



THIRD SESSION - TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

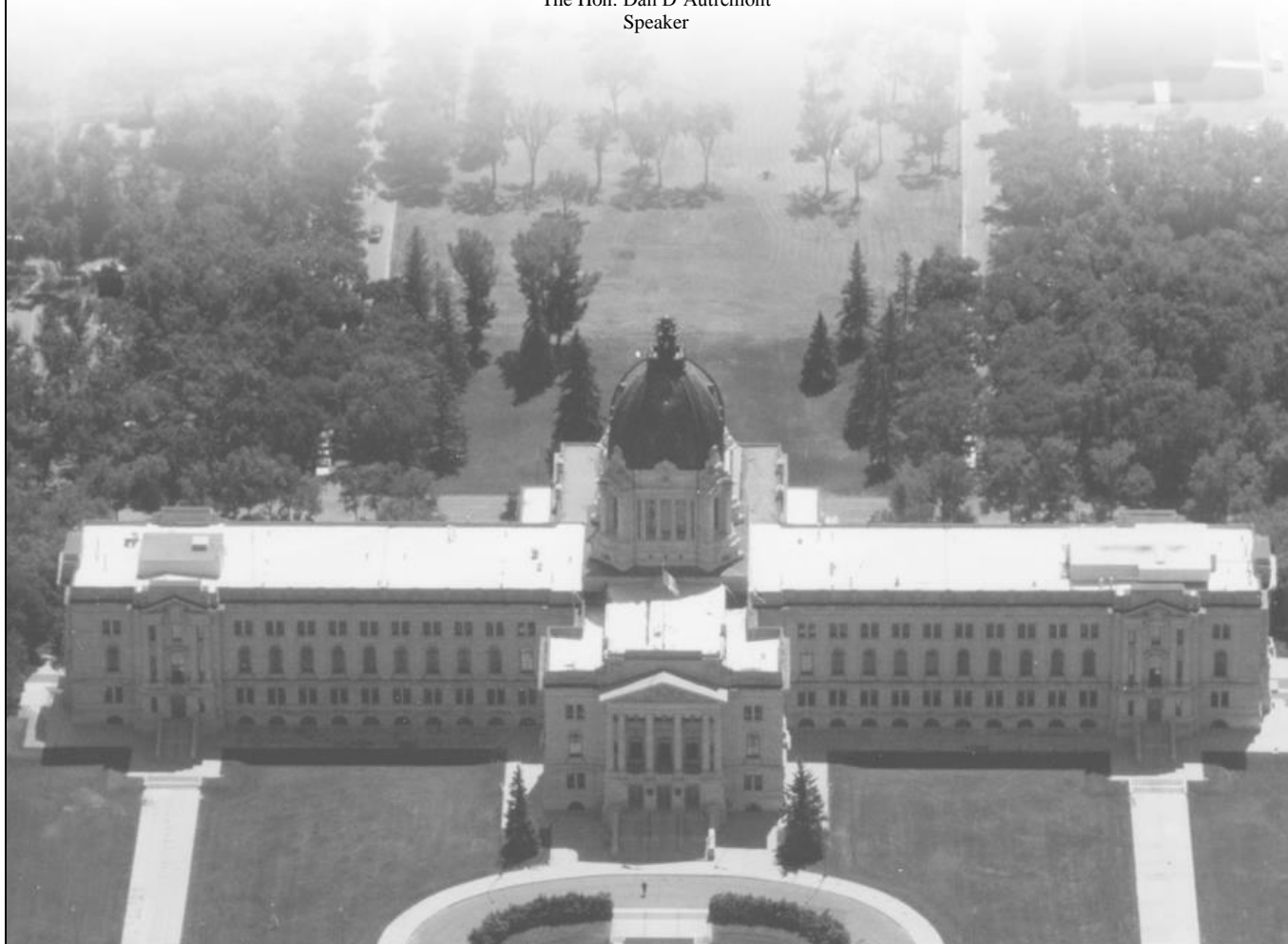
of the

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
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Eagles, Doreen	SP	Estevan
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Harrison, Hon. Jeremy	SP	Meadow Lake
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Krawetz, Hon. Ken	SP	Canora-Pelly
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Makowsky, Gene	SP	Regina Dewdney
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McMillan, Hon. Tim	SP	Lloydminster
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Moe, Scott	SP	Rosthern-Shellbrook
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Nilson, John	NDP	Regina Lakeview
Norris, Hon. Rob	SP	Saskatoon Greystone
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Phillips, Kevin	SP	Melfort
Reiter, Hon. Jim	SP	Rosetown-Elrose
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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 13:30.]

[Prayers]

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

The Speaker: — I recognize the Provincial Secretary.

Hon. Mr. Elhard: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it's my pleasure to introduce to you and through you to all members of the Legislative Assembly, Dave and Lori Hill who are joining us today from Abbotsford, BC [British Columbia]. Dave and Lori are in your gallery, Mr. Speaker, and they are here today as the family representing MLA [Member of the Legislative Assembly] Lloyd Hampton who will be officially remembered in the condolence motion that will be brought before the legislature later today. I would ask all members to join us in welcoming the Hills to this legislature.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Opposition House Leader.

Mr. McCall: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to introduce to you and through you to all members of the Assembly, a group seated both in the east gallery and on the floor of the Chamber. They come to us from the Canadian Mental Health Association, from the centre over on Albert Street. It's a great place to visit, does a lot of great work there, Mr. Speaker, and certainly it's good to have that visit returned to myself at the legislature here today.

We're joined by Michelle Foster, Suzanne Quesnel, and a fine group again, both in the gallery and here on the floor. I look forward to having a fuller visit with them later on today, Mr. Speaker. So I'd ask all members to join me in welcoming this group to their Legislative Assembly.

And while I'm on my feet, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to say a quick hello to an individual seated in the west gallery. That is Bill Stevenson, a fine individual. And certainly I've had the chance of running with Bill in the last election, and I think I might have the chance of running with Bill in the one to come, but we'll see how this goes, Mr. Speaker. But please join me in welcoming Bill Stevenson to his legislature.

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

Hon. Mr. Doherty: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, to you and through you to all colleagues in the Legislative Assembly, I'm pleased today to introduce a young gentleman sitting in the west gallery, a grade 8 student from M.J. Coldwell School in my constituency, Mr. Ben Bateson. And Ben is joined today by his, I'm assuming it's his mom, Debbi-Lynn Bateson, who I'll be meeting with shortly after question period for some Q & A and some pictures. I'll have further things to say about Ben and his mom in an upcoming member's statement, Mr. Speaker. Thank you very much.

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

Mr. Steinley: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you and to everyone in the Legislative Assembly, I would like to have . . . further on the introduction of Bill Stevenson to the members of the Legislative Assembly, I can inform the member that I'm quite certain he will have the opportunity to run against Mr. Stevenson again in the election in 2015 or 2016 or whenever it comes. And we're very much looking forward to having Bill sit on this side of the floor after the next election, and I want everyone to take the time and welcome him to his Legislative Assembly.

PRESENTING PETITIONS

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

Mr. Forbes: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to present a petition against Saskatchewan health care laundry privatization. And we know that in May 2013, the Government of Saskatchewan announced its plans to privatize health care laundry in Saskatchewan, handing it over to a for-profit, Alberta-based corporation, K-Bro Linen.

And we know that the privatization of health care laundry will mean a devastating loss of over 300 good-paying jobs, devastating local economies and families and that the privatization of health care laundry will take money out of Saskatchewan's health care system to instead to be used to boost the profits of an Alberta-based corporation. I'd like to read the prayer, Mr. Speaker:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your honourable Legislative Assembly be pleased to cause the government to reverse the misguided decision to privatize Saskatchewan's health care laundry which will result in the devastating loss of over 300 jobs in the communities of Prince Albert, Moose Jaw, Yorkton, Weyburn, Regina, and Saskatoon.

And moreover, the privatization of health care laundry will misuse vital taxpayer dollars by taking money out of Saskatchewan's health care system to boost the profit of an Alberta-based corporation; and, furthermore, the privatization of health care laundry will put patient care at risk as Saskatchewan's health regions lose direct control over laundry and thereby will have a significantly reduced ability to quickly and effectively respond to infectious outbreaks in health care facilities.

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

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

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

Mr. Wotherspoon: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to present petitions on behalf of concerned residents as it relates to safety concerns on Dewdney Avenue and the position that heavy-haul truck traffic needs to be rerouted from Dewdney Avenue. They note that any further delay from that government is entirely unacceptable to address a problem created by that government. And the prayer reads as follows:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that the honourable Legislative Assembly call on the provincial government to immediately take action, as it relates to the unacceptable danger, disturbance, and infrastructure damage caused by the heavy-haul truck traffic on Dewdney Avenue west of the city centre, to ensure the safety and well-being of communities, families, residents, and users; and that those actions and plans should include rerouting the heavy-haul truck traffic, receive provincial funding, and be developed through consultation with the city of Regina, communities, and residents.

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

These petitions are signed today by concerned residents of Regina. I so submit.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Opposition Whip.

Mr. Vermette: — Mr. Speaker, I rise today to present a petition. Many northern residents benefited from the rental purchase option program, also known as RPO. These families are very proud homeowners in their communities. Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, this government stubbornly ignored the call to maintain this program. Instead it cancelled the RPO. That means the dream of home ownership is destroyed for many families in the North. And the prayer reads:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your honourable Legislative Assembly cause the Sask Party government to restore the RPO rent-to-own option for responsible renters in northern Saskatchewan, allowing them the dignity of owning their own homes and building communities in our province's beautiful North.

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

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Athabasca.

Mr. Belanger: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I'm standing today to present yet another petition on highways in northern Saskatchewan. Mr. Speaker, the people that have signed this petition are primarily petitioning on Highway 155, the main artery to the northwest part of the province. And the prayer reads as follows, Mr. Speaker:

We respectfully request that the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan take the following action: to cause the provincial government to commit to repairing and upgrading of Highway 155.

And, Mr. Speaker, the people that have signed this petition are primarily from Ile-a-la-Crosse but, as in any other petition that we've signed on highways, highways petitions have been signed from all throughout the province of Saskatchewan. And I so present.

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

Ms. Sproule: — Mr. Speaker, I rise to present a petition from residents from our province that want to bring to our attention the following: that in 2012 the government stubbornly cut the

grants for Yorkton's harness racing industry, and the government has failed to properly listen or consult with the residents of Yorkton. This government's cuts toward harness racing will continue to negatively impact breeders, trainers, and other employees, as well as destructively impact the economic spinoffs of the harness racing industry. And without these grants, Yorkton residents who have contributed through their hard work and tax dollars may have to relocate to provinces which do support the harness racing industry, like Ontario, Alberta, or British Columbia. So in the prayer that reads as follows, they:

Respectfully request that the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan may be pleased to call on the government to immediately reinstate the grant funding for harness racing in Yorkton, Saskatchewan.

These are signed by citizens of Wadena, Rocanville, and Yorkton. I so submit, Mr. Speaker.

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

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

Student Trip to United Kingdom

Hon. Mr. Doherty: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to recognize a group of young students from M.J. Coldwell Elementary School in my constituency of Regina Northeast. This group of six is preparing to depart for London, England tomorrow, Mr. Speaker. They range from grades 8 to 10, and will be accompanied by their teacher, Debbi-Lynn Bateson and Tara Dryburgh. The students are as follows: Nash Farrow, Gray Farrow, Trey Danyluk, Bailey Johnson, Alex Huzle, and Ben Bateson.

Mr. Speaker, this trip has been in the works for two years now, and they are very excited that the time has finally come. Some of the students have travelled in the past, but for many this will be a new experience and definitely the furthest any of them have been away from home. They will begin their trip in London and then visit various other cities in the United Kingdom, including Somerset, Bath, Stratford, and Oxford, before returning home.

Mr. Speaker, these young students are sure to enjoy a rich educational and cultural experience over the next week. And they have earned it by raising monies to assist paying for the trip through a variety of fundraising activities, one that they will remember fondly for quite some time to come, I'm sure, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in wishing a safe and meaningful trip to this group of young students and their teachers and chaperones. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Athabasca.

2014 National Aboriginal Curling Championship

Mr. Belanger: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm proud to announce that the 2014 National Aboriginal Curling Championship will be held this weekend at the Granite Curling Club in Saskatoon. This national Aboriginal event was in

danger of not being sponsored for the second year in a row. Thankfully, Mr. Speaker, the historical northern Saskatchewan Métis community of Ile-a-la-Crosse and its group of companies will now be hosting the event.

Local businesses and the community organizations also rose to the occasion, including the mayor and council of Ile-a-la-Crosse, the Ile-a-la-Crosse Communication Society, the Ile-a-la-Crosse Friendship Centre, the Sakitawak Development Corporation, and others gathered to support this great national tournament. It would not have been possible, Mr. Speaker, to do this alone. We also want to thank Cameco, the Fort McKay Métis, and the Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority for rescuing this very important event.

Mayor Duane Favel spoke on behalf of the many volunteers, including Lawrence Corrigal, Elaine Favel, Nap Gardiner, and Vanessa Gardiner when he said:

This has been a celebrated and important social event for many Aboriginal people from Ile-a-la-Crosse and across Western Canada for many years. When we heard that this bonspiel might not happen this year, my community asked if they could sponsor it. I'm proud to say we are sponsoring it.

There'll be 36 teams in the men's and women's division playing for \$18,000 in cash prizes and the national title.

Mr. Speaker, the next step is to guarantee that this event continues on and continues to take place for years to come. I call on the members of the Assembly today to support and to recognize the players and organizers of this very important event. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Canadian Ringette Championship

Mr. Steinley: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Last weekend I had the opportunity to attend the 2014 Tim Hortons Canadian Ringette Championship which took place here in Regina. Mr. Speaker, 42 teams gathered in our city for this tournament. More than 1,000 ringette players, coaches, and trainers, as well as 50 officials representing communities across Canada took part in this national championship.

The championships were designed to provide fun, friendship, and fitness to participating players and to encourage and promote ringette across our country. Also there is three national championships crowned in the under 16, under 19, and National Ringette League. In the National Ringette League final, the Ottawa Ice picked up their first-ever gold medal after defeating the Cambridge Turbos 7 to 4.

Also, Mr. Speaker, of note, on a sidebar right after the game, one of the girls' boyfriends came out and proposed on the ice. It was a very big occasion. In the under-16 final, Ontario and Central Alberta Sting matched up, with Ontario coming out on top 6 to 5. And, Mr. Speaker, in an exciting under-19 final, Manitoba downed Edmonton Elite 5-4 to claim gold.

Mr. Speaker, I'll ask all members to join me in congratulating all the tournament champions and award winners as well as the teams who qualified for this prestigious tournament. I'd also like to thank the parents, coaches, and all their support staff behind the scenes that worked hard to bring this tournament off without a hitch. And of course, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to recognize all the event organizers that made this possible. And, Mr. Speaker, of note, everyone at that tournament said the Co-operators Centre was one of the best facilities that they'd ever played in. I'd like to thank the facility managers for that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Living in Harmony Awards

Mr. Forbes: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was able to attend Saskatoon's Living in Harmony Recognition, Art, and Literary Awards ceremony presented by the city of Saskatoon's cultural diversity and race relations advisory committee on the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. The annual Living in Harmony Awards recognize local organizations or individuals for their efforts in promoting intercultural harmony in our community and for going above and beyond the call of duty to promote co-operation and understanding between cultures.

Winners include the staff at Vincent Massey Community School, who have been incredible leaders. And for this they received the Community Recognition Award for their efforts.

[13:45]

Each year the school hosts a cultural festival where each class presents the food, clothing, and customs of many different cultures. And this year, they also held a large powwow with hundreds of people in attendance.

Mr. Speaker, Tanya Dunn-Pierce of Saskatoon Health Region won an award for her effort in promoting a more representative workforce, and in the Art category, Carl Songco from Brownell School. And Marione Pangilinan and Mehar Un-Nisa of Royal West Campus took home awards, as did Shaye Currie of Wildwood School, and an entire class at Alvin Buckwold School for their literary contributions.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in congratulating these Living in Harmony Award winners and thank them for dedicating their time and efforts to making Saskatoon a more welcoming place for everyone. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Skills Canada Competition

Ms. Jurgens: — Thank you. Mr. Speaker, last week I had the great opportunity to bring greetings at the Skills Canada 16th Annual Saskatchewan provincial competition held in Prince Albert.

This year's MCs [master of ceremonies] were Saskatchewan's own Jayden Leister and Bo Chiasson, both of whom first

competed in a previous provincial competition, then moved on to representing Canada in robotics at the 2013 WorldSkills competition.

The Skills Canada Saskatchewan provincial competition brings together the best high school students, post-secondary students, apprentices, and other training program students to compete against other Saskatchewan youth at a skill, trade, or technology that they have been working on over the past year. The provincial competition gives students the opportunities to showcase their skills and knowledge in their trade or technology's field of study, and it allows companies and industries to come and see the skills of possible future employees.

Mr. Speaker, over the next five years, Saskatchewan is going to need more than 16,000 technical and skilled trade workers to meet the needs of our growing labour market. These bright students could help fill our growing need for workers, and we would be lucky to have them contributing their remarkable skills to our province.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that all members join me in thanking Skills Canada for the 16th annual Saskatchewan provincial competition and congratulate all the students who took part in this competition. Thank you.

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

Debate Team Places First in Competition

Ms. Wilson: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize a neighbour, a constituent of mine, and a former 4-H member, a wonderful young woman by the name of Jacey Safnuk. Jacey is attending Edwards School of Business. It's the Business college at the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon.

Earlier this year, Jacey, along with fellow classmates, entered the debate team competition in which they would be competing against other schools in Western Canada.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to say that the debate competition was held right here in the Saskatchewan Legislative Assembly. They only had half an hour before the competition began, and each team was given the topic of the debate and what side of the argument that they would be debating. Well, Mr. Speaker, within that very short time frame, the teams had to pull together their arguments and be ready to compete.

According to Jacey's mother, my friend, Jill Rennie, Jacey was very excited to be able to sit in the Premier's chair, which must have been very good luck because their debate team ended up winning first place.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members join me in congratulating Jacey Safnuk and her team on winning first place at the debate team competition. Thank you very much.

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

Flood Damage Reduction Program

Mr. Moe: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On April 8th, we announced the 2014 emergency flood damage reduction program. This program provides engineering and technical assistance to municipalities while sharing the cost of permanent and temporary flood prevention works. As in the past years, this program covers 100 per cent of the costs for engineering assistance. It reimburses individuals for 85 per cent of the cost for approved permanent flood protection work, and communities and businesses are eligible to receive 75 per cent of the cost of an approved permanent flood protection work.

These include projects like installing berms, culverts, and the costs associated with this. This program also covers 50 per cent of the cost for temporary flood protection measures. This would include things like purchasing of sandbags, sand, and pumping. This program has been very effective in helping Saskatchewan communities and Mr. Speaker, I can personally attest to the benefit provided to a number of rural Saskatchewan communities that experienced significant flooding this last summer.

Since 2010 the Water Security Agency has invested over \$35 million in flood mitigation efforts through the emergency flood damage reduction program to nearly 2,000 individuals, to communities, to rural municipalities, and First Nations.

An independent analysis was done in 2011 on the 2011 program and showed that for every dollar that was invested we were able to save \$20 in damages. We know that again this year many municipalities and communities are starting to prepare for this spring's runoff and the EFDRP [emergency flood damage reduction program] provided by this government will help support those efforts this spring, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

QUESTION PERIOD

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

Costs and Benefits of Lean Initiative

Mr. Broten: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We know about a bunch of the cost with this government's lean pet project — \$40 million, Mr. Speaker, for one US [United States] consultant, \$17 million each and every year for kaizen promotion offices, and \$3,500 a day for each Japanese sensei that's flown here to the province.

But, Mr. Speaker, this government has refused to give us the total cost that taxpayers have spent and will spend to train health care workers in lean, whether it's the kaizen basics training, Mr. Speaker, where health care workers learn how to fold paper airplanes and learn Japanese terminology, or whether it's the lean leader certification where senior managers travel, go off to Seattle and to Utah.

My question, Mr. Speaker, is for the Premier: how much will taxpayers pay in total for health care workers to get lean training?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Duncan: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. To date we've spent \$26 million; \$18.8 million of that has been by the Ministry of Health. Part of that is the John Black and Associates contract. Some of those dollars were also pre the John Black and Associates contract. Mr. Speaker, 6.7 million has been spent on RHAs [regional health authority].

What members opposite will see over the coming years as we transition out of the John Black contract, what we intend to have is a system that will be able to support itself. And so regional health authorities are now beginning the transition away from the John Black and Associates and the use of consultants because we will now have that expertise in-house, an expertise, Mr. Speaker, which has already saved more than its cost to taxpayers in Saskatchewan, but as well, expertise that other provinces are looking at. In fact, Mr. Speaker, deputy ministers from across the federal government are currently in Saskatchewan looking at how we're applying lean to the health system and beyond here in Saskatchewan.

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

Mr. Broten: — Well, Mr. Speaker, it's certainly a journey that this government is taking Saskatchewan taxpayers on. And here's what we know so far. We know that senior administrators are taking the lean leader training. For these senior administrators, it takes 35 per cent of a full-time equivalent year. That's about 80 full worker days, Mr. Speaker, to get the lean leader certification. Now admittedly, I confess I do not know if this makes all of these lean leaders kaizen black belts. That might be something that this government wants to comment on. I do know the deputy minister of lean likes to refer to these lean leaders as senseis, Mr. Speaker.

But that's not the real issue here. The real issue is how much this is costing Saskatchewan taxpayers. To the Premier: how much will taxpayers pay in total for senior administrators to spend 35 per cent of their time receiving lean training?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Duncan: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Well certainly when we made the decision and, you know, quite frankly, Mr. Speaker, based on some of the findings that we found from lean, not only from other organizations like Virginia Mason and Thedacare in the United States, other provinces that already had looked at lean and implemented lean in some small pockets within the health system, but as well what we learned and what the members opposite I think learned in 2005, '06, and '07 when they had implemented lean in a very limited way in Five Hills and, Mr. Speaker, what their own report had indicated is that the province was now in a position to be able to implement lean all across the entire health care system.

Mr. Speaker, what I've indicated before is that the dollars that we have spent to date are \$26 million. That's both between the ministry and the regional health authorities. But more importantly, Mr. Speaker, what it has meant in terms of reducing the costs and the efficiencies that we've found in the blood savings alone, \$26 million, but overall nearly \$40 million that we've already saved.

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

Mr. Broten: — Mr. Speaker, here's what we know so far. In the Health Quality Council alone, 18 people are taking lean leader training; in P.A. [Prince Albert] Parkland, Mr. Speaker, 50; Regina Qu'Appelle, 96; in Five Hills, 52; and in Saskatoon Health Region, over 100. In just those five organizations, Mr. Speaker, that's over 300 people taking lean leader training which takes them away from their jobs for about 80 days each working year.

To the Premier, Mr. Speaker, and he needs to be clear on this: how many senior administrators are leaving their jobs for a full third of the year in order to take lean training?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Duncan: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Well certainly what the intention is, over a four-year period is we develop the lean program within Saskatchewan Health, but also more importantly be able to transition away from the use of consultants. That certainly is a part of this, but we do need that expertise internally. So what we do want to do is ensure that a large number of health workers do have the basics, understanding of lean. That'll happen over a four-year period. So we are essentially purchasing that understanding, and essentially a quarter of our work staff will have that basics when it comes to lean.

But we are ensuring that a large size of our senior leaders, as well as front-line staff, do have a comprehensive understanding of lean so that we have that expertise here in the province, so that we can on an ongoing basis continue to deploy lean which has already saved us more dollars than we've already spent on lean, Mr. Speaker.

So in this case, whether it be the blood services, whether it be wait times for mental health and addictions work, whether it be wait times for MRIs [magnetic resonance imaging], certainly we have seen the benefits. But we do want to have that expertise in the province.

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

Mr. Broten: — Mr. Speaker, the question was, how many senior administrators are taking the lean training, and how much is it costing Saskatchewan taxpayers to have them away from their jobs for 35 per cent of the year? Mr. Speaker, we know that the lean leader training, those receiving the training are among the highest paid administrators in the health system. Just Maura Davies, the CEO [chief executive officer] of the Saskatoon Health Region, to take the lean training would cost \$135,000. That's 35 per cent of her annual salary.

Mr. Speaker, I've seen the lean leader certificate that those who complete the training receive, and it is quite impressive. I do admit that. It says on it, Mr. Speaker, "You are now certified in the basic tools and method of the global production system, and are authorized to practise kaizen." And it has John Black's name on it with the minister's name on it, Mr. Speaker, in English, and thankfully also in Japanese, Mr. Speaker.

My question to the Premier: what does it exactly mean to be authorized to practise kaizen, and why are we paying so much to have health care administrators, among the highest paid, to

spend 35 per cent of the year away from their jobs?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Duncan: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Well, Mr. Speaker, what we are doing is, as we implement lean across the entire health care system, we do need to have that expertise here in the province, whether that be through some of the work of the training that senior leaders are doing, through the work of JBA and associates. That's part of the contract that we've signed with JBA [John Black and Associates]. It's \$40 million over a four-year period, Mr. Speaker. It's two-tenths of 1 per cent of the entire health care budget, what we essentially spend in 20 hours in the health care system, Mr. Speaker. So a very, I think, small proportion of what we spend in the health care system.

But we know the benefits of that. Not only today, not only in the ongoing years under the JBA contract, but more importantly, we'll have the expertise within the health care system so that the deployment of lean can continue long after the JBA contract has ended, so that we'll have that expertise that we can focus on patient safety, improving patient safety, reducing errors and waste within the health care system, which we know even in its early days is already paying for itself.

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

Mr. Broten: — Mr. Speaker, the government's own figures, their own data shows that when we look at patient satisfaction, when we look at pain management, when we look at infection rates, Mr. Speaker, those numbers are all going in the wrong direction under this government's leadership, under lean.

Taxpayers are paying for well over 300 people to take the lean leader training that we know of. For a whole year, they'll spend 35 per cent taking lean training away from their jobs. They'll jet off for tours, Mr. Speaker, to Utah and to Seattle, and they'll get a certificate at the end of it with John Black's name on it, with the minister's name on it, and thankfully yes, in English and in Japanese, Mr. Speaker. And Saskatchewan taxpayers, Saskatchewan people will be on the hook not only for the training and for the travel costs, but they'll be on the hook for the wages for those that are spending 35 per cent of the year doing this and, Mr. Speaker, for any costs for replacement staff.

Saskatchewan people deserve to know. They deserve to know how many health care administrators will be receiving this training and how much will it cost. To the Premier: what's the answer?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

[14:00]

Hon. Mr. Duncan: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Well certainly what we are doing, as I've said before, what we are doing is providing for . . . to ensure that we do have that expertise within the province so that long after the JBA contract has ended that we'll have that expertise. That's what high-performing health organizations have done in working with an organization like JBA, although there are others that people can contract with. But certainly that's what we want to

have, is the expertise here in the province so that we can then move away and transition away from having to rely on consultants.

But what we do know is that already we have saved more than we have invested within lean through the JBA contract . . . [inaudible interjection] . . . Well the member from Rosemont says, according to John Black. But no. Alone on blood savings, we know the rate that we used to discard blood products. We've reduced that rate by 17 to 18 per cent a year. We know what that means in actual dollars, and we know that means a better product for the people that we're providing services to.

Mr. Speaker, I think that what we're seeing right now, though, is all other provinces that have an interest in lean are looking at Saskatchewan, including the federal government, and we are leaders in this front.

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

Planning for Children's Hospital

Ms. Chartier: — In December the Leader of the Opposition asked the Premier about the design of the children's hospital. He asked why this government would proceed with a plan for a children's hospital that would actually have fewer maternity beds than currently exist. And he asked why this government would ignore the concerns of front-line health care workers who have long said the proposed design is inadequate. The Premier didn't have an answer, and the Health minister just vigorously defended the plan. But now we've learned this government is scrambling to fix the design of its children's hospital because it is too small. To the minister: how wrong was the original design that was finalized last year?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Duncan: — Well, Mr. Speaker, if I could perhaps quote a member on this side of the House, the children's hospital that will be built will certainly be bigger than the children's hospital built by the members opposite.

Mr. Speaker, I just find that the line of questioning is a little bit unusual coming from the member opposite who in committee last week . . . We had a very good discussion about this where I walked through the process that is taking place over the last number of months, which in fact we talked about on the floor of this Assembly where we acknowledged that there were concerns about the size of the hospital, that we had taken a bit of a pause in terms of finishing the design of that and working through those projections to ensure that we are actually building a right-sized children's hospital in Saskatchewan.

I've also indicated to the member opposite that she doesn't have to wait that long. We'll be making an announcement in terms of what that analysis has showed, working together with the Children's Hospital Foundation of Saskatchewan, the Saskatoon Health Region, and the Ministry of Health, and I think people will be very pleased with what we do arrive at.

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

Ms. Chartier: — In December the minister said the design of the children's hospital "has been given final approval." And he trumpeted the fact that this is a lean-designed hospital, using that as an argument that there couldn't possibly be anything wrong with the design. But now it is scrambling to fix the design because it is too small.

We've already heard similar concerns about other lean-designed health facilities, including the ones planned for Kelvington and Moose Jaw. One front-line health care worker that wrote to us from Kelvington said, "Our hospital beds will be cut from 12 to seven. We as staff have voiced concerns over this, but as for the beds they say the 80 rule says this is all you need."

To the minister: isn't lean at least partially to blame for the fact that this children's hospital design is too small?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Duncan: — Actually no, in fact, Mr. Speaker. What I've indicated, what I did last fall . . . And I'm going to ensure that I do this, Mr. Speaker. I'm going to go back and check to see what I said last fall, because I know that this issue was discussed on the floor of the Assembly. I know that the member opposite has a version of what I said in the fall. I believe that I had indicated that we were looking at the design based on the feedback that we had received. So I want to go back and just ensure what the member opposite is saying is in fact what I had indicated.

But in terms of the children's hospital, what we did know is from what the original design was and then implementing some of the lean design within the facility — which by the way involves patients and families and front-line providers in the design of that — we actually were able to build with the same level of services a smaller footprint of the facility. The question on the children's hospital is whether or not the footprint needs to be larger, and we are working through that process.

In terms of Moose Jaw, alone in savings on the operational efficiencies over a 20-year period by what we're going to build is 85 to \$160 million in efficiencies over a 20-year period. Because of lean we are going to continue to build in a different way than we have in the past.

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

Ms. Chartier: — There's no doubt that the lean process is at least partially to blame here. But so too is this government's lack of proper planning. The minister had a hard time in committee coming up with a credible explanation for why this government is now scrambling to fix the design of the children's hospital. To the minister: why did this government take so long to realize that its plan for the children's hospital is flawed?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Duncan: — Well, Mr. Speaker, certainly what I'd indicated in committee is that we had received some feedback to say that the physical space of the children's hospital and the number of beds that have been contemplating, there were two

issues. One is the change in how services will be operated. That's one thing. The second is the actual number of beds and the size of the facility. So we put a pause on the drawings to say, let's not complete them until we do this work. That's what I indicated in committee. That took place late last year, just several months ago, so they've been working through a process on that.

We will be announcing a decision on that in the coming weeks, Mr. Speaker, and I think that this is prudent to ensure that when we build a facility that it is the right size for the population that it will serve not only today but into the future.

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

Ms. Chartier: — Until the middle of March, this government kept using the design of the children's hospital as an example of savings achieved through its lean pet project. But then, curiously, the Premier and the Health minister stopped talking about the design because they finally realized that it's a flawed design and they're scrambling to fix it. This redesign work will cost taxpayers more money and the final tab will also be higher because of the added rooms and beds. To the minister: how much more will the redesign cost taxpayers and what will the total new cost be?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Duncan: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'm certainly pleased to have an opportunity to talk about the fact that we are building a children's hospital in this province, something that had been long neglected by the members opposite.

In terms of the number of beds, what we will do if a decision is in fact made to increase the number of beds in the children's hospital, it will still be done using lean principles. So in terms of what was originally contemplated in terms of the size of the children's hospital, what had been done after the work of lean and designing the children's hospital and then making a determination of whether or not additional beds will be used, lean will still be used. We will still be able to point to the efficiencies that will be found over a 20-year and beyond period in terms of the operational efficiencies.

Mr. Speaker, I have no doubt that the members opposite really don't understand this. They wouldn't know what we're talking about because this is a new way of designing buildings.

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

Ms. Chartier: — The minister didn't ask the previous question. How much more will this new design cost?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Duncan: — Well, Mr. Speaker, as I said, we will be announcing a finalized design for the children's hospital. I haven't at this point even announced whether or not that will be an expansion of the existing children's hospital, the design that had been earlier approved in 2012.

When we do announce that decision, Mr. Speaker, we will most certainly announce all that information. But at this point what we have done is provided \$200 million to the Saskatoon Health Region. They're drawing interest on those dollars that will be put towards the children's hospital. And we also announced when the design was complete, an additional \$15 million as a part of the government's contribution. And we certainly look forward to the next couple of weeks and a very exciting announcement for the province.

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

Appointments by Governments

Mr. Forbes: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday this government defended the Minister of Social Services' decision to appoint her very close friend to the Social Services Appeal Board. This is the same very close friend that the minister travelled to Ghana and London with on her \$19,000 taxpayer-funded trip, and it's the same very close friend that the minister took out for a \$200 lunch at taxpayers' expense. And when asked how the decision to appoint her very close friend was made, the minister said, "They gave me a list and I said, 'If all people are the same, as competent, well then, put Rita on the board.'"

To the minister: how many other competent people did she pass by in order to appoint her very close friend and travel partner?

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

Hon. Ms. Draude: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And to the member opposite, I had an opportunity last night to review the information I was given about Rita's background. Since 1989 she's been employed in the social work field. She has experience in the child protection field as a social worker. She's experienced as a child and family therapist in both the public and the private sector. She has experience as a community wellness coordinator. She has experience as an individual who has contributed to her community, and she's been involved in a number of organizations like the Saskatchewan Association of Social Workers, the private practice registry of social workers in Saskatchewan, Women Entrepreneurs of Saskatchewan.

Mr. Speaker, I also noted that when it came to the decisions that were looked at by the appeal board, between 20 and 25 per cent of the time the appeal board decided against the ministry. I think the people are doing their work. I think they make sure that the families are recognized and that they are front and centre. That is my goal, to make sure that we have people that are competent in this area. And as far as having somebody who is supportive of our government, 60 per cent of the people in the province . . .

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

Mr. Forbes: — Mr. Speaker, when asked about whether it's appropriate to appoint friends to these types of boards, the Social Services minister admitted yesterday that "It's probably better if they're not a real close friend of the minister." So to the minister: why then did she appoint her very close friend and travel partner as Chair of the Social Services Appeal Board?

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

Hon. Ms. Heppner: — Mr. Speaker, I thank the member opposite for his question. As we've stated, we look at the qualifications of people that we appoint to boards. And, Mr. Speaker, we're not even against appointing NDP [New Democratic Party] supporters to boards. Just recently we appointed Dion Tchorzewski to the new ISC [Information Services Corporation of Saskatchewan] board. I'm sure the NDP know them.

But, Mr. Speaker, for the member opposite to be asking this question, if he wants to have some concerns about friends and family being appointed to boards, Mr. Speaker, the member for Saskatoon Centre, when he was a minister, appointed Perry Kappel, his very own ministerial assistant, to a government relations job at SaskPower with a salary range between 48 and \$79,000 a year.

Mr. Speaker, we understand that the NDP wants a standard for us that they themselves refuse to ever live by, Mr. Speaker, and refuse to live by to this day. Mr. Speaker, I have a list of NDP appointments. If they want to listen to them, I'm happy to read them out, Mr. Speaker. Tom Keeping, former NDP MLA, appointed to the Chair of a panel that mediates disputes on farming in 1997. John Solomon, former NDP MLA, appointed Chair, Workers' Compensation Board.

Mr. Speaker, I know my time is up. I have more. Please ask me another question.

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

Mr. Forbes: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Social Services minister said yesterday that she thought it would be inappropriate. And it's interesting that . . . [inaudible] . . . going on this line, if it were an NDP minister that appointed a very close friend to chair an appeal board related to their ministry.

So what she is saying is it would be inappropriate for someone from a different party to do this, yet it's somehow perfectly acceptable for her to do it. To the minister: how does this make any sense? How come the double standard?

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

Hon. Ms. Heppner: — Mr. Speaker, the NDP want to talk about a double standard. It was the member asking the question who appointed his very own ministerial assistant to SaskPower. We have list after list of NDP supporters that the NDP appointed to boards, Mr. Speaker.

I would point out in the case that was referenced with the Social Services minister, Rita Crone was paid about \$10,000 for her work on the Social Services Appeal Board, a job that is a very difficult position, Mr. Speaker.

But if the members opposite want to talk about their own record, I have a list of gold-plated contracts that the NDP gave to their very own supporters. Bernie Churko got \$217,000, about \$30,000 a month, for seven months of work to manage flood response . . .

The Speaker: — Order. I think we would all like to hear the questions and the answers. I recognize the minister.

Hon. Ms. Heppner: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Bernie Churko got . . .

[14:15]

The Speaker: — Order. Will the member for Regina Rosemont come to order and stay in order. I recognize the minister.

Hon. Ms. Heppner: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Bernie Churko got over \$30,000 a month for seven months of work to manage flood response at Fishing Lake and we all know, Mr. Speaker, the NDP absolutely failed on that file. Tom Waller — I know that they know him — got \$417,000, over \$32,000 a month, to run the NDP's Forestry Secretariat for 13 months, a five-person office. Wil Olive was on the Saskatchewan Crop Insurance board of directors at the very same time that his very own law firm was receiving hundreds of thousands of dollars in legal work from Crop Insurance.

Mr. Speaker, again the NDP cannot stand there and demand a standard from us that they themselves refused to observe.

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

Mr. Forbes: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The fact of the matter is that this issue would never have even come to the light without a whistle-blower tipping off the opposition because the membership of the current appeal board is not listed anywhere and the government wouldn't even release the details about the current membership. That's how secretive this government is. And I guess it had a reason to be secretive because the minister had clearly yet made another inappropriate decision. To the minister: will this government agree to post the ministers' orders like this online so it can be held accountable for its decisions?

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

Hon. Ms. Heppner: — Mr. Speaker, I shouldn't be amazed, but I am. Every day that we stand in this House where the NDP make accusations against us, we answer their questions. We released all of our travel information just recently, Mr. Speaker, and I'm happy to have a discussion about NDP travel when they were in government because there are some pretty interesting stories there as well.

But, Mr. Speaker, for the member from Saskatoon Centre to stand up and ask for accountability and talk about appointing friends to boards when he did exactly the same thing, Mr. Speaker, perhaps he can explain to the taxpayers of this province why SaskPower was on the hook for paying for his friend to be on their board.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Provincial Secretary.

Hon. Mr. Elhard: — Mr. Speaker, I seek leave of the House to present condolence motions on behalf of previous members of this House who have passed away.

The Speaker: — The Provincial Secretary has requested leave

to present condolence motions. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Provincial Secretary.

CONDOLENCES

Hon. Mr. Elhard: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to make a few comments about two members who served this legislature in years previous who have recently passed away. Before I read the motions into the record, however, I'd like to present the comments.

Lloyd Edward Hampton

Hon. Mr. Elhard: — Today I rise to remember Lloyd Edward Hampton, a former member of this Assembly from the constituency formerly called Canora. I offer my sincere condolences to his family, some members of which are seated in your gallery, Mr. Speaker, today.

Lloyd was born in Tisdale, Saskatchewan in 1941, but relocated with his family to North Vancouver, BC in the 1950s. And while he completed his high school, he worked in a Chevron service station fulfilling his passion for mechanics. A few years later, he actually purchased the Chevron service station and then later married his wife, Jean.

The couple continued to be active in both the service station business and a taxi business that they operated at the West Coast. The pull home from his Saskatchewan roots proved too strong for Lloyd and his family, so in 1973 they moved to Prairie River, Saskatchewan.

From 1973 to 1982, Lloyd operated an agricultural implement business in both the Prairie River and Preeceville areas before running as a candidate for the Progressive Conservative Party in 1982.

Lloyd served the people of the Canora constituency from 1982 to 1986. Through his term in office, Lloyd dedicated himself to his constituents with the same helpful spirit and dedication to service that made him a successful service station operator and business person.

In 1986 with his term in office coming to an end, Lloyd decided to dedicate more time to his family life and to retire from politics. Lloyd and his wife split their time between British Columbia and the Canora area until Lloyd passed away on the 20th of November 2011.

May we all join together to remember Lloyd Hampton, former member of Canora, accomplished business person and family man. Mr. Speaker, the motion reads as follows:

That this Assembly records with sorrow and regret the passing of a former member of this Assembly and expresses its grateful appreciation of the contribution that he made to his community, his constituency, and to the province.

Lloyd Edward Hampton, who passed away on

November 20th, 2011 at the age of 70, was a member of this Legislative Assembly from 1982 to 1986, representing the constituency of Canora as a Progressive Conservative, independent, and Western Canada Concept member.

Mr. Hampton was born June 18, 1941 at Tisdale and was raised on a mixed farm in the Prairie River area. He was an agriculture implements salesman.

He will be missed by his family and children, Lori, Dean, and David.

In recording its own deep sense of loss and bereavement, this Assembly expresses its most sincere sympathy to members of the bereaved family.

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Provincial Secretary:

That this Assembly records with sorrow and regret the passing of a former member of this Assembly and expresses its grateful appreciation of the contribution he made to his community, his constituency, and to his province.

Lloyd Edward Hampton, who passed away on November 20th, 2011 at the age of 70, was a member of this Legislative Assembly from 1982 until 1986, representing the constituency of Canora as a Progressive Conservative, independent, and Western Canada Concept member.

Mr. Hampton was born on June 18th, 1941 at Tisdale and was raised on a mixed farm in the Prairie River area. He was an agricultural implements salesman.

He will be missed by his family and children, Lori, Dean, and David.

In recording its own deep sense of loss and bereavement, this Assembly expresses its most sincere sympathy to members of the bereaved family.

Is the Assembly ready for the question? I recognize the Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Broten: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's a pleasure to join with the Provincial Secretary this afternoon to pay tribute to Mr. Lloyd Hampton. As has been pointed out, he served in this Assembly from 1982 to 1986, and he represented the constituency of Canora.

Mr. Speaker, had Lloyd Hampton chosen to write a political memoir, I think it would have been a pretty interesting one, when we hear of some of the details of what he spent his time doing through his life and some of the political, different political involvements that he had, Mr. Speaker.

And though his political career wasn't a very long one, it certainly was a fairly intriguing one with its fair share of twists and turns. Lloyd Hampton was elected as a member of the Progressive Conservative Party in 1982, but he left the PC [Progressive Conservative] caucus in 1985 to serve as an independent member, and then to serve as a Western Canada

Concept member for part of 1986, before again serving as an independent.

So I'm sure, Mr. Speaker, that had he written a memoir, it certainly would have included some good stories. When he announced that he would not seek re-election, he spoke about the significant strain of public service on his family, and about his desire to spend more time with them.

Mr. Speaker, Lloyd Hampton put his name forward. He earned the support of his fellow citizens in an election campaign, and he represented his fellow citizens here in the legislature for four years. And for that, Mr. Speaker, we're grateful for the service, the public service that he provided, and we're grateful to his family for allowing and enabling him to do that work as an elected representative. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — Will the members take the question as read?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried. I recognize the Provincial Secretary.

Herbert Junior Swan

Hon. Mr. Elhard: — Mr. Speaker, I rise today again to remember Herbert Swan, a former Progressive Conservative member of this Legislative Assembly for the constituency of Rosetown-Elrose.

Mr. Swan was born on the 10th of January, 1927 in Beechy, Saskatchewan and attended primary and secondary school in the community of Demaine. From there he completed his studies at both the Saskatchewan Technical Institute and at Success Business College.

In 1949 he married his lovely wife, Anita Syroishka. They had four children — Karen Brenda, Bonnie Louise, Kirk Frederick, and Heather Gail — and were blessed with 12 grandchildren and several great-grandchildren.

In his life prior to being elected to this legislature, Mr. Swan had considerable business and management experience. He served on the Outlook School Division Board for 15 years and was the past president of the Provincial Executive of the School Trustees Association. From 1975 to '78 he was a director of the Canadian School Trustees Association, as well as a deacon of the Mennonite Brethren Church in the community of Beechy.

Mr. Swan was first elected to the Saskatchewan legislature in 1978. In 1982 he was elected Speaker of the Legislative Assembly. It was during his tenure as Speaker the Legislative Assembly began televised broadcasts of proceedings. Following his term as Speaker, Mr. Swan was appointed as, first, minister of Environment, and subsequently, minister of Environment and Public Safety.

Let's all join together now to remember Herb Swan, former

member for Rosetown-Elrose, Speaker of our Legislative Assembly, and dedicated family man.

Mr. Speaker, the motion that I present reads as follows:

That this Assembly records with great sorrow and regret the passing of a former member of this Assembly and expresses its grateful appreciation of the contribution he made to his community, his constituency, and to the province.

Herbert Junior Swan who passed away on May 28th, 2013 at the age of 86, was a member of this Legislative Assembly from 1978 until 1991, representing the constituency of Rosetown-Elrose for the Progressive Conservative Party. Mr. Swan served as Speaker of this Legislative Assembly from June 17, 1982 until December 2, 1986 and held two ministerial positions from 1986 to 1989.

Mr. Swan was born on January 10th, 1927 in Beechy and attended primary and secondary school in Demaine. He completed his grade 12 at the Saskatoon Technical Institute. He had considerable business management experience and farmed in the Beechy district.

He is sadly missed by his wife, Anita, and their four children as well as several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

In recording its own deep sense of loss and bereavement, this Assembly expresses its most sincere sympathy to members of the bereaved family.

I so move.

The Speaker: — Moved by the Provincial Secretary:

That this Assembly records with sorrow and regret the passing of a former member of this Assembly and expresses its grateful appreciation of the contribution he made to his community, his constituency, and to the province.

Herbert Junior Swan, who passed away on May 28, 2013 at the age of 86, was a member of this Legislative Assembly from 1978 until 1991, representing the constituency of Rosetown-Elrose for the Progressive Conservative Party. Mr. Swan served as Speaker of this Legislative Assembly from June 17, 1982 until December 2, 1986 and held two ministerial positions from 1986 to 1989.

Mr. Swan was born on January 10, 1927 in Beechy and attended primary and secondary school in Demaine. He completed his grade 12 at the Saskatoon Technical Institute. He had considerable business management experience and farmed in the Beechy district.

He is sadly missed by his wife, Anita, and their four children as well as several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

In recording its own deep sense of loss and bereavement, this Assembly expresses its most sincere sympathy to members of the bereaved family.

Is the Assembly ready for the question? I recognize the Leader of the Opposition.

[14:30]

Mr. Broten: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm pleased to be able to join in with the remarks that have already been provided by the Provincial Secretary and pay a tribute to Mr. Herbert Swan who served in this Assembly from 1978 to 1991, a significant period of time over a number of elections, Mr. Speaker, and certainly saw a lot of action from different vantage points in this Assembly.

In opposition, Mr. Speaker, on this side of the House, he served as the critic for Municipal Affairs, Social Services, and Agriculture, critic portfolios, Mr. Speaker, that are diverse and certainly would have kept him busy during his time in opposition.

After the 1982 election, Herb Swan served as the 18th Speaker of the Legislative Assembly. He served as Speaker until 1986, presiding over a very unbalanced House with a very large government and a very small opposition. But it was a small opposition, Mr. Speaker, that I know was able to punch well above its weight. But the debates over those years, Mr. Speaker, were most certainly lively and I'm sure, as a Speaker at that time, he had a big role to play and to serve in ensuring that the work of the House functioned as it ought to.

No doubt that was a raucous four years and members on both sides of the House undoubtedly gave Speaker Swan more than a few headaches during those times. After the 1986 election, Herb Swan served as the Minister of the Environment and then had public safety added to his portfolio. Then he retired from political life in 1991.

Mr. Speaker, public service is, I believe, an noble calling and something that is required in order to have a strong democracy. And whether we are on the government side of the House or the opposition side of the House, we understand the important roles that we play in representing our constituents and in working from our different sides of the House for the best interests of the province. And Mr. Swan had that opportunity as a minister, as a critic, and the opportunity to watch over the proceedings as Speaker.

Theodore Roosevelt said after his retirement from politics that a person who engages in public service is one who "... knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat."

Herb Swan indeed took a risk. He put his name on a ballot. He put his name on election signs. And he campaigned for the support of his fellow citizens, and then he represented their interests here in the legislature. He served as a minister, served as a critic, and served as the Speaker of this Assembly. For that service that he provided and his willingness to take that step and

run for public office, we're grateful for his service and we're grateful for his family for sharing him with the entire province.

On behalf of the official opposition, we would wish to extend and express our sincere condolences to his family and to his friends, especially to his wife, Anita. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Government Relations.

Hon. Mr. Reiter: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm pleased to have the opportunity to rise today and say a few words about Herb Swan. Over the years, I had the opportunity to speak to Herb on a number of different occasions, but the one that really stands out in my mind was several months after the November 2007 election. I believe it was in July of 2008, and through a mutual friend, I made arrangements to go to the farm home of Herb and Anita and have coffee with them one afternoon.

Mr. Speaker, they were so warm and welcoming. We spoke about many things that day, and politics obviously was one of those topics. What particularly stands out in my mind is Herb was a wealth of advice and concern. And what he spoke most about was to remember to keep a work-life balance. Clearly, Mr. Speaker, his family were very important to him, and I believe he always kept that in mind during his many years in politics.

Herb passed away at the end of May, as was previously said, and his funeral was on May the 31st last year. I found out about his funeral virtually at the last minute and quickly made plans to attend. And on that day, as the MLA representing the constituency that Herb had previously represented, I had an opportunity to make some comments to the media about him.

The first word that came to mind when I was speaking about Herb was gracious. I think that aptly described him. And later that day, Mr. Speaker, when I saw the Premier's comments when he offered his condolences to the Swan family, how the Premier referred to Herb was as a gracious and patient man. And it struck me that the Premier and I both used the same word to describe him, which was gracious. One of the dictionary definitions of gracious is showing a natural kindness and courtesy. I think that very accurately describes Herb Swan.

A couple of weeks ago, I called his son, Kirk, to tell him about the proceedings today, and he was so pleased that we would be speaking about his dad in the legislature today. Mr. Speaker, not only was Herb Swan a gracious and humble man, so too is his family. Several of my colleagues since the funeral last year told me that they would have attended his funeral to show their respect had they known at the time. But, Mr. Speaker, today all of my colleagues are showing their respect to Herb Swan, and we offer our condolences to his humble and gracious family. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Education.

Hon. Mr. Morgan: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the opportunity to add a few words about Herb Swan. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Swan represented Rosetown-Elrose, which is where my wife grew up. He had a busy life outside of politics. He farmed. He was a seed grower and, a particular interest to

me, he was a school board trustee and was president of what was then the Saskatchewan School Trustees Association. He served as an opposition critic, held two different cabinet portfolios, and a significant period of time as Speaker of the House.

Mr. Speaker, I knew and met Mr. Swan during the '80s. And he was, I think, definitely was the type of politician that all of us wanted to be. He was happy. He enjoyed what he was doing and enjoyed representing his constituents.

But I knew him more recently as he moved into Preston Park Residence in Saskatoon. He and Anita moved in there approximately a year or two before he passed away. He was popular and well liked within the residence and enjoyed a visit from somebody outside of the residence, especially somebody like myself that was more than willing to talk about politics.

While he was proud of his career, both as a farmer and as a politician, he remained humble and exceptionally down to earth. He was the type of person that did not want to hold forth that he had had the position of Speaker or even as a cabinet minister. He just enjoyed being Herb Swan. And, Mr. Speaker, he is the type of individual that epitomized what Saskatchewan residents are and want to be — a life well lived. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Moosomin.

Mr. Toth: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'd be remiss if I didn't take a moment to just say a few words about Mr. Swan. When I was first elected in 1986, Mr. Swan, if you will, became a dad to me. I was kind of the young pup around here at the time, and I really appreciated Mr. Swan for what he stood for. As my colleagues have already said, very gracious, very humble, and so unassuming, and yet you knew where he stood on issues. He was a man who had a lot of knowledge and an individual you could approach. And I really grew to appreciate Herb and his wife, Anita, and certainly the longer I spent around here, getting to know his family.

Mr. Speaker, one thing that really sticks out in my mind about Mr. Swan was when he was appointed minister of the Environment. And I remember the debate that took place on this floor. There's many members in this Chamber right now do not remember those days where Committee of the Whole and Committee of Finance all took place on the floor, and the minister was responsible to answer all the questions.

There was a period in time where we had a debate regarding the Rafferty-Alameda dams taking place in southeast Saskatchewan. And the opposition of the day took great offence that we would even move forward. And for one whole month, basically one whole month, day after day, 2 in the afternoon until 10 at night, Mr. Swan stood here as a minister and responded to the questions from the opposition. Never once did I hear him complain. And at the same time he happened to be, on the weekends, taking his wife south for medical care and attention.

And I just looked at that man and I thought, that takes a real man to stand up here and, without ever showing any anger or annoyance with what was going on, he assumed his

responsibilities gracefully. He treated everyone with respect, and those are features that I think sometimes maybe some of us have forgotten all about, some of those features of an individual. But certainly Herb was a gentleman that I believe really portrayed what I always envision an MLA should be. Tried to assume that, but unfortunately I've got . . . He had big shoes to follow.

Mr. Swan as well not only represented his constituents, but he had a faith that was as deep as you could find. And I respected that. And before he left office, he had been involved with the Saskatchewan Prayer Breakfast for a number of years. And he came and he asked if I would be willing to take his position on that committee, and I was really honoured that he would ask me and have had the privilege of serving on that Prayer Breakfast committee since his invitation.

Mr. Speaker, I can only say, he was a gentleman that we could all look up to, we could all learn from. And I extend my deepest sympathy to his wife, Anita, and the family, as we mourn the loss of such a great gentleman. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — Will the Assembly take the question as read?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Is the Assembly ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

TRIBUTES

David Tickell

The Speaker: — Members, I wish to advise the Assembly of the passing of a former officer of this Assembly. Mr. David Tickell, who passed away on February the 7th, 2014, was the second ombudsman for the province of Saskatchewan from 1977 to 1987.

Mr. Tickell was born on February 21st, 1936. He had a background in law and government administration. He practised law in the private sector, working in the public service in Ontario and Saskatchewan, including the Ontario Hospital Services Commission, and as senior solicitor in the Department of the Attorney General.

Mr. Tickell began as ombudsman four years after the Ombudsman's office opened its doors. His achievements as an ombudsman included a comprehensive report on foster care and advocating for the creation of the Children's Advocate, which is now the Advocate for Children and Youth.

Following his term as ombudsman, he later became the executive director of the John Howard Society and taught human justice at the University of Regina for over two decades.

Mr. Tickell is survived by his family: Sandra Pearce; his children, Melanie, Amanda, James, Jennifer, Melissa, Matthew, Sarah; and his brother, Dale.

I recognize the Government House Leader.

Hon. Mr. Harrison: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask for leave to move a motion of transmittal.

The Speaker: — The Government House Leader has requested leave to move a motion of transmittal. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Government House Leader.

Hon. Mr. Harrison: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move:

That notwithstanding rule 8(2) of the *Rules and Procedures of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan*, an audio-video record of the oral tributes together with the *Hansard* transcript and the resolutions adopted be communicated in memory of the deceased to the bereaved families on behalf of the Assembly by Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — The Government House Leader has moved:

That notwithstanding rule 8(2) of the *Rules and Procedures of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan*, an audio-video record of the oral tributes together with the *Hansard* transcript and resolutions adopted be communicated in memory of the deceased to the bereaved families on behalf of the Assembly by Mr. Speaker.

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. In order to facilitate the work of committees, 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. tomorrow morning.

[The Assembly adjourned at 14:44.]

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Elhard5189
McCall5189
Doherty5189
Steinley5189

PRESENTING PETITIONS

Forbes5189
Wotherspoon5189
Vermette5190
Belanger5190
Sproule5190

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

Student Trip to United Kingdom

Doherty5190

2014 National Aboriginal Curling Championship

Belanger5190

Canadian Ringette Championship

Steinley5191

Living in Harmony Awards

Forbes5191

Skills Canada Competition

Jurgens5191

Debate Team Places First in Competition

Wilson5192

Flood Damage Reduction Program

Moe5192

QUESTION PERIOD

Costs and Benefits of Lean Initiative

Brotten5192

Duncan5193

Planning for Children’s Hospital

Chartier5194

Duncan5194

Appointments by Governments

Forbes5196

Draude5196

Heppner5196

CONDOLENCES

Lloyd Edward Hampton

Elhard5197

Brotten5198

Herbert Junior Swan

Elhard5198

Brotten5199

Reiter5200

Morgan5200

Toth5200

TRIBUTES

David Tickell

The Speaker5201

Harrison (transmittal motion)5201

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Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs

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Minister Responsible for The Global
Transportation Hub Authority
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan
Power Corporation

Hon. Ken Cheveldayoff

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Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan
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