' Pension Amendment Act, 2012* and that the bill now be read the third time. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — The minister may proceed.

THIRD READINGS

Bill No. 46 — The Municipal Employees' Pension Amendment Act, 2012

Hon. Mr. Krawetz: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that this bill be now read the third time and passed under its title.

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Minister of Finance that Bill No. 46, *The Municipal Employees' Pension Amendment Act, 2012* be now read the third time and passed under its title. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

Law Clerk and Parliamentary Counsel: — Third reading of the bill.

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The Speaker: — I recognize the chairman of the Crown and

Central Agencies Committee.

Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies

Mr. Brkich: — I am instructed by the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies to report Bill No. 82, *The Saskatchewan Pension Plan Amendment Act, 2012* without amendment.

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

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

The Speaker: — The Minister of Finance has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 82, *The Saskatchewan Pension Plan Amendment Act, 2012* and that the bill now be read the third time. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — The minister may proceed.

THIRD READINGS

Bill No. 82 — The Saskatchewan Pension Plan Amendment Act, 2012

Hon. Mr. Krawetz: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that this bill be now read the third time and passed under its title.

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Minister of Finance that Bill No. 82, *The Saskatchewan Pension Plan Amendment Act, 2012* be now read the third time and passed under its title. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

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

[14:30]

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The Speaker: — I recognize the chairman of the Crown and Central Agencies Committee.

Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies

Mr. Brkich: — I am instructed by the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies to report Bill No. 91, *The* Saskatchewan Pension Plan Amendment Act, 2013 (No. 2) without amendment.

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

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

The Speaker: — The Minister of Finance has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 91, *The Saskatchewan Pension Plan Amendment Act, 2013 (No. 2)* and that the bill now be read the third time. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — I recognize the minister.

THIRD READINGS

Bill No. 91 — The Saskatchewan Pension Plan Amendment Act, 2013 (No. 2)

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

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Minister of Finance that Bill No. 91, *The Saskatchewan Pension Plan Amendment Act, 2013 (No. 2)* be now read the third time and passed under its title. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

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

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The Speaker: — I recognize the chairman of the Crown and Central Agencies Committee.

Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies

Mr. Brkich: — I am instructed by the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies to report Bill No. 94, *The Tobacco Tax Amendment Act, 2013* without amendment.

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

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

The Speaker: — The Minister of Finance has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 94, *The Tobacco Tax Amendment Act, 2013* and that the bill be now read the third time. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — I recognize the minister.

THIRD READINGS

Bill No. 94 — The Tobacco Tax Amendment Act, 2013

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

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Minister of Finance that Bill No. 94, *The Tobacco Tax Amendment Act, 2013* be now read the third time and passed under its title. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

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

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I request leave to make a personal statement.

The Speaker: — The Premier has requested leave to make a personal statement. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

STATEMENT BY A MEMBER

Apology

Hon. Mr. Wall: — Mr. Speaker, I don't recall the exact words I used in question period when we were discussing the issue of some of the comments made by the Leader of the Opposition on St. Paul's Hospital. However, I say this unequivocally: if inappropriate language was used, deliberately or knowingly being two options, I withdraw those and apologize.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Government House Leader.

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

The Speaker: — The Government House Leader has moved

that the House do now adjourn. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — This House stands adjourned to 10 a.m. Thursday.

[The Assembly adjourned at 14:33.]

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