



THIRD SESSION - TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

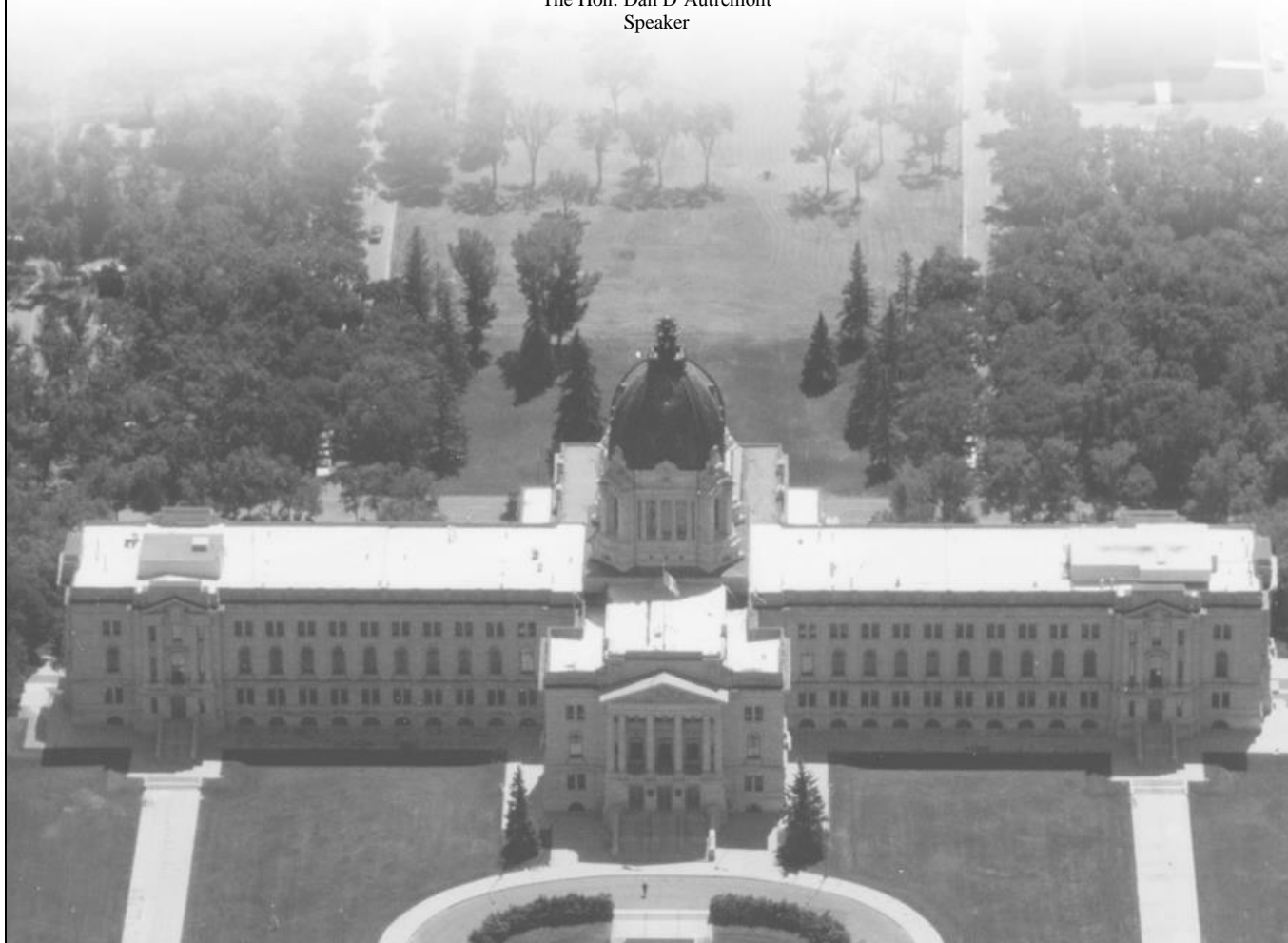
of the

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
Cox, Herb	SP	The Battlefords
D’Autremont, Hon. Dan	SP	Cannington
Docherty, Mark	SP	Regina Coronation Park
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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
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Hutchinson, Bill	SP	Regina South
Huyghebaert, D.F. (Yogi)	SP	Wood River
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Krawetz, Hon. Ken	SP	Canora-Pelly
Lawrence, Greg	SP	Moose Jaw Wakamow
Makowsky, Gene	SP	Regina Dewdney
Marchuk, Russ	SP	Regina Douglas Park
McCall, Warren	NDP	Regina Elphinstone-Centre
McMillan, Hon. Tim	SP	Lloydminster
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Merriman, Paul	SP	Saskatoon Sutherland
Michelson, Warren	SP	Moose Jaw North
Moe, Scott	SP	Rosthern-Shellbrook
Morgan, Hon. Don	SP	Saskatoon Southeast
Nilson, John	NDP	Regina Lakeview
Norris, Hon. Rob	SP	Saskatoon Greystone
Ottenbreit, Greg	SP	Yorkton
Parent, Roger	SP	Saskatoon Meewasin
Phillips, Kevin	SP	Melfort
Reiter, Hon. Jim	SP	Rosetown-Elrose
Ross, 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 13:30.]

[Prayers]

STATEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

Apology

The Speaker: — I wish to make a personal statement at the present time. Last Thursday, May 8th, I interrupted a statement by the Minister of Parks, Culture and Sport. In reflecting on my spur-of-the-moment decision, I find I was hasty and it was inappropriate to have intervened at that time. There were other means at a better time to deal with the issues. I wish to apologize for my untimely actions and ask forgiveness.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

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

Ms. Ross: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to introduce to you and through you, 46 grade 10 students from Winston Knoll Collegiate. Accompanying the students is their teacher, Michelle McKillop, and also we have some chaperones, Vonnie Schmidt and Brad Howard. So welcome to 46 grade 10 students who are seated in the west gallery. I think they've filled up that whole gallery. So it's wonderful to see you here today. We'll have a chance to have a visit shortly. So please enjoy the proceedings. Thank you very much for coming.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Government Deputy Whip.

Mr. Makowsky: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In your gallery today, we have 33 grade 12 students from F.W. Johnson Collegiate here in Regina, and they're accompanied by two of Regina Public's finest, Donarae Deringer and Kelsi Lyon. I look forward to meeting with this group after routine proceedings, so help me welcome them, please.

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

Mr. Hutchinson: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you to all members of the Assembly, it's my great pleasure to introduce some Campbell Collegiate students from here in Regina. There are 1,500 . . . or sorry, 15, not quite 1,500. There are 15, let's be very careful about that, high school students, and these are studying English as an additional language. The students come from China, from Pakistan, from India, and from Korea, and they're joined today by their teachers, Trudy Thorson and Shayne McMillen. I welcome them to their Assembly and ask all members to join in that with me.

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 in support of education. We know that education is one of the most vital services the government provides to citizens, and we know that this government has failed to deliver a long-term plan and vision and the necessary resources to prioritize the delivery of educational excellence.

And we know this government has failed to develop a real plan to close the Aboriginal education gap, support English as an additional language students, support community schools and their communities and students. And we know this government has adopted a P3 [public-private partnership] privatization approach to building schools the province needs even though the scheme will cost more than traditionally built schools and will leave out community needs in the design of the schools. And we know we must build the best education system for today and for Saskatchewan's future. I'd like to read the prayer:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your honourable Legislative Assembly call on this government to immediately prioritize education by laying out a long-term vision and plan with the necessary resources to provide the best education, quality education for Saskatchewan that reflects Saskatchewan's demographic and population changes, that is based on proven educational best practices, that is developed through consultation with the education sector, and that builds strong educational infrastructure to serve students and communities long into the future.

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 residents and communities that are concerned with safety on Dewdney Avenue. They'd like to see the trucks, the semi, heavy-haul truck traffic immediately rerouted. They recognize that this is an issue created by that government and that any further delays by that government to fix this problem are entirely unacceptable. And the prayer reads as follows:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your 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 today are signed 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. The prayer reads . . . [inaudible interjection] . . . Yes.

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

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Athabasca.

Mr. Belanger: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased once again to stand today to present a petition on highways throughout all of Saskatchewan. And this particular petition, Mr. Speaker, is in support of Highway 908, which is the only highway to service the community of Ile-a-la-Crosse.

We, in the prayer that reads as follow, respectfully request that the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan take the following action: to cause the provincial government to commit to repairing and upgrading Highway 908.

And, Mr. Speaker, this highway is in very poor shape. It provides service to the regional hospital. And the people that have signed this particular petition, Mr. Speaker, are people from Patuanak and the community of Ile-a-la-Crosse. And I so present.

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

Ms. Chartier: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to present a petition in support of a residents-in-care bill of rights. Those who have signed the petition point out that residents in care have the right to dignity, respect, and safety; that residents in care deserve basic guarantees of the quality of care they ought to receive; that residents in care have the right to individualized care that meets or exceeds minimum quality of care standards; and that it is the responsibility of the provincial government to ensure consistent standards of care in facilities throughout Saskatchewan.

We, in the prayer that reads as follows, respectfully request that the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan adopt Bill 606, *The Residents-in-care Bill of Rights Act*, which would provide Saskatchewan seniors with the right to quality, high-level standards of care in seniors' care homes.

I so submit. This petition, Mr. Speaker, is signed by individuals from Rosetown, Herschel, Vanscoy, Delisle, Biggar, and Saskatoon. Thank you.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Opposition House Leader.

Mr. McCall: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to present a petition in support of improving safety on Highway No. 1 east of Regina. The petitioners point out that the Highway No. 1 corridor between Regina and Balgonie has become unacceptably dangerous, as attested to by the number of traffic

collisions, many involving personal injury and death. The petitioners point out that the speed limit is currently 110 kilometres per hour, which is not appropriate; and that intersections with dozens of vehicles waiting to enter at rush hour are unacceptable and dangerous; and that drivers daily must risk their lives and those of other motorists just to get on and off the highway.

In the prayer that reads as follows, Mr. Speaker, the petitioners:

Respectfully request that the Government of Saskatchewan, until the overpasses are built along this corridor: (1) immediately install traffic lights at the appropriate locations along Highway 1 between Regina and Balgonie, (2) immediately reduce speed limits to appropriate levels within this corridor, and (3) take steps to ensure that the speed limits are enforced.

Mr. Speaker, this petition is signed by a great many citizens. This particular batch is signed by citizens from Regina, Lumsden, Davin, Saskatoon, Balgonie, Strasbourg, Copper Sands, and White City. I so present.

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

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

Unemployment Rates Lowest in Country

Mr. Doke: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is my honour to rise in the Assembly today to share the very exciting news that Saskatchewan's unemployment rate in April 2014 was the lowest ever recorded at 3.4 per cent.

Mr. Speaker, April marked the 16th consecutive month that our province has had the lowest unemployment rate in the country. Currently our unemployment rate, at 3.4 per cent, is less than half the national rate at 6.9. With Regina at 3.4 per cent and Saskatoon at 4.4 per cent, both cities have a lower unemployment rate than any other Canadian city.

Mr. Speaker, I'm also proud to announce that our province continues to see increases in Aboriginal employment. Off-reserve Aboriginal employment was up 2 per cent for 15 consecutive months of year-over-year increases, and Aboriginal youth employment was up 7.2 per cent for 11 consecutive months of year-over-year increases. Altogether, Aboriginal employment was 11.3 per cent, which is down from 12 per cent it was in April of last year. Mr. Speaker, these milestones are something that we all should be very proud of.

I would like to thank the business owners and workers in our province for their contribution in helping us move Saskatchewan forward. Thank you.

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

Regina Outdoor Hockey League

Mr. Wotherspoon: — Mr. Speaker, this winter, despite the countless weeks of frigid temperatures, eager families crowded the outdoor rinks of Regina to participate in the Outdoor

Hockey League.

From seasoned vets to first-timers, the OHL [Outdoor Hockey League] brings together kids from all walks of life and athletic backgrounds. The league provides families with the opportunity to become involved in the sport without the substantial financial barriers of registration and equipment expenses. Mr. Speaker, this year over 300 kids played at nine sites throughout the city. It's a wonderful opportunity to get children involved in physical activity, team camaraderie, and friendly competition throughout the winter months.

I had the pleasure of strapping on my skates and joining the crew for a good skate over at the Rosemont site on a few occasions. Nothing beats a good outdoor hockey game, especially when it's followed by hot chocolate and good conversation.

There are many people to thank for making this season a great success. Thanks to the league director, Laura Logan, for her dedication to the program; to Ranch Ehrlo for organizing; and to the main sponsors, KidSport and the Royal Bank of Canada. Special thanks also go out to the Rosemont rink crew including coaches Bradyn Parisien, and Dustin Henderson, as well as the keepers of the shack, Dennis and Judy Zawryucka.

I ask all members of this Assembly to join with me in extending our gratitude to players, volunteers, supporters, and organizers of the Outdoor Hockey League. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Government Deputy Whip.

International Nurses Day and National Nursing Week

Mr. Makowsky: — Mr. Speaker, I'd like to bring attention to the Assembly that May 12th is International Nurses Day. This date was specifically chosen because it's the birthday of Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern-day nursing. It's also the beginning of National Nursing Week which runs May 12th to 18th.

Mr. Speaker, we set aside this special time to recognize the outstanding contributions that nurses make to our health system and to our communities. Saskatchewan is fortunate to have so many highly skilled registered nurses, nurse practitioners, registered psychiatric nurses, and licensed practical nurses. They are extremely important members of health care teams and serve their patients very well.

Our government values what they do and knows how much they improve Saskatchewan's health care system. That's why, when we took office in '07, we set a goal of hiring 800 new full-time nursing positions. We did that, and in addition we've hired 200 additional nursing positions, making the total 1,000. We're seeing the fruits of that labour, Mr. Speaker. The Saskatchewan Registered Nurses' Association recently announced that the number of registered nurses and practitioners in Saskatchewan has hit an all-time high of 11,042. Twenty per cent more nurses call Saskatchewan home than they did six years ago.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate all nurses in Saskatchewan for their commitment to patient and family-centred health care, and I

thank them for their dedication to their patients and our health care system. They're making a real difference in the lives of Saskatchewan people. Thank you.

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

Ms. Chartier: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm pleased also to rise today to recognize National Nursing Week and International Nurses Day. Today and throughout the week, we have an opportunity to reflect on the difference nurses make in our health care system.

The International Council of Nurses is a federation representing over 13 million nurses all over the world. Every May 12th since 1965, the ICN [International Council of Nurses] has used May 12th to remind everyone of the high quality of nursing care and the valuable contribution of nurses to health policies.

In Canada the campaign spearheaded by the Canadian Nurses Association recognizes nurses throughout the week. The CNA [Canadian Nurses Association] has been providing leadership for the nursing profession in Canada for over 100 years. The CNA not only guides nurses in their profession, it represents their collective vision, making nurses a driving force for improvement.

[13:45]

Here in the province, much leadership has been provided by the Saskatchewan Union of Nurses, which has been fighting for safe, quality health care since 1974. It is also important to recognize the work of licensed practical nurses, psychiatric nurses, nurse practitioners, and others in the province as key members of the health care team.

Nursing is often identified as one of the most trusted professions in Canada. Many of us know a nurse who demonstrates the courage, knowledge, and support that makes their role in health care so important. Mr. Speaker, supporting our talented and motivated health workers is essential for healthy Saskatchewan people. Quality health services cannot be achieved without an adequate number of appropriately prepared nurses, and we support these organizations in their calls for better health care in the province. Thank you.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Melfort.

Walk a Mile in Her Shoes Fundraiser

Mr. Phillips: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, last Thursday evening the Minister of Justice, MA [ministerial assistant] Reagan Seidler, and myself joined 100 other walkers, mostly men, in the second annual Walk a Mile in Her Shoes event in Melfort. And yes, we were wearing ladies shoes with four-inch heels.

The walk's purpose is twofold: first to raise funds for the Angel's Lighthouse domestic violence shelter and the North East Outreach and Support Services organization. The walk was very successful in that nearly \$24,000 was raised. And I would like to mention one walker in particular, Justin Newberry, who raised an incredible \$7,002. This is outstanding, Mr. Speaker.

The second and maybe more important aspect of this walk is to raise awareness of the horrors of domestic violence. Too long this crime has been hidden in the shadows, and as a society we must shine the spotlight on the people who offend and protect those who suffer from this criminal act. Too many women, too many men, too many children have their lives victimized by these criminals. We must break this cycle of domestic and sexualized violence.

I ask that all members join with me to congratulate the NEOSS [North East Outreach and Support Services] board of directors, administration, staff, and all of the volunteers who joined to make this event happen. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Family First Radiothon

Mr. Michelson: — Thank you. Mr. Speaker, earlier this month, I along with the member from Moose Jaw Wakamow had the opportunity to participate in the 8th annual Family First Radiothon in Moose Jaw. The radio marathon was hosted by the Moose Jaw Health Foundation and 800 CHAB radio. Mr. Speaker, the Moose Jaw Health Foundation was asking for donations for the purchase of equipment for the new hospital now under construction.

I am pleased to announce that the radiothon surpassed its goal of \$500,000 and ended up with a grand total of \$688,344. Mr. Speaker, there are many people to thank for this. However I'd like to take a moment to acknowledge two of the radiothon's larger donors. Al and Bernice Fox have been generous supporters for the radiothon for a number of years. Following the passing of Al this past year, the family of Al and Bernice Fox made a donation of \$80,000. Their generosity is very much appreciated.

I'd also like to acknowledge the \$250,000 donation announced by Barrie Vice, the Saskatchewan manager, program manager for Golden West radio through the support of the Orange Benevolent Society. This is the largest donation of the radiothon's history.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that all members join in congratulating the Moose Jaw Health Foundation and 800 CHAB radio on the success of the Family First radiothon. And a special thank you to the hundreds of donors who helped in this cause. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

An Hon. Member: — Well, well, well.

Opposition Statements

Mr. Hickie: — Thank you for that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Albert Einstein once said, if the facts don't fit the theory, change the facts. Mr. Speaker, since the Leader of the Opposition assumed his role, the members opposite have taken this quote as their lone policy.

Never let things like the facts get in the way of the narrative,

Mr. Speaker. Last week the member from Saskatoon Centre accused the government of cancelling the living skills program at SIAST [Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology] when in fact the program has accepted both spring and fall applicants. And the week before that, the Leader of the Opposition accused our government of throwing out Christmas trees that were used to raise money for the Moose Jaw hospital foundation, when in fact the trees were thrown out under the reign of the NDP [New Democratic Party] when the member from Regina Lakeview was Health minister.

And not to be left out, the member from Athabasca tried to pull a fast one on the media and state that when he was minister of Highways, zero per cent of highways contracts were not completed on time, when in fact 37 per cent of those contracts came in late in 2006-07. And, Mr. Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition tried to use a personal story from the member of Melfort to distort the government's position on standards of long-term care.

Mr. Speaker, during his leadership campaign, the 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. Thank you.

QUESTION PERIOD

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

Pediatric Health Care

Mr. Broten: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Last week Lana Fidler's nine-year-old daughter, Brielle, was rushed to St. Paul's Hospital in severe pain. Even though a doctor said that urgent surgery was required to remove Brielle's appendix, there was no pediatric surgeon available in Saskatoon to help her. The doctor told Lana that they would have to send Brielle the next day to Regina.

Understandably, Lana is very upset about the treatment that her daughter received. She said this: "Is our health care system seriously that poor that we didn't have any doctor here that could help her? What happens when the next kid needs something? It's quite sad."

To the Premier: how is it possible that there was not a doctor available in Saskatoon to help Brielle?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Leader of the Opposition for the question. And while I'm unaware of the specific case he raises, it's something we'd obviously want to look very carefully at.

We want to be able to ensure the appropriate and timely care for all Saskatchewan residents, Mr. Speaker. That's why we have worked hard to invest in additional pediatric resources in the province, including a 27 per cent increase in pediatricians, for example. Mr. Speaker, it's also why we've worked very hard to move beyond talking about a children's hospital, have committed real dollars to the children's hospital that needs to be

built in the province of Saskatchewan.

Mr. Speaker, we'd also be very interested in looking into this particular case. We take these cases and all cases like them and the stories that accompany them about Saskatchewan families very seriously.

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

Mr. Broten: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Lana was told that the road ambulance would take her daughter to Regina at 5 a.m. They actually didn't leave until 6:30 in the morning, and that was incredibly frustrating for Lana because Brielle was in such tremendous pain. When they finally arrived at the Regina General Hospital around 9 a.m., they were told that the ultrasound tests from the night before had been lost and they would have to redo those tests. It wasn't until about 5 p.m. that Brielle received the required surgery that she urgently needed. Lana says it was very difficult to see her daughter Brielle in so much pain for so long.

Again to the Premier: how is it possible that Brielle did not have access to the physician that she needed to have her immediate health care need dealt with in Saskatoon?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Again I'm not aware of the specifics around this particular case, but it's something that we take very seriously. In fact, Mr. Speaker, we also have the Saskatchewan air ambulance that's available in the province of Saskatchewan at the direction of health care professionals who believe that an air ambulance is needed. And I'm not sure why an air ambulance would not have been deployed in this particular instance. Again it's something that we would want to look into.

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

Mr. Broten: — Mr. Speaker, Lana says that the nursing care that her daughter Brielle received was great. She actually talks about a little koala teddy bear being tucked in with her daughter on the long trip headed down to Regina.

Lana says that the nurses and the staff in Saskatoon were incredibly frustrated that the surgery that Brielle needed couldn't be provided in Saskatoon. Now this government has gutted pediatric care here in Regina. In fact there's no longer an ICU [intensive care unit] pediatric unit here anymore. And those services, Mr. Speaker, are supposed to be provided in Saskatoon. So it's incredibly concerning, Mr. Speaker, that there was no doctor available to help Brielle and that she had to be taken by road ambulance to Regina while in an incredible amount of pain.

My question to the Premier: if Saskatoon is supposed to be the hub for pediatric health care, how is it possible that Brielle had to go by road ambulance to Regina to get the urgently needed surgery that she needed?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — Mr. Speaker, these are important questions

that we will now ask with respect to the case as well. In this particular instance, obviously the pediatric surgeon was not available and so the decision was made for the transfer to Regina where there was surgeons available for it. Mr. Speaker, obviously a decision was made with respect to road ambulance.

But let's be very clear. In the province of Saskatchewan we have sufficiently resourced a very, very effective air ambulance. Mr. Speaker, we also have STARS [Shock Trauma Air Rescue Society]. STARS are not yet moving children around, transferring children, but certainly the fixed-wing aircraft are. And so again we would want to defer to health care professionals to make the call as to which kind of ambulance was the most effective and suitable, appropriate for each particular case. But, Mr. Speaker, be assured we'll look into this particular matter.

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

Mr. Broten: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The question was specifically, if Saskatoon is supposed to be the hub for pediatric health care here in the province as the government has stated, how is it possible that Brielle did not have access to a surgeon to get the urgently needed surgery that she required? Why did she have to come to Regina if in fact Saskatoon is supposed to be the hub for pediatric health care?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Because the pediatric surgeon was not available. That's the answer to the question. And so a decision was made for the transfer of the patient to Regina.

Well, Mr. Speaker, it's also why the government has been moving resources and planning towards the construction of a brand new children's hospital in Saskatoon, Mr. Speaker, so that there can be that critical mass of professional front-line people involved in health care for Saskatchewan children, Mr. Speaker.

Right now there's a working group that's being led within the Ministry of Health, and the Minister of Health informs me is in place to develop a plan specifically around the right complement of resources for the children's hospital in the area of pediatric care in the province of Saskatchewan, Mr. Speaker.

We have invested in additional resources in this province since coming to office in 2007. That includes increased resources around pediatrics, increased resources from what were here previously. That includes more nurses, Mr. Speaker, and just in today, that includes the reality that there are today in the province of Saskatchewan 420 more doctors practising now than there were before we took office.

More work to be done and, Mr. Speaker, we'll look into this particular case, but this government is committed to ensuring that we are investing in human resources and the appropriate facilities to provide top quality care for Saskatchewan people.

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

Global Transportation Hub

Mr. Wotherspoon: — Mr. Speaker, we knew from budget documents that this government was planning to rack up significant new debt at the Global Transportation Hub. And now we know that cabinet recently moved to increase the debt limit for the GTH by a whopping 650 per cent, from 10 million to \$75 million. To the minister: why is this needed?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister for the Economy.

Hon. Mr. Boyd: — Thank you for the question from the member. Mr. Speaker, the Global Transportation Hub is growing in leaps and bounds. There are a number of additional businesses have set up operations, and I will provide you with the list, if you choose, with respect to it. They are assembling more clients all of the time. In addition to that, they are working on the construction of a number of road networks within the facilities, utility corridors, things of that nature. I believe we are down to around 105 acres that are still left there of the initial about 800 that was developed, and they're moving to the next stage of developing the property.

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

Mr. Wotherspoon: — Mr. Speaker, there's been pretty minimal interest from the private sector in the GTH so this government's been scrambling to use public resources to keep this project going. Our Crown corporations have already been forced to support the Global Transportation Hub with a lot of money.

SLGA [Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority] spent over \$2.4 million to purchase land there. SaskPower, who the minister of the GTH is also the minister for SaskPower, spent \$27 million for their land at the GTH site and will spend a total of \$230 million to build its facility and relocate its operations to the GTH. And now the GTH debt will also be skyrocketing. To the minister: why is he struggling so much to get the job done on the GTH?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister for the Economy.

Hon. Mr. Boyd: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With respect to private investment at the Global Transportation Hub, the total private investment in the Global Transportation Hub currently stands at \$485 million. There are 732 people that are full-time employed there and there were 1,800 jobs during the construction phase of it.

When you look at private sector involvement there, Morguard has been one of the most recent ones. They have purchased 50 acres and have leased another 50 acres as an option, and they're going to be acting on that option, I am told. Emitterra has opened a facility there, \$18 million facility just recently. CP [Canadian Pacific] rail has a \$50 million investment. They've talked about expanding their operations there as well. Consolidated Fastrate has over 10,000 square feet there. The list goes on and on of private sector investments in there.

[14:00]

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

Mr. Wotherspoon: — [Inaudible] . . . Mr. Speaker, total Crown corporation debt has already increased 94 per cent under that government. After this year, according to the government's own budget documents, Crown debt will have increased by 106 per cent under its watch. That means that in seven years under this government, our Crowns will have racked up over \$4 billion in new debt, and there's no end in sight.

Now this government is increasing the debt limit for the Global Transportation Hub by 650 per cent, not counting the tens if not hundreds of millions of dollars spent on related infrastructure and spent by the Crown corporations. To the minister: how much debt in total will Saskatchewan taxpayers have to rack up for the Global Transportation Hub, and just what sort of return on investment is he looking for?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister for the Economy.

Hon. Mr. Boyd: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it's interesting, coming from this member who gets up on a daily basis and complains about truck traffic on Dewdney Avenue. Well those trucks that are on Dewdney Avenue are travelling to the Global Transportation Hub as a result of a significant amount of investment that there is at that facility, so you can't have it both ways. We don't want to have trucks, but we want to make sure that the Global Transportation Hub is growing.

But what is happening is we have the Global Transportation Hub that is growing in leaps and bounds, Mr. Speaker, and we're also taking action, we're also taking action with respect to the truck traffic out there. As the highway network is put in place — it is being built right now — that problem will be solved as well.

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

Mr. Wotherspoon: — Mr. Speaker, it's the debt at the GTH that's growing in leaps and bounds. And you know, that minister is also the Minister for SaskPower, and the Crown corporation investments at the GTH are also growing leaps and bounds. I often think it would have been an interesting conversation to watch the Minister for the GTH convince the Minister for SaskPower that he should place millions of dollars out there, Mr. Speaker. It would have been an interesting conversation.

As far as the unacceptable safety on Dewdney Avenue, when will that minister, when will that government take it seriously? When will they get those trucks off Dewdney Avenue?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister for the Economy.

Hon. Mr. Boyd: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, once again the member opposite has his facts incorrect. The SaskPower officials, through the CEO [chief executive officer], Robert Watson, approached the GTH themselves, asked for the opportunity to buy property out there.

The reason was really quite simple. They have a number of facilities in the city of Regina that they want to redevelop into the Global Transportation Hub, therefore making those properties available for redevelopment right in the city of Regina. I know the member opposite doesn't like development

in the city of Regina, but we're going to continue with development — \$485 million of development right now and counting. We will continue down that path.

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

Accommodation for People With Disabilities

Ms. Chartier: — This government has admitted that as of May 1st, there were at least 12 community living service division clients living in hospitals for extended periods of time because this government has nowhere else for them to go. But we know of at least one other that has been living at St. Paul's Hospital for a full year.

These are individuals with intellectual disabilities. They deserve to live in a home, not to be warehoused in hospitals for years at a time. To the minister: how can she possibly justify this?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Duncan: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Certainly, Mr. Speaker, the member opposite will know we had I think a very good discussion at committee about this particular issue. I think the members and the public will acknowledge the good work that's been done by this government, in particular this minister, to move forward with building new group home spaces all across this province.

Mr. Speaker, we know that for many of these individuals, they are looking for . . . We are looking at the system, and the Ministry of Social Services works closely with the Health ministry. To date, Mr. Speaker, the updated information that I do have is 12 individuals. These are all individual circumstances that we are trying to work towards, and in fact the Minister of Social Services indicated that the most recent movement out of the hospital setting into a group home was just April 9th of this year. So it in fact shows that we are making progress on this important file.

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

Ms. Chartier: — Several CLSD [community living service delivery] clients have been in hospital beds waiting for more appropriate placements for almost a year, one for more than two years. One has been in hospital waiting for a placement for four years. Another has been in hospital waiting for a better placement for seven years, Mr. Speaker — seven years. Again these are individuals with intellectual disabilities that deserve to live in a home, not to be warehoused in hospitals for seven years. To the minister: how does it make any sense to warehouse community living clients in hospitals?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Duncan: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, certainly we acknowledge that the Ministry of Social Services and the Ministry of Health need to continue to work towards finding these individuals a place to live. Certainly with the examples, and I know for the most part, and the member will know this, in some cases it's 30 days, 27 days. Yes, I

acknowledge that there are a few of those 12 cases across this entire province that are in the years. Mr. Speaker, I would say in terms of the ones for four years and seven years, those are individuals living at Saskatchewan Hospital at North Battleford.

Certainly we know that there are extenuating circumstances in some of these cases which make it difficult to find a home for these individuals. But certainly the people of this province need to know that the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Social Services work very hard to find a home for these individuals.

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

Ms. Chartier: — The main issue here is that this is not a common sense approach and it's simply not fair to these individuals to have to live in a hospital for years on end — a hospital, Mr. Speaker. But there are also significant questions about the cost of this approach. We know that it's incredibly expensive to keep someone in a hospital bed. So it begs the question why this government hasn't bothered to sort out other places for these individuals to live. To the minister: how much is it costing Saskatchewan taxpayers to keep people living in hospitals for years at a time?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Duncan: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, certainly members will know, and the public will know the work that this government has done, particularly by the Ministry of Social Services and the minister, to reduce the wait-list of 440 individuals that were waiting for placement. We do acknowledge though that there is more work to do.

With respect to these cases, and not to get into the specifics, but these are complex cases. Oftentimes individuals exhibit very aggressive or sexually inappropriate behaviour that makes it difficult to place them in community care, but we do work hard with the Ministry of Social Services. As the Ministry of Health, we do know that there needs to be more work to place these individuals in the community. That's why we're working hard together as ministries, and we will continue that work.

These 12 individuals obviously need a home. They need a permanent home, and we're working hard to do that. And in fact I think the indication from the Minister of Social Services that the most recent individual that was on this list received a home on April 9th of this year shows that we are continuing that work.

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

Ms. Chartier: — Mr. Speaker, the minister has to check his list. The update came after that April 9th move out, Mr. Speaker, so there was an additional person living in hospital.

We're concerned about all of these individuals who have been living in hospitals for extended periods of time because this government can't figure out where else to house them. And we're also concerned about what will happen when the Valley View Centre closes its doors because if this government can't figure out what to do with these CLSD clients who have been

stuck in hospitals for years, how is it possibly prepared to meet the needs of the residents of the Valley View Centre when it closes its doors? To the minister: what is the answer?

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

Hon. Ms. Draude: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As my colleague the Minister of Health indicated, not only did we address the 440 wait-list that was there when we became government; there's also been an additional over 215 individuals who we have helped to find a home and provide services to.

Just Friday, I think the member opposite is aware that we had indicated there has been one client from Valley View has moved out of Valley View. Another one has moved out today. We are continuing to merge, not only the needs of the people in Valley View but the individuals with intellectual disabilities living right across the province, into homes, more than 40 different communities in our province.

Mr. Speaker, all of a sudden the members opposite are concerned about people with disabilities, intellectual disabilities. When we became government, there was 440, not 12 people, that were waiting for services. Every one of those individuals matter to us. And we know that every one of them needs a personal plan and they need to be able to go into a home that works for them with the services that they need. We will continue to do that, Mr. Speaker. That's why we haven't got a place right now because we have to find the right place, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Chartier: — Mr. Speaker, the minister didn't answer the question. If she can't figure it out now, if there are 12 individuals living in hospitals right now, what is she going to do when the doors on Valley View Centre closes? This is the state of affairs now. What she going to do?

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

Hon. Ms. Draude: — Mr. Speaker, in the recent budget, members opposite are well aware that we intend to move at least 20 individuals from Valley View out this year. And at the same time there was additional money for people that are requiring services that live right across the province.

Mr. Speaker, we know that there is always going to be a need for homes. And not only that; they need specialized care. That's why right across this province we've been looking at homes for individuals from anywhere from two to five people in a home. We look at their plans. We look at what their families require. We look at where they need to be. And every one of them is unique and every one of them needs special care.

Mr. Speaker, I cannot believe the members opposite are finally worried about Valley View, finally worried about Valley View when we never heard a word from them when they were in government. We never heard about the 440 people on a wait-list. We never heard about the continuous need to make sure that people with disabilities were included in our

communities — not stuck in a place, in an institution, but included in the community. Mr. Speaker, every one of our people are important to us and they will continue to be part of our plans as we go forward.

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

Ministerial Relationship With Board Members

Mr. Broten: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Is the Premier familiar with the legal principle of reasonable apprehension of bias when it comes to independent tribunals like the Social Services Appeal Board?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — Mr. Speaker, there are a number of occasions in government, both in terms of the years we've been in office and the years that the NDP were in office, where someone who chairs a quasi-judicial board or an independent board that hears appeals will also consult with the minister, whether it's a Saskatchewan Party minister or whether it used to be an NDP minister, on the administration of the file, Mr. Speaker, or perhaps the structure of the boards themselves. And my understanding — I think I know where the member's going with this question — that is exactly the case here.

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

Mr. Broten: — The Premier should read from page 299 of volume 4 of Dussault and Bourgeat's *Administrative Law*, and perhaps the Minister of Justice could track down a copy. And it says this:

To have a decision by a public officer or agency set aside for bias, it is thus not necessary to prove without a doubt that prejudice or interest was present; only the existence of circumstances likely to give rise to the apprehension of bias need exist.

So, Mr. Speaker, by this government refusing to fix this, this government is leaving every single decision heard by the Social Services Appeal Board open to appeal at the Court of Queen's Bench and having those decisions overturned by the courts, Mr. Speaker.

My question to the Premier: is he not concerned that this government's refusal to fix this will leave many cases to be challenged in the courts and overturning the decisions that have been made by the independent tribunal?

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

Hon. Mr. Wyant: — Well thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as I mentioned in the House last week, members of Executive Council have responsibility for certain pieces of legislation and as part of that there are administrative and adjudicative panels that are empanelled as a result of that. They have responsibilities for that, Mr. Speaker. And as part of that, it's the administration of those panels that's very, very important to the minister. So for instance we'll sit and have a discussion with a Chair of a particular panel with respect to

administrative matters, Mr. Speaker.

And I don't need to be lectured by the Leader of the Opposition with respect to the law, Mr. Speaker, but I will tell you that when those discussions take place, Mr. Speaker, they certainly take place without any compromise with regard to the independence of those tribunals, Mr. Speaker. They'll continue to happen because they're important for the ongoing and proper and efficient conduct of those panels.

[14:15]

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

Mr. Broten: — Mr. Speaker, it would be good if we were only talking about the conversations that would occur, Mr. Speaker, to give the reasonable apprehension of bias, but it goes much more than that.

Here's what we know: the Minister of Social Services went to Ghana and London and billed taxpayers inappropriately for those expenses. The minister took her friend along for that trip. They had a \$200 personal lunch at taxpayers' expense which was only repaid once the opposition exposed that expense. The minister and the friend were chauffeured around London, Mr. Speaker, in a Mercedes, for \$3,600 a day which was only repaid once it was exposed by the opposition.

The Social Services minister then appoints that very same friend as Co-Chair of the Social Services Appeal Board, which is supposed to be — supposed to be — an independent tribunal. And the Social Services minister and her friend have had at least one lengthy conversation about board-related issues.

So again, Mr. Speaker, my question to the Premier: how does this not count as reasonable apprehension of bias?

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

Hon. Mr. Wyant: — Mr. Speaker, as I've mentioned already, these conversations happen on a regular basis and they're certainly without compromise to the independence of those panels, Mr. Speaker.

And I noted in Premier's estimates, Mr. Speaker, that when the numbers came out, this particular panel had rendered decisions against the government in more cases than was previously the case. So how the member can stand up and say there's some reasonable apprehension of bias here, Mr. Speaker, is beyond me. And in any event, Mr. Speaker, there are appeals to the Court of Appeal and the Court of Queen's Bench in those circumstances if there is some suggestion that there is a reasonable apprehension of bias which, Mr. Speaker, there is not in this case.

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

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

Social Impact Bond Supports Home for Mothers and Children

Hon. Ms. Draude: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise in the House today to share with you an important announcement that was made this morning in Saskatoon. A new home for single mothers called Sweet Dreams officially opened today. This new home was a result of a cutting-edge funding model. This funding model is called a social impact bond.

Mr. Speaker, I'm also pleased to announce that this is the first time a social impact bond has been used in Canada. Social impact bonds, or SIBs, are funding arrangements made between governments, private investors, and service providers. Under these arrangements, government sets out a specific social outcome it wants to have achieved. It acquires the money to achieve that social outcome from private investors, and it promises to pay the investors a pre-arranged sum if and only if the service provider achieves a desired outcome in a set period of time.

Mr. Speaker, let me explain how this works with Sweet Dreams. This home will provide single moms and their children, who are at risk of requiring services from child and family services, with affordable housing. While the mothers are living at Sweet Dreams, they will receive support to complete their education, to secure employment, or to participate in pre-employment activities such as life skills and parenting classes. The ultimate goal of this program is to transition the mothers and the children back into the community and to keep the family unit together during and after the program.

Under this social impact bond, the service provider is Egadz. Egadz received \$1 million from Conexus Credit Union and Wally and Colleen Mah to deliver the program and achieve the desired social outcome, which is to keep 22 children with their mothers and out of foster care.

Mr. Speaker, based on the degree to which this program is achieved, government either pays or does not pay Conexus and the Mah family the amount outlined in the agreement. The success of this goal being met will be measured by an independent assessor. Payments to the investors are calculated based on the degree to which the desired outcome is achieved and will range from 75 per cent to 100 per cent.

Any outcome less than 75 per cent of the goal will result in no payment by government but, Mr. Speaker, I am very confident that this goal will be achieved. I am confident because I know that everyone involved in this project cares a great deal about their community, about children, about parents, and about keeping families whole.

Mr. Speaker, while we anticipate this project will result in savings of government between point five four million and 1.5 million over five years, what's more important is the social impact. What's more important is that children will avoid the foster care system and they'll remain with their mothers. What's more important is that mothers will receive the support they need to rebuild their homes, to receive education, to receive . . . to find employment, and to provide for their families, the ones that they love.

We are helping the families who live there by ensuring they have a safe, healthy place to call home while they receive the supports they need. Mr. Speaker, Sweet Dreams is based on a

multi-ministry, long-term strategy that aligns with the objectives of the Saskatchewan child and family agenda.

The partnerships that were developed to make this project a reality under our government's resolve is to ensure a better quality of life for all Saskatchewan people, a goal under the Saskatchewan plan for growth. It's remarkable what can be achieved when we come together to find a unique solution to challenging problems. We thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Forbes: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. And I want to thank the minister for the advance copy of her comments. And we know that while the House was, we're in session now, but the advance, the media was in Saskatoon as well as the embargoed stuff for the MLAs [Member of the Legislative Assembly]. But we are here now talking about the Sweet Dreams project. And I think it's an important one in terms of what we can do to keep families together, to support them, and mothers and children and families whole, and make sure that they can be together through strong housing, through employment, that type of thing.

But this is an interesting concept that the minister's advancing, the idea of social impact bonds. And we did not hear about this in the Throne Speech or the budget speech or during Social Services estimates. So we didn't really get a chance to question the minister about how this will be carried out. So we'll watch this very closely.

And she has referred to the proof or the results-based outcomes. And we'll be watching this very carefully how the government develops the benchmarks and how they will measure this, the independent investigator or auditor, how that will play out and how this will actually be more efficient than the current system in place.

So the question really for the type of announcement that was today — that we can all get behind, we can all get behind what Sweet Dreams and Egadz is doing — was private money really necessary for this? Because we all value children at risk and what we can do to make sure that is reduced every day in this province.

We've been hearing about this issue for many, many years, and so it's an important concern. But the question is, was private money really necessary, in that we believe on this side of the House that the government should be making this a priority with adequate funding necessary in the budget. Did just this happen now, where the ministry found out they were going to be short of their projects and the funding, and now here they're off-loading it? So, Mr. Speaker, we will watch this very closely. Thank you.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister for the Environment.

Southern Conservation Land Management Strategy

Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Today the Government of Saskatchewan announced the implementation of the southern conservation land management strategy and the proclamation of its supporting

legislation and regulations: *The Wildlife Habitat Protection Amendment Act, 2010*, also *The Conservation Easements Amendment Act, 2010*, and the wildlife habitat and ecological land designation regulations.

Mr. Speaker, over the last number of years, the ministries of Environment and Agriculture have worked closely with conservation and agricultural stakeholders to develop and refine the strategy that was announced today. I want to acknowledge the important role that these stakeholders have played as we develop this strategy, and we look forward to continuing work with them and other groups as it is implemented. The new strategy, Mr. Speaker, accommodates both public and private ownership, using modern conservation tools to make sure that significant ecological values are maintained regardless of ownership.

Mr. Speaker, I want to be very clear about this. We will continue to protect ecological values in southern Saskatchewan. Most current, WHPA [*The Wildlife Habitat Protection Act*] designated land will continue to be protected, either through Crown ownership and WHPA designation or with Crown conservation easements. This was determined through the use of the Crown land ecological assessment tool, or better known as CLEAT.

CLEAT is a computer model that evaluates lands based on their ecological value and risk of development. The tool was developed by agrologists, biologists, and ecologists from the government and from conservation agencies. Crown lands with the highest ecological value, nearly 50 per cent of current WHPA lands, will not be sold. Another 37 per cent with moderate ecological value may be sold, but only with the protection of a Crown conservation easement held by the Ministry of Environment.

Only lands assessed as having lower ecological value may be sold without easement. These lands make up only about 15 per cent of the land currently designated under WHPA. Further, government has committed to assessing vacant Crown land and adding those with high ecological value to WHPA as a designation when appropriate. This will help maintain total acres in WHPA and ensure that high value lands are appropriately protected.

Mr. Speaker, 7 per cent of the revenue from the sale of former WHPA lands will go to the Fish and Wildlife Development Fund to support conservation of habitat protection projects. The amended legislation gives us a range of new compliance tools to make sure that ecological values are protected on designated land and that the obligations under Crown conservation easements are indeed fulfilled. These include new and expanded compliance options for enforcing conservation easements including stop work orders, equipment seizures, injunctions and fines, as well as increased penalties for contraventions.

We will continue to welcome the perspectives of all the members of the southern Crown land conservation committee as we move forward. As part of an open and inclusive process, the committee will provide a forum for discussions about land stewardship and to resolve potential conflicts while continuing to provide advice for the strategy as implemented. Thank you very much for the opportunity, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Sproule: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thanks to the minister for providing his comments in advance of his statement. Mr. Speaker, the minister's statement and the information released today regarding the sale of WHPA lands under the newly proclaimed Act raises a lot of questions for the official opposition and for stakeholders all over the province.

The minister has not explained how the price will be determined for these WHPA lands, Mr. Speaker. This will give some producers, particularly small operators, a reasonable cause for concern. The minister has not explained why over 500,000 acres of Crown land have been rated at a low ecological value and if this represents a deterioration of the value, the ecological value of those lands since they were put into protection.

Although I believe that producers are and always have been the best stewards of Saskatchewan land, the minister has not provided reason and not explained the impetus behind the decision to remove 1.8 million acres from the Crown inventory, which is a huge decrease.

Mr. Speaker, leases provide a steady return in perpetuity, benefiting all citizens in addition to the benefit for the producer who's paying reasonable lease rates. As is the case with our Crown corporations, Saskatchewan's common sense people have made it clear they prefer year over year of revenues from Crown-owned assets over a one-time sale. Surely a government benefiting from 50 per cent more resource revenue wouldn't do this just for the money.

I also have questions about the resale of this land once in private hands, especially concerning if an easement has been changed or removed by a producer and the government before selling the land. The amendments to *The Conservation Easements Act* proclaimed today will now allow for easements which are supposed to be in perpetuity to be minimized or eliminated at the minister's discretion. Certainly the minister has not explained why his government sees fit to make it possible and easier for an owner of conservation land to just apply to or reduce or eliminate the easement that's protecting the land's ecological value.

Mr. Speaker, I also wondered, while I was listening to the minister's statement, if any of these lands were bequests from private individuals who turned them over to the Crown for protection. I believe it's clear, Mr. Speaker, the minister's statement today provides producers and Saskatchewan residents who care about conservation and the protection of wildlife habitat with more questions than answers.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Bill No. 137 — *The Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Amendment Act, 2014/Loi de 2014 modifiant la Loi de 2007 sur l'Assemblée législative et le Conseil exécutif*

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

Hon. Mr. Wyant: — Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker, I move that

Bill 137, *The Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Amendment Act, 2014* be now introduced and read a first time.

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Minister of Justice and Attorney General that Bill No. 137, *The Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Amendment Act, 2014* be now introduced and read a first time. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

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

The Speaker: — When shall this bill be read a second time?

Hon. Mr. Wyant: — Next sitting of the House, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — Next sitting.

Bill No. 138 — *The Officers of the Legislative Assembly Standardization Amendment Act, 2014*

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

Hon. Mr. Wyant: — Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 138, *The Officers of the Legislative Assembly Standardization Amendment Act, 2014* be now introduced and read a first time.

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Minister of Justice and Attorney General that Bill No. 138, *The Officers of the Legislative Assembly Standardization Amendment Act, 2014* be now introduced and read a first time. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

[14:30]

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

The Speaker: — When shall this bill be read a second time? I recognize the minister.

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

The Speaker: — Next sitting.

Bill No. 139 — *The Election Amendment Act, 2014*

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

Hon. Mr. Wyant: — Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 139, *The Election Amendment Act, 2014* be now introduced and read a first time.

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Minister of Justice and Attorney General that Bill No. 139, *The Election Amendment Act, 2014* be now introduced and read a first time. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

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

The Speaker: — When shall this bill be read a second time? I recognize the minister.

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

The Speaker: — Next sitting.

I recognize the Government House Leader.

Hon. Mr. Harrison: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In order to facilitate the work of committee, 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: — Carried. This House stands adjourned to 1:30 p.m. tomorrow.

[The Assembly adjourned at 14:32.]

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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. 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 Saskatchewan
Gaming Corporation
Minister Responsible for SaskBuilds

Hon. Don Morgan
Minister of Education
Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety
Minister Responsible for the Saskatchewan
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Hon. Rob Norris
Minister of Advanced Education

Hon. Jim Reiter
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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