



FIRST SESSION - TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

of the

**Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan**

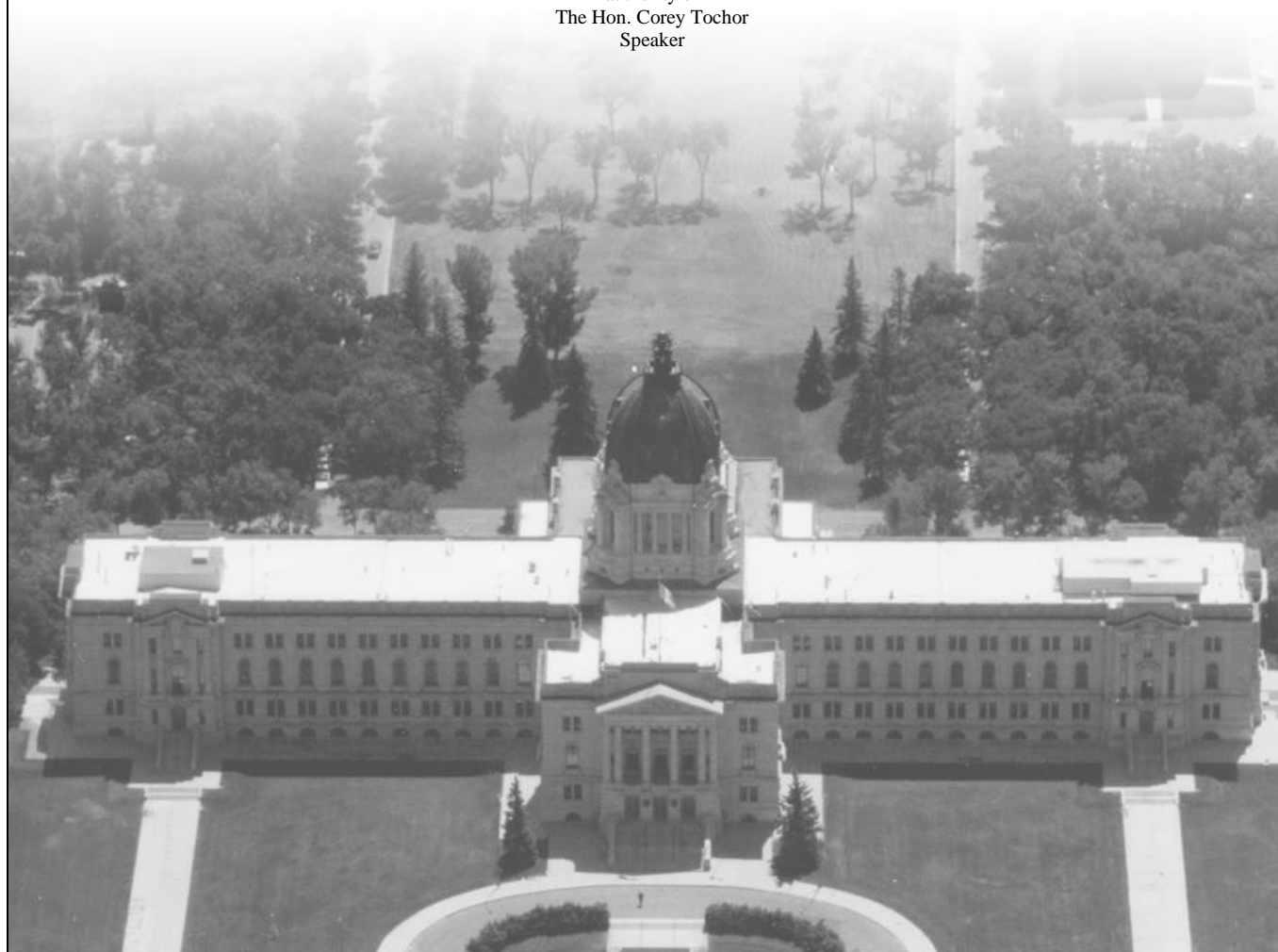
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**DEBATES  
and  
PROCEEDINGS**

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(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)

**Harpauer**, 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)

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**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 Burianyak

**Sergeant-at-Arms** — Terry Quinn

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[The Assembly met at 13:30.]

[Prayers]

## ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

### INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

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

**Hon. Mr. Wall:** — Mr. Speaker, I'd request leave for an extended introduction.

**The Speaker:** — Is leave granted?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

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

**Hon. Mr. Wall:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, colleagues. It's an honour to be able to introduce some distinguished guests from Indonesia that are seated in your gallery. And, Mr. Speaker, I'm a little bit worried. Our trade relationship with Indonesia is very important, and I don't want my pronunciation of names to hinder that relationship in any way.

Seated in your gallery is Mr. Hadi Sapto Pambrastoro. He is the consul general of the Republic of Indonesia in Toronto. And he's accompanied today by two officials: one is Ms. Nancy Kusbayanti, consul for economic affairs; as well as Ms. Ganis Garnisa, vice-consul for economic affairs at the consulate.

Mr. Speaker, the delegation, the consul general and officials, arrived last night and they have a busy agenda over the next number of days. He's already met with officials of the Saskatchewan Trade and Export Partnership, officials from the Ministry of Agriculture and, I believe, the Minister of the Economy and, I believe, the Minister of Agriculture as well. And I look forward to meeting with the consul general and the consuls a little bit later on today as well.

Mr. Speaker, I can inform members of the House that tomorrow the delegation will visit the International CCS [carbon capture and storage] Knowledge Centre. They have meetings planned there with SaskPower.

Indonesia is going to continue to deploy coal as part of the generating capacity for that fast-growing economy. So they have an interest in clean coal technology, and we're very much looking forward to discussing that particular file as well.

Mr. Speaker, I think members on both sides of the House will know that we have a dynamic and growing trade relationship with Indonesia. Our province is the leader among all Canadian provinces in terms of exports to that country. Thirty-eight per cent of all Canadian exports to Indonesia come from the province of Saskatchewan and, frankly, there's tremendous potential for further growth.

Members should know that since 2007, Saskatchewan's exports to Indonesia have grown by 64 per cent or \$548 million, Mr.

Speaker. That includes potash and wheat and wood pulp and canary seed, among other exports to that country.

We are very grateful for the relationship we have with Indonesia. And a few years ago, I think I became the first Premier to go to Indonesia on a trade mission, and we've had of course STEP [Saskatchewan Trade and Export Partnership] follow up with that mission. They were there prior to that mission. They've been cultivating a strong relationship. We want it to be mutually beneficial though, Mr. Speaker, and so we always look for ways to explore opportunities for exchanges that benefit Indonesians, even as we are looking for opportunities to expand our own exports to that part of the world.

That part of the world is very important to the province of Saskatchewan. The so-called ASEAN [Association of Southeast Asian Nations] region has been a focus of ours in our engagement piece, and Indonesia is one of the leading countries in the ASEAN. And so, Mr. Speaker, let me just say through you and to you to all members of the House, we're very grateful to the people of Indonesia for the relationship that we have, and we want to welcome the consul general and officials from the consulate here today, Mr. Speaker. And we look forward to fruitful and continuing excellent relations with Indonesia.

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

**Mr. Wotherspoon:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Requesting leave for an extended introduction.

**The Speaker:** — Is leave granted?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

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

**Mr. Wotherspoon:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my pleasure to join with the Premier and welcome this very important delegation from Indonesia to the Saskatchewan Legislative Assembly here today. I'd like to welcome Mr. Hadi Sapto Pambrastoro, consul general of Indonesia in Toronto. Sorry with the pronunciation there. Ms. Nancy Kusbayanti, consul for economic affairs; and Ms. Ganis Garnisa, vice-consul for economic affairs, we do welcome you to the Assembly here today. Thank you to the Premier for the thoughtful remarks as it relates to the dynamic and growing and important relationship with Indonesia and Saskatchewan.

Our relationship is strengthened with your presence here in the Assembly and your time here in Saskatchewan working with the Saskatchewan Trade and Export Partnership. We wish you well with your many meetings. Certainly our agricultural products, our forestry products are something very important to us and something we're very appreciative of the relationship and our ability to share with you. We're proud of that relationship through potash to enhancing food security and a greater productivity throughout Indonesia. Certainly we have other aspects in common when it comes to mining in Indonesia and Saskatchewan as well.

So we wish you well with your delegation. We have important

work around agricultural research as well that I believe we can continue to improve and grow with this, through this relationship. So on behalf of a grateful opposition and a grateful province, I ask all members to join with me in welcoming this very important delegation from Indonesia here today.

Mr. Speaker, while I'm still on my feet, it's my honour to introduce some very special guests seated in your gallery here today, a couple that have made the trek in from the Southeast, from Creelman, Saskatchewan, just a couple of miles north of Creelman, Saskatchewan. Someone who's, I guess, been a producer for many, many years in this province, as a family, and it's my honour to welcome John and Pat Horner to their Assembly.

As I say, they've had a mixed farm for many years, a grain operation, but also a cattle operation. And Pat as well is a psychiatric nurse, is what her life's service to her province has been. She grew up in Weyburn, but she was the director of care in Stoughton for many, many years. So it's a pleasure to see these good friends to their Assembly here today, to have their presence here today.

But the reason they're here today is they brought their nephew who's visiting Canada from New Zealand along with his wife, his partner. And so we welcome from New Zealand, Eric Goddard, and as well his wife, Ella Hardy. They're making their way across Canada. They've visited Ottawa. They've visited Montreal. They're making their way to BC [British Columbia]. I think they're going to do some paddling and camping out there. But they're very engaged in politics as well and very active in different capacities with both New Zealand but also the Australian Labor Party. And it was a pleasure to sit down with them here today.

So it's my honour to welcome these guests to their Assembly and to welcome John and Pat Horner to their Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Mr. Wyant:** — Well thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to take a moment to introduce a few honoured and very special guests seated in your gallery this afternoon. They are victims services volunteers, and they're among some of the most dedicated and compassionate and all around inspiring people that we have in this province. They are the people Saskatchewan turns to in times of crisis.

And today our honoured guests, Mr. Speaker, are celebrating some milestones: 15 and 20 years doing what they do. In the past we've gone to these volunteers during Victims Week, but this year, Mr. Speaker, because Victims Week happens after the spring sitting wraps up, we'd like to do it a little bit earlier. So they're here a little earlier, and we feel it important to publicly acknowledge their dedication to the province.

With us today, and maybe I can get everybody to wave when I mention their names, the 15-year recipients: Joyce Warriner, from Punnichy — there she is — Vicki Coxford, Marla Hartman, and Bev Kinshella from Saskatoon; and our 20-year recipient, Mr. Speaker, Kathy Burton from Carrot River.

As I do every year, Mr. Speaker, I had the pleasure of having lunch and meeting them earlier today to express my appreciation and the appreciation of the Government of Saskatchewan for their very, very, very good work, Mr. Speaker. So I'd ask all members joining me today in welcoming this truly exceptional group of people to their legislature.

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

**Ms. Sarauer:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to join with the member opposite in welcoming these folks to their legislative gallery. These volunteers through victims services have done a substantial amount of volunteer work for the province for quite a few number of years. As we all know, volunteers are the backbone of our community, and the work you do helping victims through the criminal justice process is invaluable and desperately needed. So thank you for all that you do.

Please take a moment — I know volunteers sometimes have a hard time actually acknowledging the work that they do and taking a step back and taking a break from the hard work — so please take this opportunity to allow us to thank you, allow your community to thank you. And I'd like all members to join me in welcoming them to their Legislative Assembly.

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

**Hon. Mr. Ottenbreit:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you to all members of the Assembly, it's my pleasure to introduce in your gallery four attendees that we met with earlier today from the Saskatchewan Association of Nurse Practitioners. With us today are Jill Bouchard, past president; Melissa Carignan, president; Frankie, Francoise Verville, president-elect; and Debbie Bathgate, treasurer.

Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Health and I met with them earlier to discuss a lot of the good work that nurse practitioners have done in our province, and even some ways that they can help us even further, Mr. Speaker.

We know that in 2007, we only had 111. Now we have 110 per cent increase, mainly due to our increase of 20 seats or doubling the seats for nurse practitioners in the province. Now we have 200 of them practising throughout Saskatchewan. So I'd 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. I'd like to join with the minister opposite in welcoming the leadership from the Saskatchewan Association of Nurse Practitioners here today. I look forward to your reception at 5 o'clock.

I've had the opportunity to sit down with some of the other members of the association just to learn a little bit more about the work of nurse practitioners, the good work that they do in the province, the importance of training more nurse practitioners, but also the importance of ensuring we have spots for nurse practitioners in which to work, Mr. Speaker. So I look forward to hearing their message again here a little bit later

today. And I want to thank them for all the work that they do in helping members understand the role that nurse practitioners can play in primary health care here in Saskatchewan.

So with that, I'd like to ask all members to join me in welcoming these folks as well to their Assembly.

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

**Mr. Olason:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you to all members of the Assembly, I'd like to introduce a couple of individuals in the west gallery, Mr. Speaker. The first one is my aunt, Kathleen Draves. She comes from the Kindersley constituency. She's been a member of that constituency for a number of years and is making her first visit to the legislature today. So we went on a little tour earlier and saw what this place has to offer. Mr. Speaker, she has the distinction of owning the only — that we know of — award from her father's school for catching or collecting the most gopher tails in 1918. It was presented by the Government of Saskatchewan then, Mr. Speaker. So that's, you know, quite amazing.

She's held a number of positions within the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool, within the Royal Bank as well. But her most important job was as we were kids to make sure that my uncle Hank's snuff cans were filled with water and frozen so that we would have enough hockey pucks for when we came out during the winter months.

And accompanying her, Mr. Speaker, is someone familiar with this place but I haven't had the opportunity to introduce her yet, is my mom, Joan Olason. You know, what do you say about your mom other than she's been my biggest supporter. She's been a rock. She is a tireless volunteer. She raised all four of us kids and kept us mostly out of trouble. And she's now raising nine grandchildren as well.

She's also, as the Deputy Premier likes to remind me, his favourite Olason. So, you know, that being said, I'd ask all members to welcome them to their Legislative Assembly.

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

[13:45]

**Ms. Beck:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my pleasure to introduce a number of special guests seated in your gallery, a contingent of part of a larger delegation from the Southeast Regional Library. And we're just very pleased that you could be here today. Maybe as I introduce you, each of you could give a wave.

We have with us today Tawney Johnson, and Tawney is the branch librarian for Lampman Public Library. We also have Rebecca Eddy, and Rebecca is the adult program coordinator with the Estevan Public Library branch. We also have Ruth Barker, and Ruth is the personnel manager for the Southeast Regional Library. And also with us today is Kate-Lee Nolin, and Kate-Lee is the library director for the Southeast Regional Library. She assumed that role on April 1st of this year, so you

can imagine she's had an interesting first little bit of her job.

But just thank each of them for the work that they do. I know that they're here as part of a larger delegation. I believe it's a staff workshop that they're in visiting their Legislative Assembly for.

And also in the building although not in the gallery is Mr. James Richards, and he is the regional branch manager. And I would like to thank them for visiting us today but also for the very important work that you do in your communities. And I would invite all members to join with me in welcoming each of them to their Legislative Assembly.

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

**Hon. Mr. Morgan:** — Mr. Speaker, I'd like to join with the member opposite in welcoming these people to their legislature today. Mr. Speaker, over the years, we always thought of librarians as people that worked in rooms with dusty books, and they weren't heard of or weren't appreciated very much. Well over the last week, we've developed a new appreciation for librarians. So on behalf of all members, we want to tell them how much we appreciate them and how glad we are today that they're here and wish them all the best.

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

**Mr. Forbes:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you, to all members in the House, I'd like to introduce a special guest in the west gallery: Ian Wilgus, if you could give us a wave. Ian is here in Regina for three months as part of the Explorer program with Knox-Metropolitan United Church to check out to what it's . . . you know, the whole thing about being a minister and that. But he has an interest in politics. He recently watched question period in Ottawa, so he's going to be comparing the two. So I'd ask all members to give Ian a warm welcome to the Saskatchewan legislature. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Mr. Harrison:** — Well thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. As long-serving members know, it's rare that we have a school group from the Meadow Lake constituency, but today we are privileged to have one.

The Northwood Christian School from Leoville, Saskatchewan have made the trip down to Regina — 12 grade 7, 8, and 9 students sitting in the west gallery, accompanied by their teacher, Mr. Brendan Loewen, and his spouse, Karilee Loewen; and parent chaperones Keith and Deana Unruh, Roger and Jenn Friesen, Marv and Gwen Isaac, Ardel and Lenora Boese. And we very much look forward to getting together after question period, and welcome to your Legislative Assembly.

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

**Mr. McCall:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. It's my pleasure to introduce an individual seated in your gallery. I'm speaking of Dr. David Carl Goranson. Give us wave there; very good. Dr. Goranson is the grandson of a former member of this Assembly by the name of Joe Phelps, Mr. Speaker.

And such is the legacy of Joe Phelps that I think it was just the other week that the Premier was referencing certain parts of that legacy as a minister. Minister Joe Phelps was part of the first Douglas government, '44-48, and certainly was first elected in '38, served to '44 as a member of the 10-member CCF [Co-operative Commonwealth Federation] opposition caucus, and then on into the Douglas government, was defeated in '48, went on to head up the Saskatchewan Farmers Union for many years, Mr. Speaker. And also during that period was the founder of the Western Development Museum and certainly played a highly energetic . . . One of the things that you always hear about Joe Phelps is that the guy's work ethic was second to none, and certainly was running like his pants were on fire, I think, all the time.

But there's a book coming out, Mr. Speaker, in terms of the life of Fiery Joe that's put out by the University of Regina Press that's being launched tomorrow night at Innovation Place. And then there'll be a launch, I believe, the night after, up in Saskatoon. And I think the speaker for tomorrow night's event is the former premier Lorne Calvert and for Saskatoon, it's former Premier Roy Romanow.

And again, Mr. Speaker, I think signal to the amount of work and the way that one person can impact a province and can pack a lot into four short years of government, Mr. Speaker . . . More details on that, I'd invite folks to read, but it ranges from rural electrification to advancing the cause of indigenous rights and many points in between.

But with that, Mr. Speaker, I'd ask all members to join me in welcoming Dr. David Carl Goranson to his Legislative Assembly.

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member from Biggar-Sask Valley.

**Mr. Weekes:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to join the Minister of Rural and Remote Health in introducing nurse practitioner Debbie Bathgate, who is seated in your gallery. Debbie practises in Borden and I'd like to . . . Join me in welcoming her to her Legislative Assembly.

Also, Mr. Speaker, while I'm on my feet, I would like to introduce the family of Damien Kurek, who is a Sask Party government caucus researcher. His family members in attendance today are mother Jodi Kurek, sister Tianna, brother Kadin, and they are visiting Damien and his family from Consort, Alberta. So please welcome them to our Legislative Assembly.

### PRESENTING PETITIONS

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

**Ms. Carr:** — 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 the citizens of Estevan, Bienfait, Oxbow, Midale, Macoun, Benson, and Stoughton. I do so present.

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

**Mr. Vermette:** — Mr. Speaker, I rise today to present a petition. The people who have signed this petition are opposed to the Sask 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 the parcel services that serve farms and other businesses.

Mr. Speaker, I'll read the prayer:

We, in the prayer that reads as follows, respectfully request that the Government of Saskatchewan immediately stop the plan to scrap and sell off Saskatchewan Transportation Company, and to resume transportation services to the people of Saskatchewan.

This is supported by leaders and thousands and thousands of signatures. I 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. Mr. Speaker, just a couple of weeks ago in committee, we had a discussion about this cut and the minister told me at that point in time that this wasn't a service offered throughout the province, in just a few areas. So instead of enhancing this important service, Mr. Speaker, this government has chosen to cut it.

The petitioners point out that in this budget, the Sask Party eliminated all funding for spiritual care services within Saskatchewan health care facilities. They point out that Saskatchewan will be the only province in Canada to not fund this support for patients, residents, and their families seeking wellness. They point out that the Sask Party didn't talk about this at all in last year's election. They hid their plan to scrap funding for spiritual care, just over a year ago, Mr. Speaker. They point out the value of spiritual care, that it responds to the spiritual and emotional needs of patients and residents and provides a compassionate listening presence in times of crisis.

They point out, 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 in obtaining comfort and support, regardless of their faith or belief, 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 immediately reinstate the funding for spiritual care services in this province's health region facilities.

Mr. Speaker, this petition today that I'm submitting is signed by citizens of Saskatoon. I so present.

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

**Mr. Belanger:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I am proud to stand in my place today to present a petition under the direction and order of the member from Prince Albert Northcote in her request for anyone in the Assembly to help her in her fight for a second bridge for Prince Albert. So this petition deals with the city of bridge, Mr. Speaker, and the prayer reads as follows:

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

And as we do day after day, week after week, month after month in this Assembly and year after year, Mr. Speaker, we're very proud to present another page to the thousands of people that have signed our petition asking for a second bridge for Prince Albert. And the people that have signed this petition today are primarily from Regina and Prince Albert, and I so present.

**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 Saskatchewan. And the undersigned residents of the province want to bring to our attention the following: that the citizens of Saskatchewan 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 the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives found that in Saskatoon in 2016, women earned on average 63 cents for every dollar a man makes, and in Regina women earned on average 73 cents for every dollar 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 the Assembly, and that Saskatchewan government call upon workplaces within Saskatchewan

within the private sector to eliminate the wage gap between women and men.

And, Mr. Speaker, the people signing this petition come from Vanscoy 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 stand today to provide a petition to increase the funding to Prince Albert mobile crisis. 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. The daytime closure of Prince Albert mobile has put stress on the Prince Albert Police Service, Victoria Hospital, and other agencies who may not be trained and/or 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 have signed these petitions, but this particular petition was signed by residents of 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 in support of a sexual abuse prevention curriculum in Saskatchewan. Those who've signed this petition wish to draw our attention to the following: to the fact that Saskatchewan has the second-highest rate of child sexual abuse in Canada; that childhood sexual abuse has lasting impacts throughout the child's lifetime, and these effects include mental health impacts such as PTSD [post-traumatic stress disorder], depression, anxiety, panic attacks, and low self-esteem. Impacts also include decreased school attendance and achievement and decreased productivity throughout the lifespan. Physical health impacts include conversion disorder and reproductive system damage. Victims of sexual child abuse are four times more likely to commit suicide.

Currently there's no comprehensive elementary or secondary curriculum regarding the prevention and reporting of sexual child abuse in Saskatchewan and, as a province, it's our shared responsibility to protect children and youth, to educate them, as every child has the right to be protected and to be safe. I'll read the prayer:

[14:00]

We, in the prayer that reads as follows, respectfully request that the Government of Saskatchewan take immediate and concrete action to develop and implement Erin's law; and that such legislation would ensure that a comprehensive health education program be developed and implemented

in grades pre-K through 12, along with training for school staff on the prevention of sexual abuse.

Mr. Speaker, those who have signed this petition reside around the province. The pages that I present today are signed by residents of Regina and Weyburn. I do 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 very dubious distinction, Mr. Speaker, 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 the survivors the violence will follow them to their workplace. Employers lose \$77.9 million annually due to the direct and indirect impacts of domestic violence.

Mr. Speaker, Manitoba has already enacted legislation and Ontario is on its way to enacting legislation that ensures job security for victims of domestic violence. We've tabled a private member's bill a few weeks ago now, Mr. Speaker, calling for these measures to be implemented in Saskatchewan, and we do hope that the government takes that private member's bill and passes it. 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 survivors of domestic violence in Saskatchewan.

And, Mr. Speaker, the individuals signing this petition today come from Saskatoon and Warman. I do so present.

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

**Mr. Meili:** — Mr. Speaker, I rise to present a petition calling on the government to restore funding to post-secondary institutions. In the last few years, Mr. Speaker, we've seen a precipitous drop in the number of lower income students accessing higher education. This bodes ill for our future and is only made worse by significant cuts to colleges and universities, with decreases in funding that are resulting in higher tuition and job losses and decreases in available programming. Mr. Speaker, alongside cuts to student aids, this only makes it more difficult for students from families in need to access higher 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.

The individuals signing the petition today are from Regina. I do so submit.

## STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

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

### Remembering John Bury

**Mr. Meili:** — Mr. Speaker, I stand in the House today to recognize a pioneer of medicare who, sadly, is no longer with us. Dr. John Bury was born in England in 1924. He attended the London Hospital Medical College and practised as a physician in England until June of 1963 when he came to Saskatoon to join the revolutionary patient-owned community clinic as a family physician during the medicare crisis.

During his time with the community clinic, John was closely involved in the development of its unique care model and in shaping the future of our health care system as a whole. John assisted in the design of the prescription drug formulary, which reduced the cost of prescription drugs and helped in the formation of the Saskatchewan prescription drug plan.

He and his wife, Betsy, have also been leaders in social movements, including the peace movement.

Mr. Speaker, John Bury passed away on December 22nd last year at the age of 92. Over the years, I was lucky enough to learn from John and his persistently brilliant health policy analysis and his good humour. He will truly be missed in our community.

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to ask all members to join me in recognizing John and Betsy Bury and remembering John's dedication to the health of all people. Thank you.

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

### Sexual Assault Awareness Week

**Mr. Phillips:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand in the Assembly today to acknowledge Sexual Assault Awareness Week. This is an important issue that we all need to help bring awareness to. Any one incident of sexual assault is one too many.

Mr. Speaker, our government has been investing in supports for those who have been victimized, including funding for a 24-hour crisis telephone line, crisis counselling, and support for medical, legal, and social services appointments. Those programs total \$1.2 million provided to seven programs. Additionally there is \$440,000 funding for four police positions that specialize in investigating child exploitation and \$770,000 to fund seven positions that are part of the provincial ICE [Internet child exploitation] team.

Our government has also directed a review of the domestic violence death investigative process. The interim report was just released in May and the final report will be released in the fall, and our government is looking closely at this process.

Mr. Speaker, this is an important issue that everyone needs to bring awareness to. And it is especially important to me with the recent opening of the NEOSS [North East Outreach and



Support Services] domestic violence shelter in Melfort. I would ask that all members join me in acknowledging Sexual Assault Awareness Week. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

### Women of Distinction Gala Awards

**Ms. Beck:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On Thursday, May 11th, I was pleased to attend the Regina YWCA's [Young Women's Christian Association] annual Women of Distinction Gala awards ceremony at the Conexus Centre of the Arts along with my colleague, the member for Douglas Park, and the member opposite for Regina University.

The Women of Distinction Awards program is part of the YWCA's commitment to support women in realizing their full potential. It recognizes South Saskatchewan women whose outstanding contributions to their field of endeavour make a difference in their communities and across the globe. In addition, the gala awards dinner also raises funds in support of the invaluable YWCA programs and services.

Mr. Speaker, each year the YWCA recognizes women in 12 award categories. This year's winners included the Women of the White Pony Lodge with the Circle of Friends Award; Laura Budd with the Community Leadership and Enhancement Award; Cassandra Opikokew Wajuntah with the Cultural Heritage Award; Bev McBeth with the Education and Mentorship Award; Katrina Rogina with the Entrepreneurship and Innovation Award; Teresa Florizone with the Leadership and Management Award; Sandy Baumgartner with the Science, Technology and Environment Award; Bonnie Chapman with the Arts Award; Sarah Garden with the Wellness, Recreation and Healthy Living Award; and Jellyn Ayudan with the Young Woman of Distinction Award. And the Lifetime Achievement Award winner was Barb Byers, a tireless labour leader and activist for our province and our country.

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to ask all members to join with me today in congratulating this year's Women of Distinction winners, and in thanking the YWCA for their commitment to women in our province and for all that they provide. Thank you.

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

### Regina Pats Lose Series to Seattle

**Mr. Steinley:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I am wearing a Seattle Thunderbirds jersey today. Unfortunately the Regina Pats lost to the Thunderbirds in overtime of game six last night, and I lost a bet to the Minister of Rural and Remote Health, whose nephew, Turner Ottenbreit, plays defence with the Seattle Thunderbirds.

The Pats went into Sunday's game with a renewed energy to fight for their chance to take the series to seven games. Regina started the night with a power play goal by Sam Steel. Seattle quickly retaliated, tying the score early on in the second period. With just 8 minutes and 10 seconds remaining in the third, Jeff

de Wit scored, giving the Pats a 2-1 lead. Austin Wagner followed that goal up on a breakaway, making it 3-1 with just over six minutes left to play.

Fans in Regina thought we were well on our way to a game seven, but Seattle was not going down without a fight. They responded with two quick goals before the end of regulation to tie the game 3-3. In overtime, Alexander True grabbed his own rebound and fired the puck past goalie Tyler Brown. This gave Seattle the game and the series.

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to applaud the Regina Pats, the Queen City ownership group, and their fans on a great season. I'd also like to congratulate the Thunderbirds on their win and wish them and their six Saskatchewan-born players all the best at the Memorial Cup. Congratulations, Seattle.

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

### Constituent Awarded for Dedication to Groundwater and Well Industry

**Mr. Doke:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I would like to highlight my constituent John Soloninko, who was recognized and given an award for appreciation from the Saskatchewan Ground Water Association for his many years of hard work and dedication to the groundwater and well industry here in our province.

Mr. Speaker, John Soloninko is a long-time constituent of mine and is widely known in his community for his humble spirit and hard work. John was born in Kamsack, Saskatchewan and began his career doing seismic in Alberta. During the 1960s, John worked for the Saskatchewan Research Council, travelling and drilling for underground water formations.

This is when John was introduced to Elk Point Drilling. He joined the company in the fall of 1962 and was promoted to manager 10 years later. Operating for over 60 years and originally from Alberta, Elk Point Drilling is a family-run company and is known for its good faith and reliable drilling source, serving the people of Saskatchewan well for many decades.

Since the '70s, John has served on the Saskatchewan Ground Water Association board, making him very deserving of this recognition. Mr. Speaker, John and his wife, Barb, reside just outside of North Battleford in the Cut Knife-Turtleford constituency. Mr. Speaker, I ask that all members join me in congratulating John Soloninko on this recognition and thank him for his service to the people of Saskatchewan.

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

### Winner of Leadership and Management Award

**Ms. Ross:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. On May the 11th, the YWCA of Regina held their annual Women of Distinction Awards. This night recognizes and celebrates women's achievements, who have greatly contributed to the health and future of their communities as well as inspire others

along their journey.

Mr. Speaker, today I would like to highlight the winner of the Leadership and Management Award, Teresa Florizone. Teresa currently serves as the chief financial officer and vice-president of SaskBuilds. She is consistent in her projects, having an unbroken track record of on-budget and on-schedule finishes, which is rare for Canada's public sector and much appreciated by this government. Thanks to her efforts, millions of dollars have been saved and freed up as Teresa continues to work to find new innovations to serve the people of Saskatchewan. Public servants are more aligned, efficient, and better equipped for future projects thanks to Teresa's leadership.

Where her contributions to her profession are immense, her community service is no less, as she often donates vegetables from her 2-acre garden to hungry families in need. She is a leader in her field, a mentor to all women working within this industry.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in congratulating Teresa Florizone on winning the Leadership and Management Award at the 2017 Women of Distinction Awards. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member from Biggar-Sask Valley.

#### **Proposed Elimination to Local Voice Service Subsidy**

**Mr. Weekes:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Last Thursday, SaskTel released a statement announcing its opposition to the CRTC's [Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission] proposed plan to phase out the local voice service subsidy. The local service subsidy is designed to keep wireline voice service affordable in high-cost serving areas.

Mr. Speaker, the phase-out will impact roughly 100,000 Saskatchewan households that rely on the local voice subsidy for affordable telephone service. Impacted residents living on the family farm, in small towns, villages, First Nations, and Saskatchewan's North may see an increase of telephone service costs between 110 and \$320 per year, starting next year.

Contrary to the CRTC's stated desire to hear more from and work for the benefit of regular Canadians, the CRTC plans to end the subsidy without talking to the people that it claims to speak for. If not stopped, the CRTC's elimination of the phone service subsidy will be costly for Saskatchewan people. We are encouraging Saskatchewan residents to submit comments to the CRTC to stop the elimination of the local voice service subsidy. Feedback to the CRTC decision, called notice 2017-92, can be provided on the website, [www.crtc.gc.ca](http://www.crtc.gc.ca), or a direct link to the feedback page can be found on the home page of SaskTel's website.

Mr. Speaker, we encourage everyone impacted to take a few moments to voice their concern and opposition to CRTC's phasing out this subsidy. Thank you.

#### **QUESTION PERIOD**

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

#### **Security of Personal Email Account**

**Mr. Wotherspoon:** — Mr. Speaker, for the Sask Party's GTH [Global Transportation Hub] I guess so-called negotiations that led to nuns, other landowners, and taxpayers being ripped off, two Sask Party supporters making off with \$11 million, and 300 acres of land being handed to CP [Canadian Pacific] Rail, for any part of that scandal did the Premier use his private server?

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

**Hon. Mr. Wall:** — Mr. Speaker, it could well be the case because I have used that private account, as all members of this Assembly have used their private accounts for — and sometimes party accounts — for government business.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the fact that the Leader of the Opposition asked the questions in estimates last week. I hadn't thought much about the whole issue of the email accounts I'm using because the one I use is secure. It's never been breached, Mr. Speaker. I can share that with members of the House. It's also password protected so I'm the only one that has access to it.

It's FOI [freedom of information]-able actually, as the members opposite know because they were reading from an email that they received as a result of a freedom of information request. And, Mr. Speaker, also like any communication from members of the government to anyone else on government business, it's going to be the product of a transfer to Archives when that is appropriate.

And so, Mr. Speaker, it could well be that during that period of time I would've used a government account or the private account, Mr. Speaker. None of that changes the fact that his entire preamble was the subject of a review by the Provincial Auditor, and the auditor's report has been tabled. We've accepted those recommendations.

[14:15]

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

**Mr. Wotherspoon:** — Well this is troubling. And today we also heard of an attack on the government's secure server, and that's because of course it's publicly reported. How would the public ever hear of an attempt or breach of the Premier's private server?

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

**Hon. Mr. Wall:** — Mr. Speaker, I'm sharing with you now. There has never been a breach of that server. And, Mr. Speaker, I would share with you that that server in particular has been more consistent in its operation than the government server, as I have communicated with members on the government side and they've . . . unable to communicate back, at least on their government account, because the government's system was down. Fortunately, mine was not.

I don't know where the member is going with this. I'm sharing with the members of the House that all of these emails that he's referencing are FOI-able. He's got copies of them. So they're

subject to freedom of information requests by members of the House or by the public, per any other communications from the Premier or from ministers, Mr. Speaker.

I would also note that members on both sides of the House — we know this because we're in conversation — use accounts other than their government account to conduct government business. And again, I don't see a particular problem with that so long as it's secure, so long as things are FOI-able where they need to be. And they are.

I would say this though, Mr. Speaker, as a result of the member's questions last week. As members of this House will know, I made a decision last week to simply be more focused and send all of my government-related emails on the government account. I think all of us in this House — officials and elected members — can redouble our efforts to do the same thing.

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

**Mr. Wotherspoon:** — So he suggests that there hasn't been a breach. And I guess it's just trust him at this point, and we don't know about whether or not there's been an attempt or an attack on this. But the question to the Premier: how does he know this, and how do we know this?

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

**Hon. Mr. Wall:** — We know . . . How do we . . . We know this because there has not been a breach. Period.

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

**Mr. Wotherspoon:** — So he says there hasn't been a breach. Has there been attempts to breach that account, that private server of the Premier?

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

**Hon. Mr. Wall:** — Mr. Speaker, I'm not aware. There may well have been, but the security measures at the server meet the test and, based on results, I would say exceed the test of a government server. Mr. Speaker, in this respect, I'm not aware if there's been any attempts to breach the server or the government server. I guess we could provide information . . . I could provide that information to the Leader of the NDP [New Democratic Party]. I'm happy to do it. But I could tell him that there has never been a breach of that server with respect to my email account, which is password protected and accessible only by myself.

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

**Mr. Wotherspoon:** — So the Premier's response about his private server is that there may well have been an attempt. In the public case, in the public case, that is reported. So how do we know? How do the people of Saskatchewan know the security of this server?

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

**Hon. Mr. Wall:** — Mr. Speaker, his House Leader sometimes

conducts the government business, the affairs of this legislature, using — well he has on at least one occasion — using his NDP Party server account. I mean that was legislative business. Can he tell me, has the NDP server that his members have used for the email account ever been breached?

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

**Mr. Wotherspoon:** — The question is where is this server housed? Where is it located?

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

**Hon. Mr. Wall:** — Mr. Speaker, I want to share with members of the House that the server is provided by a Regina company that's housed at the Sask Party headquarters. It's a Sask Party domain name that has been my email, this particular email account that I'll use from time to time — by the way, as his House Leader has done when he's been conducting correspondence with respect to government business.

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

**Mr. Wotherspoon:** — So just to clarify here, is the Premier of Saskatchewan actually saying that the information, the emails, of course of which are of a foreign interest, are commercially sensitive, that deal with international matters, is he suggesting that . . . And certainly through the expense of significant public dollars, is he suggesting he's been doing that through a party server?

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

**Hon. Mr. Wall:** — Mr. Speaker, yes. That shouldn't surprise very many people. I've had exchanges with members of the media, who have for years now had that same account, that same email address. Let me review again, let me review again the situation. The email, the account upon which the email is delivered, is secure. The server is secure. It has not been breached.

Mr. Speaker, let me also share with members that it's all subject to freedom of information requests. And based on what we know of attacks, both on the government or perhaps on other servers, I would argue that this server is more secure, more secure than the server that is used by the Government of Saskatchewan. I can tell you it's been more reliable, because while the government server has been down not infrequently, fortunately this one has not, which is part of the reason why I never made a particular change.

So, Mr. Speaker, now the member will want to talk breathlessly in the subsequent questions about what this might mean in terms of government documents. I'm telling members on that side of the House, and frankly on all sides of the House, there's never been a breach of these emails. They're completely FOI-able. They will be subject to the same archive rules.

And again, Mr. Speaker, if he thinks it's wrong to conduct any government business, or if he thinks this is somehow inappropriate, government business conducted on a party server, he needs to turn around and ask his House Leader why he did the same thing.

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

**Mr. Wotherspoon:** — Mr. Speaker, this is the Premier of Saskatchewan. Does the Premier not understand that this information belongs to Saskatchewan people and not to him personally, or to his party?

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

**Hon. Mr. Wall:** — Are you done? You're not done. Go ahead.

**Mr. Wotherspoon:** — The question was done. Does the Premier of Saskatchewan not understand that this information belongs to the people of Saskatchewan, not to him personally and certainly not to his party?

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

**Hon. Mr. Wall:** — Absolutely, Mr. Speaker. That's why I've said, that's why I've indicated that this information will all be handed over to Archives — any government business.

You know, Mr. Speaker, we have former NDP ministers that still have their own personal government correspondence in their basement, Mr. Speaker, that should be over at Archives. We could canvass those people if you like.

Mr. Speaker, we'll do no such thing. All of that information will be provided to Archives at the appropriate time, I can share with members of the House. And also the members on that side of the House should know, because they have a copy of one of the emails, that it's accessible in terms of freedom of information.

There was a media report out over the weekend that indicated that somehow this is depriving some future premier of looking at a previous premier's emails. Mr. Speaker, that was an erroneous comment in that story that needs to be corrected. Mr. Speaker, upon a change in government, the emails or the correspondence of the government, of the premier, are put into Archives for 25 years. There's no referencing back and forth between ministers and premiers.

Members opposite will know that. There is an obligation on the part of all of us to hand over what is prescribed by the laws of the archive provision of the province to the Archives. That is . . . My understanding is, at least as of today, that has still not happened with former NDP ministers who've been out of office for now 10 years.

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

**Mr. Wotherspoon:** — The Premier was negotiating and involved in discussions of a trade, international trade discussions: TPP [Trans-Pacific Partnership], NAFTA [North American Free Trade Agreement], softwood lumber — all sorts of commercial and private interests specific to Saskatchewan and companies here in our province, on and on, Mr. Speaker. Was the federal government aware that the Premier was using a private party server during these negotiations?

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

**Hon. Mr. Harrison:** — Mr. Speaker, members well know on both sides of the House that there are a number of accounts that we use. Whether it be party, whether it be MLA [Member of the Legislative Assembly], whether it be government, whether it be caucus, or whether it be private, Mr. Speaker. And I would note the member for Nutana, beaking from her seat, who uses her private account to communicate to us on government business, Mr. Speaker.

You know, I think we could all do a better job of this, Mr. Speaker, in terms of using the appropriate address for the appropriate subject, but it is challenging, Mr. Speaker. We are getting . . . In terms of emailing individuals, the account that pops up, that's the one that we often send it to.

I know I have received . . . In light of this discussion, I reviewed some of my emails, Mr. Speaker. And I think as you well know, I deal with members of the opposition very regularly in a number of roles. We have had . . . I have received, I have received communications to my personal account on sensitive government matters from a number of the members opposite, from a number of the members opposite, from their personal account, from their caucus accounts, from their MLA accounts.

So, Mr. Speaker, I think the members opposite need to realize that this is, on occasion, a challenging thing to pick the appropriate account. We could all do better at it, Mr. Speaker. But they are ones living in glass houses as well.

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

**Mr. Wotherspoon:** — The information has been obtained with the expense of the people's money and it's supposed to be in the interests of Saskatchewan people. He's been engaged in discussions that are of a commercially sensitive nature around international trade, the TPP, NAFTA, softwood lumber, commercial interests here in our province, who knows what else — and it's all on his private party's server.

My question goes back to the Premier that I just asked before: did he communicate with the federal government to let them know that he was using his personal party server to do these sensitive negotiations? And how today can he stand in the Assembly and defend this practice?

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

**Hon. Mr. Harrison:** — Well we have canvassed the question, Mr. Speaker. This is a secure account. This is password protected. And I would note and reiterate, Mr. Speaker, that these emails have been archived, have been saved, have been retained in accordance with the archives Act, are subject to freedom of information.

Members opposite should know, Mr. Speaker, that the freedom of information and the archives Act define government record in such a way that it doesn't matter where the government record originates from, Mr. Speaker, whether that be on a email account, whether that be on a government email account, whether that be on a piece of notepaper. What matters is the content of the government document.

The fact that the members opposite received a email through FOI shows, proves the point, Mr. Speaker, that these documents are subject to both the archives Act and the FOI, and we take that very seriously, Mr. Speaker.

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

#### Closing of Saskatchewan Transportation Company

**Mr. Vermette:** — Mr. Speaker, the Sask Party's arrogant answers aren't working with the people they're hurting. Everywhere I go across the province — it doesn't matter who they voted for — the people are upset about the Sask Party's STC sell-off. And they don't want it cut.

Mr. Speaker, STC will be in court on Thursday and there's a call for a value audit. The Sask Party made promises last election; this wasn't one of them. So to the minister: how does giving tax cuts to the rich while scrapping STC keep Saskatchewan strong?

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

**Hon. Mr. Hargrave:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, of course I've said many times in this House already about the subsidy, Mr. Speaker, that requires . . . at STC. Mr. Speaker, it's over \$17 million per year. That's 85 to \$100 million.

He's asking, how is that keeping Saskatchewan strong? Mr. Speaker, that's 85 to \$100 million, Mr. Speaker, that can be used for other services like social services and education, Mr. Speaker. That is how this is keeping Saskatchewan strong, Mr. Speaker. We're making the right decisions to keep Saskatchewan strong. Thank you.

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

[14:30]

#### Provision of Housing Services

**Mr. Meili:** — Mr. Speaker, we don't see a lot of transparency from this government, but there's one thing that is very clear. The Sask Party's response to the tough realities facing Saskatchewan people today is one fire sale after another. Whether it's selling off Crown land, selling off Crown corporations, selling it off seems to be the Sask Party's solution to everything.

Now we hear they're looking to sell \$100 million worth of assets from the Saskatchewan Housing Corporation. Can the minister be clear with us today? Does the Sask Party plan to sell off assets from the Saskatchewan Housing Corporation?

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

**Hon. Ms. Beaudry-Mellor:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. As is the case for all of the programs and services provided by the Ministry of Social Services, we're always looking for ways to find efficiencies. We are doing that through our income assistance redesign. We own a number of housing

projects throughout the community, the city, the province of Regina, so we are looking very carefully at all of those things.

This is one of the largest ministries that we have in our government. It comprises three-quarters of all of our expenses, and so naturally we are looking at everything that we provide. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Meili:** — Mr. Speaker, it would have been very easy to say no, and that sounded a lot like yes.

Sask Housing Corp provides affordable housing to people across the province — seniors on fixed incomes, single parents, people who have lost their jobs and are trying to make ends meet, Mr. Speaker. The government needs to guarantee that they won't make a deal that ensures profits for private businesses but hurts Saskatchewan families. When it comes to affordable housing units, the people of Saskatchewan know we can't afford the risk of another Sask Party sell-off or dodgy wordplay that costs us another essential service.

Can the minister be clear today? Can you commit clearly to no scrapping or selling off? Can you tell us what your real plans are for the Saskatchewan Housing Corporation?

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

**Hon. Ms. Beaudry-Mellor:** — Mr. Speaker, in 2015 the Saskatchewan Housing Corporation converted 2,700 units from the affordable housing program to the social housing program, as the affordable housing program was not serving the needs of tenants with the lowest income. We are constantly looking at our housing portfolio, at the services we provide in Social Services, at the services we provide in children and family, at the services we provide in disabilities to make sure that we're making efficient use of tax dollars and that we're getting outcomes for the things that we're providing, Mr. Speaker. We will continue to do so.

And frankly, Mr. Speaker, when it comes to housing in this province, I will stand . . .

**The Speaker:** — Whoa. Whoa. Let the minister finish her response.

**Hon. Ms. Beaudry-Mellor:** — Mr. Speaker, when it comes to housing in the province of Saskatchewan, I will stand on this party's record any single day of the week. Mr. Speaker, the member opposite has spoken many times in his former life about homelessness and poverty, Mr. Speaker. Well this government, since we've been in government, Mr. Speaker, we've created 634 affordable units for people who are homeless and at risk of homelessness. That's about 70 per year, Mr. Speaker. When they were in office — two per year, Mr. Speaker. I'm not going to take any lessons on housing. Thank you.

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

### Support for Education

**Ms. Beck:** — Mr. Speaker, that was definitely not a “no,” but one thing is clear: that the Sask Party’s lack of leadership on social housing is hurting Saskatchewan’s families, and so are the Sask Party’s cuts to our kids’ classrooms.

Mr. Speaker, teachers in the Chinook School Division were sent home a memo that begins with:

Due to the extreme impact of the recent funding reduction on the Chinook School Division’s budget, the Board of Education is prepared to offer a one-time workforce reduction incentive to reduce the overall salary expenditure of the division.

Mr. Speaker, it goes on to outline a \$10,000 early retirement incentive for all teachers in the division — \$10,000 per teacher to quit early and leave fewer teachers in the classrooms. How can the minister say that these cuts aren’t hurting our children?

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

**Hon. Mr. Morgan:** — Mr. Speaker, the \$10,000 retirement bonus has existed in almost all school divisions and has existed for many years. The purpose of that is to allow the divisions to plan for the next year.

And, Mr. Speaker, I can tell you this: the changes that we’re making to Bill 63 will probably put a limit on that because it’s an unnecessary expense, ought not be paid and, Mr. Speaker, is something that needs to be carefully considered.

So, Mr. Speaker, yes, it’s been paid in previous years. It’s probably going to be paid in this year. But it’s something that I’d rather see that money be spent in the classrooms, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Ms. Beck:** — Mr. Speaker, this is not business as usual, and it’s not complicated. The Sask Party’s “extreme cuts” are forcing school divisions to “. . . reduce the overall salary expenditure of the division.” They aren’t doing this because they want to, Mr. Speaker. They’re doing this because they’re being forced to by the cuts that that minister has made to our kids’ classrooms.

So I’ll ask again, Mr. Speaker: how can the Minister of Education stand in his place and claim that his cuts aren’t having an impact on our children’s classrooms?

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

**Hon. Mr. Morgan:** — Mr. Speaker, we want to do everything we can to make sure that all of the money that we pay gets focused where it should be — on the students, on the teachers, and in the classrooms. And, Mr. Speaker, whether she admits it or not, the member opposite is on exactly the same page.

Mr. Speaker, she belonged to a group called RealRenewal and part of that was . . . And, Mr. Speaker, it’s still on her web . . . still something that she supports. Mr. Speaker, she said, “. . .

there should be a provincial education ombudsman to turn to when boards make decisions that negatively impact our children and communities, or when they act without due process and transparency.” Mr. Speaker, that’s where the Education critic came from.

We’re not doing an education ombudsman, but we are saying to the divisions, work hard; save money; put money in the classrooms. That’s where the money belongs, and that’s where this government is going to see to it that it gets spent.

Mr. Speaker, we’ve had no help from the members opposite. We know where Andrew Thomson was before they ended their time in government and, Mr. Speaker, we’re going to continue to do the right things for the children in our province.

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

**Ms. Beck:** — Everything but taking responsibility, Mr. Speaker. How can the minister continue to defend his actions? It’s completely beyond me.

The Regina Public School Division has cut specialized preschool programs because, like Chinook, the cuts to their budget had an extreme impact. Now the minister claims he wants to stop them. But here’s the thing, Mr. Speaker, the school board says:

Our school division is not funded for non-ministry pre-K classrooms. Our school division has brought this lack of funding and designation to the attention of the Minister of Education a number of times over the past five years, but no change has occurred.

Mr. Speaker, this has been on their radar for five years, and yet the minister has done nothing for five years. Instead of complaining, can the minister stop the blame game and provide the necessary funding for these preschoolers?

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

**Hon. Mr. Morgan:** — Mr. Speaker, the member opposite is on exactly the same page we are and wants to save money and put money into the classroom. There still exists, Mr. Speaker, the “Draft Carla Beck for leader” web page. Mr. Speaker, I can’t talk about her leadership aspirations, but the web page is still up, Mr. Speaker. And, Mr. Speaker, on that web page, it talks about her being a co-founder of a group called RealRenewal, a Regina-based advocacy group.

Mr. Speaker, the NDP didn’t make a submission to our task force, but RealRenewal did. They called for a review of trustee remuneration, less administration, trustee term limits. They also suggested savings to be found. We should look at joint busing, joint purchasing. They called the divisions top-heavy and that there should be fewer superintendents and fewer division office staff.

Mr. Speaker, that’s exactly where we’re urging the divisions to go. We don’t want to direct them to do it. We want the divisions to find those savings on their own and, Mr. Speaker, that’s what’s going to happen.

**PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING  
AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Chair of the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies.

**Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies**

**Ms. Young:** — Mr. Speaker, I am instructed by the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies to report Bill No. 70, *The Provincial Sales Tax Amendment Act, 2017* without amendment.

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

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

**The Speaker:** — The Minister of Finance has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on Bills on Bill No. 70, *The Provincial Sales Tax Amendment Act, 2017* and that this bill be now read the third time. Is leave granted?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

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

**THIRD READINGS**

**Bill No. 70 — *The Provincial Sales Tax  
Amendment Act, 2017***

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

**The Speaker:** — It has been moved by the Minister of Finance that Bill No. 70, *The Provincial Sales Tax Amendment Act, 2017* be now read the third time and passed under its title. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Question.

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

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**Some Hon. Members:** — No.

**The Speaker:** — Carried. Call in the members.

[The division bells rang from 14:40 until 14:41.]

**The Speaker:** — All those in favour please rise.

[Yeas — 48]

Wall  
Wyant

Moe  
Reiter

Stewart  
Morgan

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

**The Speaker:** — All those opposed please rise.

[Nays — 11]

Wotherspoon	Vermette	Chartier
Belanger	Sproule	Forbes
Rancourt	Beck	McCall
Sarauer	Meili	

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

**The Speaker:** — Motion is carried.

**Clerk:** — Third reading of this bill.

**PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING  
AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Chair of the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies.

**Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies**

**Ms. Young:** — Mr. Speaker, I'm instructed by the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies to report Bill No. 68, *The Fuel Tax Amendment Act, 2017* without amendment.

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

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

**The Speaker:** — The Minister of Finance has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on Bills on Bill No. 68, *The Fuel Tax Amendment Act, 2017* and the bill be now read the third time. Is leave granted?

[14:45]

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

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

## THIRD READINGS

**Bill No. 68 — *The Fuel Tax Amendment Act, 2017***

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

**The Speaker:** — It has been moved by the Minister of Finance that Bill No. 68, *The Fuel Tax Amendment Act, 2017* be now read the third time and passed under its title.

Is the Assembly ready for the question?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Question.

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

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**Some Hon. Members:** — No.

**The Speaker:** — Carried.

**An Hon. Member:** — On division.

**The Speaker:** — On division.

**Clerk:** — Third reading of this bill.

**PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING  
AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Chair of the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies.

**Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies**

**Ms. Young:** — Mr. Speaker, I'm instructed by the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies to report Bill No. 69, *The Income Tax Amendment Act, 2017* with amendment.

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

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

**The Speaker:** — The Minister of Finance has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on Bills on Bill No. 69, *The Income Tax Amendment Act, 2017*. The bill and its amendments will be now read a third time.

Is leave granted?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Carried. When shall the amendments be read the first time? I recognize the minister.

## FIRST AND SECOND READINGS OF AMENDMENTS

**Bill No. 69 — *The Income Tax Amendment Act, 2017***

**Hon. Mr. Doherty:** — I move that the amendments be now read a first and second time.

**The Speaker:** — It has been moved by the Minister of Finance that the amendments be now read a first and second time. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Carried.

**Law Clerk and Parliamentary Counsel:** — First and second reading of the amendments.

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

## THIRD READINGS

**Bill No. 69 — *The Income Tax Amendment Act, 2017***

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

**The Speaker:** — It has been moved by the minister that Bill No. 69, *The Income Tax Amendment Act, 2017* be now read the third time and passed under its title. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Question.

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

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**Some Hon. Members:** — No.

**The Speaker:** — Carried. Call in the members.

[The division bells rang from 14:47 until 14:48.]

**The Speaker:** — All those in favour please rise.

[Yeas — 48]

Wall	Moe	Stewart
Wyant	Reiter	Morgan
Harpauer	Doherty	Duncan
Beaudry-Mellor	Hargrave	D'Autremont
Heppner	Boyd	Cheveldayoff
Marit	Tell	Eyre
Merriman	Harrison	Ottenbreit
Ross	Weekes	Brkich
Hart	Kirsch	Steinley
Makowsky	Phillips	Lawrence
Wilson	Campeau	Docherty
Michelson	Doke	Cox
Olauson	Steele	Young



Fiaz                      Dennis                      McMorris  
Bonk                      Carr                      Nerlien  
Lambert                      Buckingham                      Kaeding

**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:** — All those opposed please rise.

[Nays - 11]

Wotherspoon                      Vermette                      Chartier  
Belanger                      Sproule                      Forbes  
Rancourt                      Beck                      McCall  
Sarauer                      Meili

**The Speaker:** — Carried. This Assembly stands adjourned until tomorrow at 1:30 p.m.

[The Assembly adjourned at 14:52.]

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

**The Speaker:** — The motion is carried.

**Clerk:** — Third reading of this bill.

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

**Hon. Mr. Merriman:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In order to facilitate the work of committees this afternoon, I move that this House do now adjourn.

**The Speaker:** — I believe the Government House Leader will call for that motion after written questions.

#### ORDERS OF THE DAY

#### MOTIONS FOR RETURNS

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Government Whip, I believe has something to be converted.

#### Return No. 96

**Mr. Lawrence:** — I wish to convert return no. 96 to motions for return (debatable).

**The Speaker:** — Return no. 96 converted to a motion for return (debatable).

#### WRITTEN QUESTIONS

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Government Whip.

**Mr. Lawrence:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I wish to table the answers to questions 371 through 381.

**The Speaker:** — The Whip has tabled responses to questions 371 to 381. Order. I recognize the Government Whip.

**Mr. Lawrence:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I wish to order the answers to questions 382 through 384.

**The Speaker:** — The Government Whip has ordered the responses to questions 382 to 384. I now recognize the Government House Leader.

**Hon. Mr. Merriman:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that this House do now adjourn.

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