



SECOND SESSION - TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

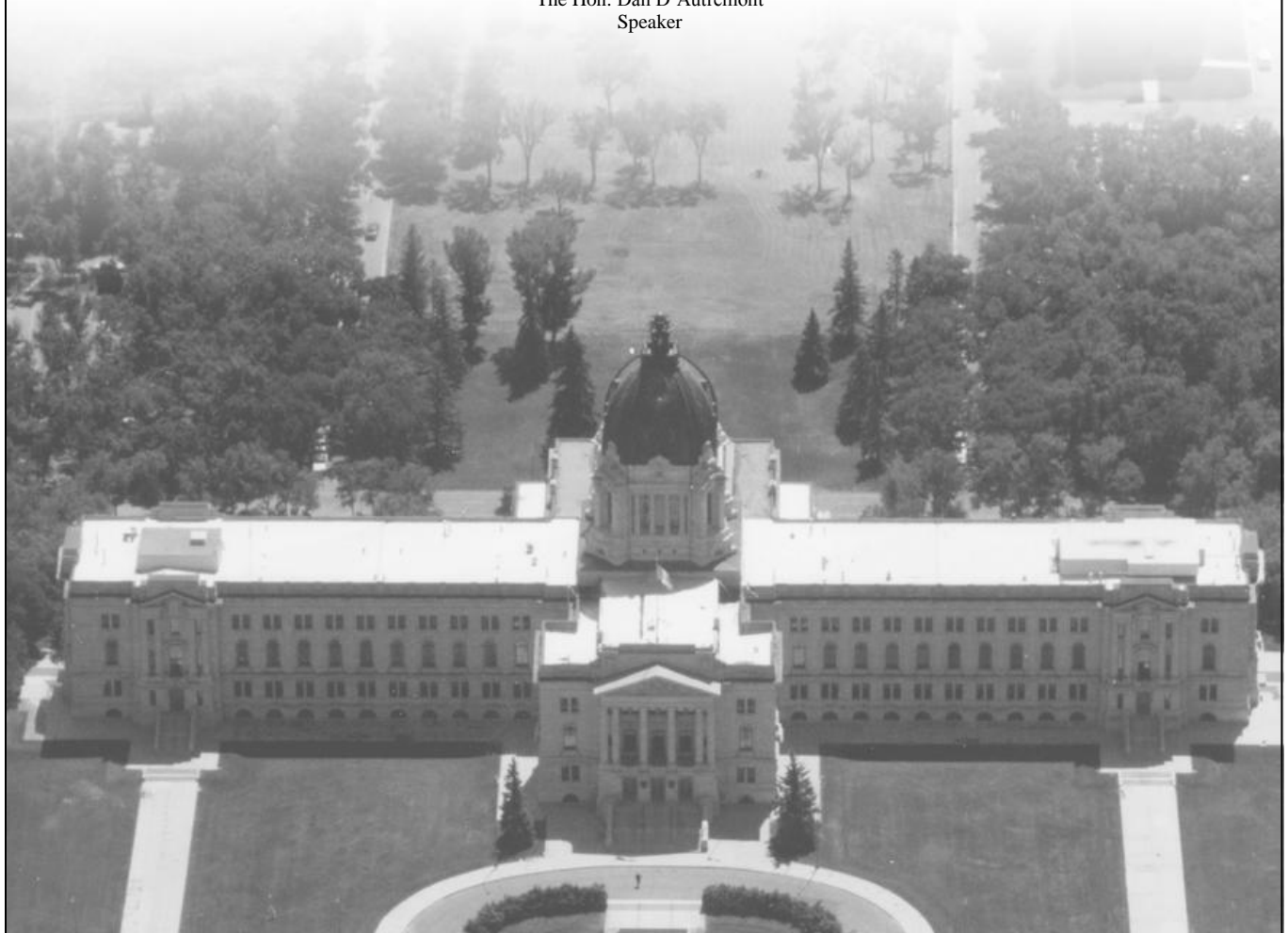
of the

Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

**DEBATES
and
PROCEEDINGS**

(HANSARD)

Published under the
authority of
The Hon. Dan D'Autremont
Speaker



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
Wotherspoon, Trent	NDP	Regina Rosemont
Wyant, Hon. Gordon	SP	Saskatoon Northwest

[The Assembly met at 10:00.]

[Prayers]

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Cut Knife-Turtleford.

Mr. Doke: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you in the west gallery, I'd like to introduce two very special people in my life. The first one is my best friend, my wife, Valerie. Valerie is my number one supporter in everything I do, which is very much appreciated.

Along with her today is one of our five grandchildren, Sienna Doke-Poitras. As you can see, she's there. She's not very shy. She lives 10 miles north of North Battleford, attends kindergarten in North Battleford at Holy Family School. And she's had a couple of special days. Yesterday was her first trip on an STC [Saskatchewan Transportation Company] bus. She came from North Battleford to here and really enjoyed that. And today she wanted to come to the castle where grandpa works at, so she's here. So I would like everybody to welcome them to their Assembly.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Cypress Hills.

Hon. Mr. Elhard: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. One of the features of the Cypress Hills constituency is that we are home to I think its about 20 Hutterite colonies. We have quite a number of them spread throughout the constituency, and some of them are very faithful followers of the political activities in this province.

One of them is represented by Phil Entz from the Abbey Colony who is in our west gallery today. If he isn't here, it doesn't mean that he doesn't know what's going on. He's a very astute follower of the political affairs of the province. And he has a colleague with him who, unfortunately because of my age, I can't recall his name right now. But we'd like to welcome both of these gentlemen to their Legislative Assembly today.

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

Mr. Wotherspoon: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to join with the member opposite in welcoming Philip Entz from the Abbey Colony here today. Philip's somebody that I've gotten to know over the past few years as well, as coming and going from this legislature and somebody who cares about the affairs of this province. And I'd certainly welcome John here as well today from the colony near Assiniboia. So I join with the member opposite and welcome these two fine individuals to their Assembly here today.

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

Ms. Wilson: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you I would like to introduce Paula Steckler, my intern. She's

from Saskatoon, majoring in political studies, and she also works with the Women in the Legislature program. She was co-founder of that program. She's been helping me, and I think she'll be very valuable to the province. So I wish her all the best in her endeavours. And I ask all members, please welcome Paula in the Speaker's gallery to her Legislative Assembly.

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

Ms. Campeau: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, to you and through you I'd like to introduce my intern, Jenna Urban from Regina who's working towards a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science and a certificate in international affairs and diplomacy from the University of Regina. And she'll be assisting me within the next few months on a few of my duties and will be travelling with me to some of our consultations. And in the short time she's been with me, we've discovered a mutual love of musicals, which is great. I'm sure that we can get some show tunes on, you know, the radio when we're travelling. And, Jenna, welcome to your legislature.

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

Mr. Docherty: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you to the rest of the Assembly, I'd like to welcome a group of 18 grade 7 and 8 students from Imperial Community School in the west gallery. Give us a wave. They're not too shy. Excellent.

Accompanying them today is teacher Jane Brundige and Gabrielle Uhrich-Chappell. Give us a wave again. I had the opportunity on this past week, on Tuesday, to spend some time in their classroom, and they're certainly a very bright group. And I look forward to offering them some very awesome juice boxes a little later.

An Hon. Member: — No Blizzards?

Mr. Docherty: — No Blizzards. Sorry, no Blizzards. But I'll look forward to having a discussion a little later here. And I'd like all members to help me welcome the group from Imperial School to their Legislative Assembly.

The Speaker: — I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce to you the staff of the visitor services, seated in the Speaker's gallery. With us today we have Troy Smith, Daniel Fortier, Allyssa Bradel, Marie Digney, Emilie Chan, Francois Hawkins, Kristene Douard, Penny Forrest, Ted Forrest, Edith Seiferling, and Gabe Seiferling. In addition we have Kelly Liberet, Arnold McKenzie who is celebrating his sixth decade today — so happy 60th, Arnold; he can now safely be referred to as our senior information officer — Marianne Morgan, and Lorraine deMontigny. Please welcome them to the Saskatchewan Legislative Assembly.

PRESENTING PETITIONS

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Athabasca.

Mr. Belanger: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I'm very

pleased and honoured to present a number of petitions here today since it's our last day of the session. And these petitions, Mr. Speaker, I have presented petitions for a number of communities in reference to cellphone coverage for northwestern Saskatchewan. And people that have signed the petition are from all throughout Saskatchewan and are in full support of the expansion of cellphone coverage for northwest Saskatchewan. And the petition that I'm presenting today, Mr. Speaker, deals with the Dore Lake area. The people that have signed this particular petition are from Dore Lake, Big Island, and Beaupré Creek. And the prayer reads as follows, Mr. Speaker:

To undertake, as soon as possible, to ensure SaskTel delivers cell service to the northern hamlet of Dore Lake, which is located in northwestern Saskatchewan.

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 care of our seniors here in the province:

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 very much, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to present a petition calling for reasonable funding so all Saskatchewan students can do well. And we know classes in Saskatchewan schools are growing so fast and many classes have well over 30 students in them, and many classes are now being taught in hallways and boot rooms. And in a time of economic boom, it's only common sense that schools receive appropriate funding so that all students, including First Nations and Métis students, can achieve their full potential. The Government of Saskatchewan has chronically underfunded student support and their agenda must change to reflect the real priorities of Saskatchewan classrooms today. 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 to immediately increase financial support for all Saskatchewan students, including resources to limit class sizes, provide resources for students with special needs, to support English as an additional language, and to provide more support for Aboriginal education.

I do so present. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Sproule: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm honoured to rise to present a petition to the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan on behalf of a few hundred people here. This is a petition regarding the Saskatchewan wildfire management policy, and it reads: the Saskatchewan Party campaigned aggressively in 2007 to change the let-it-burn policy here in Saskatchewan. The government has only made minimal changes for the upcoming fire season. The Sask Party government has reduced the five-person crews, changed firefighter testing requirements over the years, and eroded the capacity of fire crews. So I would like to now read the petition:

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 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.

As in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

And this is signed by, as I said, several hundred citizens of Saskatchewan. I so present.

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

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

Protecting At-Risk Bird Species

Ms. Sproule: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Spring is here, and one of the hallmark signs of spring for me when I was young was the call of the meadowlark. Sadly that call is being heard less and less as their populations decline. Protecting this bird species as well as many others now at risk is so important, and people are taking notice.

For example in late June, acclaimed author and conservationist, Margaret Atwood, is going to visit our community pastures in the company of international conservation advocates. Ms. Atwood said:

The ecological value of these large tracts of unbroken prairie is internationally recognized. We have heard that 16 at-risk bird species on Saskatchewan's most critical grasslands may be losing their legislative protection and conservation management. That concerns us, as it should concern all Canadians.

Ms. Atwood added that Saskatchewan's prairie landscapes and rich bird life is a secret too well-kept:

This is a chance to help celebrate Saskatchewan's grasslands as a destination, so we will be using social and conventional media to highlight the beauty of Canada's

publicly owned and managed grasslands.

Ms. Atwood has extended invitations to Premier Brad Wall, Saskatchewan Environment minister Ken Cheveldayoff, and Agriculture minister Lyle Stewart to discuss protecting the species at risk on these public grasslands. I'm sure these three members of cabinet will make room in their schedules for this important visit and take the time to explore the beauty of these grasslands and learn more about these birds at risk. Mr. Speaker, have you heard a meadowlark lately?

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Regina Qu'Appelle Valley.

Lakewood Manor Housing Co-operative

Ms. Ross: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday I, along with the Minister Responsible for Sask Housing, had the pleasure of attending the 25th anniversary reception of the Lakewood Manor Housing Co-op, located in my constituency of Regina Qu'Appelle Valley. I would like to take the time to thank the minister for accompanying me to this wonderful event.

Lakewood Manor is an attractive place and a very active place. There's always something to do, Mr. Speaker, from enjoying coffee with your neighbours to a competitive game of shuffleboard, dominoes, or cards. The members of this housing co-op are the kind of people that greet you with a smile, are quick to lend a hand, and strive to make sure that all new residents have a feeling of belonging.

Mr. Speaker, we value our senior citizens and the contributions they have made to building this fine province. Our government is working to ensure the benefits of growth are being used to make life better for everyone in Saskatchewan. We cannot do this alone, Mr. Speaker. This is why it is important to recognize places such as Lakewood Manor that strive to create a better quality of life for all of its members.

Mr. Speaker, I would like all members of this Assembly to join me in recognizing Lakewood Manor for its incredible 25 years and wish them many more years. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

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

Norwegian Constitution Day

Mr. Nilson: — [The hon. member spoke for a time in Norwegian.]

Tomorrow is Norwegian Constitution Day, and there are many people right across Saskatchewan who will be celebrating this constitution.

Saskatchewan is the province that has the most Norwegian descendants of any province in Canada. There will be events in a number of places across the province, including Regina and Saskatoon, Birch Hills, Outlook, North Battleford, Frontier, and Prince Albert I think maybe even, and probably, Moose Jaw. But, Mr. Speaker, all of these people are very proud of their heritage. They're very proud of the traditions that they bring to

this province, and so this is one time a year when all Norwegian descendants can participate.

[10:15]

And so tomorrow I would ask that all of us here in the legislature celebrate Norwegian Constitution Day along with the members from Saskatoon Massey Place, Melville-Saltcoats, Regina Wascana Plains, Saskatchewan Rivers, Rosthern-Shellbrook, and Regina Northeast. So thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

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

Saskatoon Hosts Memorial Cup Tournament

Mr. Merriman: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I'm happy to rise in the Assembly today to recognize Memorial Cup week. The Canadian Hockey League championship, the MasterCard Memorial Cup, begins tomorrow in Saskatoon and runs until May 26th. This 10-day event will include a community-wide celebration showcasing alumni, concerts, and the CHL [Canadian Hockey League] awards.

Originally donated by the Ontario Hockey Association in 1919, the Memorial Cup trophy was dedicated to the memories of the Canadian soldiers killed in World War I. The trophy has since been rededicated to honour all of Canadians' fallen military personnel.

Mr. Speaker, I'm thrilled that this event is being held in Saskatoon this year, and I know that Saskatchewan's fastest growing city — and best city — will be a great host. The hometown Saskatoon Blades have hosted the . . . Okay. The Saskatoon hometown Blades last hosted the Memorial Cup in 1989.

I'd like to give a special thanks to everyone who has helped bring the Memorial Cup to the city of Saskatoon and to this great province, and the army of volunteers who will help pull off this event.

The first game will be tomorrow at 7 o'clock where our well-rested Saskatoon Blades will battle the London Knights. Mr. Speaker, I'd like all members to join me in recognizing this great event in Saskatoon and thanking all those involved in the Memorial Master Cup. Thank you. Go Blades go!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Moosomin.

Cadet Program Produces Well-Rounded Citizens

Mr. Toth: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased to rise in this Assembly today to talk about the Canadian cadet program and the positive influence it has on our youth. This program is quite active throughout my constituency, with programs in a number of my communities. We have Royal Canadian Air Cadet squadrons in Moosomin and Carlyle as well as cadet programs in Montmartre and on the Kahkewistahaw First Nation.

The cadet program, which is sponsored by the federal

government, includes Royal Canadian sea, army, and air cadets. It is a national program for young Canadians aged 12 to 18 who are interested in participating in a variety of challenging and rewarding activities while learning about the sea, army, and air activities of the Canadian Forces.

Cadets are encouraged to become active, responsible members of their communities. Cadets also learn valuable life and work skills such as teamwork, leadership, and citizenship. Not only does the cadet program have a positive influence on young individuals, it also has a direct impact on Canadian society as a whole. Mr. Speaker, there is a definite value in having well-rounded, community-minded, experienced young people who are ready to assume their places as tomorrow's leaders and decision makers.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in recognizing the importance and value of the cadet program. And we want to thank the many volunteers that dedicate their time, ensuring this program is available for the young people across our province.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Community Leader Recognized by Rural Municipal Administrators

Hon. Mr. McMorris: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today to congratulate a constituent of mine, Donna Strudwick, for being awarded the 2013 Lou Jacobs Award recipient last night at the Rural Municipal Administrators' Association of Saskatchewan's 93rd annual convention. The Lou Jacobs Award recognizes outstanding service to rural Saskatchewan, and that certainly describes Donna's career.

Donna was raised in Edenwold, later moved to Balgonie, and in 1982 Donna began her municipal career as a part-time secretary for the RM [rural municipality] of Edenwold, working her way up to becoming the administrator in 1988. During her time as administrator, she also served as director of division 2 of the Rural Administrators' Association from 2001 until her retirement in 2007.

Donna has given countless hours of her time to volunteer work for several groups, including being the chairperson of the Western Canadian Farm Progress Show, director of the Centre of the Arts in Regina, and working with the Balgonie rink board which oversaw the construction of a new rink. Among those publicly honouring Donna last night were the Minister of Government Relations and the president of SARM, Dave Marit.

Mr. Speaker, I can tell you that Donna is instrumental in her community and her family. She has been successful in everything she does. Shortly after her retirement in 2007, she took on the job as campaign manager and even got me elected, Mr. Speaker.

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

Genuine Debate and Real Scrutiny

Mr. Hickie: — Mr. Speaker, how should I begin?

Some Hon. Members: — Well, well, well.

Mr. Hickie: — During his leadership campaign, the current Leader of the Opposition stated, and I quote: "Genuine debate and real scrutiny are far too often lacking at the legislature." Mr. Speaker, when it comes to the members opposite, we couldn't agree more.

Instead of genuine debate and real scrutiny, the Leader of the Opposition chooses to have half-truths and misrepresentations. First, he claimed that there was 47 patients stranded in the hallways of St. Paul's Hospital. Wrong, Mr. Speaker. Next, the member from Nutana stated that we were privatizing fish hatcheries. Wrong, Mr. Speaker. Not to be outdone, the member from Athabasca, a former Highways minister, claimed that 90 front-line workers had been fired. Wrong again, Mr. Speaker. Then the leader's Environment critic, the member from Nutana, couldn't get a single fact straight in regards to the automation of fire towers.

And yesterday the Leader of the Opposition claimed that 65 per cent of new jobs created were held by temporary foreign workers according to the Canadian Labour Congress — wrong. Statistics Canada, who the NDP [New Democratic Party] leader says is his preferred source for numbers, says that temporary foreign workers cannot accurately be traced by the labour force survey the CLC [Canadian Labour Congress] is using as its source.

The Leader of the Opposition has had many opportunities to elevate the level of debate in this legislature. Unfortunately what we saw is more of the same old NDP. Just like Dwain Lingenfelter, the new Leader of the Opposition says one thing but does another.

QUESTION PERIOD

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

Health Care for Seniors

Mr. Broten: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday the Minister of Health said that the current minimum standard in Saskatchewan seniors' care facilities is just one bath per week. But then he went on to say, "We know that sometimes that's not the case though. Sometimes it will be longer than a week, but that may depend in some cases on staffing."

Well, Mr. Speaker, that's exactly the point we've been making through this legislative session when it comes to the care for seniors here in the province. Our grandparents deserve better than what they have been receiving because of the short-staffing situations that have been created by the Sask Party government.

The government's response, Mr. Speaker, are CEO [chief executive officer] tours to tour the facilities. But by the minister's own quote, the minister's own remarks yesterday, we know what the problem is. We know that it's short-staffing that is causing situations where the level of care is not as high as it

needs to be.

My question to the Premier: when the economy is doing well, why won't he just mandate two baths per week for seniors? Why won't he address the issue of chronic understaffing in care facilities?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Duncan: — Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the member opposite for at least using part of the quote that I gave the media yesterday. Mr. Speaker, there are times, because of certain situations, where the one-bath-per-week policy may be extended beyond by a few days, Mr. Speaker. It does not mean though that a person will go two weeks without a bath, Mr. Speaker. It may mean eight days instead of seven, or nine days, Mr. Speaker.

But, Mr. Speaker, as well what the Leader of the Opposition may want to do before he brings up the case in Alberta and the example that Alberta has put in place with two baths, two baths according to Alberta policy actually means a combination of a stand-up shower, a bath, or a sponge bath, Mr. Speaker. So it doesn't exactly mean two baths per week, Mr. Speaker. As I've said, in this work we'll be looking at what other provinces are doing though. We're interested in Alberta, but we do know that this already does happen in many cases in Saskatchewan.

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

Mr. Broten: — Mr. Speaker, if the minister thinks it's acceptable for a senior who is confined to the bed to have a bath every nine days, I think the Sask Party's approach in seniors' care is increasingly out of touch with what Saskatchewan people and families expect for their loved ones.

We saw a report from CJME on April 24th, Mr. Speaker, and here's what it had to say:

Health Minister Dustin Duncan insists setting staffing standards is not something the government is currently considering. He says each health region gets a quarterly report on staffing from each care home and he doesn't see reason for alarm.

But then we have a reference yesterday, Mr. Speaker, where the minister clearly says that baths are not occurring because of short-staffing. In question period today we have the minister's own admission that it takes, in some situations, nine days for a senior to get a bath, yet this is not cause for alarm. My question to the Premier: does he stand by the remarks that the Health Minister has made that the care for seniors in this province is not alarming in many situations?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Duncan: — Mr. Speaker, let's make sure that we're clearly talking about the same issue, Mr. Speaker, whether or not we're talking about a senior in residence, Mr. Speaker, that is placed within the bathtub, Mr. Speaker, which does happen typically once a week, Mr. Speaker. But there may be issues, perhaps because of infections and other cases, where they cannot actually be placed in water in a bathtub, but they will be

sponge bathed, Mr. Speaker. That in fact happens very often within health care facilities, Mr. Speaker, within our long-term care facilities, Mr. Speaker, where they may have a bath once a week. But, Mr. Speaker, the staff do what they can in a caring fashion to make sure that residents are clean, Mr. Speaker, whether that be through a bath or a sponge bath, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I, through whether it be family members of mine that have been in long-term care, Mr. Speaker, or family members that do today work in long-term care facilities, Mr. Speaker, I myself take this issue very seriously, Mr. Speaker. And that's why I'm looking forward to the work of the CEOs over the coming months.

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

Labour Legislation

Mr. Broten: — Mr. Speaker, we know that short-staffing is causing problems for seniors' care here in the province. That's what individuals like Carrie Klassen have told us when they've come to the legislature.

Throughout the session, Mr. Speaker, we have in many instances stood up and we've spoken out on issues where the government is off-track, when they're headed in the wrong direction. And seniors' care is one example of that, but we've also been constructive in our approach, Mr. Speaker, seeking ways to better the future, to better the situation for Saskatchewan people.

And one example of that is the work that we've been able to do on Howard's law. And though the Sask Party initially rejected and was not willing to support this legislation, I'm pleased that they came around to supporting it. And I do thank the Premier and I thank the government members for their support on that.

I wish, however, that we would see that same co-operative approach on Howard's law with respect to Bill 85 and the labour legislation that we've seen. We, as an opposition, Mr. Speaker, have offered to be constructive. We have extended an olive branch in actually working with the Sask Party to fix many of the deficiencies in the legislation and to allow the proper consultation with Saskatchewan people to occur. The government has rejected that offer, and now we look at the regulations.

My question to the Premier: how will the Premier ensure that the appropriate consultation occurs with the regulations with respect to 85, especially with the underutilization of the minister's advisory committee?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — Well, Mr. Speaker, at least today the Leader of the Opposition obviously feels very strongly about Bill 85. It's more than passing strange that they didn't even take the full 20 hours to debate it, Mr. Speaker. They didn't even take the full . . . In fact, Mr. Speaker, we know that the union leaders were ready to come to the legislature to protest Bill 85, but what they didn't know was that the NDP had already voted it off together with the government.

Mr. Speaker, and what else is important here, Mr. Speaker, is that they voted it off on a voice vote. I've talked to veteran members of this House. They have never seen an opposition in this legislature not require a standing vote or at least a division, Mr. Speaker, especially on issues that are important to them.

Mr. Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition has some explaining to do to the Meili camp, to union leaders, as to exactly why he didn't fight for his position on Bill 85. Maybe it's because, Mr. Speaker, the Labour critic, when asked by the media, couldn't find anything wrong with it.

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

Gay-Straight Alliances and Combatting Bullying

Mr. Broten: — Mr. Speaker, the Premier seems very concerned with process today as we talk about Bill 85. Everyone knows in the province that we have been fighting for a better way forward for Bill 85. We've been fighting for better transparency and for Saskatchewan workers.

Mr. Speaker, we've also been constructive coming forward on the areas of diversity, equality, and human rights. And it's for that reason, Mr. Speaker, after I was appointed leader that I appointed the member from Saskatoon Centre as our critic in this important area. And I also brought forward a suggestion to the government that they post some information on their ministry website about the benefits of gay-straight alliances in our schools and how this can serve to protect students and ensure that we have a healthy learning environment for everyone.

And I hate the thought, Mr. Speaker, of a student who wakes up in the morning and is fearful to go to school because they are gay. That is simply not acceptable in Saskatchewan, and we all have a responsibility to ensure all students are safe. Although the Premier initially rejected the idea of putting it on the website, I am pleased that it is now on the website because this is simply the right thing to do.

But I'm concerned about the Premier's initial reaction when this was raised in the Assembly because he sought to exploit the divisions in the province, as opposed to considering the safety of all students. And I'm hugely concerned about the message that that sends to LGBT [lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender] youth here in the province, especially those that are being bullied, especially those who are out in their schools.

So my question to the Premier: having taken that initial approach that's one of division, as opposed to safety for students, how does he intend to heal the divisions that he sought to exploit in his initial response?

[10:30]

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — Mr. Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition's preamble spoke to the fervour with which they fought Bill 85. I think the question he just asked prior to this one, I think that was the first question he's actually stood to ask in this legislature on behalf of those union leaders, on behalf of the

Meili camp, Mr. Speaker, the very first question other than estimates. He has a labour critic who, when asked by the media what's wrong with Bill 85, couldn't actually point to anything in particular. Not a recorded division, Mr. Speaker, not a standing vote.

Mr. Speaker, with respect to the issue on gay-straight alliances and information available, the change has been made on the website, and that notwithstanding, Mr. Speaker, we're going to work with Nova Scotia on cyberbullying. We have a Legislative Secretary appointed, and the member for Saskatoon Fairview is going to canvass all of the issues because bullying goes beyond the issue that has been raised in terms of LGBT issues. Mr. Speaker, the gay-straight alliance information is now available on the website of the Ministry of Education but, Mr. Speaker, we're going to go beyond that to fight bullying in Saskatchewan.

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

Funding for Education

Mr. Broten: — Mr. Speaker, I don't find that answer as encouraging, especially to the youth who are concerned about the divisive approach that the Premier took. In Premier's estimates when we brought this issue up, there was talk of uranium development. Today when I bring this up, he talks about Bill 85. There is a reluctance to address this issue head on and actually address the issue of what to do with the division.

We want a healthy province, Mr. Speaker, for our children. We want a brighter future for our children. That's what each of us wants as parents, as grandparents. That's certainly what I want for my girls and for our community. In order to do that, we need a long term. We need a strategic and a smart growth plan when it comes to education in the province. But the consensus in the province when it comes to education, especially in the last budget, is that the Sask Party government is falling well short in the area of education.

In response to the budget, the STF [Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation] said it was "much ado about nothing." In response to the budget, the SSBA [Saskatchewan School Boards Association] said, "The provincial budget fails to recognize education's role in continued prosperity." And we think of the situation in The Battlefords, Mr. Speaker, where the students were forced to learn in their coats because of the budget constraints and the pressures that the division had.

My question to the Premier: when the economy is doing well, how on earth is it acceptable to have these situations here in the province?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — Mr. Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition is frustrated when I address points of his preamble. Mr. Speaker, that's actually part of debate in the House, and so we invite him then, if he doesn't want to address those particular issues, he should perhaps not reference them in his preamble. But he's free to do it because we're happy to discuss any of these issues, especially education funding, Mr. Speaker, where again when we took office in 2007, we found a huge deficit in

education capital funding in this province, a massive deficit.

We found schools who hadn't, frankly, received the renovations required that we have now worked to improve. And we have issues to deal with here in Regina and across the province. We've seen \$600 million in additional capital for education, year-over-year increases on the operating side. And when there are growth pressures, as we know there are in Saskatoon, this government took the unprecedented step of actually in the middle of a school year, just after September, advancing another \$6 million to those pressure points.

Mr. Speaker, the best indicator of past behaviour is future behaviour. We say to the divisions, if there are growth pressures, this government will be there. And more importantly, Mr. Speaker, there are growth pressures in Saskatchewan today that we must deal with because we have more people, because we have a growing economy. And that's also something that is a little bit strange for members opposite to contemplate, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Broten: — Mr. Speaker, we've also seen the Sask Party's short-sighted approach when it comes to education here in our capital city. And we think of the situation at Sacred Heart School. We think of Elder Mike Pinay coming to the Legislative Assembly and stating how important it is to have a safe, a functioning school gym for the students in that school, students who are mostly First Nations and Métis in a core neighbourhood here in Regina.

My question to the Premier: how is it when the economy is going well that the Sask Party government can't fix the gym at Sacred Heart School?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — Mr. Speaker, again it's pretty important to point out the record of the government with respect to investing in school capital here in the capital city. In fact when we moved with respect to the Arcola School in the Regina Public School Division, I can inform the House that that was the first capital project in this city, the first major capital project in the capital city in 10 years. Mr. Speaker, that's why the Leader of the Opposition lacks credibility, at least from the standpoint of the record of the party that he represents.

But we do seem to have a new leader, but that's very much, Mr. Speaker, the same old NDP, who like to talk about the issues, who are able to point out the problem, but when they had the chance for a very, very, long time, over a decade and a half, they let the school system down. They let it down in operating. They let it down in capital to the point where now we have major issues in infrastructure that we will deal with. The minister has said that challenge will be mitigated. But, Mr. Speaker, the problem is the deficit, the infrastructure deficit they left behind is so great that it's going to take longer than six years to replace it. It took 16 years to create it under members opposite.

We're going to get the job done, Mr. Speaker, as evidenced by record increases in school capital, new schools being built

across the province, and renovations taking place in the North and in the South, Mr. Speaker.

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

Testing Standards

Mr. Broten: — Mr. Speaker, we see the stubborn refusal of the Sask Party government to admit that they are falling short when it comes to education, when it comes to ensuring that our children have the best possible future in the province.

It's not just with facilities that we see the stubborn approach of the Sask Party government when it comes to education. We've also had extensive debate about their determination, their wrong-headed determination, to have standardized testing here in the province, here in Saskatchewan. Despite the vast majority of other jurisdictions in North America moving away from standardized testing, despite the fact that Alberta next door is moving away in many ways with their standardized testing, the minister time and time again has not been able to explain why they are determined to go down this path.

My question to the Premier: will he listen to the parents, will he listen to the educators, will he listen to the academics, will he listen to the students who are all saying that the standardized testing approach is not the right one; the right approach is to focus on teaching? Will he listen to those people today?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — Mr. Speaker, we've learned with the new Leader of the Opposition that, just like the old leaders of the opposition, you've got to check the facts. You do, especially with respect to the preamble. We had to check the facts on the Oregon fire tower situation. We've canvassed some of these. We had to check his facts on the Canadian Labour Congress numbers which Stats Canada says are all wrong. We had to check the facts when the member raised 47 people getting hallway medicine at St. Paul's. And now the hon. leader stands in his place and says Alberta is moving away from the thing that we're doing in the province.

Here's the facts, Mr. Speaker. Alberta was pursuing summative standards-based testing in Alberta. What they're doing now, what they're doing now is moving to formative standards-based testing. Formative standards-based testing is exactly where the province of Saskatchewan is. And moreover, Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Leader of the Opposition will explain to Chinook School Division why the balanced literacy program that has now seen an increase in grade level reading by 20 per cent of our students is the wrong approach. They think it's the right approach. So do we.

Will the Leader of the Opposition at least acknowledge the fact that this kind of standards-based testing, which Alberta's moving to, is the right thing to do, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Broten: — Mr. Speaker, from the teachers.ab.ca. website, the title reads, "Teachers herald end of provincial achievement tests," Mr. Speaker. It's not . . . We would think of standardized

testing; they've had so many opportunities to explain why this is the best approach, why this is a good approach, why this approach has merit. The minister has failed on so many occasions on doing this. Even when they bring out the academic references, Mr. Speaker, they can't seem to have the right ammunition that they need to show that this is the smart approach.

Of the 11 academic references cited by the Minister of Education, and supposed evidence in favour of this approach, they were not relevant to the issue of standardized testing. There was one in the general realm by Phelps about teaching to standards, Mr. Speaker, but that was about prescribed learning outcomes, not about the merits of standardized testing. You would think that the Minister of Education and the rest of the front bench would be able to get some evidence if they think this is the best way forward.

My question to the Premier: will he listen to the teachers, to the parents, to the students who want the \$6 million that he's spending on a computer system for standardized testing put into the classroom to benefit students today?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — Mr. Speaker, I'll try, with great hope in my heart, I'll try again with the Leader of the Opposition. Alberta, and he should check this, now — he can make a phone call; he hasn't made enough phone calls this session, I don't think, to check his facts — should check with Alberta and find out what they're doing and find out if they're not moving to the same approach to standards-based testing.

The Leader of the Opposition says, well the government never makes the case. And then each time we do make the case with specific examples, whether it's in the Regina Public Division, whether it's in the Chinook School Division, whether it's in Melfort, they ignore it and carry on with their questions, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, here's what we want. We want what they have done in Chinook School Division, where they've taken standards-based testing and something called the balanced literacy program — supported by teachers now; supported and, frankly, defended today by teachers — and seen grade level reading increase by 20 per cent. That's what we want for the province. What we want for the province is to export what they've done in Melfort with standards-based testing, something the teachers there support. We want what's working there for the rest of the province.

We want early years evaluation, which is at work here in Regina already. It's working, Mr. Speaker. It's supported by teachers, and we see grade level improvements, student achievement improvements. Why in the world would the Leader of the Opposition be against that?

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

First Nations and Métis Employment and Education

Mr. Broten: — Mr. Speaker, I would encourage the Premier, after question period, go to the Education minister, ask to sit

down at a chair at the back there, and ask to see the 11 academic references, the articles about standardized testing. Ask to see the evidence, and see that the evidence is not there to support that this is the right approach.

Mr. Speaker, over the last 24 months, whenever we've raised the issue of First Nations and Métis employment and education, what the Premier has proudly talked about is the work of the task force that they created. On many occasions, members on those benches have talked about the importance of the task force and the good, the qualified individuals that are serving on it. And, Mr. Speaker, I would say that it is important work, and I would say that those individuals are indeed very qualified and have a lot to share.

But last week we learned, Mr. Speaker, that the Premier will be ignoring at least one of the key recommendations from that task force, and that is the recommendation to provide interim funding to provincial school divisions to reduce tuition costs charged to First Nations educational authorities. By the Premier's own remarks in Premier's estimates, this would be a cost of \$3.4 million. But in his remarks, Mr. Speaker, there's been uncertainty as to whether or not the Premier actually understands the detail and what recommendation no. 4 means.

So my question to the Premier: is he confused about the detail of this recommendation? Why is he rejecting it? And how many other recommendations from the task force does he plan to simply ignore?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — Mr. Speaker, again I encourage the hon. member in his questions, but there's nothing to get angry about, Mr. Speaker. It's a debate we had in estimates. We've had it through all the questions periods and now, Mr. Speaker, we're having the same debate again.

Mr. Speaker, I'll take the Leader of the Opposition's invitation to sit down with the Minister of Education if he will also sit down at the back of the room with Google to make sure that his facts are right before he stands in the legislature and presents them as the gospel, Mr. Speaker.

We take the issue of the gap in terms of First Nations employment very seriously in the province. We take the gap with respect to First Nations education achievement very, very seriously in the province. It's referenced in the growth plan. That's why there's \$22 million in this year's budget. That's why there's \$3 million specifically for initiatives in the joint task force; \$4.3 million for First Nations- and Métis-specific initiatives in school divisions, so it's not just the 3 million; 500,000 for summer literacy camps; 500,000 for Community Literacy Fund; 600,000 in operating; and 1 million in capital for 15 new pre-K [pre-kindergarten] spaces targeted at the most vulnerable three- and four-year-olds in areas where we know First Nations and Métis will use them.

Mr. Speaker, and significantly since we took office, a 48 per cent increase in funding for the Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies, a partnership that has seen Aboriginal employment on the rise, a partnership that has seen Aboriginal engagement in the economy at levels certainly where they've

focused where they should be, Mr. Speaker. That's the record of the government.

We will be responding to the recommendations in JTF [joint task force], looking for ways to ensure that there's action, that there is that greater engagement, Mr. Speaker.

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

Reporting of Provincial Finances

Mr. Broten: — You know, Mr. Speaker, they put the words down on paper, but we see only \$3 million with the task force. When we see the Premier unwilling to say which other recommendations he will be ignoring, that is not reassuring to Saskatchewan people, especially when they say the task force is so important.

We've seen that same, similar dismissive approach on so many topics. It's the track record of this government in this session. One of the most glaring examples are the government's interactions with the Provincial Auditor, the independent Provincial Auditor. When the Provincial Auditor came out with the report saying that the government has it wrong in maintaining two sets of books, that they are hiding deficits, that they are masking the true amount of the debt, what do we have from the government? What do they say? Oh well, every other jurisdiction in the country has it wrong but we have it right.

[10:45]

And then we see their behaviour in committee, Mr. Speaker. We see the members of the government being confrontational, being disrespectful, and completely unacceptable behaviour with the Provincial Auditor. And the member from Moose Jaw is already heckling from his seat, just like he did in committee with the Provincial Auditor, Mr. Speaker.

I asked the Premier if he thought that behaviour was acceptable in estimates and he did not reply. Does the Premier condone the behaviour of his members?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Well, Mr. Speaker, we are practising a form of accounting that was practised by the NDP for many, many years, in fact supported by the NDP. There's cabinet ministers there across way, former cabinet ministers that were very comfortable with it.

And I think I know why they were comfortable with it, Mr. Speaker. It's because summary financial statements were presented at the end of that particular administration and they are presented now, Mr. Speaker. Both sets are there for the public to see. Both sets are there to be reviewed. The good news, Mr. Speaker, is that the budget is balanced in both the General Revenue Fund and it's balanced on the summary financial statement.

Mr. Speaker, we have a great deal of respect for the taxpayer — well for the Provincial Auditor, certainly — and especially for the taxpayers of this province who voted in the last election against a \$5 billion spending spree by Mr. Lingenfelter,

informed by the new Leader of the Opposition's tree booklet, Mr. Speaker. They voted against that \$5 billion spending spree because they want balanced budgets. We have respect, not only for the auditor, but for the taxpayers of the province of Saskatchewan.

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

Performance of Government

Mr. Broten: — Continued dismissive approach when it comes to the Provincial Auditor, just like we've seen on so many other fronts.

The worst example I think we saw of this dismissive approach, this disrespectful approach occurred when Jennifer Birns and Devon were here in the Assembly, when the Minister of Crown Investments went out into the rotunda, five, six feet away from Jennifer Birns and said that she wasn't telling the truth. On that day, Jennifer Birns said that the minister's actions were "disgusting."

She just recently sent me this email and it says:

Not only was my family incredibly offended by the claims made by Ms. Harpauer in the rotunda, we felt disrespected and belittled. The conduct of Ms. Harpauer in the rotunda was unacceptable. However, when accountability was requested it was absent. My family no longer finds this surprising, given the fact that not once were our questions answered during question period we attended. I challenge the Wall government to take accountability, apologize to my brother and my family and, for once, just tell the truth.

My questions to the Premier: will he apologize to Devon? Will he apologize to Jennifer and the Birns family? And will he admit the information that his government was spreading about the Birns family was not correct?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — Mr. Speaker, I can inform the House that the Minister of Social Services met with the family yesterday, the Birns family, and offered an apology if there was any concerns. And obviously there was. Mr. Speaker, that happened yesterday.

I wonder if the Leader of the Opposition might also then apologize for bringing up other cases, one in specific that I can remember, on the floor of the Assembly where even after he knew the facts were wrong, and materially wrong, he never took the opportunity to admit to that or to perhaps apologize for that situation to those like Southwest Homes and even front-line staff in various offices that work so hard to provide that family the support they need. I think it is a two-way street.

And even more important than that, Mr. Speaker, I think is this. When this government was elected, the minister of Social Services of the day presented the list of 440 people that had languished under the NDP, the social democrats, for years and years, lacking the dignity of a home, lacking, Mr. Speaker, the dignity of respite services. Mr. Speaker, that wait-list is eliminated. More are added and we eliminate those as we go.

Another 215 are helped, and we're able to do that because the economy is growing under the circumstances of our economy today and hopefully with some help from the government, Mr. Speaker.

That's the overall vision of this government — a growing economy so we can help those who need it most, Mr. Speaker. That is a choice that exists today in this legislature. And Mr. Speaker, I think the people of this province will side with that grand vision over what they've heard from the Leader of the Opposition.

BEFORE ORDERS OF THE DAY

The Speaker: — Order. During members' statements, the member for Prince Albert Carlton used the words, half-truth. The definition of the words half-truth is a statement . . .

[Interjections]

The Speaker: — Order. Is a statement that mingles truth and falsehood with deliberate intent to deceive. You may not accuse a member of deliberately misleading or lying in this Chamber. I would ask the member for Prince Albert Carlton to withdraw that remark and apologize. I recognize the member for Prince Albert Carlton.

Mr. Hickie: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I withdraw the remark and I apologize.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The Speaker: — I recognize the Government Whip.

Mr. Ottenbreit: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to order the answers to questions 812 to 1,008.

The Speaker: — The Government Whip has ordered questions 812 to 1,008. I recognize the Government House Leader.

MOTIONS

House Adjournment

Hon. Mr. Harrison: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Before asking for leave to adjourn this Assembly, I'd like to make a few comments.

First I'd like to thank you, Mr. Speaker, this being the last day of session, for your patience and diligence in the Chair over the course of, at times, heated debates. So thank you very much for that. I want to thank the Clerks and the Table officers for the work that they do, the guidance that they provide to members in navigating the rules of the Assembly. Thank you for that. Also to the other building staff, Mr. Speaker — broadcast services, library services, Journals, Hansard — who are here till late in the evenings when we're sitting at nights. So thank you to all of those folks for the work that they do.

Thank you to the Sergeant-at-Arms, the commissionaires for the work that they do as well — it's greatly appreciated — the

building staff, the cafeteria staff, the Pages, the interns, tour guides for all that you do in making this building function seamlessly and making this Chamber function seamlessly.

I thank the media for their role in informing the public about what happens in this Assembly, Mr. Speaker. And also I'd like to offer a very heartfelt thank you to the opposition House leaders, both the member for Regina Elphinstone, who we dealt with for about a year and a half, who I call a friend, and also to the new Opposition House Leader, the member for Saskatoon Nutana, for the very productive working relationship that we've been able to establish, which makes life easier for all of the members in the Assembly, Mr. Speaker.

I want to thank as well our families that make it possible for all of us to do this job, that put up with long hours, absences from home, and I really want to offer them that acknowledgement and thank you.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I will be moving the following motion:

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 23rd, 2013, unless earlier recalled by Mr. Speaker upon the request of the government; and if recalled, Mr. Speaker shall give each member seven clear days notice, if possible, of such date and time.

I so move.

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

Ms. Sproule: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. And I too would like to take this opportunity to say a few words about the session and the work that's been done here and offer a few thank yous on behalf of the official opposition.

First of all definitely to you, Mr. Speaker, thank you very much for your leadership and your sometimes colourful ways of reminding us how we should behave in the Chamber. And certainly we do need the reminder from time to time. So thank you for that, and for your support in me taking on this new role for the opposition.

I'd also like to thank all the Table officers and the Pages and the Clerks and Mr. Clerk and all the people who've been very kind to me in helping me learn this new job as I take it on. I certainly want to extend a big thank you to the people at Hansard and all the Journals for getting the words that go in this Chamber out to the people in such a timely and efficient fashion. Certainly the audiovisual people as well who in this modern age of image are able to present what we're saying to the people in a visual manner. The security, the commissionaires, all the building staff — especially like to give thanks to the head of the building staff for taking us on a tour last week of the dome. And I would certainly encourage all members to take opportunity to get up there and have a visit of the fourth floor and the dome of our Assembly and of our building. It's a very interesting part of our history and of what this building is about.

I'd also like to thank the library staff who are always there for

us, and efficient and quick with giving us information we need; the cafeteria staff; and all the staff of the Legislative Assembly. I'd also like to thank the people from the House of Prayer who are here watching over us. I think it's very comforting for me when they're here. I'd like to take a moment to thank them for the work that they do on our behalf.

I certainly want to thank the press gallery for the work that they do and the hospitality that they showed us yesterday. So thanks for that very much. And although I don't always agree with everything they say, I certainly appreciate the wise words that they put out to the people of Saskatchewan.

In terms of House leaders, I too would like to thank the Government House Leader for his support and friendship and the opportunity to work co-operatively to make the House operate as best as we can with the opposition and the government. I'd also like to thank Graham as well, Graham Stewart who's been so helpful in organizing committees, and all the hard work that he does. I certainly want to thank the government members, and particularly my own caucus members for supporting me as we've gone through this big change in the session in terms of our organization. Particular thanks and congratulations to our member for Cumberland who is turning 50 today, Mr. Speaker. So I want to offer him a happy birthday wish as well.

I also want to make special reference to our caucus staff. As a small opposition, we have a small but mighty staff as well, headed up by Carolyn Rebeyka, our chief of staff. We have Erin in the media, along with Jason, Cheryl, and Jannet. We have our researchers, Eric and Kat and Deanna, our sessionals. But over and above anyone, I want to thank Kiyall Glennie who is our researcher, who has helped me incredibly through this whole session. So I want to thank Kiyall for sure.

Final thanks going out to constituency assistants who have helped me through this session, and particularly Troy MacGillivray who has now moved away, but my new constituency assistant who I know is watching, Deb Aitken. So I want to thank them as well for keeping the home fires burning.

And finally I think on behalf of our caucus, we want to thank our new leader, Cam Broten — oops, I'm not supposed to say his name — our new leader from Massey Place who has done a remarkable job on behalf of our party and shown great leadership and courage and forthrightness, and he's leading us forward with purpose. So I want to especially thank Cam for the work he's done in session . . . I did it again. My apologies, Mr. Speaker, for mentioning the name.

Finally thanks to everyone's family and friends and for being there for us as we do the important work for the people of Saskatchewan. I'd like to close with a quote from JFK, John Kennedy, and he says:

As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — I would like to take this opportunity to thank

everyone for their hard work this session. And since this is about the only time I get to give a speech, I have a few things to say. I have a pent-up demand for speaking and heckling.

To the members, I would like to thank you for your many hours of service and the strong commitment to your positions as elected officials of the province of Saskatchewan, especially the Minister of Advanced Education for his unpaid advice which was worth what I paid for it.

To the Clerk's office, Greg Putz, Iris Lang, Ken Ring, and the staff of the Legislative Assembly, thank you for all your efforts in keeping us all on task and doing so to enable the democratic process to operate as smoothly as possible.

I would like to acknowledge the Pages and the interns for the excellent job they do for us daily. And yes, also the Opposition Whip. Happy birthday.

I appreciate your efficiency, your professionalism. And thank you to all of the LAS [Legislative Assembly Services] staff, personnel, behind the scenes who do their best to make us all presentable to the public. I would like to thank my staff, Sheila and Connie, and Peter, our summer student, for their hard work in keeping the office running smoothly — not an easy task, as you know, when dealing with the Speaker.

[11:00]

And I would like to thank the member for Estevan as well for reminding me of the times. I'd like to thank our constituency office staff in every office across the province and also our families that make it possible for us to be here. So have a good and safe summer, everyone.

By leave of the Assembly, 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 23rd, 2013, unless earlier recalled by Mr. Speaker upon the request of the government; and if recalled, Mr. Speaker shall give each member seven clear days notice, if possible, of such date and time.

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 House to agree?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried. This House stands adjourned to 10

a.m., October 23rd unless recalled earlier.

[The Assembly adjourned at 11:01.]

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GOVERNMENT OF SASKATCHEWAN

CABINET MINISTERS

Hon. Brad Wall
Premier

President of the Executive Council
Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs

Hon. Bill Boyd

Minister of the Economy
Minister Responsible for The Global
Transportation Hub Authority
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan
Power Corporation

Hon. Ken Cheveldayoff

Minister of Environment
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan
Water Security Agency
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan
Water Corporation

Hon. Kevin Doherty

Minister of Parks, Culture and Sport
Minister Responsible for the Provincial
Capital Commission

Hon. June Draude

Minister of Social Services
Minister Responsible for the Status of Women

Hon. Dustin Duncan

Minister of Health

Hon. Donna Harpauer

Minister of Crown Investments
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan
Government Insurance
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan
Liquor and Gaming Authority

Hon. Nancy Heppner

Minister of Central Services
Minister Responsible for the Public Service Commission
Minister Responsible for the Lean Initiative

Hon. Ken Krawetz

Deputy Premier
Minister of Finance

Hon. Russ Marchuk

Minister of Education

Hon. Tim McMillan

Minister Responsible for Energy and Resources
Minister Responsible for Tourism Saskatchewan
Minister Responsible for Trade
Minister Responsible for SaskEnergy Incorporated

Hon. Don McMorris

Minister of Highways and Infrastructure
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan
Telecommunications
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan
Transportation Company
Minister Responsible for Information
Services Corporation
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan
Gaming Corporation
Minister Responsible for SaskBuilds

Hon. Don Morgan

Minister of Advanced Education
Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety
Minister Responsible for the Saskatchewan
Workers' Compensation Board

Hon. Jim Reiter

Minister of Government Relations
Minister Responsible for First Nations,
Métis and Northern Affairs

Hon. Lyle Stewart

Minister of Agriculture
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Crop
Insurance Corporation

Hon. Christine Tell

Minister Responsible for Corrections and Policing

Hon. Randy Weekes

Minister Responsible for Rural and Remote Health

Hon. Gordon Wyant

Minister of Justice and Attorney General