



FOURTH SESSION - TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

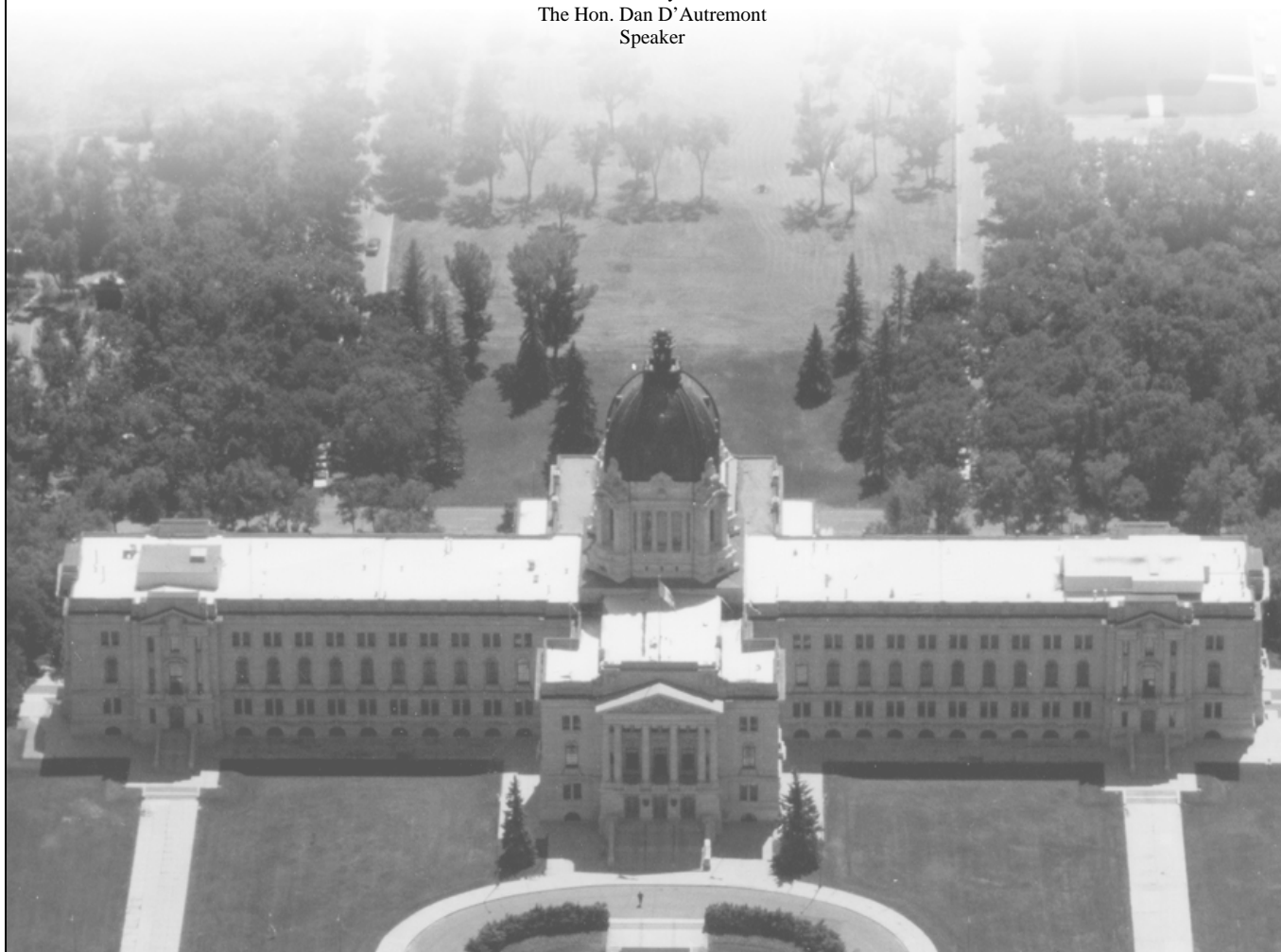
of the

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, Hon. Jennifer	SP	Saskatoon Fairview
Chartier, Danielle	NDP	Saskatoon Riversdale
Cheveldayoff, Hon. Ken	SP	Saskatoon Silver Springs
Cox, Hon. Herb	SP	The Battlefords
D’Autremont, Hon. Dan	SP	Cannington
Docherty, Hon. Mark	SP	Regina Coronation Park
Doherty, Hon. Kevin	SP	Regina Northeast
Doke, Larry	SP	Cut Knife-Turtleford
Draude, June	SP	Kelvington-Wadena
Duncan, Hon. Dustin	SP	Weyburn-Big Muddy
Eagles, Doreen	SP	Estevan
Elhard, Wayne	SP	Cypress Hills
Forbes, David	NDP	Saskatoon Centre
Harpauer, Hon. Donna	SP	Humboldt
Harrison, Hon. Jeremy	SP	Meadow Lake
Hart, Glen	SP	Last Mountain-Touchwood
Heppner, Hon. Nancy	SP	Martensville
Hutchinson, Bill	SP	Regina South
Huyghebaert, D.F. (Yogi)	SP	Wood River
Jurgens, Victoria	SP	Prince Albert Northcote
Kirsch, Delbert	SP	Batoche
Krawetz, 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
McMorris, Hon. Don	SP	Indian Head-Milestone
Merriman, Paul	SP	Saskatoon Sutherland
Michelson, Warren	SP	Moose Jaw North
Moe, Hon. Scott	SP	Rosthern-Shellbrook
Morgan, Hon. Don	SP	Saskatoon Southeast
Nilson, John	NDP	Regina Lakeview
Norris, Rob	SP	Saskatoon Greystone
Ottenbreit, Hon. 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, Randy	SP	Biggar
Wilson, Hon. Nadine	SP	Saskatchewan Rivers
Wotherspoon, Trent	NDP	Regina Rosemont
Wyant, Hon. Gordon	SP	Saskatoon Northwest
Young, Colleen	SP	Lloydminster
Vacant		Prince Albert Carlton

[The Assembly met at 13:30.]

[Prayers]

The Speaker: — Before we commence today, I would ask that this Assembly observe a minute of silence in honour of those who tragically lost their lives to acts of terrorism in Paris and Beirut. If you'd please rise.

[The Assembly observed a moment of silence.]

The Speaker: — Thank you. You can be seated now, please.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

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

Hon. Mr. Docherty: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you, I'd like to introduce some special guests seated in your gallery. Joining us today is the University of Regina Press and members from their board of directors. We have with us — just give us a wave when I say your name — Bruce Walsh, who's the director and the publisher. We've got members of his staff: Donna Grant, Dave McLennan, Karen Clark, Morgan Tunzelmann, Nickita Longman, Diane Perrick, Jeanelle Mandes. We also have board members Cara Bradley, Carol McDonald, Jo-Ann Episkenew, and David Miller.

The Press has had great success since launching two and a half years ago, producing a number of bestsellers. And there is going to be a member's statement coming up, Mr. Speaker, with more details on that coming up, but I would ask all members to please join me in welcoming these guests to their Legislative Assembly.

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

Ms. Sproule: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to join with the minister opposite to welcome these individuals to their Legislative Assembly. I certainly want to thank you for all the work you've done at the University of Regina Press, and congratulations to the board and staff for the good work and keep it up. So on behalf of the official opposition, we'd like to welcome you to your Legislative Assembly.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Rural and Remote Health.

Hon. Mr. Ottenbreit: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On behalf of my colleague, the member from Moosomin, I'd like to introduce to you and through you to all members of the Assembly, in the west gallery students from the Chief Kahkewistahaw Community School in Broadview. We have three grade 12 students from their law 30 class, Mr. Speaker: Kiauna Cote, Shaelynne George, and Maikayla Brass, and along with them is their teacher, Maria Sparvier. And I'll be meeting with them shortly after question period to have a little bit of visit downstairs. So I'd ask all members to welcome them to

their Legislative Assembly.

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

Mr. Forbes: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to ask leave for extended introductions please.

The Speaker: — The member has requested leave for an extended introduction. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

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

Mr. Forbes: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. It is indeed a pleasure to introduce many, many guests here who are in all of the galleries today. They've come to witness the delivery of a historic petition, and we'll hear more about it during petition time and member statements. But this is a pretty important time as we're getting closer to the end of this term.

And so I have with us several guests in all of the galleries, like I said, who've come here to watch this delivery of this petition that calls for the end of a privatization agenda that we've seen creep over the past four years.

So, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to start by introducing — and when I call your name, if I get it right, wave; and if I get wrong, I guess frown, I don't know — Crystal Bubbly; Bob Bymoen, the president of SGEU [Saskatchewan Government and General Employees' Union]; Dona Christianson; Muna De Ciman; Bea Fecke; Pam Keith; Diane Langlois; Angi McGarry; Curt Woytiuk; Bob Stadnichuk; Mary Ann Harrison; Greg Olson; Gail Sawatsky; Kent Peterson; and of course Larry Hubich, president of the SFL [Saskatchewan Federation of Labour]. Larry's up there, and Lori Johb, vice-president of the SFL; Debbie Lussier; Paige Kezima; Wendy Daku from CLC [Canadian Labour Congress]; and Matthew Lenson; Liz Bonter. And in the east gallery — and this is my fault — Monica Radwanski, and Wendy Love. And over in the west, we have SEIU [Service Employees International Union] members, several SEIU members: Dannel Pickering, Shelley Johnson, Janice Platzke, Esther Dupperon, Neil Calmin, and Tom Howe, Melanie Sadler, and Sharon Cameron. I would ask all members to welcome these folks to their Legislative Assembly today. Thank you.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Education and Labour Relations.

Hon. Mr. Morgan: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to join with the member opposite in welcoming these members of the public sector unions to their legislature today. Mr. Speaker, while we may not always agree politically on everything, the one thing that I think we can always agree on is the work and commitment of the public sector workers and the contributions that they make and continue to make to making our province the great place that it is. So on behalf of the government, I would like to welcome them to their legislature and also to thank them for their continuing good work in making our province wonderful. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Broten: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to join with the members in welcoming the delegation of individuals from labour here at the Assembly today. The member from Saskatoon Centre did a thorough introduction so I won't identify every individual, but I want to extend a heartfelt welcome to everyone here, in particular noting the attendance of President Larry Hubich of the SFL and the secretary treasurer, Lori Jobb, here as well, and the president of SGEU, Bob Bymoen. It's a pleasure to have all of you here, but every individual who plays a leadership role within the labour movement here in Saskatchewan.

And I want to pay one particular hello to Mary Ann Harrison, who is involved in labour and is also our candidate in Last Mountain-Touchwood. Welcome Mary Ann here to the Assembly today, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Mr. Cox: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to introduce to you and through you to the members of the Assembly, three representatives from the Saskatchewan Outfitters Association that are seated in your gallery today, Mr. Speaker. And they are here as part of the government's announcement regarding the creation of the Saskatchewan outfitters commission. We have with us today Harvey Kroll, the president of that association; Craig Blackmur, the fisheries Chair; and Kevin Rowswell, the game bird Chair.

Mr. Speaker, this commission will be an outfitter-driven and outfitter-governed organization that will ensure a healthy and sustainable outfitting industry for the future in Saskatchewan. It's going to benefit both the outfitters and the consumers in this province. And the Saskatchewan Outfitters Association, they've been the leading voice in implementing this commission and we want to thank them for all of their hard work and I'd like to ask everyone to join with me in welcoming them to their Legislative Assembly.

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

Ms. Sproule: — Mr. Speaker, again I'd like to rise and with the minister welcome these individuals to their Legislative Assembly. We know that the work of outfitters is a big, big business for Saskatchewan people and certainly draws a lot of people to our province every year. I know that the member for Regina Rosemont is very excited because this weekend is the opening day for whitetail, so he's excited to get out there and I'm sure many of your clients and customers will as well.

So again on behalf of the official opposition we'd like to welcome you to your Legislative Assembly. Congratulations on the establishment of the commission and all the best in this hunting season. Thank you.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Government Whip.

Mr. Merriman: — Mr. Speaker, to you and through I'd like to introduce a couple of special guests that we have up in your gallery, Jeff Craver and Justin Motika, who are here from

Advantage Cap looking at potential investment in Saskatchewan, and working with Joel Peterson with Hill & Knowlton to be able to make sure that they focus their investment so we can grow our economy. I want to welcome them to our Legislative Assembly today. Thanks very much for joining us.

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

Mr. Nilson: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to introduce to you and through you to all members of the legislature, 34 grade 10 and grade 12 social studies students from Sheldon-Williams Collegiate in Regina Lakeview. They are sitting in the east gallery, and they're accompanied by their teachers, Ms. Michelle McKillop and Ms. Donarae Deringer, as well as an educational assistant, Ms. Totten Cornish. And so I'd ask all members to welcome these neighbours of ours to the legislature. Thank you.

The Speaker: — At this time I'd like to join with the members of the Legislative Assembly in welcoming Maria Sparvier and her students to the class. Maria is a past committee person with the Social Sciences Teachers' Institute.

PRESENTING PETITIONS

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

Mr. Forbes: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to present a petition in support of GSAs [gender and sexuality alliance] in Saskatchewan schools. And we know this government is not doing enough to create safe spaces in our schools for sexually diverse students or students who are bullied because of their sexual identity or orientation, and that gender- and sexually diverse students are four times more likely than their heterosexual peers to attempt suicide. And we know this government must act so that students have simple, easy-to-understand information about gender and sexual alliances in their schools and how to form gender and sexual alliances and who they should talk to in order to form GSAs in their schools. I'd like to read the prayer, Mr. Speaker:

We, in the prayer that reads as follows, respectfully request that the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan call on this government to take immediate and meaningful action to pass *The Respect for Diversity — Student Bill of Rights Act* and enshrine in legislation the right of Saskatchewan students to form GSAs within their schools in order to foster caring, accepting, inclusive environments and deliver equal opportunities for all students to reach their full potential.

Mr. Speaker, the people signing this petition come from Prince Albert, La Ronge, and Tisdale. I do so present. Thank you.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Cumberland.

Mr. Vermette: — Mr. Speaker, I rise today to present a petition asking for this government to support a new long-term care facility for Creighton and Denare Beach.

Mr. Speaker, seniors have done their part to build this province, and northern Saskatchewan is no exception. According to the

2009 Croft report, long-term care status of our health region is at a code red level. Seniors from our northern communities need immediate attention from this government. Many residents cannot afford private care. The prayer reads:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your honourable Legislative Assembly may be pleased to cause the Saskatchewan government to treat northern Saskatchewan senior citizens with respect and dignity and immediately invest in a new long-term care facility in Creighton and Denare Beach area.

As in duty bound, your petitioners pray.

It is signed by many good people of Creighton and Denare Beach. I so present.

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

Ms. Chartier: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to rise again today to present a petition in support of better seniors' care. The petitioners point out that we have a seniors' care crisis here in Saskatchewan, in large measure because of understaffing across the province, Mr. Speaker, which has led to neglect of our most vulnerable individuals in this province. I'd like to read the prayer:

We, in the prayer that reads as follows, respectfully request that the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan take the following action: to cause the provincial government to immediately undertake meaningful steps to improve the quality of seniors' care in our province, including creating more spaces and more choices for seniors; ensuring higher standards of care in public facilities, private facilities, and for home care; ensuring appropriate staffing levels in seniors' care facilities; and providing more support to help seniors remain independent in their own homes for as long as they desire.

Mr. Speaker, this petition is signed by citizens from Regina. I so submit.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Opposition House Leader.

Mr. McCall: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I rise with a great deal of pride to present a petition that has been signed by thousands of citizens from across this province. I'm speaking of course of the Own it! petition, wherein the petitioners are calling on this government to say yes to public services, their importance, and their benefits to the people of Saskatchewan. Mr. Speaker:

[13:45]

In the prayer that reads as follows, the petitioners respectfully request that the Government of Saskatchewan cease the privatization of Saskatchewan's public services, including Crown corporations, and demonstrate transparency and accountability by disclosing all unredacted contracts and documentation related to public-private partnerships or any other form of privatization.

Mr. Speaker, this petition is signed, as I've said earlier, by thousands of individuals from right across this province, from 447 communities including Aberdeen, Air Ronge, Alameda, Albertville, Alida, Aneroid, Annaheim, Arborfield, Archerwill, Arcola, Arran, Asquith, Assiniboia, Atwater, Avonlea, Balcarres, Baldwin, Balgonie, Bapaume, Barthel, Battlefords, Bear Creek, Bear Paw, Beatty, Beauval, Beechy, Belle Plaine, Bellevue, Bengough, Bethune, Bienfait, Big Beaver, Big River, Big Shell, Biggar, Birch Hills, Birsay, Bjorkdale, Black Lake, Blaine Lake, Borden, Bredenbury, Briercrest, Brightsand, Broadview, Brock, Brooksby, Brownlee, Bruno, Buchanan, Buena Vista.

There we go. Buffalo Narrows, Bulyea, Burstall, Bushell Park, Cadillac, Calder, Cabri, Candiac, Candle Lake, Cando, Canoe Lake, Canoe Narrows, Canora, Canwood, Carievale, Carlyle, Carmel, Carnduff, Caron, Caronport, Carrot River, Central Butte, Ceylon, Chaplin, Chitek Lake, Choiceland, Christopher Lake, Churchbridge, Clavet, Clearwater, Cochin, Codette, Coleville, Colgate, Colonsay, Conquest, Consul, Coppersands, Coronach, Cowessess, Craik, Crane Valley, Craven, Creelman, Crystal Springs, Cudworth, Cumberland House, Cupar, Cut Knife, Dubuc, Dalmeny, Davidson. More to come here, Mr. Speaker.

Debden, Deschambault Lake, Deer Valley, Deeragun, Delmas, Denare Beach, Denholm, Dilke, Dillon, Dinsmore, Domremy, Dorintosh, Drake, Dubuc, Duck Lake, Dundurn, Dysart, Eagle Ridge, Earl Grey, Eastend, Ebenezer, Edam, Edenwold, Elrose, Emerald Park, Emma Lake, Englefeld, Esterhazy, Estevan, Eston, Ewen, Eyebrow, Fife Lake, Fillmore, Fish Lake, Fond-du-Lac, Forget, Fort Qu'Appelle, Francis, Frenchman Butte, Frobisher, Gainsborough, Gallivan, Gerald, Girvin, Glaslyn, Glen Ewen, Glenavon, Glenbush, Goodeve, Goodsoil, Govan, Grand Coulee, Grandora, Gravelbourg, Grayson, Green Lake, Grenfell, Griffin, Gronlid, Gull Lake, Hafford, Hagen, Hague, Halbrite, Hall Lake, Hanley, Harris, Hazlet, Hepburn, Herbert, Herschel, Heward, Hodgeville, Hoey, Holbein, Holdfast, Holt, Hubbard, Hudson Bay, Humboldt, Ile-a-la-Crosse, Indian Head, Insinger, Invermay, Ituna, Jedburgh, Kamsack, Kawacatoose, Kelliher, Kelvington, Kenaston, Kendal, Kenosee, Kerrobert, Killaly, Kincaid, Kindersley, Kinistino, Kipling, Kuroki, Kronau, Krydor, Kyle, La Loche, La Ronge, Lafleche, Lake Lenore, Lampman, Lancer, Landis, Lang, Langenburg, Langham, Lanigan, Lashburn, Leader, Leask, Leuret, Lemberg, Leoville, LeRoy, Lestock, Limerick, Lintlaw, Lisieux, Litan, Livelong, Lloydminster, Loon Lake, Lucky Lake, Lumsden, Luseland.

Maddowall, Macklin, Macoun, Maidstone, Makwa, Manitou Beach, Manor, Maple Creek, Marcelin, Margo, Marquis, Martensville, Mayfair, Maymont, Mayview, McCord, McLean, McTaggart, Meacham, Meadow Lake, Meath Park, Medstead, Melfort, Melville, Meota, Mervin, Meyronne, Midale, Middle Lake, Mikado, Mildred, Mildred, Milestone, Mistatim, Mont Nebo, Montmartre, Montreal Lake, Moose Jaw, Moosomin, Mortlach, Mossbank, Muenster, Mullingar, Muskeg Lake, Muskoday, Naicam, Neudorf, Nekaneet, Nipawin, Norquay, North Battleford, Northside, Ogema, One Arrow, Onion Lake, Osage, Osler, Outlook, Oxbow, Paddockwood, Pakwaw Lake, Pambrun, Pangman, Paradise Hill, Parkbeg, Parkside, Pasqua, Paynton, Pelican Lake, Pelican Narrows, Pelly, Pense, Perdue, Pierceland, Pike Lake, Pilot Butte, Pinehouse, Piapot First

Nation, Pleasantdale, Porcupine, Portreeve, Potato Lake, Preeceville, Prince Albert, Punnichy, Qu'Appelle, Quill Lake, Quinton, Rabbit Lake, Radisson, Radville, Rama, Rapid View, Raymore, Raynine, Red Earth, Redvers, Regina, Regina Beach, Rhein, Riceton, Richard, Richmond, Rocanville, Rockglen, Rockhaven, Rouleau, Rose Valley, Rosetown, Rosthern, Rouleau.

Saltcoats, Sandy Bay, Sandy Beach, Saskatoon, Sedley, Semans, Shaunavon, Shell Lake, Shellbrook, Shipman, Sibbald Lake, Sifton, Simmie, Sinaluta, Snowden, Sonningdale, Southend, Southey, Speers, Spiritwood, Spring Valley, Springside, Spruce Home, Spruce Lake, Spy Hill, St. Brieux, St. Denis, St. Louis, St. Victor, St. Walburg, Stanley Mission, Star City, Stenen, Stockholm, Stony Rapids, Stoughton, Sturgeon County, Sturgeon Lake, Sturgeon Valley, Sturgis, Sunset Cove, Swift Current, Sylvania, Theodore, Timber Bay, Tisdale, Togo, Torquay, Tribune, Trossachs, Turnor Lake, Turtleford, Tuxford, Tyvan, Unity, Vanguard, Vanscoy, Veregin, Verwood, Viceroy, Victoire, Viscount, Vonda, Wadena, Wakaw, Waldheim, Waldron, Wapella, Warman, Waterhen Lake, Watrous, Watson, Wawota, Webb, Weirdale, Weldon, Weyburn, White City, White Fox, White Cap, Whitewood, Wilkie, Willow Bunch, Willowbrook, Wiseton, Wollaston Lake, Wolseley, Wood Mountain, Woodrow, Wroxton, Wymark, Wynyard, Yarbo, Yellow Creek, Yellow Grass, Yellow Quill, Yorkton, Young, Zehner, and Zenon Park. I so present, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Nilson: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to present a petition in support of better schools. And the prayer from these petitioners who are located in the city of Saskatoon:

We, in the prayer that reads as follows, respectfully request that the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan call on this government to immediately stop ignoring schools and start prioritizing students by capping classroom sizes, increasing support for students, and developing a transparent plan to build and repair our schools.

I so submit, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

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

Terrorist Attacks in Paris

Mr. Elhard: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On Friday night the world watched in horror as France was targeted by terrorism. Paris was racked by a series of shootings and explosions which killed at least 129 people and injured hundreds more. Mr. Speaker, we pray for those lives lost, for their families who are in pain without them, and for all of France as that country tries to overcome the horrors of that fateful night. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to say thank you to all the police officers, first responders, and citizens who worked to protect and save the lives of others.

Mr. Speaker, we also mourn for those struck in terrorist attacks recently in Beirut, Baghdad, and Egypt.

Just a few days ago we marked Remembrance Day and the bravery of men and women who have acted to protect our country from the evil ideology of those who oppose our way of life. This event recently is a sad reminder that those threats still exist.

I ask all members of this Assembly to keep the families and friends of those who have lost loved ones in these horrific attacks in our thoughts and prayers. France, all of Canada stands beside you. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Broten: — People around the world were horrified and saddened by the terror attacks last week, in Lebanon on Thursday and in France on Friday. Both attacks were in public areas where ordinary families were just going about their lives.

In Beirut, many months of peace were shattered when at least 44 people were killed and 240 wounded by two suicide bombings in a crowded marketplace. And in the worst violence in France since World War II, at least 132 people were killed and more than 350 injured in seven attacks at a stadium, concert hall, and restaurants and cafes in Paris. ISIS [Islamic State of Iraq and Syria] has claimed responsibility for both of these appalling attacks.

I know all of us strongly condemn this senseless violence. Our heart aches for everyone whose lives have been devastated by these heinous acts on democracy and freedom. And our hearts ache for all those in Syria and Iraq who live with the tyranny of ISIS every day, many of whom have been displaced from their homes by the violence. The attacks in Paris and Beirut and the ongoing tyranny in Iraq and Syria bring to mind the words of Somali-British poet, Warsan Shire:

i held an atlas in my lap
ran my fingers across the whole world
and whispered
where does it hurt?

it answered
everywhere
everywhere
everywhere.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Diwali Supper Gala and Saskatchewan Multicultural Week

Ms. Ross: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday I along with the member of Regina Coronation Park and the member for Rosemont had the pleasure of attending the India Canada Association of Saskatchewan's Diwali supper gala in Regina. Thank you to Poonam and Nish for their committee and their hard work for organizing this very successful event. It was a wonderful evening filled with music and dancing and delicious food.

Mr. Speaker, Diwali is often referred to as the festival of lights.

It is an important Hindu festival celebrated each year by Hindus and other people of Indian descent in October or November. The Diwali festival is a spiritual festival that signifies the victory of light over darkness, good over evil, and hope over despair.

Yesterday's gala was an excellent way to kick off Multicultural Week and to celebrate the diversity of cultures here in Saskatchewan. Mr. Speaker, the government and the Multicultural Council of Saskatchewan have proudly partnered to proclaim November 14th to 22nd Saskatchewan Multicultural Week.

Multicultural Week is an opportunity to recognize our growing diversity and to foster harmonious relations among people with unique cultures and ethnic backgrounds. This year's theme is Strength in Diversity. Diversity makes us strong, our society stronger, bringing our residents closer together, and strengthens our communities.

Mr. Speaker, Saskatchewan was the first province to enact multiculturalism legislation in 1974, recognizing the right of every community to retain its identity, its language, and its traditional arts for the mutual benefit for all citizens. Saskatchewan is proud of our multicultural community which reflects our motto "from many peoples, strength." Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Opposition House Leader.

Support for Public Services and Crown Corporations

Mr. McCall: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. We are joined here today by a number of hard-working men and women from Saskatchewan's labour movement and the Own it! campaign. They've collected 17,247 signatures from people in 447 communities right across this province, plus 2,099 signatures online in support of strong public services and Crown corporations, something for which this official opposition has been fighting for for many years.

On this side of the House, we know that strong Crown corporations generate billions of dollars of revenue for schools, hospitals, and roads, and the revenues from Crown dividends help to keep taxes low for Saskatchewan families.

[14:00]

Unfortunately this government refuses to value our public servants, instead focusing on their ideological privatization agenda. We saw them sell off the Information Services Corporation at a discount. We've seen it with their P3 [public-private partnership] rent-a-school scheme that forces school boards to pay more for schools that are too small before they even open. We've seen it with the privatization and outsourcing of laundry and food services in the public sector, killing off dozens of jobs that paid a living wage. We've seen it with the \$1.8 billion-and-growing Regina bypass project that will see a French corporation handle the snowplowing and maintenance.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in recognizing the importance of our strong public services and Crown

corporations and in thanking those who are here today with their important message: Saskatchewan belongs to everyone. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Creative Saskatchewan Funding and University of Regina Press

Mr. Marchuk: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The University of Regina Press has had a great deal of success since its launching just two and a half years ago. *Clearing the Plains*, *The Education of Augie Merasty*, and *Children of the Broken Treaty* are examples of national successes. The Press has also had a number of local and regional accomplishments. *Rogues and Rebels: Unforgettable Characters from Canada's West* and *Sons and Mothers: Stories from Mennonite Men* are just two examples.

Mr. Speaker, the Press's contribution extends beyond telling Saskatchewan stories and producing bestselling books. They also have published five First Nations language readers, including Cree language, Woods Cree, Blackfoot, Saulteaux, and Lillooet.

Of course, this would not be possible without the support of Creative Saskatchewan. To date, Creative Saskatchewan has provided over \$12 million in funding to creative producers right here in our province. This financial assistance provided by the province has allowed the Press to establish itself as a publisher that receives national and international media attention, which resulted in the winning of the Governor General's award for history

From music, film, and theatre to publishing, fine arts, and crafts, the province now provides support to all creative producers. Mr. Speaker. We will continue to provide this support and encourage our creative producers to continue their great work right here in Saskatchewan. Thank you, Mr. Speaker

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

Peacock Tornadoes Win Provincial Championship

Mr. Michelson: — Thank you. Mr. Speaker, today I congratulate the Moose Jaw Peacock Tornadoes on their third straight provincial 3A provincial championship. This past Saturday, the Peacock Tornadoes took on the Bishop Mahoney Saints in Saskatchewan high school 3A provincial football finals held in Saskatoon.

Mr. Speaker, the Tornadoes pulled off a huge win, defeating the Saints 23 to 5. In the second quarter, Peacock's lead was 6 to 3, but midway through the third quarter they made an offensive style change which led them to victory over the Saints. Peacock's junior defensive end Griffin Barrett said:

The hard work of all the players and the dedication that all the coaches have really shows. A lot of this goes back to the senior guys that were on the team that won in 2013. They really prepared us for what it takes to be successful.

Mr. Speaker, the 2013-2015 Peacock Tornados are only the third team to win consecutive three-peat 3A provincial titles. The only other two times were the 1972 to 1974 Peacock team and the 2001 to 2003 Central Cyclones, also of Moose Jaw.

Mr. Speaker, the Peacock Tornados have had an extremely successful season, with Saturday marking their 29th consecutive win for the team. I ask all members of the House to join me in congratulating the Peacock Tornados, the provincial champions. Thank you.

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

Junior Citizens of the Year

Mr. Steinley: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my privilege to stand in this Assembly today and acknowledge four incredible young people. Megan Allard, Jade Shivak, Isabel Gagne, and Alicia Totten were recognized on November 3rd as the recipients of the Saskatchewan Weekly Newspapers Association's Saskatchewan Junior Citizen of the Year.

These recipients were chosen based on how they have positively influenced others, how they assist those in need, their participation in extracurricular activities, the attitude they have towards life, and the extraordinary things they've done in such a short time. Mr. Speaker, these young people represent our strong Saskatchewan values.

It was my privilege to attend the awards ceremony on November 3rd. This event was hosted by Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan and attended by the members from Qu'Appelle Valley, Rosthern-Shellbrook, and Lloydminster, as well as dignitaries and guests from across the province. It was an amazing event where all those in attendance had a special chance to honour these four young people.

It is with pride that I acknowledge two of the recipients who not only call Regina, but our constituency, Regina Walsh Acres, home: Isabel Gagne and Alicia Totten.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to thank the sponsors of this event, the Saskatchewan Weekly Newspapers Association and SaskPower. SaskPower donates \$3,000 a year in bursaries to each recipient, and they're well deserved.

I ask all members to join me in congratulating these amazing young ladies. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

QUESTION PERIOD

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

Cardiac Rehabilitation Program Fees

Mr. Broten: — People who need cardiac rehab in Regina have to pay five times what people in Saskatoon have to pay. It's \$90 in Saskatoon, but it's \$440 here in Regina. Now the Health minister's excuse for this is that the two health regions are "... in two different fiscal situations." Is the Premier actually comfortable with that excuse?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — Mr. Speaker, I thank the Leader of the Opposition for the question. I know this was a matter of some focus and debate last week in the legislature, as it quite rightly should be. I know that the folks at Paul Schwann have indicated, as a result of the issue being raised and likely prior to that, that they're willing to work with anyone who is wanting to make use of the facility but is finding it a financial hardship. There are some longer term issues around equality and the fees that will be the focus of government as we go through a bit of a budgeting process now, but in the meantime we welcome the fact that Paul Schwann has indicated willingness to work with anyone that's finding it difficult to afford the fees for the service.

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

Mr. Broten: — Mr. Speaker, there is a huge discrepancy in this province in what cardiac rehab patients are having to pay, Mr. Speaker. They shouldn't rely on one-offs. They should have a policy that is fair and equitable for every patient here in Saskatchewan, Mr. Speaker.

David Wood is here today. He received two heart stents last year and his doctor referred him to the cardiac rehabilitation program here in Regina. But David didn't go because he couldn't afford it. The costs were way too high. Mr. Speaker, I do not think that is fair. But the worst part is that the Heart and Stroke Foundation says David's experience is not remotely isolated. The Heart and Stroke Foundation, Mr. Speaker, says that this is common. What does the Premier have to say to David Wood and every other person who can't afford cardiac rehab they need here in Regina?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Well we would want for Mr. Wood and all others who need the service that they could be able to access the service. And so we've appreciated that the Paul Schwann Centre has indicated a willingness to work with the patients, with those who require the service through this particular period of time where there is a difference in terms of the cost, Mr. Speaker, and we look forward to the longer term solution. In the meantime, we encourage the Paul Schwann Centre to work with all of those folks, including Mr. Wood, who would like to have access to the service, who are, however, finding it difficult to afford the current fees.

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

Mr. Broten: — Mr. Speaker, where is the leadership on fixing this problem? Mr. Speaker, we have an approach here. They say, oh, it's not a big deal, just a one-off talk. Mr. Speaker, we have a huge imbalance going on, and we have the Premier, who doesn't seem to care one bit about it, Mr. Speaker, and is happy to have patients in Saskatoon paying \$90 and patients in Regina paying five times. You know, the Premier said he would encourage Mr. Wood and others to speak with the Paul Schwann Centre, Mr. Speaker. I would encourage the Premier and the Health minister to fix this problem because it is completely unacceptable for Saskatchewan patients.

Mr. Speaker, it is not fair. It is the provincial government's job to make sure that standards are in place and that those standards are met so that Saskatchewan patients can count on the health care that they need no matter where we live here in the province of Saskatchewan. Not being able to access proper cardiac rehab when you need it is dangerous, Mr. Speaker, and it is appalling that a financial barrier would be an impediment to people receiving the health care that they need and that they deserve. My question to the Premier: how can he possibly, how can he possibly justify his government's lack of concern and lack of attention to fix this issue?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Duncan: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as I mentioned last week when we had the discussion on this topic, certainly the cardiac rehab program is something that is run by Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region, as it is in other locations across this province.

They have decided, based on the fact that only about 30 per cent of referred patients were actually attending the exercise component of that, that they wanted to ensure that, as a minimum, that the educational programming could be accessible as much as possible across the city of Regina, knowing, Mr. Speaker, that this is a program as not only the cardiac rehab program. There's not only an exercise component; there is the educational component.

The same would be true with Live Well with Chronic Conditions, another program that is operated by regional health authorities that we as a province helped to establish what the programs and the policies will be, and then ultimately will be up to the regional health authorities to determine how it will be best to operate those programs.

I'm pleased to hear that the Paul Schwann is reaching out to work with patients that are having difficulties financially. We'd certainly encourage the other 70 per cent of patients that have not attended the program to consider the program as it has been recommended by their physicians.

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

Mr. Broten: — Mr. Speaker, this is a pathetic display of leadership that we see coming from this government on this issue. Absolutely ridiculous to suggest, Mr. Speaker, that patients should go speak to the Paul Schwann and get a one-off.

How about this government wakes up and realizes that there is a problem, that the patients in Saskatoon are paying \$90; patients in Regina are paying five times that. This is the Health minister, not the minister of healthy suggestions. This is the Premier, Mr. Speaker, who should be showing some leadership and recognizing that this is not acceptable in today's Saskatchewan, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, this is a \$90,000 cut that this government forced upon this program. We know people in Regina are paying five times what folks in Saskatoon are paying. And the evidence shows, Mr. Speaker, the evidence clearly shows that proper cardiac rehab saves \$28,000 in health costs per person. So the Sask Party's \$90,000 cut, Mr. Speaker, it's not only unfair, but

it is incredibly irresponsible fiscally.

So my question, Mr. Speaker, to the Premier: if he won't be persuaded by the moral argument, will he at least be persuaded by the financial argument?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Duncan: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, certainly we understand . . . I understand and the ministry understands that this is a program, whether it's offered in Regina or other parts of the province, knowing that's it's not available in every single community, but where it is provided and where it is offered, that we encourage people that have been referred to the program — cardiac, post-cardiac patients that are referred to the program — take a serious look at investing their time in terms of actually going through with the exercise component.

We know that people have other options. They decide to explore other options in terms of exercise that is perhaps more accessible to them. Some people, we know, choose not to take part in an exercise component. Certainly the Paul Schwann Centre, I believe, would be able to defer the costs even greater if more people did take part aside from just the 30 per cent that do enter into the program.

But we are working with the Paul Schwann to see if there is a way to help to ease the financial costs for people that do choose to enrol, the 30 per cent that do choose to enrol over a longer period of time, so that it is more financially viable for those individuals which may help to increase the numbers and get it up over that 30 per cent.

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

Mr. Broten: — Mr. Speaker, David Wood deserves government leadership much better than what we just saw from the Premier and the Health minister, Mr. Speaker, and so too does every other cardiac patient here in Saskatchewan. The minister says he understands. I would suggest he doesn't understand, Mr. Speaker, because he is giving the same nonsense lines that we heard last week. And the Premier's making no commitment. They have known about this issue, Mr. Speaker, for months and months but they've made no commitment to fix this so that it is equitable for all Saskatchewan patients, Mr. Speaker.

We know because of the Sask Party's cut and their stubbornness to wake up and realize that this is a problem that needs to be fixed, we know that patients will end up back in the hospital. We know, Mr. Speaker, that it's going to cost our health care system a lot more. And tragically, Mr. Speaker, it means that more people will die prematurely because they don't have the proper care that they need.

Mr. Speaker, this is an incredible lack of leadership that we see coming from this government, from the Premier right now, Mr. Speaker, to not get up and say that this problem will be fixed right away and it will be fair for all Saskatchewan people. He needs to do that today, Mr. Speaker. Why won't he just stand today, admit that this government's approach on this is a mistake? Why won't he fix this now?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

[14:15]

Hon. Mr. Duncan: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we know that there has been for some time discrepancies in terms of the programs that have been offered to the people all across this province — not just in Regina, not just in Saskatoon. For example, Mr. Speaker, Live Well with Chronic Conditions wouldn't have been a program that would have been eligible for individuals all across this province in years past. We have changed that. We are working with our health regions to deploy programs like Live Well with Chronic Conditions all across this province so you don't just have to live in Regina or Saskatoon where you may have additional options as opposed to people across this province — represented largely on this side of the House — that may not have had those options under the members opposite.

We are working closely with the University of Regina, with the Paul Schwann to determine whether there is a way that the university, the Paul Schwann Centre can spread those costs over a longer period of time with the support of those people that are signing up if they will commit to a longer period of time which is in the best interests of their health as well, and we look forward to continuing those discussions.

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

Carbon Capture and Storage Project

Ms. Sproule: — Mr. Speaker, this government's head of carbon capture was in Saudi Arabia a couple weeks ago and he was in London, England last week. And it appears he still isn't telling the full story about what's really happening with this government's one and a half billion dollar carbon capture project.

So to the SaskPower minister: why is this government still touting this project as such a grand success?

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

Hon. Mr. Boyd: — Mr. Speaker, this is a project that is working in Saskatchewan. Now as a result of some recent changes that they've made in the facility, the project is working pretty well, Mr. Speaker, in recent days down there, reaching nameplate capacity in the last several days. So we're very pleased about that.

They are going to continue to monitor the project going forward. In addition to that, SaskPower is going to continue to promote the project around the world because the international audience, I believe, Mr. Speaker, is very interested in this project and wants to hear about the project from the SaskPower representatives that have been sent to those meetings.

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

Ms. Sproule: — There were many, many tweets about the head of carbon capture's presentation in England last week, and

those tweets were quite interesting. They report that he said the Boundary dam project is a huge success and that the project captured — captured, past tense — 1 million tonnes of CO₂ in its first year. But of course we know that's not even close to true.

But it's understandable why these things were tweeted because this government's fancy promotional video says the project is "... capturing 1 million tonnes of CO₂ a year." So it's no surprise that people are left with an impression that is very far from reality.

So how can the SaskPower minister explain why this government is still hyping an inaccurate story about its \$1.5 billion carbon capture project?

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

Hon. Mr. Boyd: — Some guy wrote a tweet about what was said somewhere and somebody has to be responsible for that? Oh my Lord, Mr. Speaker.

You know, Mr. Speaker, the fact of the matter is that SaskPower is making steps in the right direction with respect to this. They are certainly taking CO₂ out of the atmosphere that would normally be going into the atmosphere here in Saskatchewan — 400 000 tonnes.

They are running at much better capacity than they have been in the past several days, Mr. Speaker. We're very optimistic that we'll continue to see that, Mr. Speaker. The target is about 1 million tonnes per year, Mr. Speaker. We're confident that SaskPower and the engineering team that they have will reach that target in the future.

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

Ms. Sproule: — Mr. Speaker, they're tweeting about his promotional video and they're tweeting about what his head of carbon capture is saying at international conferences. And despite this government's best efforts, the world is taking notice and they don't like what they're seeing.

Senator Joe Manchin of West Virginia is one of the senators that the Premier has met with personally, thanks to his \$3 million American lobbyist that we're all paying for. Well this senator is not too happy to find out what's really going on at Boundary dam. Last week he called it "a very troubled project," and he said it was "failing." Senator Manchin says the US [United States] government should not have trusted what this government told them. He even references this government's news release from last February which said the project was exceeding expectations.

Is the SaskPower minister at all embarrassed by the inaccurate stories that this government has been spreading?

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

Hon. Mr. Boyd: — Mr. Speaker, clearly there are people on both sides of this issue, without a doubt. The NDP [New Democratic Party] want to see the coal industry in

Saskatchewan shut down. That's clear. They want the IBEW [International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers] workers down there to be thrown out of a job. That's clear, Mr. Speaker. They don't like coal. They don't like oil in this province. They don't like the nuclear industry. They'd like to throw all of those people out of work, Mr. Speaker. But the fact of the . . .

[Interjections]

The Speaker: — The opposition asked the question; perhaps they'd like to have the response. I recognize the minister.

Hon. Mr. Boyd: — Virtually all of the energy sources here in the province of Saskatchewan that we use in great amounts, Mr. Speaker, the NDP, and particularly the member from Nutana, would like to see shut down — all of those workers thrown out of work, Mr. Speaker. But that's their position, Mr. Speaker.

International Energy Agency though has a very different view, Mr. Speaker, when they welcomed the launch of the world's first large-scale power station equipped with carbon capture and storage technology, calling it a historical milestone along the road of low-carbon energy efficiency.

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

Ms. Sproule: — Mr. Speaker, Senator Manchin is on the Energy and Natural Resources Committee in the United States Senate, and the Premier got his \$3 million American lobbyist to arrange a meeting with Senator Manchin in order to hype this project. In fact the Premier's Facebook post about his meeting with Senator Manchin said, ". . . told him about our clean coal technology at Boundary dam 3."

Well that same senator isn't too happy about all the misinformation surrounding the Boundary dam project. He says that the glowing performance results touted by this government are ". . . nothing more than marketing spin and hyperbole, with the true results reflecting a very troubled project." This was last week, Mr. Speaker. Nothing more than spin and hyperbole to hide the true results of a very troubled project. What does the SaskPower minister have to say about this?

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

Hon. Mr. Boyd: — Mr. Speaker, we have said right from the very outset that there have been problems associated with this facility. In recent days, in recent days, Mr. Speaker, the facility is operating in a much better capacity than it has. And if you look at it, if you look at the steps that SaskPower is taking, Mr. Speaker, back in 1990 the CO₂ emissions intensity in Saskatchewan was 789 tonnes per gigawatt hour. Under the NDP in 1992, it rose to 950 tonnes per gigawatt hour here, Mr. Speaker. In the most recent year — 2014 — that there's information available for it, it has dropped to 660 tonnes per gigawatt hour, a 28 per cent reduction under than when the NDP were in operation, Mr. Speaker.

So clearly there's more work to be done on this facility, Mr. Speaker. Clearly there's more opportunity here though for the province of Saskatchewan, and that's why I think the people of Saskatchewan in large measure are very supportive of this

project.

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

Ms. Sproule: — Mr. Speaker, this government's careless and wanton recklessness in promoting a project that isn't even working yet is shredding the reputation of Saskatchewan in the international community, and we have a Premier who's heading to Paris for international talks soon and we don't have any sort of remorse, no answer from this minister.

So we're going to try it again. Is the minister not at all concerned about the fact that a United States senator is writing to the EPA [Environmental Protection Agency], telling them about hyperbole, marketing spin, and a very troubled project?

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

Hon. Mr. Boyd: — Mr. Speaker, if you look around the world you'll find people from all over the world that are saying that this is a good project for the province of Saskatchewan. The University of Melbourne:

Through the development of the world's first and largest commercial-scale CCS project of its kind, SaskPower is making a . . . [valuable] technical, environmental and economic case for the . . . use of coal.

We certainly support that, Mr. Speaker. We made the decision around coal, the use of coal, going forward, Mr. Speaker. We have some 2 or 300 years supply of coal in our province. We have hundreds of workers down in the southeast part of our province, that their livelihoods and their jobs depend on the use of coal here in Saskatchewan, Mr. Speaker.

The people of Saskatchewan want to see emissions cleaned up. That's why we're moving in this direction, Mr. Speaker. It's time the NDP got on board with this project rather than just going around and bashing it.

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

Ms. Sproule: — Mr. Speaker, this government really needs to stop trying to argue that this kind of mess is normal. SaskPower's president told a small group of industry insiders last April that — this was in April: "We expect to be in full capacity by about June this year." Then he went on to say it takes several months to work out issues. But now we know it's going to take several years to get it up and running, and this is clearly not normal. This is a mess. No wonder international observers like Senator Manchin are saying this is a "very troubled project."

So to the minister: when will this government stop insulting people's intelligence with what Senator Manchin says is nothing but marketing spin and hyperbole?

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

Hon. Mr. Boyd: — SaskPower will be responding to the senator's comments with respect to this and correcting the

record in a number of areas, Mr. Speaker. They'll be doing that very soon, Mr. Speaker.

But I think that . . . The people of Saskatchewan I think are very clear on this subject, Mr. Speaker. They want to see, they want to see CO₂ emissions cleaned up in Saskatchewan. After all, we have targets with respect to this, Mr. Speaker. As you look at what's happening in Paris in the . . . Very, very soon, Mr. Speaker, there will be a lot of talk about CO₂ emissions. At least this is a step in the right direction, Mr. Speaker.

I think the people of Saskatchewan want to see 400 000 tonnes, rising to 1 million tonnes at some point in the future, Mr. Speaker, tonnes of CO₂ captured and sequestered in the province of Saskatchewan, Mr. Speaker. And at a time when we have IBEW's workers at risk as a result of the NDP's views on this subject, Mr. Speaker, I think that, I think the people of Saskatchewan are very, very interested in terms of . . . particularly when we have the galleries as full of union supporters as there are, Mr. Speaker. I'd be interested in knowing what their thoughts are on the jobs that the IBEW people occupy down at Estevan today, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — I would ask members on both sides of the House to allow the question to be asked and a response to be given without interruption. I recognize the member for Regina Rosemont.

Provision of Government Services

Mr. Wotherspoon: — If there's anything that undermines good jobs in our Crown corporations, it's mismanagement and nonsense like that, Mr. Speaker. On front after front after front, this government is selling Saskatchewan people out, leaving them to pick up the tab. Hospital laundry has been contracted out to an Alberta corporation; food in correctional centres to a UK [United Kingdom] catering company; the smart meter project to North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and Texas; the Sask Hospital to a UK corporation; the Regina bypass to a European corporation, including snowplowing if you can imagine; and the maintenance for P3 schools will be done by a corporation from Wisconsin.

To the Education minister: why on earth has a corporation from Milwaukee, Wisconsin been given a 30-year contract of ratepayers' money to maintain the schools of our kids?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, this is interesting on the day that the opposition presents a considerable and impressive petition on the issue of privatization. It's interesting to note that, notwithstanding this particular question on schools, I have sat in this Assembly for many, many days and not heard a single question from the Leader of the Opposition or the NDP on the issue of private clinics operating in the public system. That's, I guess, a bit of a privatization.

I haven't heard a single question in question period, I don't think, on the new initiative on private MRIs [magnetic resonance imaging]. I don't think there's been a single question from members opposite in terms of privatizing correctional

services, Mr. Speaker, not one. Not one single question. I haven't heard the opposition ask one single question on behalf of the SGEU who opposed private sale of liquor in the province of Saskatchewan. We haven't heard them ask anything about the new Co-op store selling liquor or Sobeys selling liquor.

Mr. Speaker, we've answered the questions on P3s. I think 20-plus local companies are involved in those school builds. We're finally getting schools built in the province unlike what was seen under the NDP when they closed 176 schools. How was that for public sector unions?

But interestingly, Mr. Speaker, not a word on all of these issues. They're going to have to come clean soon. We're months away from an election. Will they ditch private clinics? Will they re-nationalize all the liquor stores? Why won't the Leader of the Opposition stand up and have an honest debate about the issue, Mr. Speaker?

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

[14:30]

Mr. Wotherspoon: — Mr. Speaker, pretty typical to see that kind of grandstanding from that Premier. Not a single answer when it came to fair and equitable cardio rehab services, not an answer about the statements that he's made that have been found to be false, that have now offended the world, Mr. Speaker, when it comes to the expensive carbon capture project, Mr. Speaker. And a government that shut down committee, Mr. Speaker, that wouldn't even allow witnesses to come to that . . . [inaudible interjection] . . .

The Speaker: — Order. Would the Minister of Agriculture please rise and withdraw that remark and apologize.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: — I withdraw and apologize, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Wotherspoon: — And a Premier, Mr. Speaker, whose reckless ideological attack on workers was found unconstitutional in the Supreme Court, Mr. Speaker.

You know, we have a corporation from Milwaukee, Wisconsin that's now getting taxpayers' money for over 30 years to be maintaining the schools for our kids, Mr. Speaker. We know that in this contract, Mr. Speaker, that there's more than \$250 million for non-construction costs. This plan defies common sense, and it puts taxpayers on the hook. Will this Premier, will that Education minister finally show some transparency, some accountability, put that deal on the table so Saskatchewan people know what they're on the hook for?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — Will the Deputy Leader of the NDP be transparent with respect to who this Wisconsin company is? This is Johnson Controls, who've done HVAC [heating, ventilating, and air conditioning] services in schools right across this province, including traditional builds . . . [inaudible interjection] . . . Well the member may want . . . The member asked a question; he might want to listen to the answer.

This same company has been doing these same services in the province of Saskatchewan long before any P3 schools, Mr. Speaker, but these facts, these facts get in the way for my honourable friend and the Leader of the Opposition. But here are some facts . . .

[Interjections]

The Speaker: — Order. I want to be able to hear the answer as well. I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — Mr. Speaker, we should have some facts on the table about this debate with respect to the involvement of the private sector. Mr. Speaker, in this House, we have not seen a single question from the Leader of the Opposition or his critics with respect to the privatization of food services in correctional facilities, not a single question with respect to MRIs.

And as to the debate, they had 20 hours to debate the MRI bill, 20 hours allotted. They could have taken more; they took 13 hours. They took 13 hours. These are the facts, Mr. Speaker.

On the issue of private sale of liquor in the province of Saskatchewan, how many questions . . .

[Interjections]

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — How many questions . . .

[Interjections]

The Speaker: — Will the member for Regina Lakeview come to order. I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — How many questions, Mr. Speaker, on the issue of the privatization of the sale of liquor in the province of Saskatchewan, the use of the Federated Co-op, the use of Sobeys, Mr. Speaker?

We do need to have a debate about these things. We want to continue to provide the highest quality services at the lowest possible cost. We want to continue to ensure there's a strong public sector delivering services in this province. But we will look to innovation. We'll look to improve service, as we will with respect to liquor. There may be news on that coming in the days and weeks ahead.

And, Mr. Speaker, it'll be interesting to hear what the NDP will say. Will the Leader of the NDP be hidebound ideologically to only the government selling liquor, only the government providing service even when we know better results can be delivered for Saskatchewan people? We look forward to that debate on this side of the House.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Government House Leader.

Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. 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: — Carried. This House stands adjourned to 1:30 p.m. tomorrow.

[The Assembly adjourned at 14:35.]

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President of the Executive Council
Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs

Hon. Bill Boyd
Minister of the Economy
Minister of Energy and Resources
Minister Responsible for The Global
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