



FIRST SESSION - TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

of the

**Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan**

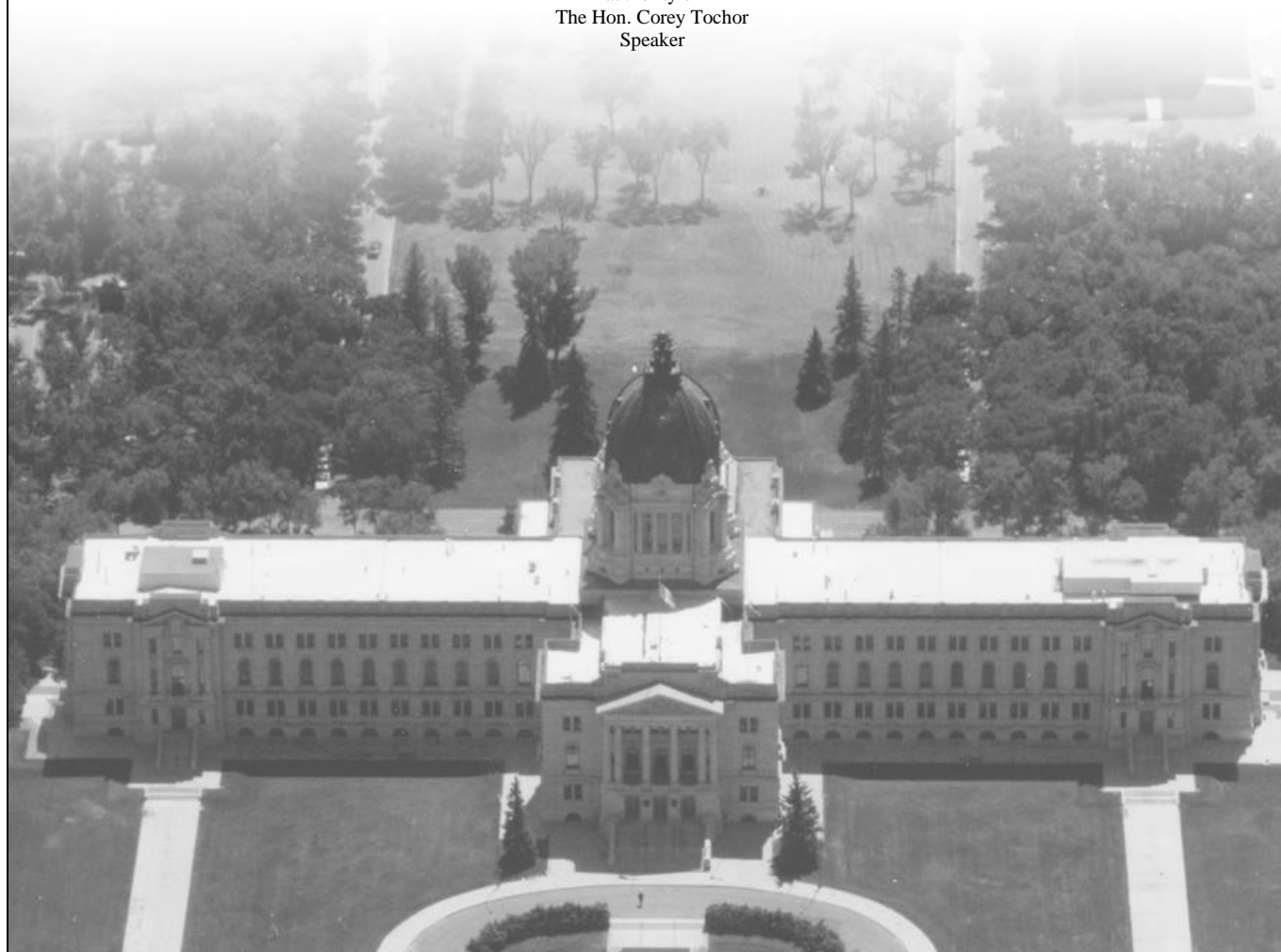
---

**DEBATES  
and  
PROCEEDINGS**

---

(HANSARD)

Published under the  
authority of  
The Hon. Corey Tochor  
Speaker



**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**, Hon. Tina — Regina University (SP)

**Beck**, Carla — Regina Lakeview (NDP)

**Belanger**, Buckley — Athabasca (NDP)

**Bonk**, Steven — Moosomin (SP)

**Boyd**, Bill — Kindersley (SP)

**Bradshaw**, Fred — Carrot River Valley (SP)

**Brkich**, Greg — Arm River (SP)

**Buckingham**, David — Saskatoon Westview (SP)

**Campeau**, Jennifer — Saskatoon Fairview (SP)

**Carr**, Lori — Estevan (SP)

**Chartier**, Danielle — Saskatoon Riversdale (NDP)

**Cheveldayoff**, Hon. Ken — Saskatoon Willowgrove (SP)

**Cox**, Herb — The Battlefords (SP)

**D'Autremont**, Dan — Cannington (SP)

**Dennis**, Terry — Canora-Pelly (SP)

**Docherty**, 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**, Hon. Bronwyn — Saskatoon Stonebridge-Dakota (SP)

**Fiaz**, Muhammad — Regina Pasqua (SP)

**Forbes**, David — Saskatoon Centre (NDP)

**Hargrave**, Hon. Joe — Prince Albert Carlton (SP)

**Harbauer**, Hon. Donna — Humboldt-Watrous (SP)

**Harrison**, Hon. Jeremy — Meadow Lake (SP)

**Hart**, Glen — Last Mountain-Touchwood (SP)

**Heppner**, 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**, Hon. David — Wood River (SP)

**McCall**, Warren — Regina Elphinstone-Centre (NDP)

**McMorris**, Don — Indian Head-Milestone (SP)

**Meili**, Ryan — Saskatoon Meewasin (NDP)

**Merriman**, Hon. 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)

**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) — 50; New Democratic Party (NDP) — 11

**Clerks-at-the-Table**

**Clerk** — Gregory A. Putz

**Law Clerk & Parliamentary Counsel** — Kenneth S. Ring, Q.C.

**Principal Clerk** — Iris Lang

**Clerk Assistant** — Kathy Buriandyk

**Sergeant-at-Arms** — Terry Quinn

**Hansard on the Internet**

*Hansard* and other documents of the  
Legislative Assembly are available  
within hours after each sitting.

<http://www.legassembly.sk.ca/legislative-business/legislative-calendar>

[The Assembly met at 13:30.]

[Prayers]

## ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

### INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

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

**Mr. D'Autremont:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my pleasure to introduce to you and through you to the Assembly, people here with First Steps and wheelchairs in the legislature.

Today we had a number of MLAs [Member of the Legislative Assembly] who participated by spending their morning in a wheelchair. And I would like to thank the Minister of Rural and Remote Health, the Minister for Social Services, the member for Saskatchewan Rivers, the member for Regina Lakeview, the member for Regina Pasqua, and the member for Saskatoon Meewasin for participating.

And with us today on the floor, we have Mr. Chris Lesanko, and his caregiver, Jenna Schaffer. Chris was one of the original founders of First Steps. As well, in your gallery sitting up against the back wall, I can't see them from here, is Owen Carlson and his wife, Elisa, and Calvin Chiang. I would like to ask members to welcome them to their Assembly.

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

**Mr. Wotherspoon:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my pleasure to join with the member opposite and welcome this delegation to their Assembly. And this is an impressive delegation; certainly the day they facilitated wheelchairs in the legislature with participation on both sides of the Assembly is an important one and gives but a small glimpse into some of the realities of those living in wheelchairs every day, and the value of accessibility. Of course it can't go any distance to providing some of the most challenging aspects of living in a wheelchair, but these are inspirational leaders within our community.

And First Steps Wellness is an organization that's changing lives day in day out: those with spinal cord injuries, those with neurological health issues, working with those with MS [multiple sclerosis] and more, Mr. Speaker. And the group that delivers service, the board of directors that are there, I'd like to say thank you to each and every one of them. It's a pleasure to see Chris Lesanko on the floor of the Assembly. This was Saskatchewan's best lacrosse player, Mr. Speaker, and a leader still in lacrosse within our province. He was once Bishop's male athlete of the year, Mr. Speaker, an education student and a good person, Mr. Speaker.

Also we have Owen Carlson and his wife here. And I know Owen is a remarkable guy that's dedicated his life, and First Steps Wellness is a real labour of love that's truly benefited the lives of so many and brought independence and happiness to those that truly deserve it. So I ask all members to join with me in welcoming First Steps Wellness and to thank all those, including all of the MLAs here today, that participated in the wheelchairs in the legislature.

While still on my feet, Mr. Speaker, I see a lot of friends and new friends and people from across the province that are here today, Mr. Speaker, and they're here to stand up for their Crown corporations, Mr. Speaker, to stand up for Saskatchewan's Crown corporations. We have many that work directly for Crown corporations across Saskatchewan, that of course have been built by and for generations of Saskatchewan people through hard work and innovation. And this is a group of people and individuals who have been rising up all across our province amidst a terrible threat to our Crown corporations, Mr. Speaker. We're hoping that common sense will prevail on this issue, that Bill 40 will be scrapped, Mr. Speaker, because we know the value of our Crown corporations.

What I want to say today to the people that are here today and the thousands and thousands of others across the province who have stood up, who have rallied to stand up for our Crowns, I say, thank you. You're going down in history in an important battle on the right side of the equation.

And I also see Member of Parliament Erin Weir up in the west gallery, Mr. Speaker, who is here along with, I understand, those concerned about our Crowns here today.

So I ask all members of this Assembly to show some respect and some care to those that are here today to fight for our Crowns.

**The Speaker:** — I would ask members to please ask for leave for extended introductions the next time. I recognize the Premier.

**Hon. Mr. Wall:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I want to join with the Leader of the Opposition in welcoming all of the guests who are here today joining us, including the guests that the Leader of the Opposition, the interim Leader of the NDP [New Democratic Party] just highlighted in terms of the debate around Bill 40, Mr. Speaker. This place is all about debate and the expression of our respective opinions. Certainly that should always be the case for citizens who want to make those views known. That's what this place is all about.

I would just want to, for the record, say and assure all of our guests that their interests in terms of our Crown corporations are also our interests: that they would be strong for the long term, that they would be here for the long term, that people would continue to be employed by them, not just in the complement we have now, Mr. Speaker, but frankly in a larger number, not just here in Regina but across the province. And I want to join with the Leader of the Opposition in welcoming them to their Legislative Assembly today.

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

**Hon. Mr. Ottenbreit:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's indeed my pleasure to stand in the Assembly today to welcome a young man that I met earlier this morning, Mr. Brenden Branscombe, up in your gallery.

I met with him earlier today, Mr. Speaker, to talk about mental health and his experience, his positive experiences in the mental

health system, in our health system and also to discuss some of the challenges that he also met with and to see where we could go from there, Mr. Speaker. So we had a great, great meeting. He's a great young man.

He's from Nipawin, currently lives in Regina. He's a manager at Save-On-Foods and we had some really good conversation around his experiences there as well, Mr. Speaker. So I'd ask all members to welcome Brenden to his Legislative Assembly.

And while I'm on my feet, Mr. Speaker, I would also like to welcome a friend of mine now from Prince Albert, used to be from Yorkton. He assured me he didn't move because of the MLA; there was other issues that he had to move to P.A. [Prince Albert] for. But Dave Dennis is up in your Assembly, Mr. Speaker, your gallery.

So, Mr. Speaker, I ask that all members welcome Dave as well as Al Kirchgessner and John . . .

**An Hon. Member:** — Kirchgessner.

**Hon. Mr. Ottenbreit:** — Pardon me?

**An Hon. Member:** — Kirchgessner.

**Hon. Mr. Ottenbreit:** — Kirchgessner I don't have the proper pronunciation. And John . . . How do you pronounce John's last name?

**An Hon. Member:** — Scissons.

**Hon. Mr. Ottenbreit:** — Scissons. Also here with Dave, they are here for the Full Gospel MLA banquet that's going to be in the Assembly tonight that I'm honoured to speak at, Mr. Speaker. So I ask all members to welcome them to their Legislative Assembly.

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

**Ms. Chartier:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my pleasure to join with the Minister of Health in welcoming Brenden to his legislature today. It's always appreciated when people who have lived experience with our system here have an opportunity, or take the opportunity, to share how it's worked for them and how it could work better. And we all know very well, one in five of us has been touched by mental health, Mr. Speaker, and the goal should be to make the system better for everybody. Mental health is no different than physical health, Mr. Speaker. So I want to join with the minister in welcoming Brenden and ask all my colleagues to do the same as well. Thank you.

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Minister of Highways and Infrastructure.

**Hon. Mr. Marit:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you, I'd like to introduce guests in the west gallery, in that tonight and tomorrow we have what we call our WESTAC [Western Transportation Advisory Council] conference. And I'd like to introduce some delegates that will be participating from across Western Canada.

Maksim Mihic is the general manager of DP World (Canada) Ltd. is here, and I ask you to give a wave. Also Bob Fitzgerald, the national representative from Unifor is also here. Stan Hennessy and Grant Coleman representing Teamsters Canada is also here; and Monty Reich and Bob Chapman representing South West Terminal are also here.

So I'd ask all members to welcome them to our Legislative Assembly, representing industry from across Western Canada that will be discussing transportation issues over the next couple of days. And I look forward to meeting them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Forbes:** — Thank you very much. I'd like to join the minister in welcoming these folks to our legislature and the work that's going to be happening over the next few days. It's a pleasure to have you in the House, and we hope your meetings are fruitful. The folks from Unifor and Teamsters and others, the working people have an awful lot to offer in terms of insight of what makes our province and Western Canada work. So thanks so much.

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

**Mr. Docherty:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you to all members of the Assembly, sitting in the west gallery, I'd like to introduce the Worthy Grand Matron, Cannida Coventry, and the Worthy Grand Patron, Ernie Butz, from the Saskatchewan Order of the Eastern Star. Give us a wave. I'd be honoured to bring greetings at the Grand Chapter session tomorrow.

The Grand Chapter of Saskatchewan consists of all chapters located in the province of Saskatchewan. They have about a thousand members located in 17 chapters. Each chapter has a number of charitable projects that its members undertake within their communities. I ask all members to join me in welcoming them to the Legislative Assembly. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Olason:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you and to all members of the Assembly, I'd like to introduce Al Kirchgessner. Al has been a . . . [inaudible interjection] . . . Yes, I said it right. Al has been a member of the Saskatoon University constituency for over 38 years, Mr. Speaker. Him and his wife, Lana, are both successful small business owners in Saskatoon in investment and insurance as well as real estate. They've raised three sons and one daughter in Saskatoon. And Al is an avid car buff. He has a 1970 Plymouth Roadrunner and is a member of the Mopar association. He wanted to make sure I said that as well.

Mr. Speaker, he's here to participate in the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship banquet tonight that I'll be joining several of my colleagues at. And I'd just like to ask all members if they can welcome Al to his Legislative Assembly.

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Minister of Crown Investments.

**Hon. Mr. Hargrave:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you, I'd like to introduce a constituent of mine sitting in your gallery, Mr. Dave Dennis. Dave is a retired farmer from Wawota who's seen the light and decided to move to Prince Albert for probably a better MLA. And so I'm sure that was the case.

Him and his wife, Elma, they retired to P.A. They have four children, 13 grandchildren. They're actively involved in the church and their community. And, Mr. Speaker, right now they're retired, but they spend their time between Yorkton and Brandon and Prince Albert, spending time with their grandchildren and being involved with the church there, Mr. Speaker. So, Mr. Speaker, I would like everyone to join me to welcome Dave to his legislature. Thank you.

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member from Melville-Saltcoats.

**Mr. Kaeding:** — Mr. Speaker, to you and through you and to all members of the Assembly, I would like to welcome 40 grade 10 social studies students from Melville Comprehensive School. So they are accompanied by Mr. Andrew Rondeau, who's also a city of Melville councillor, city councillor; and their principal, Mr. Brandon Needham.

And if you remember yesterday, I had the privilege of congratulating 10 of their fellow students in the Skills Canada competition. So I'd like to ask all members to welcome Melville Comprehensive School to their Legislative Assembly.

**The Speaker:** — I'd like to welcome everyone to their Assembly, and I'd like to remind our guests that we are not to take part in debate on the floor, which includes applause. If this is your first visit to the Assembly, it is also not permitted to use electronics in the galleries as well.

#### PRESENTING PETITIONS

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

**Mr. Vermette:** — Mr. Speaker, I rise today to present a petition. The people that signed this petition are opposed to the Saskatchewan Party's plan to scrap and sell off the Saskatchewan Transportation Company. They would like us all to know that STC [Saskatchewan Transportation Company] provides a vital service to many seniors, workers, and families throughout the province; and that by scrapping STC out of the blue and without asking permission of the owners, the Saskatchewan people, the Sask Party is sending a clear sign about how little they care about protecting our Crowns like SaskTel; and that STC helps to drive the economy with a parcel service that serves farms and other businesses.

Mr. Speaker, I'll read the prayer:

[13:45]

We, in the prayer that reads as follows, respectfully request that the Government of Saskatchewan immediately stop

the plan to scrap and the sell-off of Saskatchewan Transportation Company, and to resume transportation service to the people of Saskatchewan.

It is signed and supported by many good people of this province. I so present.

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

**Ms. Young:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to rise today to present a petition from citizens who are opposed to the federal government's decision to impose a carbon tax on the province of Saskatchewan. 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 Government of Saskatchewan to take the necessary steps to stop the federal government from imposing a carbon tax on the province.

Mr. Speaker, this petition is signed by citizens of Spiritwood, Leoville, Unity, Medstead, Krydor, Blaine Lake, Hafford, Radisson, Lloydminster, Borden, and Saskatoon. I do so present.

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

**Ms. Chartier:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm pleased to rise again today to present a petition opposing the Sask Party's cuts to spiritual care in our health care facilities, Mr. Speaker. The petitioners believe that this government had no idea what spiritual care actually means in our health care facilities, nor do the petitioners think that the government actually gets the extent of how this cut will impact people's health and well-being.

They point out that in the 2017-18 budget, the Sask Party eliminated funding for spiritual care which provided spiritual care within Saskatchewan's health facilities; that we will be the only province within Canada to not fund this support for patients, residents, and their families seeking wellness; that the Sask Party hid their plan to scrap funding for spiritual care within health region facilities during the last year's election; and that spiritual care responds to the spiritual and emotional needs of patients and residents and provides a compassionate listening presence in times of crisis. And the petitioners point out that spiritual care supports families, patients, and residents in making difficult decisions, and that spiritual care can provide support for all families, patients, and residents, regardless of faith belief, in obtaining comfort and supports.

I'd like to read the prayer:

We, in the prayer that reads as follows, respectfully request that the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan immediately reinstate the funding for pastoral care services in this province's health region facilities.

Mr. Speaker, this petition today is signed by citizens of Saskatoon. I so submit.

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

**Mr. Belanger:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I'm very proud to stand in my place to answer the call and the direction from the member from Prince Albert Northcote for anyone in the Assembly, anyone to stand up with her to fight for her city, the city of bridge.

And, Mr. Speaker, this is a petition as it pertains to a bridge for Prince Albert that serves all of northern Saskatchewan, and the need for a second bridge for Prince Albert has never been clearer than it is today. Prince Albert and all the communities north of Prince Albert and all the businesses around Prince Albert and north of Prince Albert that send people and products through Prince Albert require a solution. So the people that have signed this petition respectfully request:

That the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan ask the Sask Party government to stop stalling, hiding behind rhetoric, and refusing to listen to the people calling for action, and begin immediately to plan and then quickly commence the construction of a second bridge for Prince Albert using federal and provincial dollars.

Now, Mr. Speaker, the people that have signed this particular page, as we present day after day, page after page, week after week, month after month, the people that have signed this petition are from all throughout Saskatchewan. And on this particular page, Mr. Speaker, the people that have signed this petition are primarily from Prince Albert. And I do so present.

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

**Ms. Sproule:** — Mr. Speaker, it's with considerable sadness that I rise to present this petition one last time in the House. It's a petition opposed to Bill 40 and the potential 49 per cent Crown corporation sell-off.

We know a majority of the people of Saskatchewan are opposed to this bill. We have people in the Assembly here today who are dressed in black because they know that this is going to fundamentally change our province.

I'll read some of the points that they're making in this petition. What they're saying is that Sask Party's Bill 40 creates a new definition for privatization that allows this government to wind down, dissolve, or sell up to 49 per cent of the shares of a Crown corporation without holding a referendum. Mr. Speaker, we know that in '15-16 alone, Saskatchewan's Crown corporations returned \$300 million in dividends to pay for our schools, our hospitals, and our roads. We know those dividends should go to the people who own these corporations, the people of Saskatchewan, and not private investors. And we know that our Crown corporations employ thousands of Saskatchewan people across the province, Mr. Speaker.

And one of the things that's really disturbing about this, Mr. Speaker, is under section 149 of the *Income Tax Act* of Canada, Crown corporations are exempt from corporate income tax if not less than 90 per cent of the shares are held by a government. And we know this proposal would allow up to 49 per cent of a Crown to be sold without being considered privatized. So, Mr. Speaker, this is short-sighted legislation that risks sending millions of Crown dividends to Ottawa rather than the people of

Saskatchewan.

Mr. Speaker, we know this government is about to pass this bill under third reading today. This is our last chance to petition this government to change their minds and do the right thing. The petition reads as follows:

We respectfully request that the Government of Saskatchewan immediately stop the passage of Bill 40, *The Interpretation Amendment Act*, and start protecting jobs in Crown corporations instead of selling them off to pay for Sask Party mismanagement.

Mr. Speaker, there's a number of people from different communities who are signing this final batch of petitions that I'm presenting today. They come from the communities of Neudorf, Yorkton, Churchbridge, Saskatoon, Warman, Prince Albert, Vanscoy, Martensville, Langham, Davidson, Dalmeny, Riceton, Moose Jaw, Nipawin, Loon Lake, Rapid View, Meadow Lake, Dorintosh, and Regina, Mr. Speaker. I am very proud to submit these petitions today.

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

**Mr. Forbes:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to present a petition concerning pay equity here in the province of Saskatchewan. And the undersigned residents of this province want to bring to our attention the following: that the citizens of this province believe in an economy powered by transparency, accountability, security, and equity; and that all women should be paid equitably; and that women are powerful drivers of economic growth, and their economic empowerment benefits us all.

And we know that the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives found that in Saskatoon in 2016, women earned on average 63 cents for every dollar that a man makes, and in Regina, women earned on average 73 cents for every dollar that a man makes. According to the most recent StatsCan data, the national gender wage gap for full-time workers is 72 cents for every dollar a man makes.

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 eliminate the wage gap between women and men across all sectors where the Government of Saskatchewan has jurisdiction; provide a framework under which this can be done within this term of this Assembly; and that the Saskatchewan government call upon workplaces within Saskatchewan, within the private sector, to eliminate the wage gap between women and men.

Mr. Speaker, the people signing this petition today come from the cities of Regina and Saskatoon. I do so present. Thank you.

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

**Ms. Rancourt:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm proud today to stand in my place to provide a petition to increase the funding

to Prince Albert mobile crisis. Mr. Speaker, due to a cut in funding, Prince Albert mobile crisis unit has had to close its door during daytime hours, resulting in a loss of resource to people in distress. Mr. Speaker, just yesterday we had some individuals come to the legislature and talk to us a little bit about mental health and how important it is to have mental health first aid training for individuals in our communities because when people are in crisis situations they need to have someone that's available to help them receive the services they need.

And, Mr. Speaker, the people who work at mobile crisis, they're crisis-trained individuals. They know how to do suicide risk assessments and they know how to identify individuals that need support and provide them the appropriate support they need in the time of crisis. And to not have that type of support available during the daytime hours in Prince Albert, our third-largest city, is so unbelievable in a province like Saskatchewan. We need to have this important service for these individuals.

The daytime closure of Prince Albert mobile crisis has put stress on Prince Albert Police Service and Victoria Hospital staff and other agencies who are not trained and are not qualified to provide the counselling and intervention services to clients. I'll read the prayer:

We, in the prayer that reads as follows, respectfully request that the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan call on the Saskatchewan Party government to increase funding to Prince Albert mobile crisis unit so they may once again offer 24-hour emergency crisis service.

Mr. Speaker, individuals across the province realize that this is something that needs to be reinstated and this service needs to be provided. And these petitions are signed by individuals from Regina and Prince Albert. I do so present.

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

**Ms. Beck:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to present a petition regarding child care centres in the province. Those who've signed this petition wish to draw our attention to the following: to the fact that across Saskatchewan, licensed non-profit child care centres are taxed inconsistently; and to the fact that many of our licensed non-profit child care centres pay commercial property tax and this is something that is not done in Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario, BC [British Columbia], or New Brunswick.

Child care is essential to the economy, yet most centres struggle to balance their budget. This issue threatens both the number of child care spaces as well as the quality of care. Quality child care has an enormous positive impact on a child's future outcomes and yields high rates of economic return. And child care centres are institutions of early learning and childhood development and it's appropriate that they have the same tax treatment as schools.

I'll read the prayer:

We, in the prayer that reads as follows, respectfully request

that the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan recognize that licensed non-profit child care centres provide programs that are foundational to a healthy society by including them in *The Education Act* and exempting all licensed non-profit child care centres in Saskatchewan from property tax through changes to the appropriate legislation.

As with many of the petitions, these are being signed by citizens from all over the province. The pages I present today are signed by those residing in Saskatoon, Simmie, Kelvington, and Regina. I do so present.

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

**Mr. McCall:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I rise to present a petition calling for a reversal of cuts made by this government to the Lighthouse stabilization unit in Saskatoon, Mr. Speaker. The petitioners point out that in April of 2014, the minister of Social Services — then minister, Mr. Speaker — said that the Lighthouse in Saskatoon would "... take pressure off of existing detox facilities, hospitals, and police cells while keeping people safe, especially in our brutally cold winters." On the same day, the then minister of Health said, "We want to ensure that individuals with mental health and addictions issues have a safe place to stay." And then not too long after that, Mr. Speaker, they cut the program.

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

That the Government of Saskatchewan immediately reverse their cuts to funding that allows extremely vulnerable people to access the services of the Lighthouse stabilization unit in Saskatoon. They call on them to revisit their imposition of a strict and narrow definition of homelessness in November of 2015 which forced the Lighthouse to cut back its hours of essential services in February of 2016; and they call on this government to take immediate steps to ensure that homeless people in Saskatchewan have emergency shelter, clothing, and food available to them before more lives are lost.

Mr. Speaker, this petition has been signed by people from right around the province. This particular page of the petition is signed by citizens from the good city of Saskatoon. I so present.

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

**Ms. Sarauer:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to present a petition to ensure job security for victims of domestic violence. Saskatchewan has the dubious distinction of having the highest rate of domestic violence by intimate partners amongst all Canadian provinces.

One in three Canadian workers have been impacted by domestic violence and for many of them, the violence follows them to work. Employers lose \$77.9 million annually due to the direct and indirect impacts of domestic violence, Mr. Speaker. I for one have had enough of hearing about another person who has died at the hands of their intimate partner in this province. I know that the provisions in this petition, which are the same as

the provisions in our private member's bill, will not solve the entire problem, but it will provide financial stability for those who are trying to flee from very dangerous situations. And we as legislators are incumbent to do everything we can to make sure that this doesn't happen again.

[14:00]

I'd like to read the prayer:

We, in the prayer that reads as follows, respectfully request that the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan enact legislation that requires all employers to provide a minimum of five paid workdays and a minimum of 17 weeks unpaid work leave with the assurance of job security upon return for all victims of domestic abuse in Saskatchewan.

Mr. Speaker, the individuals signing the petition today come from Saskatoon. I do so submit.

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

**Mr. Meili:** — Mr. Speaker, I rise today to present a petition calling on the government to restore funding to post-secondary institutions. Our universities and colleges contribute greatly to the economy of this province and to the future of students in this province, yet students here pay among the highest tuition in the entire country, and we've seen in recent years a precipitous drop in the number of students from lower income families attending higher education institutions.

And yet in this budget we've seen another significant cut, 5 per cent cut to universities and colleges, already resulting in job losses from Sask Polytechnic. We are certainly concerned, Mr. Speaker, alongside that, with the cuts to the Saskatchewan Student Aid Fund and scholarship of \$8.2 million — measures, Mr. Speaker, that will make it more difficult for families to afford education, for students to afford education.

I'll read the prayer:

We, in the prayer that reads as follows, respectfully request that the Government of Saskatchewan immediately restore funding to Saskatchewan's post-secondary institutions and stop the damaging cuts to our students.

This petition is signed by individuals from Moose Jaw, Regina, and Saskatoon. I so present.

#### STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

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

#### Wheelchair for a Day

**Mr. Meili:** — Mr. Speaker, I rise again to do something I wasn't able to do earlier, which is get out of my chair. Today I was participating in this opportunity for us to try out what it's like to be in a wheelchair for a day. This program was initiated by the First Steps Wellness Centre, and it was a pretty serious

challenge, Mr. Speaker. Hallways are narrow in this building. Doors are difficult to open. I know the member from Regina Lakeview had a tough time with her morning coffee. I was grateful to the member from Cannington for helping me with my tray in the cafeteria so I didn't end up with a lap full of soup.

Mr. Speaker, the First Steps Wellness Centre is a non-profit organization that provides innovative services to people with spinal cord injuries and other neurological conditions such as head injury, muscular dystrophy, and multiple sclerosis.

Mr. Speaker, not only are there physical challenges, but we were also informed of the financial challenges for people dependent on wheelchairs. For example, some members today were riding around in light and agile \$5,000 chairs, while others got less manoeuvrable \$400 chairs.

Mr. Speaker, First Steps' programs go well beyond what's currently offered through most rehabilitation programs in Canada through exercise and nerve stimulation, giving hope to people who have suffered from spinal cord injuries. As we further understood today, living in a wheelchair is no easy task.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in thanking the First Steps Wellness Centre for all the amazing work they do. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

#### Holocaust Memorial Event

**Mr. Fiaz:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was honoured to bring greetings to the Holocaust Memorial Program last night at the Beth Jacob Synagogue. The event honoured the late Amek Adler who was a Holocaust survivor who dedicated his life to sharing his experiences of living in the Lodz and Warsaw ghettos, his time spent in the Radom forced-labour camps, and what it was like being sent to the Natzweiler and Dachau concentration camps. Holding on to hope of survival, he wished for a life where he and his three brothers could be free, and often dreamed of his future beyond the camps.

We must educate our children and future generations of such tragedies so these types of events would not happen in our lifetime. Though we are fortunate to live in this province, we cannot turn our back on the history and the hardship the generation before us felt.

I ask all the members to join me in remembering the life of Amek Adler, and thanking the event coordinator from the Beth Jacob Synagogue for this important and compelling evening. Thank you.

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

#### Northern Teacher Education Program

**Mr. Belanger:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. NORTEP [northern teacher education program] began in 1976 to help people, especially those of Aboriginal ancestry, to get trained and certified as teachers. At the time, there was less than 1 per cent of Aboriginal teachers in the North, and the teacher



turnover rate was very high.

This grassroots program was built by northerners help advance northern people for over 40 years. It has inspired many to tell their stories and be proud of their heritage and to pass that on to the youth of tomorrow.

Since 1976, NORTEP has greatly improved the retention rate of teachers and created leaders across the North. Currently NORTEP covers tuition costs, books, and a living allowance for students, both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal, who have lived in the North for over 10 years or half their life. Since 1976 the school has seen more than 600 graduates receive a Bachelor of Education, Master's of Education, and a Bachelor of Arts degree.

Mr. Speaker, the Saskatchewan Party government has decided to dismantle and blow up this program. Why scrap a program that's had a positive impact on every community in northern Saskatchewan? With ongoing tragic events in our northern communities including suicides, shootings, and high dropout rates, this decision has made more challenges for the North. The North is very proud of our program. It has raised the spirits and inspired so many. It has brought people together in the North of all backgrounds, including First Nations, Métis, and non-Aboriginal people.

Since some of you may not be aware, but the loon, the makwa, is a symbol of NORTEP. This loon song represents harmony, generosity, and peace. And it's a shame, Mr. Speaker, that this government has stolen that beautiful voice from the North.

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

#### **Administrative Professionals Day**

**Ms. Ross:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. It's my pleasure to stand today in this Assembly to acknowledge Administrative Professionals Day. Admins, administrators, office assistants, and support staff are the people who work shoulder to shoulder with all of us to help us do our job. And today we should take a moment to thank them for their hard work. These professionals are the front-line employees in our offices across the country and around the province.

Today my colleague from Regina Walsh Acres and I had the opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate Administrative Professionals Day. Over 400 were in attendance at the Regina Chamber of Commerce Take a Break Luncheon.

I would like to recognize Kelly Zazula, my constituency assistant, and Karalee Croissant in our government caucus office for all the work they do to ensure that these offices run smoothly.

Mr. Speaker, all of us in this Chamber work with administrative professionals every day. And I know I speak for all of us when we express our thanks for all the hard work they do.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in applauding the men and women in our lives and in our offices and across the province that are administrative professionals and that are

crucial to keep Saskatchewan offices running smoothly. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

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

#### **Battlefords North Stars Win Canalta Cup**

**Mr. Cox:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today and salute our local Saskatchewan Junior Hockey League team, the Battlefords North Stars. The North Stars have just done something that has not been done since 1982, and that is going through three playoff rounds this year undefeated on their way to winning the Canalta Cup.

Their playoff run began with a four-game sweep in the first round against Weyburn Red Wings, much to the chagrin of my friend and colleague from Weyburn-Big Muddy. In the second round they again had the brooms out as they swept the Estevan Bruins four games straight as well, and again to the displeasure of the member from Estevan.

The final round was against the Flin Flon Bombers, and the result was the same — a four-game sweep. In this series, the first two games in North Battleford were easily decided with scores of 3-0 and 5-1. In Flin Flon, the games were closer, with scores of 2-1 and 6-5, but the wins were enough to sweep the series and hoist the Canalta Cup. Now, Mr. Speaker, it's on to Penticton, British Columbia, where the competition we know will be tough with championship teams representing Manitoba, Alberta, British Columbia, and host Penticton. However we know our team, under the guidance of Coach Nate Bedford, will continue with their great work ethic and the entertaining style of play that we all enjoyed over the past winter.

Mr. Speaker, I think I speak for everyone in The Battlefords in thanking the North Stars for a great year of entertaining hockey, and congratulate them on winning the Canalta Cup with 12 straight wins. I would also ask all members to join with me in wishing them great success at the Western Canada Cup as they continue on their journey to compete in the Royal Bank Cup in Cobourg, Ontario, and hopefully being crowned the Canadian champions. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

#### **Talk With Our Kids About Money Day**

**Ms. Lambert:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, today, April 26th, is Talk With Our Kids About Money Day. Financial responsibility does not come easy for all, and I believe that starting this conversation at an early age can truly be beneficial for personal and professional growth.

Mr. Speaker, I had the pleasure of attending the Money Fair on April 12th at Gladys McDonald School here in Regina, where I was delighted to bring greetings to this event and serve as a judge for the projects. Projects on display at the event included topics of world currency, the odds in gambling, and the most cost-effective extracurricular to be involved in. I commend the students for the time and effort that went into all the projects.

Mr. Speaker, they are the workforce of tomorrow. The financial

education students will receive such as personal finance or career and work exploration will greatly benefit the individual, the community, and the province as a whole. Preparing our youth for the future, while having open conversations about financial stability, will continue to make Saskatchewan strong, and a great place for younger generations to stay and raise a family, as well as having a promising career.

Commitments by our government for opportunity and education on financial literacy is being felt throughout Saskatchewan. Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in recognizing this day, and thank the organizers of the Money Fair for their dedication to tomorrow's leaders of Saskatchewan. Thank you.

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

### Combating Ovarian Cancer

**Hon. Mr. Moe:** — Mr. Speaker, cancer is a disease that has touched many families across our province of Saskatchewan, and it was nine years ago this past March that our family experienced the loss of my mother-in-law to ovarian cancer.

Last night, my wife and I were pleased to attend, along with Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor, the Ladyballs Show & Tell at the Conexus Arts Centre. Mr. Speaker, Ladyballs is Ovarian Cancer Canada's annual event to build awareness and raise critical funds for women's most fatal cancer. This year's Ladyballs Show & Tell featured the live comedy performance, *Menopause The Musical*. And, Mr. Speaker, what a show it was, I must say.

Mr. Speaker, in addition to the fantastic live theatre, performing prior and after the main performance was 17-year-old Caly Bevier who was a semi-finalist from the hit show *America's Got Talent*. Mr. Speaker, more moving than Caly's fantastic vocal performance was her story. You see, two years ago Caly was diagnosed with stage 3 ovarian cancer and is now a proud cancer survivor.

Mr. Speaker, ovarian cancer is known as a silent killer due to the lack of symptoms, resulting in 85 per cent of cases having a late diagnosis. Each and every day, five Canadians are killed from ovarian cancer. In Saskatchewan just this year, Mr. Speaker, 80 women will be diagnosed and 55 will succumb to that diagnosis.

I want to thank Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor for attending and showing her support. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the organizing committee, Ovarian Cancer Canada, and each of the ovarian cancer survivors that attended last night and inspired the rest of us to raise awareness and funds for this very serious disease that impacts so many families across the province. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

### QUESTION PERIOD

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

### Details of Land Transactions

**Mr. Wotherspoon:** — Mr. Speaker, day after day with the Sask Party's growing GTH [Global Transportation Hub] scandal,

they try to pass the buck. Let me remind the Premier that he's been the Premier of Saskatchewan for nearly a decade and it was the Sask Party that orchestrated a deal that ripped off nuns, landowners, and taxpayers, put \$11 million in two Sask Party supporters' pockets, and cost all Saskatchewan people \$25 million. Now this week it's been exposed that they also gave more than double that amount of land to CP [Canadian Pacific] Rail, 300 acres for free.

Mr. Speaker, the Premier might say here that the previous government had a plan for the Regina region gateway and corridor project. They did. But how can the Premier, who's in a position of trust, honestly say and stand by false claims that the Sask Party's 300-acre giveaway to CP was organized by the previous government? How can he not admit that they took this concept and turned it into a scandal?

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

**Hon. Mr. Wall:** — Well, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker, I can say that, we can say that because it's true. Because right here, Mr. Speaker, is a briefing note from 2007 when the member who is now heckling, who's beaking from his seat, the Deputy Leader of the NDP was the minister of Highways.

[14:15]

It's his briefing note, Mr. Speaker, and in this note on page 2 — and we'll share it with anybody that wants to see it — they canvassed the reasons why it was important for CP's tracks to move out of the city of Regina and to an intermodal hub, as it was called, now the Global Transportation Hub. They canvassed the reasons. And then they say this, Mr. Speaker. Here's the bullet: in April the province approved — that's the NDP government — approved \$33 million be invested in that project, Mr. Speaker . . . [inaudible interjection] . . . Well he's saying, in that project. Yes, that project, it includes the relocation of the tracks, Mr. Speaker.

In fact we know, in fact we know, Mr. Speaker, that in order to get that project working they needed, they, the NDP, needed to have CP out at the Global Transportation Hub. It doesn't make sense to have an inland port without CP out at the hub. They knew that, Mr. Speaker. They approved \$33 million. And here's what John Nilson, the former leader of the opposition, said in March 5, 2013: "... when the New Democrats were still government, there were initial amounts set aside that would allow this project to go ahead [Mr. Speaker] . . ."

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

**Mr. Wotherspoon:** — Mr. Speaker, the Premier of Saskatchewan is mischaracterizing the notes that he has before him, and he's making a mockery of his very office, Mr. Speaker. The election was in 2007. They signed this 300-acre giveaway to the railway giant in 2009. Can the Premier explain his lines? How did the previous government possibly orchestrate this backroom 300-acre giveaway scandal two full years before the Sask Party formed government? Take some responsibility.

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

**Hon. Mr. Wall:** — Mr. Speaker, the note that I'm reading from, Mr. Speaker . . . And by the way, I can inform members opposite that there are cabinet documents from when the NDP was in power. He might want to ask the Deputy Leader, who was then the Highways minister, and ask him, what were in those cabinet documents approved by the former government, Mr. Speaker?

In the note that I just read from, this entire second page has to do with Canadian Pacific Railway . . . [inaudible interjection] . . . Well, Mr. Speaker, they don't want to hear the answer. The answer doesn't fit with their narrative. The whole second page is about Canadian Pacific Railway, Regina intermodal facility, currently located in the downtown area of the city.

The memo is about relocating it, Mr. Speaker. It speaks to the construction of a modern intermodal facility, not yet physically viable in the downtown location, talks about valuable downtown property that would be a magnet for investment if this were moved. Talks about this, Mr. Speaker: "Canadian Pacific is unable to expand its track infrastructure in the city to facilitate a more efficient movement of trains." And then, Mr. Speaker, later in the note it says, in order to facilitate the project and the relocation of the tracks. Quite clearly that's what this means. The NDP approved \$33 million, Mr. Speaker.

Now we looked . . . We don't think this was a bad decision. In fact, Mr. Speaker, when we actually exercised the plan to establish the GTH, to have CP moved, we saved, Mr. Speaker, a lot of money because we didn't pay anywhere near \$33 million that the NDP were prepared to pay in the spring of 2007.

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

#### **Crown Corporations and Intent of Bill 40**

**Mr. Wotherspoon:** — What a bunch of nonsense, Mr. Speaker. This \$50 million giveaway happened two years after the Sask Party came into office. And speaking of giveaways and spin and of trust, Mr. Speaker, the Sask Party of course is ramming forward with their damaging Bill 40. It fundamentally changes the core principles of public ownership of our Crowns that have been foundational to Saskatchewan for generations.

Our Crowns like SaskTel, SaskPower, SaskEnergy, and on and on have been built by and for generations of Saskatchewan people. They're service-providing, money-making, job-creating innovators that have supported and grown our province for decades, and they're owned by the people of Saskatchewan.

Rightly, people across this province are concerned that it's all at risk with this government's Bill 40. Of course during that election, the Premier pledged to Saskatchewan people, hand over heart, that the Crowns weren't for sale. He wasn't straight to Saskatchewan people and he has no mandate for this bill. Why does this Premier not have the backbone and the decency to take his desperate sell-off of our Crown corporations to Saskatchewan people for a vote?

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

**Hon. Mr. Wall:** — Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the hon. member for the question. Bill 40 seeks to actually define what

privatization is. The previous government didn't do that and, Mr. Speaker, we're using a World Bank definition of privatization. What this bill will do, I would submit to the House, is protect these Crowns in perpetuity from us ever losing control. Control is 50 per cent plus one share, if you will, if you want to use that vernacular, Mr. Speaker.

This bill prescribes that the Government of Saskatchewan can seek partners, but partners could never control the company. Partners could never own a controlling interest in the party. That would rest with the people of the province.

Mr. Speaker, one thing that that might enable us to do is allow for major government investment institutions like the Auto Fund or Workers' Compensation to invest right here at home. Right now those institutions, the Auto Fund and WCB [Workers' Compensation Board], they make investments, in utilities perhaps even, in other parts of the country. They make investments in markets in other parts of the country. What they can't do, Mr. Speaker, is invest in our own Crowns.

Mr. Speaker, if SaskPower wants to help repair the infrastructure deficit left behind by members opposite when they were the government, it only has one choice, Mr. Speaker, and that's to finance. That's to borrow. That's to get debentures, supported by the Ministry of Finance, to finance infrastructure projects.

Mr. Speaker, what we have created in Bill 40 is the opportunity for a group like the Auto Fund or Workers' Compensation or even teachers' pensions to invest potentially in SaskPower, a minority position, so that it can continue to provide service on the strength of stronger infrastructure and give our own government institutional investment agencies the chance to invest right here at home.

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

**Mr. Wotherspoon:** — What's clear is that that Premier has broken his word and he's betraying Saskatchewan people, Mr. Speaker. What they're also redefining would be ministerial responsibility, accountability, Mr. Speaker, by their actions day after day.

You know, we have 40,000 people looking for work in our province. Over five years, the Sask Party's doubled the debt. They're hiking taxes on Saskatchewan families and businesses by a billion dollars. They're cutting funds in our cities and our towns. They're cutting in our kids' classrooms. And they're embroiled in scandal after scandal. And, Mr. Speaker, Saskatchewan has the highest number of reported cases of domestic violence. And there's a growing suicide crisis in our North that's robbing young people of their lives and communities of hope.

So, Mr. Speaker, can the Premier explain why, with all these important issues facing the people of Saskatchewan, how it is that cobbling together some so-called new definition of privatization is a priority for the Sask Party? He's broken his word. People know his real motivation. Why won't he do the right thing and finally scrap Bill 40 and his sell-off scheme of our Crown corporations?

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

**Hon. Mr. Wall:** — Once again, Mr. Speaker, we have to correct the Leader of the Opposition's preamble. The preamble is just full of incorrect information.

Mr. Speaker, when we took office in 2007, members opposite presided over the worst job creation record in the country. We now have, even through a time of low commodity prices, we now have the second-best job creation record in the entire Dominion of Canada: 60,000 more jobs today in the province of Saskatchewan than when members opposite had formed the government.

Mr. Speaker, he talked about taxes in his preamble. Even after the changes in this budget, we will have lower income taxes, lower overall taxes, Mr. Speaker, in terms of income and sales tax for families at every single income level, than we did under members opposite. Even after this time of some deficit financing to get through low commodity prices, Mr. Speaker, we'll have 15 per cent less operating debt. We inherited a \$6 billion big orange operating credit card from members opposite, and we've taken the opportunity over these last years to reduce it.

Mr. Speaker, the member also indicated education funding. Even in terms of the challenge of this budget, overall operating funding for education is up significantly over the rate of inflation. It's not down. It's up. The same is true for health care funding, Mr. Speaker. These have all been the dividends of growth in this province, part of the record of the Government of Saskatchewan, and the budget that the member referenced is about continuing that economic strength, Mr. Speaker.

Bill 40 in particular is going to allow us to see Crowns strengthen, with new partners perhaps, with job creation in the city of Regina and around the province. Mr. Speaker, I'm looking forward to what those Crown corporations are going to do within Saskatchewan and right across the country.

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

**Mr. Wotherspoon:** — Mr. Speaker, plain and simple, why doesn't the Premier of Saskatchewan have the decency or the backbone to let Saskatchewan people vote on his Crown sell-off scheme?

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

**Hon. Mr. Wall:** — Because it's not a sell-off.

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

**Ms. Sarauer:** — Mr. Speaker, the arrogance of that Premier is absolutely shameful. Yesterday the Sask Party admitted they cooked up this definition by cutting and pasting lines from a composite document from the World Bank and then adding some more sections to the bottom. Mr. Speaker, on the first page of that very document, it says that it's not intended to be a model law. Mr. Speaker, I'm not even joking about this.

Yesterday the minister said he was ready and excited for that

committee, but when we asked for clarity from him, he had none to give. Mr. Speaker, will he admit the goals of this legislation are still ill defined, that far too little preparation was put into its drafting, and will he withdraw it?

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

**Hon. Mr. Wyant:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What's ill defined, Mr. Speaker, is the word "privatize." Mr. Speaker, when this legislation was tabled by the government when they were on this side of the House, Mr. Speaker, they had every opportunity to define it, Mr. Speaker. And I think they owe an explanation to the people of Saskatchewan. I think they owe an explanation to the people of Saskatchewan why they didn't do it, Mr. Speaker.

This Act simply clarifies that word, Mr. Speaker. Legislation without clarity is useless legislation, Mr. Speaker, and so we're simply seeking clarity with respect to the particular word that's used in that legislation, Mr. Speaker.

And as we mentioned in committee yesterday, I believe that the statement that was made, it was we used that document, the World Bank document, as a guideline to draft that definition. No one from that side of the House, Mr. Speaker, has ever offered a definition for the word "privatize" when they were in government nor in opposition. As a matter of fact, Mr. Speaker, they stand in the House every day, they stand in the House every day, Mr. Speaker, and they talk about what kind of opportunities, expanding partnerships for the Crown corporations, Mr. Speaker, but never have they stood and defined the word.

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

**Ms. Sarauer:** — Mr. Speaker, if this is how they draft all of their legislation, it's no wonder they're hurting Saskatchewan people so badly.

There has never been a fire in this building. There may be one someday, but it's impossible to predict when and where one will start. Still, engineers and professionals considered hypotheticals. They considered hypothetical strategies for keeping people safe, and consequences. After the analysis, they developed signs and emergency lights throughout this building that would help us escape a fire.

But, Mr. Speaker, the minister admitted that they have not even looked into protecting the rights of Saskatchewan people, the shareholders of our Crowns, if 49 per cent of one is sold. Any legislator worth their salt would consider and evaluate the consequences of the laws they are considering before proposing them.

Mr. Speaker, how can the minister stand there and defend such reckless drafting of law? How can he be so arrogant about his failure to protect Saskatchewan people from having their Crowns go up in flames?

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

**Hon. Mr. Wyant:** — Mr. Speaker, I find that question to be absolutely remarkable. They talk about reckless drafting of legislation. Perhaps they should look in the mirror and ask themselves why they were reckless when they drafted the legislation in the first place, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, as I explained in committee last night, Mr. Speaker, any potential . . .

[Interjections]

**The Speaker:** — Order. I recognize the minister.

**Hon. Mr. Wyant:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as I explained in committee last night, any one, any particular transaction, any particular offer, any particular expression of interest can take any one of hundreds and hundreds of different forms, Mr. Speaker. It would be impossible to do an analysis on every possible scenario that may come up with respect to any particular offer or any particular expression of interest, Mr. Speaker. That will be done, Mr. Speaker, if and when any kind of a transaction comes forward that a Crown corporation wishes to consider.

So, Mr. Speaker, we'll look at things like return on investment. We'll look at things like jobs. We'll look at things about expanding the Crowns, expanding the return to the taxpayers of Saskatchewan, protecting the Crown corporation for the benefit of the people of this province, Mr. Speaker. That's what the people of Saskatchewan can expect.

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

#### **Closing of Saskatchewan Transportation Company**

**Mr. Vermette:** — Mr. Speaker, they didn't do their homework on Bill 40, so we wondered about their scheme to scrap and sell off STC. So we sent an FOI [freedom of information] for all communications STC had with the Ministry of Health, Social Services, Agriculture, and the Economy to judge the impacts of selling off STC. But in the last year there have been no emails between STC and any of these ministries, not even since they announced they were selling off STC.

[14:30]

Mr. Speaker, they have no plan. So how can they scrap and sell off STC if they haven't even looked into what the true costs will be for Saskatchewan residents?

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Minister of Crown Investments.

**Hon. Mr. Hargrave:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank the member opposite for that question, Mr. Speaker. We do actually, on this side of the House we actually talk to one another. We don't need to just email, just so you're aware of it.

Mr. Speaker, it's pretty easy to look at the numbers, Mr. Speaker, and determine what is happening at STC. Just in the last year alone, just in the last year alone, Mr. Speaker, there was 18 fewer rides. Mr. Speaker, it's down 35 per cent rides since 2012, Mr. Speaker. That subsidy, that subsidy, Mr.

Speaker, has gone from \$25 all the way up to \$94, Mr. Speaker, and that's just ridiculous.

Mr. Speaker, I should remind the member opposite that when they were in power they looked at actually closing routes, and they looked at . . . The minister at the time, the minister at the time, Mr. Speaker, when the subsidy was only \$5.52 said they were unsustainable, and yet at \$94 they're saying it is sustainable. But when they were looking at it, Mr. Speaker, it was unsustainable at \$5, Mr. Speaker. Thank you very much.

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

**Mr. Meili:** — Well, Mr. Speaker, it's a cute answer to hear that you speak amongst yourselves, but it would be better to have you speak to the people who'll actually be affected by these cuts. There hasn't been a minute given to considering the consequences.

Through that same freedom of information request we discovered that — and this will come as no surprise — eliminating STC hurts the province's most vulnerable people. Seventy-two per cent of all STC riders had a household income of less than \$45,000 a year. Thirty-eight per cent of those riders had a household income of less than \$20,000 a year. Last night the Minister of Social Services confirmed that the increase in budget for Social Services social assistance does not mean people are getting more money; in fact, many will be getting less. No more money, but life is going to be far more costly.

The Minister for STC has suggested that riders will just have to figure it out. Well I think he needs to figure out that many people have no other options. This sell-off hurts those in the greatest need, compounding the damage from other cuts. How can the minister plow ahead with shutting down STC without considering the effects on the people of this province?

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Minister of Crown Investments.

**Hon. Mr. Hargrave:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is not a sell-off, Mr. Speaker. This is a wind-down of STC, Mr. Speaker.

You know it's funny how, Mr. Speaker, how . . .

[Interjections]

**The Speaker:** — I'm having difficulties hearing the minister. I would ask all members to please be respectful and listen to the response. I recognize the minister.

**Hon. Mr. Hargrave:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it's funny how they were shutting down routes at \$5.52, you know, per ride, Mr. Speaker. And they didn't seem to do all that analysis on how it affected those people on the routes that they did close, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, there are other avenues that people are taking and will use. And, Mr. Speaker, there's been numerous people announce in the media, Mr. Speaker, that they are considering taking on routes and applying to the Highway Traffic Board to

replace some routes, Mr. Speaker. And so maybe that's how those people will get to their appointments, Mr. Speaker. So anyway, those routes . . .

And, Mr. Speaker, I should take this note to remind, from April 13th, Mr. Speaker, when I was asked a question by the House Leader on the staff at STC, they were not given the opportunity to be updated, Mr. Speaker, that they were promised by the 13th. Well they should know that at 8:15 a.m. on the 13th of April that all the staff were notified with communication, Mr. Speaker, as to whereabouts the next process was going, Mr. Speaker. Just to clarify it.

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

**Ms. Chartier:** — Mr. Speaker, semantics. Wind-down or sell-off, it still has the same negative effect on the people of Saskatchewan.

Mr. Speaker, three out of every four seniors using STC are low income. If the Sask Party had done their homework, they would know who they were hurting with their short-sighted sell-off scheme. STC documents show seniors' ridership is the highest it's been in five years; 76 per cent are women and 74 per cent are low income. STC was being used more and more each year by seniors to get to medical appointments, to access services unavailable in rural communities. Often STC was, is, the only option for public transportation. And now we see this cut will hit low-income and vulnerable seniors the hardest. How can this minister justify ripping away such a vital support from seniors?

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Minister of Crown Investments.

**Hon. Mr. Hargrave:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as I mentioned earlier, Mr. Speaker, just last year alone we're down 18,000 rides on STC, Mr. Speaker. And so no doubt, Mr. Speaker, that those numbers would show as rising, Mr. Speaker. We're down 35 per cent, Mr. Speaker, since 2012. That subsidy of \$94 — \$94, Mr. Speaker — per ride is just unsustainable, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I should remind them of this quote from the Hon. Eldon Lautermilch who was the minister of CIC [Crown Investments Corporation of Saskatchewan]. And I quote, "The problem being the amount of money that that corporation [STC] has been losing in the recent past has been what we believe to be not sustainable." Mr. Speaker, not sustainable, and that is at \$5.52 per ride, Mr. Speaker. Thank you very much.

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

### Supports for Seniors

**Ms. Chartier:** — Mr. Speaker, the minister has stood in this House time and time again declaring the Sask Party's support for seniors, but the Sask Party's attacks speak louder than those words. This budget had nothing new for seniors except fee hikes for long-term care and a broken campaign promise to provide seniors with some tax relief.

Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism chronicled the ways this budget hurts and leaves seniors behind. Mr. Speaker, seniors with fixed incomes are not protected from the long-term care fee increases or cuts to chiropractic, hearing, or podiatry services. Hiking PST [provincial sales tax] on insurance premiums and basic goods is even harder to manage for seniors with low and fixed incomes. How can the minister justify these massive cuts to programs and supports that are so vital to the health and well-being of our seniors?

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

**Hon. Mr. Reiter:** — Mr. Speaker, we had some difficult decisions to make in this budget. The member opposite has covered a wide range of different programs. I'll try and focus on the key ones that I believe she mentioned. The long-term care fee increases, Mr. Speaker. It's important to remember that only 4 per cent of long-term care residents, the very highest income . . .

[Interjections]

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

**Hon. Mr. Reiter:** — Mr. Speaker, only 4 per cent of those residents will see the maximum increase. Approximately 50 per cent, the lower income ones that the member opposite was referring to, will see no increase at all, Mr. Speaker. And the ones that do, on average it's going to be about \$44 a month.

Mr. Speaker, it's also important to recognize that we continue to subsidize long-term care fees, Mr. Speaker, by the tune of about 83 per cent. So, Mr. Speaker, we've made it a priority. We're going to continue to make it a priority. And the whole premise of the question about not caring about seniors, Mr. Speaker, simply is wrong. For example, our government tripled the seniors' income plan since 2007, Mr. Speaker, something the NDP never did. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

### PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Chair of the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice.

#### Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice

**Mr. Brkich:** — Mr. Speaker, I'm instructed by the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice to report Bill No. 40, *The Interpretation Amendment Act, 2016*, a bilingual bill without amendment.

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

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

**The Speaker:** — The Minister of Justice and Attorney General has requested leave to waive considerations in Committee of the

Whole on Bill 40 and that the bill now be read a third time. Is leave granted?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Carried. I recognize the minister to . . . may proceed to move third reading.

### THIRD READINGS

#### **Bill No. 40 — *The Interpretation Amendment Act, 2016* *Loi modificative de 2016 sur l'interprétation***

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

**The Speaker:** — It has been moved by the minister that Bill No. 40 be now read the third time and passed under its title. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

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

**Mr. Wotherspoon:** — Guess that's predictable. Mr. Speaker, this is a day that should not have come before this Assembly, Mr. Speaker. You know, the House Leader can heckle all he wants and chirp from his seat. Other members can do what they want. But this is a last-minute appeal for some decency to the people of Saskatchewan, for some common sense to prevail, Mr. Speaker.

It's an incredible betrayal that we see from this Sask Party and from that Premier as it relates to Bill 40, Mr. Speaker, the sell-off scheme of the Sask Party. There's an opportunity here today. This is a government that's time and time again failed to do the right thing, to scrap this legislation that attacks our Crown corporations. But there's a chance that members opposite in the coming proceeding minutes here could decide to do that.

And short of that, there's a chance for members opposite — for backbenchers or for cabinet ministers that I suspect have some other feelings about this piece of legislation — to do the right thing. There's not much that a bunch of them do over there, Mr. Speaker, and if there's one thing that they can do in this term for their constituents and that being to stand up for our Crown corporations and the future of our Crown corporations, that'd be a worthy . . . This is an incredible betrayal of Saskatchewan people by this Premier and by the Sask Party. And this bill is about one thing; it's about full and total control of our Crown corporations and the risk of them being handed off and privatized to private interests, Mr. Speaker.

Our team has been rallying with Saskatchewan people, reaching out, travelling the entire province. And I commend the thousands upon thousands of people in communities across the province — and some that have joined us here today — for doing the right thing amidst incredible, challenging odds, standing up and fighting back, Mr. Speaker. And people all across our province are feeling deceived and for good reason. This is a Premier that has not kept his word.

And you know, we have a Sask Party in this point in time, cash-strapped as they are, looking for a quick buck, taking away

something that gives all of our province strength for today and for future generations and the next generation, Mr. Speaker. Our Crowns are job-creating, money-making innovators. They're world-class companies proudly built by and for generations of Saskatchewan people. They provide thousands and thousands of good mortgage-paying jobs, local jobs here in Saskatchewan that are all placed at risk, and they have a huge economic impact. The hundreds of companies all across Saskatchewan, the thousands of indirect jobs related to the supply chains, Mr. Speaker, all being placed at risk.

Also being placed at risk are the costs and the rates of course and aim, through our Crowns, just to keep rates affordable for Saskatchewan people. The consequence of privatization, time and time again, is massive increases for Saskatchewan people. And we're putting at risk and threatening the very service that Saskatchewan people count on. We have a rural, remote, a vast province, Mr. Speaker, and our Crowns are essential to connecting Saskatchewan people and communities to the services they need to count on, Mr. Speaker, and this government's taking that all away in one fell swoop with legislation like this.

You know, this bill as I've said is a betrayal to Saskatchewan people, and its intent is clear. We hear all sorts of nonsense from those on the other side about why they're defining so-called privatization, Mr. Speaker. Privatization is privatization is privatization. There hasn't been a stitch of analysis done on this legislation.

And to be honest, the weak defence of this government has been absolutely torn apart by our critics in committee, as well by the people of Saskatchewan in communities all across our province. They haven't even done a basic assessment of economic impacts, Mr. Speaker, something pretty essential when you look at the power of our Crown corporations in being an equalizer and a balancer within the Saskatchewan economy.

[14:45]

You know, we had our committee members, our critics, put hour after hour after hour in committee, pushing this government for answers. They pushed for officials from our Crown corporations to come before committee. And if you can imagine, Mr. Speaker, the Sask Party didn't even have the decency to allow those officials to come before committee to answer very basic questions to the people of Saskatchewan for whom are the shareholders of these Crown corporations. They blocked that.

This is nothing short of irresponsible. It's short-sighted. And there's impacts, real impacts, as I say: the loss of jobs, the economic hit, the rates, the costs that will be borne through Saskatchewan people, the service that all people in our province need to count on, Mr. Speaker.

But also because of this reckless definition, crafted up on napkins with some right wingers over there, Mr. Speaker, and then pretending somehow that this is all defined through the World Bank, Mr. Speaker . . . It just doesn't hold water. In fact as you go through committee, it was found that this definition, I think that it was the Justice minister here yesterday said that, "It's actually not a definition, but the World Bank just said that

this is a list of possible approaches.”

You know this definition has never been applied to an interpretation Act anywhere else in our country, in Canada, or even in the Commonwealth, Mr. Speaker. So for that minister and for this Premier to pretend somehow that this is right and common is . . . well if I call it again what I could, Mr. Speaker, it might put me in a compromising position once again on this floor.

This bill, by way of opening up the privatization of our Crown corporations, as soon as they go beyond 10 per cent, Mr. Speaker, we're then sending dollars to Ottawa, Mr. Speaker. So you have a government that's of course selling out Saskatchewan people by way of jobs, rates, and service, by way of our economy. But they're also sending millions and millions of dollars to Ottawa, Mr. Speaker, through taxation, through federal taxation that would apply then to our Crown corporations, Mr. Speaker. But they're also sending the millions and the dividends and the benefits to Bay Street and to Wall Street and to private investors, Mr. Speaker, instead of Saskatchewan people, the shareholders of our Crown corporations.

And you know, we know that this government's pretty tight with the wealthy and the well connected, Mr. Speaker, around the world and certainly in Saskatchewan. That seems to be who pulls this government's strings, Mr. Speaker. But when we look at the reality for Saskatchewan people, this is one company — these Crown corporations, all of these companies — that Saskatchewan people own a share in. It is absolutely wrong for one government at one time to come in and to take that from all Saskatchewan people, Mr. Speaker, to take that from young kids in Ile-a-la-Crosse or in Riversdale or in the heart of Moose Jaw or anywhere across this province, Mr. Speaker. This is one thing we all own. It's about equity. It's about equality. It's about fairness. And it's being taken away by this government.

And again, time and time again, if this was the plan — as we see it was — from the Sask Party, there's a thing about being straight with Saskatchewan people. And all across rural Saskatchewan and in other parts of the province, from many people who tell me that they voted for the Sask Party, they're feeling deceived, Mr. Speaker, because they believed the Premier of Saskatchewan, and they believed their Sask Party candidates and Sask Party MLAs when they said our Crowns are not for sale. When they took that pledge to Saskatchewan people and looked Saskatchewan people in their eyes and said our Crowns are not for sale, they believed them. They took them at their word. And you know what, Mr. Speaker? We should be able to do that in Saskatchewan.

The Sask Party, this Premier, all of those ministers opposite have broken their word, and they're betraying Saskatchewan people. They're selling out the interests of the very people of this province. They have no mandate, no mandate.

So if this plan, as deficit and damaging as it is, if this is the plan of the Sask Party, then have the decency and the backbone to take it to Saskatchewan people. And I issue a challenge to members opposite: if they want to prepare towards the next election, if this is the old school, right wing approach that they want to take to Saskatchewan people that sells out the very

interests of this province, that sells out the future interests of many across this province, then take it to them. And if they think somehow that they need to act before that, Mr. Speaker, then have the integrity, have the backbone, have the decency to take it to Saskatchewan people and know that Saskatchewan New Democrats, along with Saskatchewan people, will rise up, fight back every step of the way, Mr. Speaker.

Saskatchewan people don't want this bill. Eighty per cent of Saskatchewan people think it's nonsense and believe it's short-sighted and wrong, Mr. Speaker. You know, we've been out rallying in communities all across Saskatchewan, in rural communities, and in smaller communities and our cities. We've had teams out door knocking on this very issue, Mr. Speaker.

You know, I found it telling even last week . . . Of course we've been active all over the province on this, but I was out for the second time in the Finance minister's riding last week, during the Easter break from this Assembly, with a team of MLAs, Mr. Speaker. And as I went door to door, Mr. Speaker, I did not find a single person, not a single person who would not sign the petition to stop the Sask Party sell-off of our Crown corporations. You know, Mr. Speaker, I looked long and hard, long and hard, up and down the streets of Uplands in the Finance minister's riding, and I couldn't find a single person who wouldn't sign the petition, Mr. Speaker. What I found were people who were upset, who were feeling deceived, who were feeling betrayed, and who know very well that this government has worn out their welcome, Mr. Speaker.

You know, Saskatchewan people know that when our Crowns are gone, they're gone. That's why they're rising up. That's why they're fighting back. To all the people that work in our Crown corporations, for generations, for all the builders of our Crowns corporations, I say thank you. I say don't give up hope. Your work is important. It's valued. This is one battle.

I hope that in the minutes proceeding here that we see some decency by members opposite and that members will vote their conscience and vote against this legislation. I hope the Premier will finally have a revelation that causes him to let common sense and decency prevail and to pull this bill, Mr. Speaker. But short of that, know to Saskatchewan people, those that built these corporations, those that depend on them, those that work in them, Mr. Speaker, that Saskatchewan New Democrats will be vigilant and fight every step of the way.

You know, this bill opens up a wide opportunity for this government that's cash-strapped and not being straight with people on front after front and that are showing their real colours to really push forward privatization. That being said, we can't give up the fight.

My hope is that this vote doesn't come to a head right now. If it does come to a head right now, I hope there's some decency from members opposite because I can tell you that there's people in Canora, Preeceville that are watching today. There's members in Indian Head-Milestone that are watching. There's people in Moosomin that are watching here right now. There's members in Estevan. I can go row by row by row, seat by seat by seat, and Saskatchewan people corner to corner in this province see this as for what it is — a betrayal that sells out the future for the next generation, Mr. Speaker.



This bill's reckless, short-sighted. Of course this government wasn't straight, and they have no mandate. And really all that appears now is that we have a government that's scrambling, trying to, you know, basically cover up for actually years of mismanagement, scandal, and waste, bad deals signed, Mr. Speaker, projects that have gone off the rails. But it's not Saskatchewan people who should be paying the price.

And I hear, you know, the member from Moose Jaw, who we hear nothing from in this Assembly because he fails to stand up for members in Moose Jaw day after day, start to yip from his seat here right now, Mr. Speaker. I challenge him to have some backbone and decency here today and vote down that legislation. Because I stood, I stood along with members here and hundreds of people in Moose Jaw in front of his office, Mr. Speaker, as they came out to speak to their MLA, but of course that member was nowhere to be found, Mr. Speaker, missing . . .

[Interjections]

**The Speaker:** — Order. Members on both sides of this Assembly . . . Order. The member from Saskatoon Centre would please come to order when I'm on my feet. That would be much appreciated. I recognize the Leader of the Opposition.

**Mr. Wotherspoon:** — Saskatchewan people will make sure and we will make sure, along with Saskatchewan people and communities, that if this government wants to continue to proceed with this damaging sell-off, we will make sure that SaskPower, SaskTel, SaskEnergy — the list goes on — are here one heck of a lot longer than that Sask Party government, Mr. Speaker.

I make one last appeal to all members in this House: this bill should be scrapped. They have no mandate. They've broken their word, and they've broken trust with Saskatchewan people. And it sells out people in this province. It hurts our economy. It threatens jobs. It hikes rates and costs for people all across the province. It threatens services, and it forfeits hundreds of millions of dollars a year that are utilized for education and health care and services across our province.

This is a government that never ran on this. They ran actually with a promise not to be doing this right now. The right thing to do would be to let some common sense and some decency prevail.

Mr. Speaker, we'll I guess see how things proceed. I hope this bill is finally pulled and finally scrapped. But let it be recorded, Mr. Speaker, that Saskatchewan New Democrats, if this bill is brought forward for a vote right now, will be standing with all of Saskatchewan and the thousands that we've met with, the thousands that depend on our Crown corporations, to vote against this damaging sell-off of our Crown corporations.

**The Speaker:** — The question before the Assembly is the third reading of Bill No. 40. Those in favour of the motion say yes.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Yes.

**The Speaker:** — Those opposed say no.

**Some Hon. Members:** — No.

**The Speaker:** — I think the yes has it. Call in the members.

[The division bells rang from 14:56 until 14:59.]

**The Speaker:** — The question before the Assembly is third reading of Bill 40. All those in favour of the motion please stand.

[Yeas — 48]

Wall	Moe	Stewart
Wyant	Reiter	Morgan
Harpauer	Doherty	Duncan
Beaudry-Mellor	Hargrave	D'Autremont
Heppner	Boyd	Marit
Tell	Eyre	Merriman
Harrison	Ottenbreit	Ross
Weekes	Brkich	Hart
Kirsch	Bradshaw	Steinley
Makowsky	Phillips	Lawrence
Wilson	Campeau	Docherty
Michelson	Doke	Cox
Olauson	Steele	Young
Fiaz	Dennis	McMorris
Bonk	Carr	Nerlien
Lambert	Buckingham	Kaeding

[15:00]

**The Speaker:** — All those opposed to the motion please stand.

[Nays — 11]

Wotherspoon	Vermette	Chartier
Belanger	Sproule	Forbes
Rancourt	Beck	McCall
Sarauer	Meili	

**Clerk:** — Mr. Speaker, those in favour of the motion, 48; those opposed, 11.

**The Speaker:** — I declare the motion carried. I recognize the Government House Leader.

**Hon. Mr. Merriman:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On this very busy day I wanted to wish you personally a happy birthday and thank you for presiding, and I move that this House do now adjourn.

**The Speaker:** — It has been moved that this Assembly do now adjourn. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Carried. This Assembly now stands adjourned until tomorrow at 10 a.m.

[The Assembly adjourned at 15:02.]



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

### ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

#### INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

D'Autremont .....	2305
Wotherspoon .....	2305
Wall .....	2305
Ottenbreit .....	2305
Chartier .....	2306
Marit .....	2306
Forbes .....	2306
Docherty .....	2306
Olauson .....	2306
Hargrave .....	2307
Kaeding .....	2307

#### PRESENTING PETITIONS

Vermette .....	2307
Young .....	2307
Chartier .....	2307
Belanger .....	2308
Sproule .....	2308
Forbes .....	2308
Rancourt .....	2308
Beck .....	2309
McCall .....	2309
Sarauer .....	2309
Meili .....	2310

#### STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

Wheelchair for a Day	
Meili .....	2310
Holocaust Memorial Event	
Fiaz .....	2310
Northern Teacher Education Program	
Belanger .....	2310
Administrative Professionals Day	
Ross .....	2311
Battlefords North Stars Win Canalta Cup	
Cox .....	2311
Talk With Our Kids About Money Day	
Lambert .....	2311
Combatting Ovarian Cancer	
Moe .....	2312

#### QUESTION PERIOD

Details of Land Transactions	
Wotherspoon .....	2312
Wall .....	2312
Crown Corporations and Intent of Bill 40	
Wotherspoon .....	2313
Wall .....	2313
Sarauer .....	2314
Wyant .....	2314
Closing of Saskatchewan Transportation Company	
Vermette .....	2315
Hargrave .....	2315
Meili .....	2315
Chartier .....	2315
Supports for Seniors	
Chartier .....	2316
Reiter .....	2316

#### PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice	
Brkich .....	2316

#### THIRD READINGS

Bill No. 40 — <i>The Interpretation Amendment Act, 2016/Loi modificative de 2016 sur l'interprétation</i>	
Wyant .....	2317
Wotherspoon .....	2317
Recorded Division .....	2319

# GOVERNMENT OF SASKATCHEWAN

## CABINET MINISTERS

---

**Hon. Brad Wall**  
**Premier**  
**President of the Executive Council**  
**Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs**

**Hon. Tina Beaudry-Mellor**  
Minister of Social Services  
Minister Responsible for the Status of Women

**Hon. Ken Cheveldayoff**  
Minister of Parks, Culture and Sport  
Minister Responsible for the Public Service Commission

**Hon. Kevin Doherty**  
Minister of Finance

**Hon. Dustin Duncan**  
Minister of Energy and Resources  
Minister Responsible for SaskEnergy Incorporated  
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan  
Telecommunications

**Hon. Bronwyn Eyre**  
Minister of Advanced Education

**Hon. Joe Hargrave**  
Minister of Crown Investments  
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan  
Government Insurance  
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan  
Transportation Company

**Hon. Donna Harpauer**  
Minister of Government Relations  
Minister Responsible for First Nations,  
Métis and Northern Affairs

**Hon. Jeremy Harrison**  
Minister of the Economy  
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan  
Liquor and Gaming Authority  
Minister Responsible for The Global  
Transportation Hub Authority  
Minister Responsible for Tourism Saskatchewan  
Minister Responsible for Innovation

**Hon. David Marit**  
Minister of Highways and Infrastructure

**Hon. Scott Moe**  
Minister of Environment  
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water  
Security Agency  
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan  
Water Corporation

**Hon. Don Morgan**  
Deputy Premier  
Minister of Education  
Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety  
Minister Responsible for the Saskatchewan  
Workers' Compensation Board

**Hon. Greg Ottenbreit**  
Minister Responsible for Rural and Remote Health

**Hon. Jim Reiter**  
Minister of Health

**Hon. Lyle Stewart**  
Minister of Agriculture  
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Crop  
Insurance Corporation

**Hon. Christine Tell**  
Minister of Central Services  
Minister Responsible for the Provincial  
Capital Commission  
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan  
Gaming Corporation

**Hon. Gordon Wyant**  
Minister of Justice and Attorney General  
Minister Responsible for SaskBuilds  
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan  
Power Corporation