

FIRST SESSION - TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

of the

Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

DEBATES and PROCEEDINGS

(HANSARD) Published under the authority of The Hon. Corey Tochor Speaker

N.S. VOL. 58

NO. 1A TUESDAY, MAY 17, 2016, 10:00

MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF SASKATCHEWAN 1st Session — 28th Legislature

Speaker — Hon. Corey Tochor Premier — Hon. Brad Wall Leader of the Opposition — Trent Wotherspoon

Beaudry-Mellor, Tina — Regina University (SP) Beck, Carla — Regina Lakeview (NDP) Belanger, Buckley — Athabasca (NDP) Bonk, Steven — Moosomin (SP) Boyd, Hon. Bill — Kindersley (SP) Bradshaw, Fred — Carrot River Valley (SP) Brkich, Greg — Arm River (SP) Buckingham, David — Saskatoon Westview (SP) Campeau, Hon. Jennifer — Saskatoon Fairview (SP) Carr, Lori — Estevan (SP) Chartier, Danielle — Saskatoon Riversdale (NDP) Cheveldayoff, Hon. Ken - Saskatoon Willowgrove (SP) Cox, Hon. Herb — The Battlefords (SP) D'Autremont, Dan — Cannington (SP) Dennis, Terry — Canora-Pelly (SP) Docherty, Hon. Mark — Regina Coronation Park (SP) Doherty, Hon. Kevin - Regina Northeast (SP) Doke, Larry - Cut Knife-Turtleford (SP) Duncan, Hon. Dustin - Weyburn-Big Muddy (SP) Eyre, Bronwyn — Saskatoon Stonebridge-Dakota (SP) Fiaz, Muhammad — Regina Pasqua (SP) Forbes, David — Saskatoon Centre (NDP) Hargrave, Joe - Prince Albert Carlton (SP) Harpauer, Hon. Donna — Humboldt-Watrous (SP) Harrison, Hon. Jeremy - Meadow Lake (SP) Hart, Glen — Last Mountain-Touchwood (SP) Heppner, Hon. Nancy — Martensville-Warman (SP) Kaeding, Warren — Melville-Saltcoats (SP) Kirsch. Delbert — Batoche (SP) Lambert, Lisa — Saskatoon Churchill-Wildwood (SP) Lawrence, Greg — Moose Jaw Wakamow (SP)

Makowsky, Gene — Regina Gardiner Park (SP) Marit, David — Wood River (SP) McCall, Warren — Regina Elphinstone-Centre (NDP) McMorris, Hon. Don — Indian Head-Milestone (SP) Merriman, Paul — Saskatoon Silverspring-Sutherland (SP) Michelson, Warren — Moose Jaw North (SP) Moe, Hon. Scott — Rosthern-Shellbrook (SP) Morgan, Hon. Don — Saskatoon Southeast (SP) Nerlien, Hugh — Kelvington-Wadena (SP) Olauson, Eric — Saskatoon University (SP) Ottenbreit, Hon. Greg - Yorkton (SP) Parent, Roger — Saskatoon Meewasin (SP) Phillips, Kevin — Melfort (SP) Rancourt, Nicole — Prince Albert Northcote (NDP) Reiter, Hon. Jim — Rosetown-Elrose (SP) Ross, Laura — Regina Rochdale (SP) Sarauer, Nicole — Regina Douglas Park (NDP) Sproule, Cathy — Saskatoon Nutana (NDP) Steele, Doug — Cypress Hills (SP) Steinley, Warren — Regina Walsh Acres (SP) Stewart, Hon. Lyle — Lumsden-Morse (SP) Tell, Hon. Christine — Regina Wascana Plains (SP) Tochor, Hon. Corey - Saskatoon Eastview (SP) Vermette, Doyle — Cumberland (NDP) Wall, Hon. Brad — Swift Current (SP) Weekes, Randy - Biggar-Sask Valley (SP) Wilson, Hon. Nadine — Saskatchewan Rivers (SP) Wotherspoon, Trent — Regina Rosemont (NDP) Wyant, Hon. Gordon — Saskatoon Northwest (SP) Young, Colleen — Lloydminster (SP)

Party Standings: Saskatchewan Party (SP) — 51; New Democratic Party (NDP) — 10

<u>Clerks-at-the-Table</u> Clerk — Gregory A. Putz Law Clerk & Parliamentary Counsel — Kenneth S. Ring, Q.C. Principal Clerk — Iris Lang Clerk Assistant — Kathy Burianyk

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Sergeant-at-Arms — Maurice Riou

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF SASKATCHEWAN May 17, 2016

[The Assembly met at 10:00.]

Clerk: — Members, I wish to inform the Assembly that I have received a communication from the private secretary to Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor stating that Her Honour will open the first session of the twenty-eighth legislature at 10 a.m. today this 17th day of May 2016.

[Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor entered the Chamber at 10:02.]

Her Honour: — Pray be seated.

Hon. Ms. Wilson: — I am commanded by Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor to inform you that she does not see fit to declare the causes of the summoning of the present legislature until later today when the Legislative Assembly shall have elected a Speaker according to law.

[Her Honour retired from the Chamber at 10:04.]

ELECTION OF SPEAKER

Clerk: — Members of the Legislative Assembly, pursuant to the rules of this Assembly, it is my duty to call upon you to elect a member to preside over your deliberations as Speaker.

Pursuant to the rules of procedure under rule 43(1), the following members have declared their intention to stand as candidates for election to the office of Speaker. I'll ask each of the candidates to rise as I call their name so that they may be recognized: Mr. Greg Brkich, the hon. member for Arm River; Mr. Dan D'Autremont, the hon. member for the constituency of Cannington; Mr. Corey Tochor, the hon. member for the constituency of Saskatoon Eastview. Members, we'll now take a moment to set the Chamber up for the polling to take place.

Members, if I may have your attention please. In preparation for the vote, the Sergeant-at-Arms will now bring in the ballot box. The ballot box will be inspected and the sealed ballots opened, and I'll announce the beginning of the voting procedure. The list of candidates has been distributed to you; it should be on your desks. All members will also have a map with directions to the registration table that you're asked to vote. The list of members who are candidates for Speaker is also posted in the polling booths.

Members of the Assembly, I will now ask those members who wish to cast their ballots to proceed to the designated registration tables to receive your ballot paper, sign the registration sheet, and then proceed to the polling booths. May I remind all of you to please print the first and last name of the candidate of your choice on the ballot paper.

[The members proceeded to cast ballots.]

Clerk: — Members, if I could have your attention please. Order. Order. If there are any members who have not voted and wish to do so, will you please vote now. Seeing that everybody's voted, we'll recess to the call of the bells, and the Table Officers will count the ballots. The bells will ring for three minutes to recall members to the Chamber when the result of the ballot is ready to be announced. I'll go and tally the votes.

[The Assembly recessed from 10:21 until 10:41.]

Clerk: — Members of the Assembly, it's my duty to inform the Assembly that a second ballot will be necessary. The list of candidates for the second ballot has been prepared in accordance with the rule for excluding the name of the candidate who received the fewest votes on the previous ballot.

The list of candidates for the second ballot is as follows, in alphabetical order: Mr. Dan D'Autremont, the hon. member of the Assembly for Cannington; and Mr. Corey Tochor, Member of the Legislative Assembly for Saskatoon Eastview. If any hon. member whose name has just been read to the Assembly wishes to withdraw as a candidate in the second ballot, will he please rise in his place and state that intention now.

The Chamber will now prepare for the second ballot. The list of candidates will be distributed to members and the sealed ballots brought in.

[10:45]

Members of the Assembly, if I could bring you back to order. I would invite members to please proceed to cast their ballots in the same manner as before, and may I again remind hon. members to please print the first and last name of the candidate on your ballot paper. Thank you. The voting may proceed.

[The members proceeded to cast ballots.]

Clerk: — Members, if I could bring you back to order and have your attention, please. If there are any members who have not voted and wish to do so, would you do so now, please.

Seeing that all members have voted, the Assembly will again recess to the call of the bells while the Table Officers count the ballots. The bells will ring for three minutes to recall the members to the Chamber when the result of the second ballot is ready to be announced. Thank you.

[The Assembly recessed from 10:54 until 11:11.]

Clerk: — Members of the Assembly, if I could bring the House back to order, it is my duty to inform you that you have elected as your Speaker, Mr. Corey Tochor, the hon. member for the Legislative Assembly for Saskatoon Eastview.

The Speaker: — Members of the Assembly, I wish to express my grateful thanks and humble acknowledgment of the high honour the Assembly has conferred on me. While I leave the floor of this Assembly to take the Speaker's Chair, I leave behind all political partisan bias in order that I discharge with impartiality to all, and to the best of my ability, the various and important duties pertaining to the high office of Speaker.

It will be my aim and duty to uphold the principles and traditions of the Assembly and secure for each member the right to express his or her opinions within the limits necessary to preserve decorum; to recognize the rights and privileges of the honoured members, political groups, and the Assembly itself; to facilitate the transition of the public business in an orderly manner; and above all, to seek to be fair and impartial in decisions you entrust in me.

To members, thank you very much for your confidence in me to perform these duties. I'll do it to the best of my ability. To my family, thank you so much to be here today. And to the Clerks, to thank them in advance for their wisdom and support. I appreciate the opportunity to serve in this humble building. I'm very appreciative of the support that I received today, and every day on I will work hard to confirm that trust that was put in me. And with that, I'll recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — Thank you very, very much, Mr. Speaker. First of all, on behalf of members on this side of the House, the government members, congratulations on your election today. We appreciate your remarks just now and your affirmation of your intentions to serve the House in an impartial way, and no doubt we have confidence that you'll be able to do precisely that.

May I also say thank you to the other members of the Legislative Assembly who let their names stand for the Speaker's office: the member for Cannington and the member for Arm River-Watrous. We owe them our thanks as well for contesting the Speaker's election.

Mr. Speaker, just very briefly, we're going to work hard so that you don't have to work quite as hard perhaps as you might otherwise have to if members weren't earnest in abiding by the rules and the decorum of this august room. Mr. Speaker, I think it was British Prime Minister Benjamin Disraeli who was commenting in the British parliament after a particularly raucous session that the Speaker had managed to quiet down, and his quote went something like "Mr. Speaker, you behold a range of exhausted volcanoes. Not a flame flickers on a single pallid crest."

Mr. Speaker, obviously that Speaker was pretty successful I think in bringing decorum on that occasion to the British House of Commons. We're hopeful you won't have to do that, but we're also fresh from an election where our electors have sent us here to represent them and to serve in the legislature, and so there is a certain amount of energy and enthusiasm that comes with that. And, Mr. Speaker, I hope there actually will be some flames that still flicker from these pallid crests that are before you, but in a way that doesn't cause you to have to work any harder than you should.

Mr. Speaker, I would also quote today, Walter Bagehot, the British journalist who noted that anyone who is admiring, and I'm paraphrasing, but anyone who admired the British House of Lords could cure that admiration by just looking at it.

We want to ensure that for those who come and witness the proceedings of the Legislative Assembly in person or on television, that they wouldn't feel the same way as Bagehot did when he obviously said those words. But we are going to approach our work with a high degree of energy and enthusiasm, and we look forward to working with you and working with all of the Table Officers, with the Clerk and his team. We're grateful to them. We also thank them in advance, as well as the Pages, and the members of the opposition with whom we'll be working together as well. Congratulations again on your election to the Speaker's Chair.

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

Mr. Wotherspoon: — Thank you, and I'd like to join with the Premier in providing some remarks and offering congratulations to the member for Saskatoon Eastview in your election, in his election as Speaker. Thank you for taking on this role.

Thank you also though to the other members who have put their name forward here today and that have run for Speaker. I guess it's not a bad thing in this house of democracy to have a democratic process to elect our Speaker.

I would like to say specifically a warm thanks and a sincere thanks to the Speaker of the twenty-seventh Assembly, somebody that certainly provided leadership and service to this Assembly and also, I believe, the longest serving member within this Assembly. So thank you very much to the member for Cannington.

The role of the Speaker has a long history in our British parliamentary process, dating back, as I understand, to 1377. In fact I think that the member from Thunder Creek, possibly the member for Saskatoon Centre, might recall its genesis. It's important that we all respect the role of the Speaker and to uphold the rules of the House. The Speaker plays a very important role as well as protecting the rights of the minority.

And you know, I guess, as this new Speaker enters into his work in keeping order in this venerable House, I'd urge a particular eye to the member for Saskatoon Southeast and maybe the member from Athabasca also. Keep a watchful eye on those two.

We recognize how important your role is to this democratic institution. We offer our commitment to do what we can to make this Assembly work, including in how we engage in debate and in an interest in being constructive and supportive of improvements to the functioning of this Assembly. We wish you the best as Speaker and thank you for your service.

The Speaker: — To the Assembly and members and guests in the gallery, I made a mistake. I have erred on the first day of this job. I was not prepared. I was prepared for possibly a different outcome, and I erred in not thanking my fellow members that put their name forward. I appreciate their public service over the years. And especially Speaker D'Autremont that I am very thankful, the province is very thankful for your public service over the years. And as a member, I am very thankful of his willingness to share with me his time and guidance during the last term. And I erred and I wish to correct that and thank them both for their public service. And I think a round of applause is in order as well.

[Applause]

The Assembly will now recess until 2 p.m. later today when Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor will present the Speech from the Throne.

[The Assembly recessed from 11:20 until 14:00.]

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Hon. Brad Wall Premier 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 Transportation Hub Authority Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Power Corporation

Hon. Jennifer Campeau

Minister of Central Services Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Transportation Company

Hon. Herb Cox

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

Hon. Mark Docherty

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

> Hon. Kevin Doherty Minister of Finance

Hon. Dustin Duncan Minister of Health

Hon. Donna Harpauer

Minister of Social Services Minister Responsible for the Status of Women

Hon. Jeremy Harrison

Minister Responsible for Immigration, Jobs, Skills and Training Minister Responsible for Tourism Saskatchewan Minister Responsible for Innovation Minister Responsible for Trade

Hon. Nancy Heppner

Minister of Highways and Infrastructure Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Gaming Corporation

Hon. Don McMorris

Deputy Premier Minister of Crown Investments Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Government Insurance Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority Minister Responsible for the Public Service Commission Minister Responsible for the Lean Initiative

Hon. Scott Moe

Minister of Advanced Education

Hon. Don Morgan

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

Hon. Greg Ottenbreit

Minister Responsible for Rural and Remote Health

Hon. Jim Reiter

Minister of Government Relations Minister Responsible for First Nations, Métis and Northern Affairs Minister Responsible for SaskEnergy Incorporated Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Telecommunications

Hon. Lyle Stewart

Minister of Agriculture Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation

Hon. Christine Tell Minister Responsible for Corrections and Policing

Hon. Gordon Wyant

Minister of Justice and Attorney General Minister Responsible for SaskBuilds