

FIRST SESSION - TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

of the

# Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

# DEBATES and PROCEEDINGS

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#### 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

[The Assembly met at 10:00.]

[Prayers]

#### **ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS**

#### INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

**Hon. Mr. Wall**: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I request leave for an extended introduction.

The Speaker: — Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried. I recognize the Premier.

**Hon. Mr. Wall**: — Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure and an honour to be able to introduce to you and through you to all members of this Assembly, a group that have joined us from Calgary. They are seated in your gallery, or actually soon to be seated in your gallery, Mr. Speaker. I'm not sure if anyone's ever filibustered an introduction before, but the introduction doesn't seem nearly as compelling or poignant without the actual people in the gallery.

So let me just say, Mr. Speaker, that this group is from Crescent Point Energy in Calgary, and if I talk very slowly, there'll be a chance for both an introduction by my friend, the Leader of the Opposition, and myself. I guess they've arrived, Mr. Speaker.

Crescent Point Energy is one of the most dynamic oil and gas companies, not just in Western Canada, not just in Canada, but right across North America, worldwide. They are an excellent company with a great track record in terms of how they treat suppliers and employers, but also their environmental record is among the best you'd find of any oil company operating in North America today.

Today we are joined by the CEO [chief executive officer] and the long-time leader of Crescent Point, Scott Saxberg, originally born in Manitoba, working in Calgary but cheering for the Saskatchewan Roughriders, I want to inform members. And joining Scott today, the chief operating officer, Neil Smith. Steven Toews is here; he's the vice-president of engineering and operations. Shant Madian, manager of capital markets; and communications analyst Chelsey Higden is also here.

Mr. Speaker, we had a meeting this morning to talk about Crescent Point's ongoing interest and investment in our province. There are over 425 people employed in Saskatchewan today because of this dynamic company, and many thousands of others who are indirectly benefiting in their business or in their jobs because of Crescent Point's investment.

And if I may, very quickly, Crescent Point now has confirmed they plan to spend 85 per cent of their capital budget; they could invest it anywhere in the oil industry, they've chosen to invest it here in the province of Saskatchewan. That's \$800 million to drill an estimated 520 wells, and there's more to come over the next five years, an estimate of \$6 billion to invest. And more than that, a great corporate citizen; you know, I think of the STARS [Shock Trauma Air Rescue Society] contribution alone. I'm not sure those great STARS helicopters would be flying without contributions like the 5 million from Crescent Point and their support for a number of charities.

So, Mr. Speaker, I want to welcome them to the Legislative Assembly today, thank them for the meeting this morning. We want to continue to make Saskatchewan a great place for them to invest. And I'd ask all members of this Assembly to join me in welcoming this delegation from Crescent Point Energy to the Assembly today.

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

**Mr. Wotherspoon**: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's a tremendous honour to join with the Premier here today and to welcome CEO Scott Saxberg and the delegation from Crescent Point Energy to the Saskatchewan Assembly. Certainly they play a significant role in Saskatchewan, the amount of jobs that they continue to maintain. Their relationship with our business community is significant, and as well their choices through a difficult period of time in the energy sector to maintain an actual, an ambitious drilling program here in Saskatchewan is something that every last one of us value, and of course it's important to Saskatchewan people and the thousands of people whose jobs depend upon it.

It was also mentioned by the Premier that beyond the jobs and the economic impact which is so important, Crescent Point has been a strong corporate citizen. You see them proudly on display at Mosaic Stadium as the Riders thump the Stamps. And you see them as well in very important investments throughout the southeast, Estevan notably. So it's my pleasure to welcome this — and Weyburn as well — it's my pleasure to welcome this important company and Mr. Saxberg to the Saskatchewan Assembly. Thanks, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Finance.

**Hon. Mr. Doherty:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, to you and through you to all members of the Assembly, I am pleased today to introduce 46 grade 4 and 5 students from the Henry Braun School in the constituency of Regina Northeast seated in the west gallery. They're all waving up there. They are joined today, Mr. Speaker, by their classroom teachers Sandra Schenher, Darcia VanIderstine; and educational assistants Karen Riche — I hope I pronounced that correctly — and Denise Rosca.

Mr. Speaker, these students are touring the Legislative Assembly here today, and we'll have an opportunity to get together after question period. Unfortunately I can't make it, Mr. Speaker. I have to attend a meeting, but you're in much better hands with the CFL [Canadian Football League] hall of famer, the member from Regina Gardiner Park, who will be attending to meet with you afterwards. So I would ask all members to welcome these students from Henry Braun School to their Legislative Assembly, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: - I recognize the member from Saskatoon

Riversdale.

Ms. Chartier: — With leave to make an extended introduction.

**The Speaker**: — Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

**The Speaker**: — Carried. I recognize the member from Saskatoon Riversdale.

**Ms. Chartier**: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my pleasure to introduce to you and through to all members of this legislature, many fine citizens of Saskatchewan who are here today to hear first reading of Bill 601. They're here in the hopes that this bill will improve support for those suffering from PTSD [post-traumatic stress disorder] caused from work, Mr. Speaker. So they're here for that very reason. I would like . . . There are people here. There are paramedics, firefighters, social workers, Armed Forces members.

I'd like to introduce everybody who I have on my list. It was a growing list, so I may miss someone; I'm hoping I don't. But with that, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to introduce — if you want to just give a wave when I read your name — Neil Diacon, Nick Hennink, Crystal Beach, Kim Downing, Chris Siddons, Scott Ingraham, Ryan Omichinski, Paul Hills, Jared Benson, Braden White, Mike Fay, Colby Burwell, Tyler Packham, Jerry Shull — sorry I cannot read the writing here — Cathleen MacPhee and her service dog, Lyra, Hazel Ritchie, Jennifer Chouinard, Len Herauf, Blair Scherer, Jay Yaciw, Rob Wilson, Jeff Anderson, Chad Lincoln, Drew Kreis, Curtis Heintz, Hartley Daku, and Roger Arsenault, and I have an L. Jackson — L. Jackson? Thank you so much for coming today. This is important work.

Many of these individuals have worked very hard to get signatures on a petition calling for better support for those who suffer from PTSD, as I said, from workplace injuries, Mr. Speaker. So thank you for bringing voice to this issue and ensuring that all Saskatchewan residents have an opportunity to weigh in on this. So thank you, and I'd ask all my colleagues to join with me in welcoming these folks to their legislature.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Education.

**Hon. Mr. Morgan**: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to join with the member opposite in welcoming these members to the legislature today. These people have . . . We've met with them periodically in the past. The issue that they raise is one that's of increasing importance, not just to people in our province, but to people all the way across Canada. And it's something that I want to assure them is something that has been under active consideration by the committee of review.

The people at Workers' Compensation will have more to say about it later in the day, Mr. Speaker, but I do want to welcome then and thank them for the good work they're doing. In particular I want to recognize Jennifer Chouinard who I met with earlier. She's the one that's responsible for the ribbons that the members are wearing in the House, and for the excellent paper which is the basis of a lot of the research that's been done. While I'm on my feet, Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize somebody in the west gallery. There is one of our summer students, Bronte Prosser, who is accompanied today by her mother, Bernie Prosser, who's a constituent, a friend of mine and my spouse's. Very recently we were at her 50th birthday. I wouldn't want to say how many years ago, but it couldn't have been more than one or two or maybe a little more. In any event, she is someone that looks incredibly well for someone that had a 50th birthday one or two years ago. And I want to welcome her to the Assembly today and thank them for having Bronte working in the building this summer. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Wotherspoon**: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to join with the minister opposite, and importantly the member from Riversdale, to welcome these leaders to their Assembly in emergency and protective services within our province and within our community. These are men and women who serve and sacrifice for the benefit and security of all of us each and every day.

Within this group are many personal friends as well and good people within our community and our province, individuals that have committed themselves not just to protecting and serving our respective communities across our province, but pushing forward meaningful legislative changes that provide greater security and protection to those that have served.

So we have members here today from fire and from the Armed Forces and paramedics, as well social workers. I know that we've also met with members in police on this matter, and in corrections. The issue that they're here to see advanced in the legislation, that we can work together to advance here today, is something that we should all be proud of and also something that we should certainly be able to make happen. It's my pleasure to welcome these leaders within our community, within our province to their Assembly here today and to thank them for what they do each and every day. Thanks, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Mr. Ottenbreit**: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you to all members of the Assembly, it's indeed my honour to introduce my friend Dr. Scott Francis in the west gallery. I have coffee with Scott about one morning a week. It's always great to visit with him, but he does attend our proceedings quite regularly, as people will notice him in the gallery.

Mr. Speaker, Scott is a chaplain with the organization called Leading Influence. They offer free chaplaincy to elected officials across Canada, as well as pray for them and their families. He's also a professional leadership coach and a consultant. He and his family live in White City where he also serves his community as a volunteer firefighter and first responder. So, Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to welcome Scott to his Assembly and thank him for his service.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Athabasca.

**Mr. Belanger**: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I'm very pleased to introduce my intern for this session, Bram Lerat. Bram has completed, I believe, his political science studies at the U of R [University of Regina], and I want all the Assembly members to know that this very impressive, young, disciplined man is going to be someone of significance in the very near future. And I'd ask all members to remember his name. And the point, Mr. Speaker, that I would raise is that his discipline is really encouraging. He's very intelligent, a very hard-working man. And some may say he's better looking than me. But, Mr. Speaker, I would ask them not to exaggerate. I would ask all members of the Assembly to please welcome my intern, Bram, to the Assembly today. Welcome, Bram.

**The Speaker**: — I recognize the Minister of Advanced Education.

**Hon. Mr. Moe:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you to all members of this legislature, I as well want to introduce Molly Waldman who's been a summer student in our office here the past number of weeks, Mr. Speaker, and throughout this summer. Molly hails from the constituency of Saskatoon Southeast, and despite our initial concerns with that, Mr. Speaker, she's worked out rather well in our office. And she's been a tremendously hard worker, Mr. Speaker, and a great sense of humour which seems to be a requirement working in the office that we're in, Mr. Speaker.

But I do also want to acknowledge, a couple of weeks ago I got to meet Molly's father, Ron, Mr. Speaker, as we had dinner. And I do want to acknowledge Molly's mom, Shannon, that's with her here today and welcome both of them as well as Bronte and her mother to their Legislative Assembly here in the capital city.

**The Speaker**: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Riversdale.

**Ms. Chartier**: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With leave, to make a statement.

The Speaker: — Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

#### STATEMENT BY A MEMBER

#### Apology

**Ms. Chartier**: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday in debate, I said something that was incorrect. For that I apologize unreservedly to this House.

#### **PRESENTING PETITIONS**

**The Speaker**: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Riversdale.

**Ms. Chartier**: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to rise once again today to present a petition to improve PTSD coverage for Saskatchewan workers. Mr. Speaker, the

petitioners point out that post-traumatic stress disorder can severely impact the lives of Saskatchewan workers. They point out that delaying diagnosis and treatment for PTSD can be detrimental to recovery. They're simply asking, Mr. Speaker, that those who suffer traumatic events on the job and then get a subsequent diagnosis of PTSD will then be . . . that trauma will be assumed to be the presumptive cause of the PTSD, Mr. Speaker. 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 Saskatchewan government to make the necessary changes to ensure that if Saskatchewan workers are exposed to traumatic events on the job and are then diagnosed with PTSD, it is presumed to be caused by the worker's employment and the worker will subsequently be covered under workers' compensation and receive the same benefits as others with work-related injuries.

[10:15]

Mr. Speaker, the petition is signed by citizens from all across Saskatchewan, but today these pages are signed from those from Strasbourg, Govan, Earl Grey, Saskatoon, just to name a few, and I will continue to present these petitions until the minister moves on this, Mr. Speaker. I so submit.

**The Speaker**: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Centre.

**Mr. Forbes**: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to present a petition in support of funding for heritage languages in Saskatchewan schools. And we know that after 25 years, the Government of Saskatchewan is discontinuing all support for heritage language learning in Saskatchewan.

Since 1991 heritage language schools have depended on this modest funding from the Ministry of Education to help sustain their programs. And as a result of this announcement by the Ministry of Education, many of these non-profit heritage language schools will be faced with the difficult decision of whether or not they can continue to operate. In addition to providing language and cultural classes, these schools offer a welcoming environment and crucial support for newcomers who are searching for a way to feel at home in their new surroundings here in Saskatchewan. Mr. Speaker, 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:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your honourable Legislative Assembly call on this government to reconsider this decision and restore funding for heritage language education in Saskatchewan heritage language schools.

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

Mr. Speaker, the people signing this petition are from Regina and various communities throughout the province. I do so present, thank you.

#### 634

#### STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

**The Speaker**: — I recognize the member from Carrot River Valley.

#### Moose Range Celebrates 100th Anniversary

**Mr. Bradshaw**: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, June 18th, I was honoured to attend the 100th anniversary celebration of the Rural Municipality of Moose Range. The RM [rural municipality] of Moose Range was incorporated in 1916 and is the 10th largest RM in the province of Saskatchewan.

Settlement in the area received an impetus after the end of World War I and again at the end of the Second World War when returning soldiers were settled here under the *Soldier Settlement Act*. With the formation of the railway, increased settlement took place and was accelerated by the trek of farmers from the drought-stricken Prairies looking for fertile land. This land was entirely covered by bush, and all clearing was done by hand.

Mr. Speaker, logging has always been a part of the economic development of the area with as many as 45 mills operating in the early '40s. Another resource-oriented industry is the Premier peat moss company. The peat is dried, processed, bagged, and sold all over North America.

The construction of the E.B. Campbell dam in 1961 to 1963 created a lake 40 miles long and 2 miles wide. Tobin Lake is now one of the most popular fishing destinations in Western Canada where just about anyone can catch a very large fish or a very large walleye — just about anyone.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in congratulating the RM of Moose Range on its 100th anniversary.

**The Speaker**: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Centre.

#### Motorcycle Ride for Dad

**Mr. Forbes**: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to recognize those who donned their leather jackets and got on their bikes this past Saturday, June 18th, to fight prostate cancer in this year's Motorcycle Ride for Dad. Myself, along with the members from Saskatoon Southeast and University, were on hand to send the riders off on a beautiful day.

Mr. Speaker, prostate cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer in Canadian men. The fight is ongoing with an average of 65 Canadian men diagnosed every single day, and 11 die a day from it. With astounding recent advances, researchers are now able to treat close to 90 per cent of those diagnosed with the disease. The success rate depends fully on early diagnosis and timely treatment, which is why events like this year's Ride for Dad are so important. They're getting the message out there and getting people talking about prostate cancer and seeing their doctors. And what is so special about the ride is that all the dollars raised stay in Saskatchewan for Saskatchewan research.

A big thanks goes out to all those involved with this year's

Motorcycle Ride for Dad including Co-Chairs Robert Thompson and Bob Milburn, ride captain Vince Streuken and the riders and volunteers who selflessly donate their time and effort to the cause.

Mr. Speaker, I call on all members to recognize the efforts and dedication of everyone who took part in this year's Motorcycle Ride for Dad to fight prostate cancer. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**The Speaker**: — I recognize the member from Kelvington-Wadena.

#### Physician of the Year

**Mr. Nerlien**: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is my pleasure to inform this Assembly that for the second time in the past three years, Saskatchewan's doctor of the year goes to a doctor in my constituency of Kelvington-Wadena.

Each year the Saskatchewan Medical Association recognizes an outstanding Saskatchewan doctor who delivers exceptional patient care while contributing to the well-being of the community or advancement of the medical profession. Mr. Speaker, we know that physicians who serve our communities are leaders both in their clinics and in our hospitals and Saskatchewan communities, and the 2016 SMA [Saskatchewan Medical Association] Physician of the Year is no different.

Mr. Speaker, the winner of this prestigious award is Dr. Crystal Litwin from Wynyard. Dr. Litwin is an inspiration to the whole area and has become "a tireless advocate for rural medicine" and was quick to thank her team at the clinics and the hospital when she received the award. Her accomplishments are numerous, but what sets Dr. Litwin apart is the fact that she is a leader in the community. Executive director of the Wynyard community clinic, Paul Lendzyk, had this to say: "In the past 20 years, many family physicians have come and gone, but one physician you can always count on is Dr. Litwin."

Mr. Speaker, I invite all members to join me in congratulating Dr. Litwin for being Saskatchewan's Physician of the Year. Thank you.

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

#### **Prince Albert Street Fair**

**Ms. Rancourt**: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On Saturday, June 18, I had the pleasure to attend the Prince Albert Street Fair. The street fair takes place every year in downtown Prince Albert and is organized by the Prince Albert downtown improvement district. The entire downtown section of Central Avenue is closed off, and only foot traffic is allowed for the duration of the event. This was the 13th street fair in Prince Albert, and this year over 7,000 people attended.

The day started off with a pancake breakfast where I was pleased to be part of the volunteer work crew. There were many vendors sprawled across Central Avenue selling everything from jewellery and clothing to baking and food. Local downtown businesses all had great sales in their stores. For the children there was face painting, games, and a bouncy castle. There was also great live, local entertainment throughout the day.

As well there was a stunt pilot who thrilled fair attendees with his aerial stunts and skywriting. The Prince Albert Historical Society held a contest to see who the greatest Prince Alberton is, and the winner was Dr. Orville Hjertaas, the father of medicare.

It was a very enjoyable day, and I would ask that all members join with me in congratulating the event coordinator, Lori Bourne, and the Prince Albert downtown improvement district for another successful street fair.

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

#### **Prince Albert Rental Housing Project**

**Mr. Hargrave:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, last Friday I was honoured to be able to attend the sod-turning of a new rental housing project that is under way in Prince Albert. Upon completion, eight individuals with complex needs will be able to live in safety and comfort as they work towards a brighter future.

The Prince Albert branch of the Canadian Mental Health Association is taking on a leadership role in moving this project forward. Their work to improve the lives of our most vulnerable citizens is admirable, and our government values the work that they do each day to support people living with complex mental health and addiction issues.

I'm proud to say that Saskatchewan Housing Corporation, along with their federal housing partner, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, are jointly contributing up to \$900,000 under the Canada-Saskatchewan Investment in Affordable Housing Agreement to support this worthwhile initiative.

Since November 2007, 150 affordable rental units have been completed in Prince Albert. When completed, this project will add eight more units to this community. Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me, thanking the Prince Albert branch of the Canadian Mental Health Association for helping to make this project a reality. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**The Speaker**: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Churchill-Wildwood.

#### **Partnership With Northern Communities**

**Ms. Lambert**: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is my pleasure to inform this Assembly that Cameco and Areva have signed a historic agreement involving First Nation partner communities and northern municipalities in the Athabasca basin.

These two companies with uranium mining operations in the North have signed a broad collaboration agreement with three First Nations, including Hatchet Lake, Black Lake, and Fond du Lac, and four municipalities including Wollaston Lake, Stony Rapids, Uranium City, and Camsell Portage.

Mr. Speaker, this agreement builds on the long history of

collaboration and partnership between Cameco, Areva, and the communities that are around their northern operations. Diane McDonald, the lead negotiator for the Athabasca area communities has this to say: "The renewed partnership agreement gives the Athabasca community certainty to help ensure that the companies operate sustainably, bringing positive changes for the future generation."

Mr. Speaker, Cameco has now completed three collaboration agreements and one participation agreement encompassing 10 First Nation and Métis communities in northern Saskatchewan. These agreements focus on workforce and business development, community engagement and environmental stewardship and community investment.

Mr. Speaker, I would invite all members of this Assembly to join me in thanking and congratulating Cameco for their hard work and collaboration with First Nation and Métis communities in Saskatchewan's North. Thank you.

**The Speaker**: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon University.

#### Supporting Wanuskewin's Renewal

**Mr. Olauson:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On June 17th I, along with the Minister of Justice and the Minister of Highways and the members from Saskatoon Meewasin and Saskatoon Westview, had the pleasure of attending the announcement of the membership of the fundraising team that has come together to support Wanuskewin Heritage Park's renewal. Mr. Speaker, the Thundering Ahead capital campaign for Canada's Wanuskewin Heritage Park is made up of an impressive team of indigenous and non-indigenous leaders from many sectors. Together, they will seek \$25 million to support the renovation and expansion of the park.

Some of the prominent business leaders who came out in support of the project include Tim Gitzel, CEO of Cameco; Scott Banda, CEO of Federated Co-Op; Wayne Brownlee, PotashCorp's executive vice-president and CFO [chief financial officer], and David Dubé, CEO of Concorde Group.

This project has the full support of Saskatchewan's corporate community, and for the first time ever, Mr. Speaker, Cameco, Federated Co-Op, and PotashCorp have all come together to support the same campaign. The revitalization made possible by the Thundering Ahead campaign will help Wanuskewin in its bid to become Saskatchewan's first UNESCO [United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization] World Heritage site.

I ask all members to join me in thanking everyone involved with the Thundering Ahead campaign, and in wishing Wanuskewin continued success. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

#### **QUESTION PERIOD**

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

#### **Provincial Economy and Employment**

Mr. Wotherspoon: - Mr. Speaker, time and time again the

Premier stands up and dismisses the challenges that Saskatchewan people are facing. When it comes to jobs, he grabs whatever statistic is convenient and dismisses honest questions about a plan to get those who are struggling back to work.

Let me lay out some facts one more time: 9,500 jobs were lost year-over-year; 7,200 of those jobs were mortgage-paying, full-time jobs for Saskatchewan families; the unemployment rate for Saskatchewan people off-reserve, First Nations, has grown by an alarming 8 per cent to 25 per cent.

Mr. Speaker, these numbers should be alarming to the Premier. We've heard nothing though but spin, and we certainly haven't seen any action. With his budget, did he take action to extend opportunity for those struggling to get by, or to get them back to work? Not a thing. He cut deeper. He cut everything from adult basic education to economic development, and not a thing to diversify our economy.

Mr. Speaker, with precarious employment and job loss as a harsh reality for far too many Saskatchewan people, will the Premier reconsider some of his job cuts so Saskatchewan's hard-working people can get back to work?

**The Speaker**: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — Mr. Speaker, there were a number of specific initiatives in the budget that the members opposite just voted against that would help to diversify the economy, including a brand new patent box, the first one in North America, for companies that want to do their research here — including, Mr. Speaker, 1.7 billion in infrastructure investment in the province. That's the largest . . . It's a record infrastructure investment we're about to make this year. There's going to be obviously direct employment as a result of that; there'll be indirect employment as a result of that. And they voted against that as well.

And I want to correct the record yesterday, Mr. Speaker, because yesterday I misspoke. I indicated that there had been 50,000 jobs created since 2007 in this province, 50,000 more people working in Saskatchewan than when members opposite were the government. And I was wrong. The number is 67,000 more people working in the province today.

[10:30]

And I want to . . . We are acutely aware of the layoffs that have occurred in this province, principally but not limited to the energy sector. And that's why, Mr. Speaker, this government and this office has been working every day, very hard, to fight for the energy sector of this province. That's why this side of the House proposed a new well completion support program from the federal government, that we could put energy sector workers back to work completing wells, Mr. Speaker. Who opposed that program? That member and that party opposite, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Wotherspoon: — You know, it's evident again we're going to see this Premier grandstand and try to put on a show.

But he's dismissing the reality facing workers across Saskatchewan. And he talks about his mismanaged infrastructure projects and then fails to say that the big bucks are flowing to foreign corporations like the one from France, Mr. Speaker, instead of Saskatchewan companies.

And you know, he always glosses over and paints a reality that's in disconnect to the true picture, Mr. Speaker. You know, that's the reality with the energy sector, over 3,000 jobs lost under his watch. And yet he continues to grandstand. He pretends to be, of course, the great defender of pipelines. But, Mr. Speaker, not a single kilometre of pipeline has been built in nearly a decade in power, Mr. Speaker.

That Premier will choose headlines over pipelines any day of the week, Mr. Speaker. And instead of working with Saskatchewan people to build a plan that works, companies to build a plan for our future, he digs his heels in, Mr. Speaker, puts his head in the sand, and asks us just to trust him.

Does the Premier not recognize the seriousness of this situation, the reality for Saskatchewan people and the hard-working people who deserve good, mortgage-paying opportunities? And far too often we see him dismissing Saskatchewan companies, shutting them out for foreign corporations. When will the Premier provide real certainty to the people of Saskatchewan and show a real plan of action for building our province's future together?

**The Speaker**: — I recognize the Premier.

**Hon. Mr. Wall**: — Mr. Speaker, it's an incredible rationale for the questions from the member, from my hon. friend opposite, Mr. Speaker, given the fact that this side of the House, just months ago, proposed a well completion program to the federal government, a way for the federal government to support our energy sector workers, those same energy sector workers he purports to speak for today. Mr. Speaker, that program, that initiative would have put energy sector . . . about 1,500 of them back to work in this province completing abandoned wells in Saskatchewan.

Mr. Speaker, the NDP [New Democratic Party] in Alberta came around and supported the program. The service sector supports the program. The producers support the program. It was initiated by Saskatchewan employers in the energy sector, supported by this government. And one entity that I'm aware of opposed that program.

So it's up to the Leader of the NDP to stand up today and say, you know what, we were wrong; we support that program and we'll join you in your call for Ottawa to implement it. You can't just talk about these things, Mr. Speaker. You have to act. You actually have to support pipelines, not just Energy East, but you'd have to support Northern Gateway. You need to support the conveyance of energy. And, Mr. Speaker, maybe, just maybe the NDP, the Leader of the NDP would want to send a signal to the energy sector other than appointing a Finance critic who supports in principle the Leap Manifesto.

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

Mr. Wotherspoon: - Mr. Speaker, we see a Premier trying to

distract, and he's playing games, and he knows that that document's not on for anyone in this Assembly, Mr. Speaker.

Riversdale.

#### Management of Health Care System

He's out of touch with the reality facing Saskatchewan families. Yesterday he stood up in the House and defended their cuts in education, and he defended that minister and that government's indefensible decision to walk away from their commitment and their signature. Over the last year there's been 5,300 jobs lost in educational services. The mid-year adjustment was scrapped by that government for our growing classrooms, leaving students and classrooms shortchanged and our classrooms growing. School boards have been forced to cut more jobs and supports for students. You'd think the Premier would recognize that this is not a good thing for students or the future of our province.

You know, Mr. Speaker, this is a time where teachers are wrapping up the year, where they're preparing for next year — school boards as well. Why can this Premier not recognize that his delay of this budget, and then the unacceptable budget, and then the fact that he won't reverse his minister's bad faith negotiating, that indefensible decision, is leaving classrooms and students shortchanged? Why won't he reverse that choice here today?

**The Speaker**: — I recognize the Premier.

**Hon. Mr. Wall**: — Mr. Speaker, once again in the hon. member's preamble he talked a little bit about the economy and the energy sector. I want to . . . [inaudible interjection] . . . Well maybe the deputy leader is interested in the answer to questions that his side of the House is asking.

Mr. Speaker, it's interesting. Just this morning we were having discussions with a company involved in the energy sector, and that company is making some important decisions in terms of their investment. They have well over \$1 billion total capital expenditure planned for the next number of months, for the next year, and they've chosen to make ... They could invest those dollars anywhere in the world, in energy sectors anywhere in the world. They've chosen to make an 85 per cent investment right here in the province of Saskatchewan, Mr. Speaker, supporting the energy sector and jobs for Saskatchewan people. Meanwhile the leader of the NDP handpicked someone to do the renewal of his party, someone who signed, signed the Leap Manifesto, Mr. Speaker, signed the Leap Manifesto that would see the end of the energy sector in this province.

With respect to education, Mr. Speaker, we have increased operating funds to education to record levels over the last seven years. There is record investments in education capital. Mr. Speaker, the NDP campaigned in the last election, as did we, with an education plank to their platform. Here is what we would have got had they won the election for education funding. The NDP platform ... And he should read it. He should probably read this platform. It's very informative. They would have given education a 2.6 per cent increase. In our budget, 7.88 per cent increase, Mr. Speaker, capital and operating. So it's a bit passing strange that now they're lecturing other members in this House for their education funding, when had they been elected — heaven forbid — there would have been cuts in education, Mr. Speaker.

**Ms. Chartier**: — Failures are the stepping stones to success, Mr. Speaker. The Minister of Health may have the shore in sight, but it all depends on how he takes the next few steps. He's trying desperately to put the lean fiasco behind him, and he says he'll cut \$7.5 million from bloated senior management that the Sask Party has let grow out of control. From my home of Saskatoon, that would mean about 40 new care aids for long-term care. It's not the more than 400 called for by the urgent action request, but it's better than Sask Party cuts, Mr. Speaker.

While the minister talks about shifting resources from administration to the front lines, he has not taken into account the possibly hundreds of thousands of dollars he'll have to shell out for severances. Can the minister tell us how much these buyouts are going to cost?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

**Hon. Mr. Duncan:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as the member would have heard in committee, we are certainly working with regional health authorities as we look to rebalance between administration and front line. We want to certainly add to the front-line staff, particularly in long-term care, which has been the record of this government, Mr. Speaker, where we have added nearly 800 full-time equivalents to the long-term care complement in just the last eight years.

Mr. Speaker, it's a little bit strange to hear this question coming from the member opposite who, in their own platform, Mr. Speaker, would have cut administration by \$25 million, and yet there was no plan in their platform in terms of where the severance would come from. In fact, Mr. Speaker, the Finance critic says, just a couple of weeks ago, that a 6 per cent increase in health care is necessary or else it wouldn't be even status quo. Anything less than 6 per cent is not status quo. And yet the platform that was authored, and I assume the Health critic had a hand in writing the platform for the health, the health platform for the NDP, would have had a point eight per cent increase, well below the increase in this budget, Mr. Speaker. Once again, from the NDP, it doesn't add up.

**The Speaker**: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Riversdale.

**Ms. Chartier**: — Mr. Speaker, this minister sent hundreds of health care workers and senior managers on the lean North American tour that highlighted a hospital that did not receive full certification because it failed the evaluation for, among other things, the category of care. The lean tours also included a trip to the highly relevant airbag factory.

Mr. Speaker, the minister agreed to calling these tours essential. So during a travel freeze, hundreds of our much needed front-line care workers, along with senior managers, were pulled from their jobs and took the mandatory lean tour. Mr. Speaker, that travel cost millions.

637

The Speaker: - I recognize the member from Saskatoon

And I wonder if the minister remembers last fall, when just four

senior staffers left to go work for lean, the price tag for training and severance came close to \$2 million. After implementing the return-to-service agreement, has the minister gotten any taxpayer money back as a result?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

**Hon. Mr. Duncan**: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. First I again need to correct the record on this side of the House, Mr. Speaker, from what the member opposite has said. Mr. Speaker, the Virginia Mason facility has not lost accreditation. In fact, I would refer to the member, a partner organization to the Virginia Mason is the Yakima Valley Memorial Hospital. And just yesterday their CEO, Russ Myers, said that the outcome of an inspection was "mischaracterized, saying that Virginia Mason was denied full accreditation by the joint commission."

And he goes on to say, and I quote, "They had a pending denial, but that was fixed within a week by addressing the concerns of the inspections. Most of those were fixed while the surveyors were there, and if not fixed, they're going to be soon." He goes on to say, "They now have contingent accreditation. They're still accredited." Again, Mr. Speaker, inaccuracies coming from the member from Riversdale.

Mr. Speaker, with respect to the travel of the Ministry of Health and our officials, including North American tour, I can say that in the last year that I have, '13-14, \$478,000 less than the nearly \$700,000 of travel by the Ministry of Health under the members opposite.

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

#### **Food Services in Correctional Facilities**

**Ms. Sarauer**: — Mr. Speaker, yesterday I asked the Minister of Corrections and Policing why her ministry had to hire an additional manager to manage a contract the Sask Party had signed with a private contractor for food service. The minister dismissed the question, saying, "... this issue is done and over with."

Well, Mr. Speaker, it's neither done nor over. It's not done because it's the government's job to make sure services in Saskatchewan correctional facilities are adequately provided, and the Sask Party chose a private contractor that is not honouring their obligations. And it's not over because the minister still hasn't answered my question. So, Mr. Speaker, I'll ask another way: how does the minister justify having to hire yet another manager to manage and monitor the compliance of yet another contract instead of doing her job and enforcing the contract?

**The Speaker**: — I recognize the Minister of Corrections and Policing.

**Hon. Ms. Tell:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, again we have to correct the abundance of incorrect information coming from the members opposite. The food services in our eight correctional facilities is run by what we call, a company called Compass. The company has a contract with the

Government of Saskatchewan. What we have in place, Mr. Speaker ... And this is about due diligence on part of government. We have a person within our ministry that is responsible for overseeing the contract of food services. There is no other manager hired, Mr. Speaker, no other manager. Compass is responsible for the delivery of food service. Government is responsible to ensure that Compass follows the contract, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

**Ms. Sarauer**: — Mr. Speaker, the minister can continue to dismiss this particular case, but this is far from the first time this government has dealt with contractors using kid gloves. The Minister of Social Services let a contractor walk away from a fixed-price contract to build affordable housing. The scandal-plagued Minister for SaskPower settled for a store credit from Sensus, leaving millions of dollars with them when he tried to return the fire-prone duds known as smart meters. And that same minister is paying millions of dollars to Cenovus because his poorly negotiated carbon capture deal leaves Saskatchewan people on the hook for missed  $CO_2$  delivery.

The Sask Party consistently signs these contracts on behalf of Saskatchewan people, and when they fail, they just reward the companies who are failing by giving them more money. Mr. Speaker, it's taxpayers who are left holding the bag. Did the Minister of Corrections learn anything from her colleagues?

**The Speaker**: — I recognize the Minister of Corrections and Policing.

**Hon. Ms. Tell:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Compass is responsible for delivering a food service contract in our eight facilities across the province of Saskatchewan. The Government of Saskatchewan is responsible to ensure that Compass does their job. We have one manager in the ministry that is responsible to ensure that they follow the contract, Mr. Speaker. And what happens in other ministries, I'm sure, is the same as it is here. They have people responsible for ensuring that the people that are contracted out to provide service actually provide the service, Mr. Speaker.

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

#### Funding for Child and Family Services

**Ms. Rancourt:** — Mr. Speaker, the other day in committee with the Minister of Social Services, I learned of more cuts from this government that weren't mentioned anywhere in this government's budget. Were they thoughtful and overdue cuts to the Sask Party's mismanagement scandals or wasteful pet projects? No. Mr. Speaker, these were cuts to organizations that help vulnerable Saskatchewan people.

Mr. Speaker, \$74,000 cut from Big Brothers and Big Sisters, \$87,000 cut from teen parent programs, over \$220,000 cut from counselling services, and the list goes on — over \$450,000 cut.

[10:45]

Mr. Speaker, the minister agrees that these organizations help our vulnerable children and youth across the province. She just says, they aren't quite vulnerable enough. How can the minister possibly justify cutting programs that actually keep our kids from becoming more vulnerable? That's the point. Is she aware of the long-term costs of these short-term cuts?

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

**Hon. Ms. Harpauer**: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, our child and family services budget is, in this year's budget, is 243 million. Mr. Speaker, that's a 7.4 per cent increase over last year and almost three times as much as it was under the NDP.

Mr. Speaker, there was difficult decisions that needed to be made and when we looked at our CBO [community-based organization] contracts, some of them are not CBOs. Some of them were regional health authorities. Some were contracts with school divisions, Mr. Speaker. We looked at what is our core business and what is our priorities. Some of the programs were underutilized, Mr. Speaker, and some were duplicate services within that community. Some were just one-off contracts that had ended, and some were, indeed, difficult decisions because we had to look at core business and mandate, Mr. Speaker.

Our priorities were increases for medically fragile children. So the minister opposite wants to talk, or the member opposite wants to talk about priorities? Medically fragile children are priorities. Mr. Speaker, intensive supports for families that are on the edge of at-risk, that's priorities. All of those had increases.

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

**Ms. Rancourt**: — Mr. Speaker, look, more dismissals from this minister. It's all she was willing to offer at committee as well. When I raised concerns about these cuts, she brushed them off, saying, "many of them are just 20 per cent."

Mr. Speaker, a cut is a cut, and these add up to nearly a quarter million dollars in cuts. Cuts, Mr. Speaker, that will affect people across the province. Children will have a harder time being paired with mentors. Teenage parents will receive less support. Mr. Speaker, they even cut a program that helps youth find jobs. So much for the Premier's pledge to take the 38 per cent increase in youth unemployment seriously.

Mr. Speaker, I'll ask again: how can the minister, in good conscience, make these cuts to important programs and then dismiss genuine questions about their long-term costs?

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

**Hon. Ms. Harpauer**: — Mr. Speaker, in a very difficult budget, we increased the child and family services by 7.4 per cent. Mr. Speaker, we are spending 243 million. The members opposite, when they had the chance to be government, spent 88 million on this very same file, Mr. Speaker. So where were their priorities? This government's demonstrated that this is a priority of this government.

And let's just go back to the NDP platform, Mr. Speaker. What

did they have in the costing document for the NDP platform? They put their name on the ballot when they ran in the election, and they agreed that they would only increase the entire Social Services budget by point seven per cent, Mr. Speaker.

What were they going to cut? They need to come clean with the people of Saskatchewan of what they were going to cut out of the Ministry of Social Services in order to even begin to meet that type of sad financial commitment.

**The Speaker**: — I recognize the member from Athabasca.

#### Sixties Scoop and Government Conversations With Interest Groups

**Mr. Belanger**: — Mr. Speaker, tomorrow marks one year since the Premier told reporters in Saskatoon that his government would officially apologize for the Sixties Scoop. It was reported in the Eagle Feather News on that day that the province was "... not rushing 60's Scoop apology."

That, Mr. Speaker, was an understatement. The Sixties Scoop saw First Nations and Métis children taken by the government to live with non-Aboriginal families far away from home. It destroyed families, and the effects are still being felt in our communities today. The Premier promised that an apology would come in the summer or fall, but those timelines have long since passed.

Mr. Speaker, this apology is overdue. There is plenty of blame for this tragic program to go around, but it's this Premier who promised an apology and it's this Premier who has not made good on that promise. My question is for the Premier. When can we expect this very important promised apology to happen?

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

**Hon. Ms. Harpauer**: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And the government agrees. It's a very important promised apology that our Premier and our government has made.

As the members opposite know, that the original delay was asked for by FSIN [Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations] leadership because they wanted us to respect their election, which took place last fall. Since that time, myself and the Minister of Government Relations has been working with Chief Bobby Cameron to try to get a date that works for both the Premier and the Chief. Both are very, very busy leaders in their respective roles and, Mr. Speaker, we've yet to come to a date that works for both.

We have met with Chief Bobby Cameron during this session to again put forward some dates. I don't believe he's returned with any of those working for him. So I ask the member opposite, he needs to talk to the First Nations leadership if he wants to gain understanding of the efforts that have been made. But there truly has been a number of conversations with Chief Bobby Cameron on this very issue, and it's a matter of getting a date that works for both leaders.

**The Speaker**: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Nutana.

#### **Growth and Financial Security Fund**

**Ms. Sproule**: — Mr. Speaker, during the election campaign, the Sask Party committed to eventually building a \$500 million balance in their highly touted Growth and Financial Security Fund. We now know that despite recommendations from the auditor to just amend the Act, they've scrapped the Act and the fund altogether. And their legislation to scrap it is retroactive. So technically, thanks to the magic of retroactivity, it was scrapped even before the election day.

Mr. Speaker, a broken Sask Party promise is obviously not news. But, Mr. Speaker, they drained the fund on, get this, March 10th. That was nine days before they announced that they promised to rebuild it. So why did they drain the fund? Well, the deputy minister clarified that last night. She said the fund was drained on March 10th in part so that "... the fund would be retired before we actually introduced legislation effective April 1st."

Mr. Speaker, why did the Sask Party promise Saskatchewan people that they would rebuild the fund if they clearly knew they had already drained it and they were planning to scrap it as soon as possible?

**The Speaker**: — I recognize the Minister of Finance.

**Hon. Mr. Doherty:** — Mr. Speaker, I think it's important to understand that this government, over the last eight years, has paid down \$2.7 billion of operating debt left by those members on the other side, Mr. Speaker.

I think it's important to realize that this government has turned \$6 billion, \$6 billion in taxes back to the people of Saskatchewan and the businesses of Saskatchewan. Mr. Speaker, what we had said during the campaign is a commitment we will keep. The Premier promised, with respect to the fact the heritage fund ... a heritage fund or a savings account into the future, that if and when oil hits \$75 a barrel again, Mr. Speaker, we will rebuild that fund to \$500 million. Anything over and above that, we will pay down the debt we inherited from you folks and then we will create a heritage fund, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, you know, it's interesting. This is a member last night, Mr. Speaker, that came in here completely unprepared for discussing this legislation, late for the meeting. We had to provide the materials to the member to ask the actual questions of what we were going to be discussing, and now stands here today and says she doesn't understand what's happening here, Mr. Speaker. I can't figure that out. Maybe she can.

#### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

#### Bill No. 601 — The Workers' Compensation Amendment Act, 2016

**The Speaker**: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Riversdale.

**Ms. Chartier**: — Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill No. 601 be now introduced and read a first time.

**The Speaker**: — The member from Saskatoon Riversdale has introduced the first reading of Bill No. 601. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

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

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

Ms. Chartier: — The next sitting of the Assembly.

The Speaker: — Next sitting.

#### PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Regina Rochdale.

#### Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice

**Ms. Ross**: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'm instructed by the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice to report that it has considered certain estimates and to present its first report. I move:

That the first report of the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice be now concurred in.

**The Speaker**: — The member from Regina Rochdale has moved the current motion on certain estimates and to present its first report. She moves:

That the first report of the Senate Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice be now concurred in.

Is the Assembly ready for the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

An Hon. Member: — On division.

**The Speaker**: — Carried. On division. I recognize the member from Carrot River Valley.

Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies

Mr. Bradshaw: - Mr. Speaker, I'm instructed by the Standing

Committee on Crown and Central Agencies to report Bill No. 21, *The Growth and Financial Security Repeal Act* without amendment.

**The Speaker**: — When shall this bill be considered in Committee of the Whole on Bills? I recognize the Minister of Finance.

**Hon. Mr. Doherty**: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I request leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on this bill and that the bill be now read the third time.

**The Speaker**: — The Minister of Finance has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on the bill and that the bill be now read the third time. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

**The Speaker**: — Carried. The Minister of Finance may proceed to move third reading.

#### THIRD READINGS

#### Bill No. 21 — The Growth and Financial Security Repeal Act

**Hon. Mr. Doherty:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that the bill now be read a third time and passed under its title.

**The Speaker**: — It has been moved by the Minister of Finance that the bill be now read a third time and passed under its title. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

An Hon. Member: — On division.

The Speaker: — Carried. On division.

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

#### PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

**The Speaker**: — I recognize the member from Carrot River Valley.

#### Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies

**Mr. Bradshaw**: — Mr. Speaker, I'm instructed by the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies to report Bill No. 22, *The Income Tax Amendment Act, 2016*, without amendment.

**The Speaker**: — When shall this bill be considered in Committee of the Whole? I recognize the Minister of Finance.

Hon. Mr. Doherty: - Mr. Speaker, I request leave to waive

consideration in Committee of the Whole on this bill and that the bill be now read the third time.

**The Speaker**: — The Minister of Finance has requested leave to waive consideration of Committee of the Whole on this bill and that the bill now be read the third time. Is leave agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

**The Speaker**: — Carried. The Minister of Finance may proceed to move the third reading.

#### THIRD READINGS

#### Bill No. 22 — The Income Tax Amendment Act, 2016

**Hon. Mr. Doherty**: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that the bill be now read the third time and passed under its title.

**The Speaker**: — It has been moved by the Minister of Finance that the bill be now read a third time and passed under its title. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

An Hon. Member: — On division.

The Speaker: — Carried. On division.

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

#### TABLING OF REPORTS

**The Speaker**: — Before orders of the day, I will be tabling the Provincial Auditor's *Annual Report on Operations for the Year Ended March 31st, 2016* in accordance to provisions in section 14.1 of *The Provincial Auditor Act*, is to be tabled today, Thursday, June 23rd, 2016.

#### ORDERS OF THE DAY

#### SEVENTY-FIVE MINUTE DEBATE

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Wood River.

[11:00]

#### **Support for Pipeline Development**

**Mr. Marit**: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will be moving a motion at the end of my address regarding pipeline development in the province of Saskatchewan, Mr. Speaker. First of all at this time, I want to thank my colleagues for giving me this opportunity to not only move this motion, Mr. Speaker, but also speak on this very important issue, Mr. Speaker, an issue that our Premier has been a leader on all across this great country of Canada, Mr. Speaker.

Saskatchewan's oil and gas producing industry contributes a significant share of Saskatchewan's real gross domestic product, Mr. Speaker, accounting for an estimated 15 per cent of the total GDP [gross domestic product]. The oil and gas producing industry continues to be the largest contributor among primary industries in the province's GDP, Mr. Speaker. Industry investment in new exploration and development in 2015 was estimated at \$3.6 billion. And as we heard today, Mr. Speaker, Crescent Point is a large part of that, and their new investment in this province is going to help generate economic growth in the province of Saskatchewan.

The upstream impact of oil and gas accounted for an estimated 33,000 direct and indirect person-years of employment in 2015, Mr. Speaker. Saskatchewan is the number two oil producer, and the number three gas producer in Canada. In 2015 Saskatchewan produced 177.6 million barrels of oil, which accounted for just under 500,000 barrels of oil per day, and 205.8 billion cubic feet, Mr. Speaker, of gas.

The combined value of oil and gas production in 2015, Mr. Speaker, was in excess of \$8 billion. Oil- and gas-related revenue, which also includes leases, Mr. Speaker, and sales of Crown land in 2014-15 fiscal year was \$1.5 billion, Mr. Speaker. The current forecast is significantly less of course with the downturn in the economy. And it's also a source of revenue for landowners and leases, Mr. Speaker. One thing that is important to recognize is there is approximately 300 oil and gas companies that operate wells in the province of Saskatchewan, Mr. Speaker.

The Government of Saskatchewan strongly supports the development of Keystone XL pipeline, Energy East, and Northern Gateway pipeline projects, Mr. Speaker. These projects provide Western Canada crude oil producers important access to new and expanding markets in the United States and Asia, Mr. Speaker. These pipelines provide market pricing benefits for Saskatchewan crude oil, even when Saskatchewan crude oil is not being exported.

Pipelines are the most efficient and safest method of transporting large volumes of crude oil long distances in North America. There are stringent regulatory processes and requirements for pipelines in both United States and Canada. The Government of Saskatchewan is confident that the proposed pipelines can be constructed and operated in a manner that protects the environment and public health and safety.

And if I could give an example, Mr. Deputy Speaker, the technology today to detect a spill is extremely fast, Mr. Deputy Speaker. I know even in the Weyburn and Estevan area they can detect a spill on an oil well within a matter of minutes and can shut that well down with the push of a button on a control panel, Mr. Speaker.

I'd like to talk if I could, Mr. Deputy Speaker, about the impact of the economy on the province of Saskatchewan and also other issues about the environmental footprint, and also the issues we have about the serious disasters, putting oil into pipeline rather than on rail. And I think the safety records of pipelines surpasses that of any movement on rail.

We must look at ways of moving oil products to tidewater the safest, most environmentally sustainable way to ensure the energy sector can continue to grow and provide Canada, North America, and the world with the safest, most environmentally friendly way possible.

Mr. Speaker, the oil production and the increase in the pipeline capacity is not only important to the economy of Saskatchewan, but it is also important to the economy of Canada. We look at this province and we're proud to say that we make transfer payments to the federal government, as we are a have province as a result of resource development. Mr. Speaker, we are proud to say that and glad to do our share to keep Canada moving, and we have to make sure that we have a secure energy supply for all the citizens of this great country.

Revenue from the energy sector allows us as a province to build new schools, Mr. Deputy Speaker, new hospitals, new senior housing projects, and it gives us as a government the opportunity to help those less fortunate, Mr. Deputy Speaker. The pipelines enable us as a province to become more competitive on the global market and less reliable on one customer other than Canada, and that's the United States.

We have to assure the public that the movement of oil products is the safest and most environmentally friendly way to transport oil. Mr. Speaker, in my previous role as president of SARM [Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities], our organization was a leader in advocating for Keystone XL pipeline. And I hope at some time during my address I will be able to read a letter that SARM presented. We also as an organization, Mr. Speaker, we lobbied our sister organizations across this country on the importance of moving oil in pipe and not on rail.

Mr. Speaker, I had the privilege when I was the president of SARM to sit on what was called the railway safety review committee as a result of the disaster that happened at Lac-Mégantic in the movement of oil and the catastrophic effect it had on that community. And I remember sitting on that committee, Mr. Deputy Speaker, with then the mayor of Montreal, myself, Mayor Pauline Quinlan, and Mayor Atch from Saskatoon. And the issue they had was moving oil products in tankers and the impact and danger it had on communities moving across Canada. And their concern was that, what happens if we have other catastrophic events like we had in Lac-Mégantic?

And our conclusion, what we were really pushing for there, was to make sure that we had pipeline capacity, and put it into the pipeline rather than putting it on rail. Because it meant a lot more ... It was a lot safer for the communities across Saskatchewan.

As the mayor of Saskatoon said, he said if we can't put it in a pipe, which he'd much rather have had, he didn't want to have

trucks going through his community or rail cars and having a serious wreck in his city or any other community in this country, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, if I could at this time, I want to take the opportunity to read a letter that our organization wrote to the honourable Hillary Clinton. It was dated June 2nd, 2011, and when she was Secretary of State at that time, and the subject was the Keystone pipeline. And it's:

Dear Secretary Clinton,

The Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities, the board supports the development of the TransCanada Keystone XL pipeline and respectfully requests the presidential permit necessary for project's realization be granted.

SARM represents all 296 rural municipalities in Saskatchewan, and is mandated to act in the interests of rural citizens. The positive economic impacts that can be anticipated from the completion of the TransCanada pipeline will benefit our membership substantially.

The expected economic benefits of the Keystone XL project are significant. The project will not only create numerous privately funded employment opportunities, but our local governments will have a stable source of income from economic activity associated with pipelines construction and from taxes collected from the pipeline companies.

The Keystone XL project will have the added benefit of reducing the negative impacts of transporting oil on our highways, an important consideration for our membership.

The environmental benefits of this pipeline are also important to consider, as this improved method of transporting crude oil resources will drastically reduce air pollution associated with land transportation.

The Keystone XL pipeline also stands to ensure a long-term stabilized energy supply from Canada to the United States which will help address rising energy needs. Of added importance, the exceptional trade relations between Canada and the United States, combined with the development of this pipeline, has the potential to further strengthen energy security in North America.

TransCanada has been a long-standing presence in Saskatchewan and it has been SARM's experience that Keystone XL is a good corporate citizen and a credible and safe operator. Keystone XL has developed a positive working relationship with our association as well as the municipalities we represent.

It is the position of SARM that Keystone XL pipeline would advance the economic competitiveness of our province and be a powerful economic stimulus for our membership. We therefore respectfully encourage the conclusion of the review process and fully support the cross-border permitting of Keystone XL pipeline. Signed by myself, then president of SARM, Mr. Speaker.

I think it's important that we have to increase our capacity to move oil products out of this province, Mr. Deputy Speaker. If we rely totally on rail, we'd come into some serious issues about logistics, about within the rail companies. And that was proved just a few years ago when we grew an exceptional crop, potash exports were up, and we were trying to move oil products out of this province by rail, and we had some huge logistical problems.

And just to give you a few numbers, Mr. Speaker, in 2014, and this is commodities that were ... This was in tonnes, Mr. Speaker. Fuel oils and crude petroleum in 2010, to give you an example, was 146 467 tonnes. In 2014, it was 3 343 584 tonnes, Mr. Speaker. So it's been drastically going up in the movement of products on rail. And potash is doing the same thing. In 2010 they moved 14 712 000 tonnes of potash, and in 2014 they moved 16 857 000 tonnes. So we're seeing some drastic increases in product moving on rail.

Also in the grain sector, in the agriculture sector, Mr. Speaker — and this is important — in Saskatchewan in 2006-2007, we moved 12 366 000 metric ton of product. In 2014 and '15, we moved just under 20 million metric ton of product, Mr. Speaker. That's almost doubling our capacity in our rail line, and we don't have the logistical capacity to move the product on that line. We have to find ways to put the oil in pipelines so that we have capacity if we want to grow other sectors in this province, be it potash and be it agriculture, to move our products as it's just-in-time delivery that we have to move that to.

I know I'm running short on time, Mr. Speaker. With the huge increase in production of agriculture products and the increased production of potash and with two new potash mines coming online very soon, it's going to make the movement of commodities, including oil, it's going to bring significant logistical challenges to our two national railways. We have seen it in the past, Mr. Speaker. And we have large crops. Potash sales are up. And the movement of oil, rail is up. It has had a huge impact on our provincial economy and all industry players that wanted their product moved in timely manner to our customers globally.

Mr. Speaker, our farmers and ranchers, along with potash companies and oil companies, can't grow their business or expand their customer base if we don't solve this logistical problem we have here in Saskatchewan. That's why, Mr. Speaker, it is important for us as a province to increase the pipeline capacity to take oil products off of rail and put it into pipelines, Mr. Speaker. And it also creates a competition within the industry to move their product, Mr. Speaker.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to move the following motion:

That this Assembly supports the construction of pipelines including Energy East, Keystone XL, and Northern Gateway, as they are private infrastructure projects that would create jobs, have positive effects on the Saskatchewan economy, be environmentally responsible, safely transport crude oil, and reduce Eastern Canada's dependence on foreign oil. I so move, Mr. Speaker.

[11:15]

**The Deputy Speaker**: — Will the members take the motion moved by the member from Wood River as read? I recognize the member from Saskatoon Nutana.

**Ms. Sproule:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. And as always, it is indeed my honour to rise in the Assembly to enter into the debate. And this is an important debate and certainly one that I want to thank the member for bringing forward. It stops short, and there are some additions I think that need to be made to the motion to improve it. But certainly, you know, the concept itself is one that this side of the House has always supported and will continue to support.

I mean we know the importance of pipelines in Canada and the importance I think that the member talked about, of safety, getting as much on pipelines which are safer than railway or in transport. He talked about a lot of important issues that I think are ones that we certainly take into account.

When I was working as a lawyer prior to my political career, I did a lot of work with TransCanada Pipelines through First Nation reserves, and I agree with the member opposite that that's a very respectful company, a company that takes its work seriously and treated the First Nations with utmost respect and fairness. So certainly I think TransCanada Pipelines, as far as Energy East or Keystone, is a corporate citizen that takes its role in this industry very, very seriously, as does of course the National Energy Board and I think the whole process of, you know, how the National Energy Board goes through the regulations of these. These take years and years and years and I think there are things, as politicians, that we could probably do to perhaps facilitate that process rather than hinder it. So that's a part of the comments I want to make.

But one of the things I want to talk about in this short time that I have today, Mr. Speaker is, you know, we've heard this government worrying about existential crisises and gnashing their teeth and wringing their hands when really what they should be focused on is the work that needs to be done here at home. We have over 20,000 kilometres of pipelines here in Saskatchewan alone. These are the feeder pipelines that feed into the cross-border pipelines and I think it would be useful for us to talk a little bit about a report of the auditor from 2014 on regulating pipelines ... or sorry, not in 2014. It was in 2012, and then she reviewed the actions of this government in 2014.

So let's take a little look maybe about how this government is dealing with the home fires. And I think that's an important place to start when we're talking about our roles regarding regulating pipelines and looking after the whole system that feeds into the important pipeline work that is going on.

One of the things that the auditor recommended was that the Minister of the Economy "monitor pipeline operator compliance with integrity management and safety processes for existing pipelines." And, "In early 2013, the ministry developed and implemented a set of written policies . . ." but the ministry has not, and this is in 2014, "the ministry has not established policies and procedures to guide staff on evaluating the

completed self-assessments . . ."

So although the self-assessments for the industry were done as the auditor recommended, they hadn't gone the next step and ensured that the ministry staff had the tools they needed to read and understand these self-reporting techniques. So I think that's something that this government needs to take a very careful look at and ensure it's in place. We don't have an update since 2014, so I would be interested to hear from the members opposite if those updates ... and perhaps from the ministry whether those updates have actually been done.

Another area, and this is in terms of the regulation of pipelines. The auditor has recommended that the Minister of the Economy "... consider seeking responsibility in law to verify that pipeline operators clean up contaminated sites to an acceptable condition." And so again this is not implemented as of 2014. I checked the bills. There was one bill that came in regarding oil and gas but it wasn't a bill to take responsibility in law to verify that pipeline operators clean up contaminated sites. So what the auditor highlighted, and I think this is something I'm sure the Minister of the Economy is taking very seriously, but we're looking for those changes.

She has indicated that there is a risk if this ministry doesn't do it, "... no other government agency will accept this responsibility. This could result in land and groundwater becoming contaminated due to insufficient clean-up of spills by pipeline operators." So it's a very real concern, a real concern that the auditor has raised, and perhaps the Minister of the Economy is working on that right now. We don't know. But certainly if they take the regulatory responsibility that the auditor is recommending ... I don't know why they wouldn't. I mean it would be prudent and responsible. But it's interesting to see that that has not yet been implemented.

One other area that the auditor commented on that has not been implemented was a recommendation that the Ministry of the Economy "... consider seeking responsibility in law to license flowlines." So this is a very strong recommendation and when we consider the amount of pipeline activity that is taking place in Saskatchewan — as I've said there's over 20,000 kilometres — and this government has not taken the opportunity yet. And perhaps it's coming up on the order paper in the fall; we don't know. But this is 2012, so we're four years out now from the recommendation, still nothing yet from the Minister of the Economy. I know he's a busy guy, and I know that he's, you know, got lots on his plate, but this is certainly something I think that the ministry should be looking at because if they aren't responsible in law to license flow lines, who is?

And the auditor indicated, "At September 30th, 2014, the Ministry had not made progress in this area. The ministry expects to consider the need to license flowlines during the 2015-16 fiscal year." That was an indication that the minister had given, but that's a year ago. We're now in '16-17, and I don't know what the minister's report is to the auditor. But certainly I think people are interested in knowing that our home fires are looked after here, Mr. Speaker, that our pipeline system is well tended to, and currently we don't have the regulatory regime that has been recommended by our auditor. I don't know why the minister hasn't done that in the last four years, and I would certainly be very interested in finding out

what his plans are in terms of coming into compliance with the recommendations that the auditor has made.

Now as I said at the outset, the member opposite made some very good points about the importance of security and safety for pipelines and certainly that there's some hard work being done by companies like TCPL [TransCanada Pipelines Ltd.]. And as I said that's a company that I've had experience with and certainly feel that they take it very seriously, and they are doing their part, Mr. Speaker.

But there's some interesting things that are left out of the motion, and we're kind of wondering why. So one of the things we would want to change — and I will be reading an amendment as I finalize my comments — but is that they forgot there's not just Energy East, Keystone, and Northern Gateway that are going through the regulatory process right now, Mr. Speaker. But also the Kinder Morgan Trans Mountain expansion is another important pipeline that should be included in the list, and it's not clear to us why it wasn't included. But certainly all of them are going to create jobs and have positive effects on our economy. And that's something we've been very consistent about, Mr. Speaker, as we go along.

And again the member made a good point that they would transport crude oil more safely than possible with trucks and trains. I know there's some conflicting information on the transportation crisis with grain from 2014 because certain industry members have said that it wasn't oil that caused the congestion in the railway, the grain transportation matter. So I'm not sure if that's entirely clear, but I think, you know, we know that there was a crisis. And as the member correctly pointed out, there's been a considerable increase in rail traffic over the past few years because of significant increases in farmers' production of grains and also of course potash. And as we've seen the decline of oil production in the last couple of years, we certainly haven't heard more issues about congestion on the railways.

So I think there's a lot of differing opinions on that, but certainly the Canadian Transportation Agency review is looking at all of those matters, and I know our Minister of Agriculture is actively involved in ensuring he's representing the best interests of our producers here in Saskatchewan.

One problem I think we should address too also is the Northern Gateway pipeline, though. We have to be careful about supporting that wholeheartedly. There are a number of issues with that particular pipeline that haven't yet been addressed, and I think that's one that we need to ensure that the rights of First Nations are being looked after. And also there's federal government involvement of course in all of this, and they have implemented a ban on oil tanker traffic off the northwest coast of British Columbia.

So without that, I'm not sure why we would be including Northern Gateway in this particular motion today. There are the other projects that are being talked about. Certainly Energy East and Keystone are important projects that need to be done correctly, sustainably, and properly.

So I'm going to try and read my motion in the time that remains, but we want to amend it to replace it with the following:

That Energy East, Kinder Morgan, and Keystone XL pipeline projects . . .

That would be changed to add that. So I'm out of time now, Mr. Speaker, but I'd like to suggest that we amend the motion to that extent.

**The Deputy Speaker**: — I did not hear the member move an amendment, so I think we need to proceed with the debate. I recognize the member from Melville-Saltcoats.

**Mr. Kaeding**: — Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, for allowing me to participate in this extremely valuable debate. And I'm going to spend a bit of time identifying really the value of the oil resource to this province and to this country.

Mr. Speaker, it's really no secret that the oil and gas sector is a valuable part of our provincial economy. Currently it represents over 15 per cent of this province's real gross domestic product. Even at the reduced values that we were facing in 2015, it was still valued at \$8.3 billion. In 2014 it was worth 15.9 billion, and that's a 48 per cent drop in value within a year.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, it's really no wonder that, in typical Saskatchewan fashion, the second thing talked about across every coffee shop every morning after the weather is discussing what was crude oil trading for this morning. This morning at 8 a.m., nearby crude oil in the New York Mercantile was trading at \$49.81 per barrel.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, oil in Saskatchewan is an extremely vast resource. Estimated oil reserves currently in the ground in this province are 56 billion barrels of initial oil in place, with another 1.2 billion barrels remaining in established oil reserves. Gas has 12.4 trillion cubic feet of gas in place, with an additional 1.8 trillion cubic feet remaining in established gas reserves. Rough averaging in the last couple of years, Saskatchewan has extracted 500,000 barrels per year.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, my math is bad, so I'll just say that that is a lot of years of oil that we have sitting under the Saskatchewan landscape right now. At current values, that inventory is worth trillions — that's with a "t" — trillions of dollars. With the royalty revenue on those values, we could retire sufficient debt, and we could replenish infrastructure throughout the province and continue to improve the lives of our citizens.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, oil is not a commodity that we need to leave in the ground for future generations. Eventually at some point in time, our children or our grandchildren's lifetime, oil will not be a valuable resource. They will have invented or produced some ingenious method of converting waste or by-products to power some sort of unique engine that won't require hydrocarbons. But that is not today. That's not tomorrow, and it probably won't be for another 50 to 100 years.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, in Saskatchewan in 2015, an estimated 33,000 direct and indirect person years of employment was attributed to the oil and gas industry. Direct oil and gas revenue attributed to the Government of Saskatchewan for 2015-16 fiscal year was \$600 million, unfortunately down 60 per cent

from the 1.5 billion received in 2014-15. This included Crown land sales. This is not an industry that can be replaced immediately by pixie dust and moonbeams, Mr. Deputy Speaker. It needs to be developed and marketed and production increased to take advantage of the market opportunities that we have now. Leaving it in the ground is not an option.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, in order to continue and increase production, we need better market access. Better market access means a better distribution system. This means more pipeline capacity and increased access to markets. Canada, according to CNNMoney, is the fifth-largest oil producer, just behind China. Only the US [United States], Saudi Arabia, and Russia are ahead. According to Business Insider, Canada has the third-largest proven crude oil reserves in the world, behind Saudi Arabia and Venezuela. Also found in the same report is a statement that Canada is the US's largest foreign supplier of oil.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Saskatchewan is positioned as a significant part of Canada's supply, ranked as the no. 2 oil producer at 177.6 million barrels per year, or 486,600 barrels per day on average in 2015. With those notable facts of our position in the world's supply and potential for oil, we are also the country with the greatest distance to an export terminal of all the top 10 suppliers in the world. And this continues to put us at a competitive disadvantage and reduces the value of the commodity. For every dollar increase in the value of West Texas Intermediate, it represents \$19.6 million in annual revenue to this province, a one-cent change in exchange rates related to \$11.5 million in annual revenue. Improving oil exports and increasing value can provide a stabilizing effect on the Canadian economy, thereby stabilizing the value of the dollar.

#### [11:30]

Mr. Deputy Speaker, the other odd fact about Canadian oil production is that although we are one of the world's largest producers and exporters, we also import 634,000 barrels of crude oil every single day in this country. Leading exporters to Canada include Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Norway, Algeria, and Angola, which sell a combined \$8 billion worth of crude into Canada every year. Eight billion dollars would cover the average annual salary of 15,000 Canadian teachers for nine consecutive years. It represents the entire economic wealth created in a year by a country like Niger or Haiti.

In 2013 according to Government of Canada information supplied by the National Energy Board, Canada imported \$26.2 billion worth of crude oil. We exported 81.8 billion. What would this country do with an extra 26 billion? Twenty-six billion would finance about half of Ontario's entire health care budget. It would fund Quebec's \$20.6 billion education and culture budget. It would pay for New Brunswick's health care budget for 10 years. Or it would retire most of Saskatchewan's debt and help build some more roads, schools, hospitals, and care homes. All that is holding us back from capturing even a portion of those import dollars, Mr. Deputy Speaker, is a couple of pipelines.

I'm only going to have time to discuss the merits of one pipeline, Mr. Deputy Speaker, and that's the Energy East pipeline. It would move 1.1 million barrels per day of Western Canadian and North Dakota crude from Western Canada and North Dakota to Saint John, New Brunswick. This pipeline will need to be constructed across the Prairies, through eastern Ontario and Quebec, and into New Brunswick. The construction phase alone would be an economic driver for Canada with an estimated 14,000 full-time equivalent, direct and indirect jobs annually. During the first 20 years of operation, it's expected to sustain over 3,300 full-time, direct, and indirect jobs across this country.

What does it mean to Saskatchewan? Saskatchewan would receive close to 1,000 jobs during the nine-year construction and development phase, and would retain over 200 full-time jobs for the operation phase. Tax revenues alone would provide over \$500 million to Saskatchewan during the construction and operations phase. And it's estimated that Energy East could provide over \$4 billion to the GDP growth for our province during the nine-year construction phase and the 20-year operation phase.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, that is one pipeline moving Saskatchewan produced oil, paying Saskatchewan royalties, employing Saskatchewan young people who will be paying Saskatchewan taxes. Mr. Deputy Speaker, that is a lot of revenue that this province would have a difficult time finding in alternative sources right now. This is a revenue, an employment that we are not going to realize moving away from hydrocarbons and attempting to leap into alternative energy. This may come over time, but now is not the time. Now is the time to develop our resources while we have them.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I urge the opposition to quit dithering. Pick a position, and let's move the debate along to actually support this province and its resources. Mr. Deputy Speaker, the hon. Leader of the Opposition has been on record, November 26, 2015, in this Assembly supporting and advocating this pipeline, the Energy East project: "The Energy East project . . . is an important one for Canada and certainly important to our province. We've long been a supporter and an advocate for the Energy East pipeline . . ."

John Nilson was on record March 12 supporting this pipeline, March 12, 2014: "We're also already and supporting of an east-west pipeline. We know that there are some methods of transporting our products from the west to the east which will make sense for the Canadian economy." And yet their party is pursuing a concept that shows utter contempt for this industry and its development. Their counterparts in Ottawa obviously don't get it. Nathan Cullen, NDP MP [Member of Parliament] for Skeena-Bulkley Valley is quoted on a YouTube video refuting pipelines: "It serves some pretty narrow interests, right. If you're into shipping raw bitumen out of Canada, then this is a project for you. If you're anybody else, it doesn't serve you at all."

Mr. Deputy Speaker, what part of paying \$26 billion to foreign countries for something that we have here in Canada do they understand, do they not understand? Where would they anticipate that we would acquire that revenue virtually overnight? Where would new sources of personal and business tax, property tax, sales tax, consumer goods — purchased by, acquired by new revenue sources — come from? Mr. Deputy Speaker, a note found in the June 2016 issue of Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers indicated that Canada's future success in the global oil market relies on the existence of transportation infrastructure to provide market access for growing supplies.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, it's time to stand up for this province. It's time to stand up for one of its most important and valuable resources. It's time to stand up for the many men and women who are proud of the work they do in this valuable industry. Mr. Deputy Speaker, I ask both sides to show unanimous support for the motion presented by the member from Wood River.

**The Deputy Speaker**: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Centre.

**Mr. Forbes:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. It's a pleasure to enter into this debate, and it's always interesting to hear the thoughts from the other side. And you know, this is something that we really appreciate the opportunity. It seems that the member that just spoke thought it's just all about the dollars. It's all about the dollars, when he says, what part don't you understand. We understand that, but we understand it's a little more complex. But we, you know, when we talk about dithering, we look at that side. Eight years, eight years and not one kilometre of pipeline has been built, not one kilometre. Talk about dithering.

So, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to enter into the record an amendment that I would like to present at this time:

That all the words in the motion after 'construction' be struck out and replaced with the following:

of the Energy East, Kinder Morgan Trans Mountain expansion, and Keystone XL pipeline projects, as they will create jobs, have positive effects on the Saskatchewan economy, transport crude oil more safely than possible with trucks and trains, and reduce Eastern Canada's dependence on foreign oil, and,

That this Assembly recognizes that the Northern Gateway pipeline proposal has been significantly impeded by the federal government's political decision to implement a ban on oil tanker traffic off of the northwest coast of British Columbia; and

That this Assembly supports the collaborative approach to getting pipelines approved that involves working with affected communities and other provincial governments; and

That this Assembly condemns the ineffective intergovernmental affairs and public relations strategy taken by the Premier that has seen exactly zero kilometres of new pipeline built to tidewater during his time as Premier.

And I so move that, and I would submit that accordingly.

So, Mr. Speaker, am I all done? . . . [inaudible interjection] . . . No, I'll wait for the ruling. You guys seem to be all . . .

The Deputy Speaker: — Order, order. The member moved a

motion. We'll deal with the motion. The member from Saskatoon Centre has moved the following motion:

That all words in the motion after "construction" be struck and replaced with the following:

of Energy East, Kinder Morgan Trans Mountain expansion, and Keystone XL pipeline projects, as they will create jobs, have positive effects on the Saskatchewan economy, transports crude more safely than possible with trucks and trains, and reduce eastern Canada's dependence on foreign oil; and

That this Assembly recognizes the Northern Gateway pipeline proposal has been significantly impeded by the federal government's political decision to implement a ban on oil tanker traffic off the northwest coast of British Columbia; and

That this Assembly supports a collaborative approach to getting pipelines approved that involves working with affected communities and other provincial governments; and

That this Assembly condemns the ineffective intergovernmental affairs and public relations strategy taken by the Premier that has seen exactly zero kilometres of new pipeline built to tidewater during his time as Premier.

This is a fairly lengthy amendment, but I do believe, even though it is perhaps pushing the limits, I believe that it's acceptable. We will proceed with concurrent debate on both the motion and the amendment. And I believe the member has some . . . [inaudible interjection] . . . His time is . . . Okay, I'll recognize the member from Regina Walsh Acres.

**Mr. Steinley**: — Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy Speaker. And it's an honour to join in our motion, the 75-minute debate motion talking about pipelines, but also talk about the amendment put forward by the member from Saskatoon which  $\dots$  I have to correct the record again for the opposition because the motion is completely factually incorrect. Because since 2008 the government's made over 1600 metres of pipeline, Mr. Deputy Speaker — 1600 kilometres of pipeline, Mr. Deputy Speaker. So I'm not sure why the members opposite keep harping on, saying that there has been zero pipelines built in Saskatchewan.

The Alberta Clipper pipeline started in 2008 when, I believe, we were in government, Mr. Deputy Speaker. And since 2008 there's been 1607 kilometres built with pumping stations all across Saskatchewan. So these members opposite have not done any research. You see it in question period every day, Mr. Deputy Speaker. They come in here with misinformation, with factually incorrect information. I'm trying to be very careful, Mr. Deputy Speaker. Because it's really interesting when you sit back and listen to QP [question period] all the time, and minister after minister on this side get up and the first part of their answer always has to be, let me correct the facts from the other side, Mr. Deputy Speaker.

Time and time again they come in. They came in yesterday, and

the member from Saskatoon Riversdale had incorrect information regarding the travel of our Minister of Health. They come in and they say ... It's a concurrent theme, Mr. Deputy Speaker, that they always bring forward misinformation. And several times we've had to stand up and correct this information, Mr. Deputy Speaker.

And I'm looking forward to talking about pipelines for a fairly long time because the member opposite doesn't understand the process of the House, Mr. Deputy Speaker. But this isn't just about pipelines. This is about supporting our economy. This is about a broader conversation about who can keep Saskatchewan strong, who can keep our economy growing, Mr. Deputy Speaker.

And I'm very passionate about this topic in particular because I have family members, I have friends that have been out of work for a fairly long time. And they don't think we don't understand that this has a human effect on everyone. Well, Mr. Speaker, I take great offence to that because I have people that are very close to me that work in the oil field.

And the member from Athabasca can yap because that's the best thing he does from his seat. Whenever he gets up and asks a question, there's actually a lot of misinformation in most of his questions. As well, Mr. Deputy Speaker, he's been here for 25 years, and I think he's just really upset that he's going to be in opposition for another 25, Mr. Deputy Speaker.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, there's a few things that we need to get on the record, and one is that this side of the House, we'll support our economy as long as we have the honour of serving. And one thing that I think is a great disservice is when there is delegations that come and sit in the Speaker's gallery, Mr. Deputy Speaker, a delegation from America that came down to look at the carbon capture and sequestration facility, one of the most innovative facilities for capturing carbon on the planet, Mr. Deputy Speaker. And the Leader for the Opposition, the member from Rosemont, gets up and rails against this project for 10 minutes while there's a delegation that's going to go down and look at it.

He's doing a disservice not only to the leaders, to his caucus, Mr. Deputy Speaker, but he's being disrespectful to the people of our province who worked hard, who worked hard to make sure that there's an innovative solution to greenhouse gas emission, Mr. Deputy Speaker.

#### [11:45]

And I think that's something the member from Rosemont should come to understand is that when he's the Leader of the Opposition, he also has to stick up for the people of the province of Saskatchewan, not belittle them when they're trying to make improvements to our province and improvements to our economy, Mr. Deputy Speaker, and try to make improvements to ... trying to create a solution to a problem that's worldwide. As I've said in this house many times, there's going to be more and more coal-fired electrical plants in China year after year after year, and Saskatchewan people, Saskatchewan companies are trying to bring a solution to that.

And we saw it again today, Mr. Deputy Speaker. We had

members from the executive from Crescent Point sitting in the gallery. And what does the member from Regina Rosemont do? He starts off question period slagging our economy, slagging our oil sector, Mr. Deputy Speaker, saying that we're in a downturn, saying that Saskatchewan ... basically telling the people from Crescent Point that our province isn't the place to invest right now.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, the biggest risk to the Saskatchewan economy is those 10 members over there. Time and time again he gets up and says how bad the economy is in Saskatchewan. We know that we're going through a tough time, Mr. Deputy Speaker, but we also know the people of Saskatchewan will work hard, will make sure that they weather this tough time and will come out of it stronger when the economic times go back into an upturn.

Sitting in this spot, listening to the members opposite, I understand that they come from a background of people that have socialist beliefs, and I understand that they believe that government can solve all problems. But there's only 10 people in the province that want Saskatchewan people to fail, and those 10 people are sitting over there. All they want to do is try and make sure that people look to government for help. They want to make sure that people ... Actually, I think they enjoy it when numbers come out, and people are losing jobs. I think the member from Elphinstone enjoys that, Mr. Speaker. I think he enjoys it because that means ... He thinks, hey if there's more people that don't have jobs, maybe they'll depend on the government more, and they'll think that socialism's the way to go.

And, Mr. Deputy Speaker, I think it's does a great disservice when you have 10 members opposite basically rooting for the Saskatchewan economy to fail. And I've sat in here for six years and listened to their speeches, and that's what it's about. It's all about failure. Things aren't going right, failing. The economy's failing. The CCS [carbon capture and storage] plant's going to fail, Mr. Deputy Speaker. And I think that is one of the biggest reasons why they have 10 members over there, and we have been a little bit more successful in the April 4th election because we put forward solutions.

We actually look at our province and the people of Saskatchewan, and say, you know what, we are in an economic downturn, but things are going to turn around because we believe in the people of Saskatchewan — the hard work, the innovation that they bring forward. The people down at Estevan, we think CCS is a solution to keep people working in Estevan for the next 50 years, 100 years, Mr. Deputy Speaker, because they'll be mining that coal. They'll be working those power stations, and they'll be doing a very good job of it, Mr. Deputy Speaker.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I want to talk about Regina for a few minutes to talk about the pipelines in Regina and the effect they'd have if these pipelines are approved, which our Premier does a fantastic of going across our nation saying the economic benefits of approving pipeline projects.

Well I want to talk about Evraz, who is one of the largest private employers in Regina, Mr. Deputy Speaker. And the members opposite get up and talk about the hard-working people, and they speak for the hard-working people of Saskatchewan, which they don't because they voted against the new tax incentive in our budget. Last budget all the members the new ones because they weren't here — but all the members on that side voted against a new tax incentive that created the expansion opportunity at Evraz. They voted against jobs in Regina, against jobs across Saskatchewan, based on a tired, old ideology, Mr. Deputy Speaker. And they should be ashamed of themselves for voting against jobs in Regina, especially the member from Elphinstone, the member from Rosemont, and the member from Lakeview, Mr. Deputy Speaker. They should be ashamed that they voted against good mortgage-paying jobs in Regina, Mr. Deputy Speaker. And it's a wonder some of them were back here after they voted against that after April 4th.

There's a couple of people that I know very well that work out at Evraz. They do a fantastic job, and they always talk about how they need support. They need support from both sides of this House, and they feel they're not getting it from the opposition members, Mr. Deputy Speaker.

They go out there and they talk about how they support union members, and then when it's time to actually stand up, and stand up and show support, they voted against a budget measure in our last budget that created jobs in Regina. And I think for that, they should be ashamed of themselves, Mr. Deputy Speaker. I can't believe they voted against a measure that brought more jobs to our province.

I listened to the member from Nutana — I know I'm getting, I'm running short on time — the member from Nutana gave a very elegant speech, Mr. Deputy Speaker. She talked about pipelines and how she was involved with them. The one thing I did not hear her mention, not once, was her support in principle of the Leap Manifesto.

This is a perfect opportunity for her to get to her feet, rise in this House and say, you know what? I would never support a document that created economic devastation across Saskatchewan. Did not hear that. It was a perfect opportunity, talk about pipelines, talk about the oil sector. She could have got on her feet and said, I do not support the Leap Manifesto. That is not true. And she will not say it because we all know she does support the Leap Manifesto in principle, Mr. Deputy Speaker.

And then the member from Regina Rosemont, I want to talk about him. He says he supports Evraz. He says he supports pipelines. Then he appoints Nicole White as the head of their renewal committee, someone who absolutely does not want this economy to grow, does not support the energy sector in our province. She signed on to the Leap Manifesto, Mr. Deputy Speaker, and the member from Regina Rosemont appoints her as a renewal committee, where she supports something that will absolutely devastate our economy, devastate agriculture, and devastate pipelines across our province.

Thank you, and I support the motion, Mr. Deputy Speaker.

**The Deputy Speaker**: — I recognize the member from Regina Elphinstone-Centre.

Mr. McCall: — Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy Speaker. A

pleasure to join the debate today. And certainly, just to make clear at the start of my remarks, I will be supporting the amendment. And I guess, the thing about the main motion is that it doesn't quite get the job done, which is sort of like the approach of these members when it comes to actually getting the job done.

We hear a lot of sound and fury from members opposite in this place and across the province and across the country, Mr. Speaker. But when it comes to actually getting the job done, to advancing projects, there's been precious little progress in that regard, Mr. Speaker.

And I guess the thing that's interesting about this, Mr. Speaker, is that the member that preceded me in this debate comes out of northwest Regina. And he had a lot of things to say about Evraz, about Evraz steel, and the old IPSCO approach to interprovincial pipeline. And the thing that was interesting about that, Mr. Speaker, the interprovincial pipe and steel, certainly that's an entity that goes back a great number of years in the history of this province. But of course the anti-socialist, red-baiting tirades that we hear from members opposite, of course there's never any recognition for the important role that was played in that operation getting up and running by the then CCF [Co-operative Commonwealth Federation] government in the 1950s and by certainly then valuable public servant and then later Premier of this province, Allan Blakeney, Mr. Deputy Speaker.

And when it comes to Evraz ... And you know, where I grew up, and the folks that are steelworkers that have worked hard for that corporation and different iterations it's taken on, in terms of the folks that were often as not members of United Steelworkers of America 5890, these are friends of mine, Mr. Speaker. They're my neighbours. And they're certainly parents of kids that I grew up with. And they did a hard day's work, and they also did it as proud union members.

So we'd seen a variation on this trick in the federal election where the member from Regina Qu'Appelle and now putative leadership candidate in the federal Conservative contest, Mr. Speaker, come out and talk about, you know, making the connection between Evraz and pipelines. And what steelworkers had to say at that time, Mr. Speaker, was, you know, it's all fine and good to support Evraz, but where was the action from the federal Conservative government when it came to the dumping of cheap Chinese steel and the way that that competed against the good work that's done by men and women at Evraz every day, and again, members of Steelworkers 5890?

So that now, of course, we have this sort of tirade come to the legislature and, you know, the big lecture on who's really supporting Evraz. It would always be nice if this was a consistent fight that they took through the different phases of these debates, Mr. Speaker.

And certainly the action that should have been taken by the federal government when it came to supporting a local producer and in terms of working with the people of Saskatchewan to take that fight internationally to make sure that there was fair treatment, that's something you don't hear a whole heck of a lot from the members opposite about. And you certainly didn't hear about it when there was the grandstanding going on in the federal election. Again only one side of the story from members opposite.

So I guess it's, you know, they can get into the red-baiting and the tirading all they like, Mr. Speaker, but when it comes to the historical record and the actual fact in terms of who stood beside the steelworkers of Evraz, it's pretty clear in that regard, Mr. Deputy Speaker.

When it comes to the debate itself in terms of the motion, we've had experience in this province where even with other pipeline projects that have gone ... And again, the distinction being about tidewater, Mr. Speaker. In terms of pipeline projects that have come across Saskatchewan territory, we've seen what happens when this government screws it up with the relationships that need to be maintained when it comes to our First Nations, when it comes to the Saskatchewan First Nations in this province, Mr. Speaker. And I can remember a time not too far in the past but certainly under the watch of these men and women opposite where it led to First Nations demonstrating, blockading, and a great deal of uncertainty being injected into the equation because the duty to consult and the work that should have been done with First Nations had not been done.

And when you take that sort of lesson in terms of the way that members present their arguments about how they can certainly do no wrong, Mr. Speaker, and you look at the actual record, there's one example in terms of how, when it came to in our own backyard, they couldn't get the job done, and it led to a great deal of conflict that was fortunately resolved. But you know, if they'd got the job done right in the first place it wouldn't have come to that.

And I think about that example, Mr. Speaker, when it comes to the way that people like the Provincial Auditor have weighed in on the way that this government fails to properly regulate and maintain our pipeline infrastructure as it exists in this province. And again, Mr. Speaker, that's an infrastructure that didn't come from anywhere. It came under successive governments because there is support on this side of the House for projects that are economically sensible, that are environmentally sustainable, and can work with the affected communities going forward, that you know, why wouldn't we get that job done?

But when it comes to the way that this government has used the bully pulpit to, you know, again generate a lot of speeches like the one we've seen here today, it's been to very little effect, Mr. Speaker. And I guess I don't know what it is. Is it you go to other people's backyards and tell them that they should forgo their own process, that they should ignore affected communities, Mr. Speaker, and that they should just drive ahead and not work to, you know, build that consensus, not to make the reasoned arguments despite the hundreds of millions of hours, pardon me, the hundreds of millions of dollars that have been sunk into this in various ways in terms of the projects themselves?

But certainly the public relations efforts of this government when it comes internationally, we saw how that worked with Keystone. And we saw the ... Again it's almost like the kiss of death for a project that you see that Premier coming down the mountain to make the case for it because that's been the net effect of the efforts of the way that this government does their business, the way that the government promotes projects. So I don't know if it's a ... You always want to look at what the results are in terms of the way that that the government says something or, you know, makes a case for something. What are the net results? What are the results?

And we've had years now of this government coming down the mountain. We've had years of that Premier coming down the mountain where this project or that project is proclaimed as a priority, and it's rammed ahead with it in terms of the rhetoric, and again we don't have to look very far to find an example of that approach, you know, again here today in the Assembly. And what has been the result of that? Has the government learned some lessons in terms of the kind of diplomacy that you'd think would need to be undertaken in terms of the kind of, you know, being less of a ... more pulpit, less bully, Mr. Deputy Speaker?

Do you think there are any of those lessons that are being taken from this where, you know, to advance projects you've got to demonstrate the economic case certainly? And there's that in spades for different of these projects. You need to demonstrate the environmental sustainability case for these projects and again there is work in our own backyard where people around the country and around the world could look to the way this government has been the steward on this file and fallen abundantly short. And again you don't have to ask me about that, Mr. Speaker, you can ask the Provincial Auditor.

#### [12:00]

So in terms of going out and preaching something that we're not practising in our own backyard, Mr. Speaker, around the country and throughout North America, there's a credibility gap that exists between the way it's been preached and the way it's been practised. So they've got to clean up our own backyard first, Mr. Speaker, before you can go and lecture the world about it.

And again, Mr. Speaker, this is a government that back in 2007 took the pledge on the green technology fund, and then promptly after the election took that \$300 million and went somewhere else with it, as yet another example of the way there's a gap between what this government preaches and what they practise. And guess what, Mr. Speaker? The world's paying attention. They're not just sort of asleep at the switch.

So in that case, Mr. Speaker, again I think the motion doesn't do the job but the amendment certainly does.

**The Deputy Speaker**: — I recognize the member from Cannington.

**Mr. D'Autremont**: — Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. It's a pleasure to rise today to talk on pipelines, as pipelines are a very important part of the economy in my constituency and in fact I worked within that industry for over 14 years.

Mr. Speaker, in Cannington constituency we have Alliance Pipeline running through from northern Alberta down to Chicago. We have Enbridge gathering the oil in southeast Saskatchewan with Alida as the main terminal point which then pumps the oil from southeast Saskatchewan to the Enbridge main lines at Cromer, Manitoba. Just outside of my constituency is also the five main Enbridge pipelines moving oil east to Ontario and TransCanada's pipeline.

So pipelines are a very large part of the economy in my constituency. They pay a lot of taxes, property taxes, to the local municipalities, Mr. Speaker, to the education system, to support people not just in my constituency but across the province of Saskatchewan. There are no pumpjacks on main street in Regina, up and down Albert, or in Saskatoon, but the money coming from the oil patch provides support for all of us.

I'm surprised with the Opposition House Leader's comments though, not wanting outside products coming in to Saskatchewan. He doesn't want steel from someplace else. He wants to close the borders coming in to Saskatchewan while our economy is based on exports — 60 to 70 per cent of all the things we produce in Saskatchewan are exported. If everybody in the world took his attitude, we'd be eating a lot of bread here and that would be about it, Mr. Speaker, because we couldn't sell it out of the province. So that's a very myopic view of the world to say nobody can come in here with any product but we still want to sell it around the world, Mr. Speaker.

You know, I find it very interesting that people in other parts of Canada do not support pipelines but they still want to run their automobiles all over the place while they drive down to get their latte. They still want the money for equalization that is generated by the oil and gas production. My question to them will be, if you don't have pipelines, where's your money for equalization going to come from? And what are you going to cut in your provinces? Nobody wants to answer that, Mr. Speaker. So we need pipelines across Canada. We need pipelines to export our products. They are done in a safe manner. It's just the scare factors by those from outside, and the opposition, that are creating this roadblock, Mr. Deputy Speaker. Thank you very much.

**The Deputy Speaker**: — Time for debate has expired. Questions. I recognize the member from Saskatoon Centre.

**Mr. Forbes**: — Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy Speaker. I have a question here. And you know, it is about being credible. Now the folks opposite, the folks opposite think they have that locked down, and they don't have to do anything. They just have to grandstand and talk. And I appreciate the comments from the member from Walsh Acres. He has a special gift for delivering hard-hitting speeches.

But here we have the reports from the auditor who has several concerns about pipelines here in our own province. I want to know from the member from Walsh Acres what we have to do to get these concerns from the auditor rectified before we start talking about pipelines around the world.

**The Deputy Speaker**: — I recognize the member from Regina Walsh Acres.

**Mr. Steinley**: — Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy Speaker. And I find it a little bit more than ironic that that member got up and talked about credibility when he's been in this House for 10 years, 15 years, and he doesn't know how to put forward an amendment.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I believe that our record on pipelines and our record on environmental standards is second to none. And I believe that this government will continue to move forward in a sustainable way, an economic way, and in an environmental way to make sure that pipelines get built and we can get our oil to tidewater so the people of Saskatchewan get the return they deserve on their resource.

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the member from Nutana.

**Ms. Sproule**: — Mr. Speaker, one of the things that we're very curious about in the way that the motion was presented as written is, why wasn't, why isn't this government supportive of the Kinder Morgan expansion? Why wasn't that included in the government's motion? And our question I guess is, are they actually choosing politics over pipelines? That's what we want to ask, and I would like to ask the member from Walsh Acres to address that concern.

**The Deputy Speaker**: — I recognize the member from Regina Walsh Acres.

**Mr. Steinley**: — Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy Speaker. And once again I will enjoy to happily answer the question coming from the member from Nutana who, if she wants to talk about playing politics with pipelines, this is a member who is on record as supporting the Leap Manifesto that will destroy our oil energy sector, will destroy our agriculture sector. She's the Ag critic. She stands in her place and says we haven't built one kilometre of pipeline, and she's dead wrong, Mr. Deputy Speaker. We've built over 1607 kilometres of pipeline, so before she stands and asks a question, she should get her facts straight, Mr. Deputy Speaker.

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the member from Lloydminster.

**Ms. Young**: — Mr. Speaker, when Nathan Cullen, the NDP MP for Skeena-Bulkley Valley, spoke about Northern Gateway pipeline he said, "these projects are dinosaurs and they should do what dinosaurs do, which is die."

Mr. Speaker, to the member from Regina Elphinstone-Centre, will you stand up to your federal counterparts and tell them how important pipelines are for the people of Saskatchewan?

**The Deputy Speaker**: — I recognize the member from Regina Elphinstone-Centre.

**Mr. McCall**: — Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy Speaker. I'll tell you what I will stand up for. I'll stand up for the people of Regina Elphinstone-Centre that have, you know, blessed me with the opportunity to represent their interests here in Saskatchewan in the legislature.

And I will stand up for Saskatchewan in terms of this legislature and in terms of the way that the members opposite ... You know, if they want to attend to the federal landscape in terms of the actions or inactions of different of their federal cousins, Mr. Speaker, and the way ... I'm sure they've all got their memberships ready to go in the federal Conservative leadership.

In terms of the way that the inaction of the federal government impacted the folks at Evraz steel and the dumping of cheap Chinese steel on the Canadian market, the way that that impacted the interests of Saskatchewan and Regina, and north Regina in particular, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to see some action from that, on that score.

**The Deputy Speaker**: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Centre.

**Mr. Forbes**: — Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy Speaker. We have a Premier and a government that's preoccupied with attacking the NDP, picking fights with other premiers, dismissing climate change. The twitter noise, us versus them, hasn't worked; it won't work. The Premier admits himself that it's not working when it comes to getting new pipelines built. And he says, "frankly we haven't been winning very many battles."

To the member from Walsh Acres, do you agree, does he agree with the Premier's assessment?

**The Deputy Speaker**: — I recognize the member from Regina Walsh Acres.

**Mr. Steinley**: — Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy Speaker. And once again, I'm happy to rise and correct the record from what the members of the opposition are saying. I am very proud to be on the side of the government that works with their partners across Canada. We saw a perfect example of our Finance minister three days ago, working hard with other Finance ministers across the country to make sure that we have a good deal on CPP [Canada Pension Plan] for the people of Saskatchewan.

Our Premier stands up for the people of Saskatchewan across Canada, works hard to make sure that Saskatchewan people get the best deal, get the best deal on anything that they possibly can, Mr. Deputy Speaker. He promotes our Saskatchewan resources, promotes our Saskatchewan resources. He promotes our Saskatchewan ingenuity and our innovation with CCS and other technologies, Mr. Deputy Speaker. And on this side of the House, we'll stand up for the people of Saskatchewan each and every day, Mr. Deputy Speaker. It doesn't matter in what province or what jurisdiction, and I'm proud to be on a team that always supports the people of Saskatchewan.

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the member from Moosomin.

**Mr. Bonk**: — Today the Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers released their 2016 crude oil forecast. This report forecasts oil production will outstrip current pipeline capacity by nearly 800,000 barrels per day five years from now. Mr. Speaker, to the member from Regina Elphinstone-Centre: do you support 800,000 barrels moving by train, moving by pipeline, or would your party rather keep it in the ground?

**The Deputy Speaker**: — I recognize the member from Regina Elphinstone-Centre.

**Mr. McCall**: — I tell you what I do support, Mr. Speaker, and it's interesting the question coming from that member on this score. I have family in his hometown — and it's their hometown as well — that have worked on these pipelines, that have gained their living doing that work on the pipeline, Mr. Speaker. So despite the, you know, leave-it-in-the ground point to the member's question, obviously we support an approach that works for the environment, that works for the economy, that works for communities, Mr. Speaker.

And in terms of the way that we've seen the government advance this file, to return to my earlier point, what is it about the current approach of this government that's seen the intervention of those members on projects resemble the kiss of death for the success of those projects, Mr. Speaker? You'd think they'd recognize that something's wrong with the approach over there. And if they want to advance these things, maybe they should do a rethink.

**The Deputy Speaker**: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Nutana.

**Ms. Sproule:** — Mr. Speaker, I'm going to try this again, because I asked a question about why, why this ... I'm sorry. I'm stumbling. Why this amendment didn't support the Kinder Morgan expansion. I asked it earlier, didn't get an answer. So I think we're going to try this again. Why is it that this government chose not to include Kinder Morgan in the long list of pipelines that they choose to support? Are they choosing politics over pipelines? To the member from Regina Walsh Acres, let's try it again.

**The Deputy Speaker**: — I recognize the member from Regina Walsh Acres.

**Mr. Steinley**: — Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy Speaker. And I'm always happy to rise and answer questions regarding pipelines. And if she wants to talk about playing politics over public policy, Mr. Deputy Speaker, what I'd like to say to the people watching today is there's only one party that plays politics over policy in this House. And that's that member from Regina Rosemont, the Leader of the Opposition, who when people come to this gallery to watch the proceedings — the people from the American delegation from CCS, the people of Crescent Point today — he sits in his chair, rises, and slags the people of Saskatchewan each and every time, saying how bad things are.

Slags the economy the hard-working people of Saskatchewan have developed, slags the CCS operation in Estevan where innovation of the Saskatchewan people — innovation and technology and people are working hard — and he makes a mockery of what they've done down there in front of people that are going down to tour that facility that afternoon, Mr. Deputy Minister. That's a shame.

**The Deputy Speaker**: — I recognize the member from Estevan.

**Ms. Carr**: — Mr. Speaker, the records of pipelines speak for themselves. Pipelines are safer than truck transport and safer than rail. In fact, they are the safest method of transporting large volumes of crude oil distances in North America.

Mr. Speaker, my question is for the member from Saskatoon Centre. My question is simple: will their party acknowledge that we need the Keystone XL, the Northern Gateway and Energy East pipelines because they are environmentally the best option to transport oil?

**The Deputy Speaker**: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Centre.

**Mr. Forbes**: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. We are pleased to put in an amendment because we think it's a better choice to include some of the other pipelines, and we do have to do the environmental rigour with it. And I can tell you that we support pipelines. We take it very seriously. I can tell you as a member from downtown Saskatoon when we see the trains going through downtown Saskatoon with oil we have concerns.

#### [12:15]

**The Deputy Speaker**: — Time for the 75-minute debate has expired.

#### **PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS**

**The Deputy Speaker**: — I recognize the member from Athabasca.

#### Motion No. 2 — Calls to Action in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Report

**Mr. Belanger**: — Thank you very much. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. At the end of my comments I'll move my motion as it relates to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's final document that pertains to the jurisdiction of the provincial Government of Saskatchewan.

Mr. Speaker, I want to speak briefly about the challenges in the province of Saskatchewan which I think are paramount to the issue that I am raising today when we talk about overall the economy of the province of Saskatchewan and even the very motto of our province, "from many peoples, strength."

Now, Mr. Speaker, it was with great humility the other day when I mentioned the celebration of National Aboriginal Day when we spoke about the pride that Aboriginal people certainly have and the culture that we enjoy, the traditions, and the customs and the languages that are uniquely ours, Mr. Speaker. I wanted to take the opportunity that day to celebrate the National Aboriginal Day. And one of the points that I would raise, Mr. Speaker, is really key in understanding what the Aboriginal people are all about.

In my preface to celebrating the National Aboriginal Day, Mr. Speaker, I wanted to make sure that other people in the province of Saskatchewan understood why an apology for the Sixties Scoop was really important. Mr. Speaker, I wanted the other people in Saskatchewan to understand why acknowledgement of the residential school challenges are also very important to recall and to try and correct.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to talk about the many challenges that the Aboriginal people faced throughout the history of the province of Saskatchewan and the history of Canada overall, Mr. Speaker. So what's really important at that same comment is what I wanted to do as an Aboriginal person, as a Métis person, is I wanted to respect the challenges and other setbacks — a lot of them very historical throughout the world — of other cultures and of other people. And the purpose of recognizing the Holodomor and the atrocities of World War II against many, many people, and even the ... as we turned away ships from our shores, and in which many people perished.

The purpose of recognizing those particular tragic events in Canadian history, Mr. Speaker, is to tell the people, the families that are impacted by that, is that we understand them and we understood them and we stand and acknowledge their pain as well, as we have gone through similar tragic events in our Aboriginal history.

So really it is acknowledgement of their challenges, and in the most respectful way saying we recognize those challenges. We certainly don't defend those actions anywhere in the world and that as Aboriginal people, we wanted to share that message with the many victims of the atrocities that I mentioned, Mr. Speaker.

And in doing so we also wanted recognition — not pity, not sympathy, Mr. Speaker, but recognition of the challenges that the Aboriginal people faced overall in the history of our province and in the history of the country as well.

So it's important that I explain to the Assembly the purpose of my message that day, because, Mr. Speaker, we now have another opportunity through the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, in which they've identified a number of areas that many provincial governments across the country should follow. And I look at the failings within Saskatchewan overall, Mr. Speaker, and I look at some of the recommendations presented in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's report, and there was a number of areas that the commission asked Saskatchewan to begin to resolve and begin to lead, in which we've saw no considerable action, Mr. Speaker.

Everything from child welfare to education to language and culture, to health, to justice. Mr. Speaker, there was tons of information. And certainly a number of commission members heard some very compelling stories, Mr. Speaker. And this is one of the reasons why they put forward a document. It was with great concern, and it was with a lot of hard work. And, Mr. Speaker, it was with a lot of focus on the issues as well, even though a lot of traumatic stories certainly caught the attention and the ears of the nation and certainly of the commission members.

But they had to focus, Mr. Speaker, on the solutions. And as much as the stories were compelling, the leadership required of the commission was to ensure that they came forward with some solid recommendations to try and address some of the past hurts, to build a stronger future forged with Aboriginal partnership.

Now, Mr. Speaker, going through the actual document, I think one of the most important compelling parts of the report, Mr. Speaker, was one particular section that I wanted to emphasize on. And certainly, Mr. Speaker, education, health, acknowledgement of the Aboriginal culture, incorporating Aboriginal values in education, the list goes on as to some powerful and some very compelling recommendations that the commission made.

So I don't take away from any of those points, Mr. Speaker, but I want to focus on one particular part of the report which I think is really relevant to the challenges, and it really gets to the point as to why this reconciliation work needed to be done. And I'll go under the section 71, the recommendation 71, where it spoke about missing children and burial information. And one of the recommendations are, Mr. Speaker, and I quote:

We call upon all chief coroners and provincial vital statistics agencies that have not provided to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada their records on the deaths of Aboriginal children in the care of residential school authorities to make these documents available to the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I think the important point around recommendation 71, where the commission is asking for a very simple request, is that you provide the truth behind how many of these children died while in care of the residential school system. A lot of family members need to know those facts, Mr. Speaker. And that's why it's important, I think, that the Truth Reconciliation Commission put forward and that recommendation because there are many unexplained deaths, Mr. Speaker. There are many deaths that were not documented, and that is certainly a challenge and certainly a stain on our history as Canadians. And many family members to this day, and even though some of these cases may go back many years, they have to know how their son, daughter, or great-grandson passed away. It's really, really important to the Aboriginal community as it is important to many other families out there. I am certain that they understand the promise or the possibility of closure for many of these families, Mr. Speaker. And then this promise, this commitment needs to be maintained in terms of attention by the commission, but it also needs to be respected by the provinces of whom the commission made some of these recommendations.

So, Mr. Speaker, I tell the people of Saskatchewan this as a proud member of the Aboriginal community and a very proud member of the Aboriginal community. We make up one-third of the provincial population in the province overall, Mr. Speaker. There are many people now of Aboriginal ancestry, and we are growing to a powerful and very positive nation within the province of Saskatchewan. We have many Aboriginal families that have made tremendous contributions to our province economically, socially, politically through the arts, education. The list goes on, Mr. Speaker. And I'm very proud, and I want to acknowledge those people today. There are many people out there that inspire many of our young people to achieve the same level of success that they have, and these are scholars, doctors, lawyers, people of many professional backgrounds that are of Aboriginal ancestry. And I'm proud to say, Mr. Speaker, that they have succeeded in their career.

But there are however, Mr. Speaker, many other families that have not. As we see, as a province we have to do a better job of incorporating Aboriginal people into the economy. We have to have more sensitive teachings about the Aboriginal history and the culture and the people of Saskatchewan in the past and certainly of today. We've also got to make sure that we incorporate many of own spiritual beliefs around traditional methods of healing, Mr. Speaker. These are some of the points that the commission has brought forward, and it's something that we need to certainly pay a lot of attention to.

So the list goes on and on in terms of what is required in recognizing the past, Mr. Speaker, but people don't want to simply dwell on the past mistakes. They certainly want to acknowledge those past mistakes and where we build from here to position the Aboriginal people accordingly. I think it's really important that we begin that work, Mr. Speaker, and that's why the commission has been, on a continual basis, been putting forward recommendations that are very straightforward, very simple to achieve. And yet, Mr. Speaker, we have seen provinces like Saskatchewan simply lag behind. And to me, Mr. Speaker, I think that's a crying shame and that something ought to be done with that particular challenge.

And, Mr. Speaker, I'm just serving notice today that many people in the community are paying very close attention to this issue and that certainly I think that we will not let this issue rest. And as you look at some of the past examples and the most recent example, Mr. Speaker, with the shutting down of the Buffalo Narrows Correctional Centre, putting 28 people out of work in the community of Buffalo Narrows, a community that can ill afford to lose these mortgage-paying jobs, Mr. Speaker, and yet this government coldly and callously once again stabbed the Aboriginal community right in the back on that front. And I say shame on them, Mr. Speaker.

We didn't need less investment. We needed more investment. And this is a classic example of how this government once again continues to turn their back on many of the Aboriginal families and communities in the province of Saskatchewan. And that's a crying shame, Mr. Speaker, because this province was built in co-operation, in the spirit of co-operation with the Aboriginal communities. And now 2016 we see a government that has no respect for that spirit that the Aboriginal community afforded the province and continue to support the province in many, many ways.

So on that notion, Mr. Speaker, I move the following motion:

That this Assembly call upon the government to fulfill the calls to action in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's final report that pertain to the jurisdiction of the provincial government.

I so move.

**The Deputy Speaker**: — The member from Athabasca has moved the following motion:

That this Assembly call upon the provincial government to fulfill the calls to action in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's final report that pertain to the jurisdiction of the provincial government.

Is the Assembly ready for the question? I recognize the member from Regina Elphinstone-Centre.

**Mr. McCall**: — Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy Speaker. Certainly my intervention at this point in the debate will be brief, given other demands of the Assembly for committees and on understanding between the sides.

But I just want to rise to say that there are many things that are important in terms of the work that we do in this Assembly that are critical, that are critical not just for today and next week but for the future of this province. And in terms of responding to the 94 calls to action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, and the government has said that they identified 34 impacting Saskatchewan and that 22 of those are under way, Mr. Deputy Speaker, that's encouraging.

But I guess one of the things that has become apparent about the way that this government has done business over the years, and particularly as it relates to the indigenous people of Saskatchewan, Mr. Speaker, we'd like to hear more about that work. We don't know why there hasn't been some kind of a more visible, more profiled way of coming forward as the province of Saskatchewan and saying that, this work is our work. And this is work that, having gone through the truth part of the process, Mr. Speaker, as painful and wrenching as that has been, that we now move earnestly towards reconciliation and that we take on our share of that work as the people of Saskatchewan.

And we haven't heard more from this government where in past they're quite anxious to profile things like having a feast at the legislature. And I don't mention that by way of taking away from the importance of what the feast represents in terms of people coming together, but we want to hear more about this government's plan to enact those calls to action, to take on its responsibility.

#### [12:30]

And in terms of what we've seen in other jurisdictions where up to and including legislation being enacted to ensure that that road map for reconciliation is laid out and undertaken, again, Mr. Speaker, when we reflect back on what's happening here in Saskatchewan, it certainly wasn't in the Throne Speech. It wasn't in the budget. And we want to hear from this government how they're undertaking this work on all of our behalf to make sure that we learn from the truth part of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's work — again you know, historic and wrenching, painful work, Mr. Speaker, that that not be in vain and that we as the people of Saskatchewan are undertaking our responsibility in that connection very seriously.

I commend the remarks from the member from Athabasca. He's the longest serving indigenous member of this Assembly, in the history of this Assembly. And certainly I couldn't think of a more fitting person to move this motion calling for that response, for that action.

Mr. Speaker, there's more to be said on this front, but recognizing the hour of the day, as I'd stated at the outset, I would move to adjourn debate on the motion calling that this Assembly calls upon the government to fulfil the calls to action in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's final report that pertain to the provincial jurisdiction here in Saskatchewan. I so move. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**The Deputy Speaker**: — The member from Regina Elphinstone-Centre has moved to adjourn debate on the motion presented by the member from Athabasca. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

**The Deputy Speaker**: — That's carried. I recognize the Government House Leader.

**Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff**: — Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy Speaker. In order to facilitate the work of committees later this day, I move that this Assembly do now adjourn.

**The Deputy Speaker**: — The Government House Leader has moved that this Assembly does now adjourn. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

**The Deputy Speaker**: — This Assembly is adjourned until Monday at 1:30 p.m.

[The Assembly adjourned at 12:33.]

#### TABLE OF CONTENTS

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS	
INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS	(01
Wall	
Wotherspoon	
Doherty	
Chartier	
Morgan	
Ottenbreit	
Belanger	
Moe STATEMENT BY A MEMBER	
Apology Chartier	622
PRESENTING PETITIONS	
Chartier	633
Forbes	
STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS	
Moose Range Celebrates 100th Anniversary	
Bradshaw	634
Motorcycle Ride for Dad	
Forbes	634
Physician of the Year	
Nerlien	634
Prince Albert Street Fair	
Rancourt	634
Prince Albert Rental Housing Project	
Hargrave	635
Partnership with Northern Communities	
Lambert	635
Supporting Wanuskewin's Renewal	
Olauson	
QUESTION PERIOD	
Provincial Economy and Employment	
Wotherspoon	
Wall	
Management of Health Care System	
Chartier	
Duncan	
Food Services in Correctional Facilities	
Sarauer	
Tell	
Funding for Child and Family Services	
Rancourt	
Harpauer	639
Sixties Scoop and Government Conversations with Interest Groups	
Belanger	
Harpauer	639
Growth and Financial Security Fund	
Sproule	
Doherty	
INTRODUCTION OF BILLS	
Bill No. 601 — The Workers' Compensation Amendment Act, 2016	
Chartier	
PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES	
Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice	
Ross	640
Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies	
Bradshaw	640
THIRD READINGS	
Bill No. 21 — The Growth and Financial Security Repeal Act	
Doherty	641
Bill No. 22 — The Income Tax Amendment Act, 2016	~
Doherty	641

TABLING OF REPORTS	
The Speaker	
ORDERS OF THE DAY	
SEVENTY-FIVE MINUTE DEBATE	
Support for Pipeline Development	
Marit	
Sproule	
Kaeding	
Forbes	
Steinley	
McCall	
D'Autremont	
Young	
Bonk	
Carr	
PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS	
Motion No. 2 — Calls to Action in the Truth and Reconciliation	on Commission's Report
Belanger	
McCall	

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