



FIRST SESSION - TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

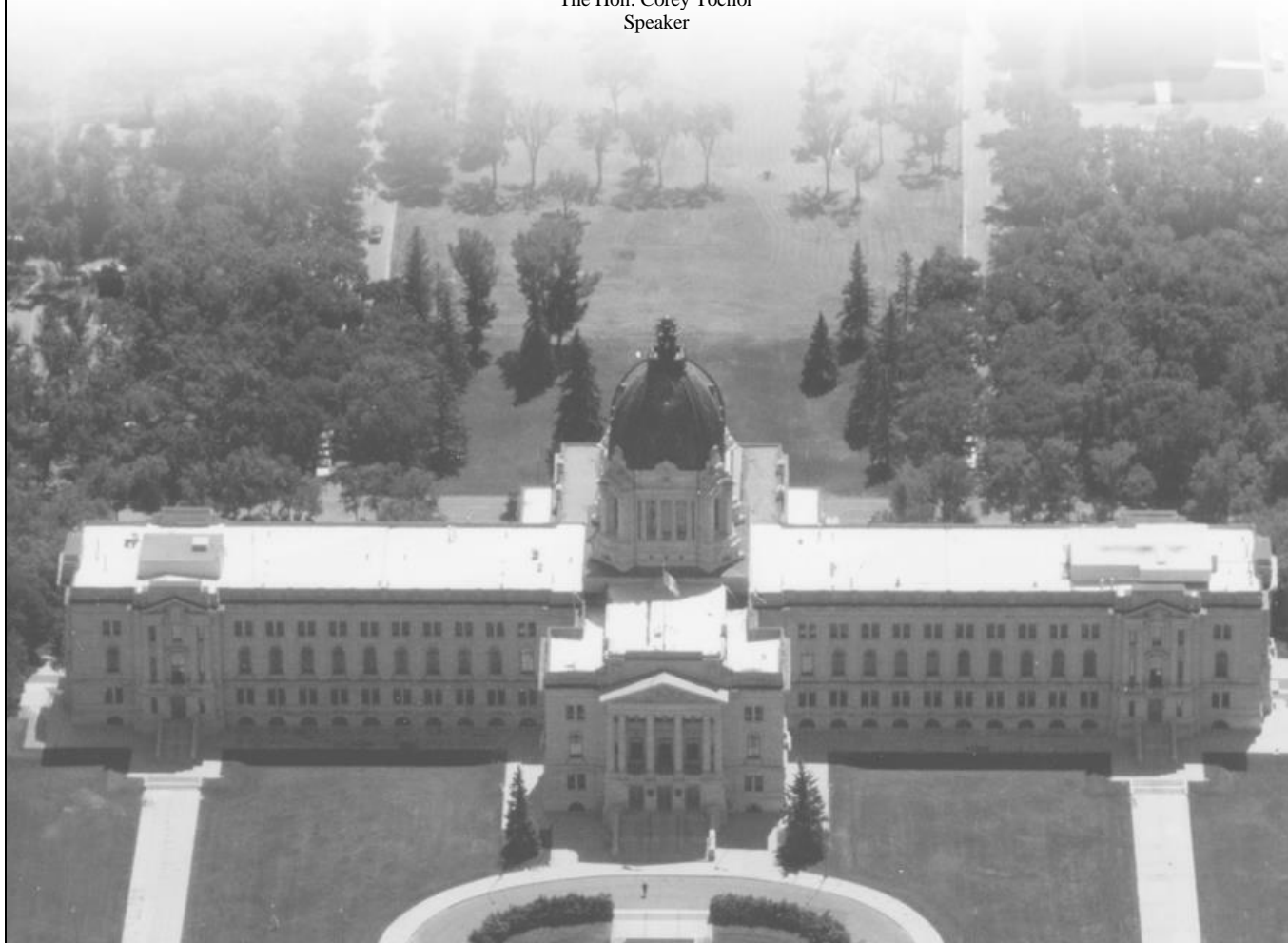
of the

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

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Lambert, Lisa — Saskatoon Churchill-Wildwood (SP)

Lawrence, Greg — Moose Jaw Wakamow (SP)

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Marit, Hon. David — Wood River (SP)

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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

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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: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. It's always an honour to have students visit to the Legislative Assembly from our respective constituency. And today we have a great group of 44 students from O.M. Irwin School in the great city of Swift Current that I want to welcome to the Assembly. Through you and to you, introducing two teachers: Mr. Mark Siemsen is with the kids, as well as Mrs. Karen Schommer.

Chaperones today: Clint Walker, Shelley Vipond, Abbie Houston. And I want to thank Abbie, if she's here, because she's been very supportive on social media of Colter and his efforts. So I should acknowledge that, as others have been. Brennen McMurtry, Kristina Burnett, Brandy Kemp, Carolyn Hildebrand, and Tara Gottselig — they're all here chaperoning, Mr. Speaker.

I'm going to have a chance for pictures with the students, as well as a little bit of a visit later on in the office, and I'm looking forward to the discussion that'll happen there. Mr. Speaker, I'd ask all members of the House to welcome these students from O.M. Irwin School in Swift Current. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Athabasca.

Mr. Belanger: — To ask for leave for an extended introduction.

The Speaker: — Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried. I recognize the member.

Mr. Belanger: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I too want to join the Premier in welcoming the school group from Swift Current. One of the teachers that has graciously helped the students on their way here and is part of the chaperone support as well is a teacher called Karen Schommer.

Mrs. Schommer, as many of you may not know, taught in Ile-a-la-Crosse for a number of years. And sadly she left our community, and what Ile-a-la-Crosse's loss was, was of course Swift Current's gain. But I want to share with the Assembly the great work that she did while she lived in Ile-a-la-Crosse, her and her husband, Jerome, and the impact she had on our community and the children. And today now we see Ile-a-la-Crosse has done very well. The community is growing. The population is strong. They renovated the elementary school where she taught, and I won my first curling game as well since she left.

So I want to tell all members of the Assembly that Karen and her husband have done a tremendous amount for our community. They really embraced the community. She participated in many sports, taught the children very well in our school, and I want to take this opportunity to thank her in front of all my colleagues and to again express to her our sincere gratitude for her years in Ile-a-la-Crosse. And like I said, what Ile-a-la-Crosse's loss is, is certainly Swift Current's gain. So I'd ask all members to welcome Mrs. Schommer to her Assembly today.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Reiter: — Mr. Speaker, I request leave for an extended introduction.

The Speaker: — Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — I recognize the minister.

Hon. Mr. Reiter: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you to all members of this Assembly, I'd like to introduce a number of guests in your gallery, Mr. Speaker, from the Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region. With us are — and I'd ask each of them to just give us a wave as I introduce you — we have Harry Desnomie who is the Aboriginal health consultant with the Eagle Moon Health Office; Sheila Anderson, executive director of primary health care; Lori Robertson, a registered nurse with Connecting to Care; and a number of other officials also, Mr. Speaker. We have Nicole Bachynski, Stephanie Cavers, Dorothy Lloyd, Jocelyn Argue, and Anne Lindemann.

Mr. Speaker, these guests are with us today to share the story of an individual that's also joining us in your gallery, Mr. Ken Manitopyes. Mr. Speaker, Ken has had a challenging life. He's a residential school survivor. He was raised in foster care and has a history of being in and out of jail. And until recently, Ken's quality of life wasn't good and neither was his health. Mr. Speaker, Ken was considered a frequent flyer patient in our health care system. He has COPD [chronic obstructive pulmonary disease], hepatitis C, diabetes, and high blood pressure, and would be in and out of hospitals frequently.

Three years ago, Ken's life changed when he met some people who, in his words, wanted to show him that there's more to life. Mr. Speaker, the Eagle Moon Health Office at RQHR [Regina-Qu'Appelle Health Region] works with departments in the health region to improve services for First Nation and Métis people, and Ken says without Eagle Moon and its staff he probably wouldn't be here today.

He was set up with RQHR's Connecting to Care program, also known as the hot-spotting program. That program helps high-use patients get access to appropriate care and resources within the community, services like regular GP [general practitioner] appointments, educational programs, transportation, and housing. Mr. Speaker, since January of 2015, over a hundred clients have been helped by that program, and Ken is one of those.

By the way, Mr. Speaker, Ken told me today — the Minister of Rural and Remote Health and I had a chance to meet with him — he tells us that he no longer smokes, which we're happy to hear. And because of that, his daughter and some of his family have also quit smoking.

Mr. Speaker, this has been a program that's been a huge help to Ken and to many other people, and we're very grateful that Ken came here today to share his story. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank him and all those who have accompanied him, and I ask all members to please give them a warm welcome to their Legislative Assembly.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Opposition House Leader.

Mr. McCall: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to join with the minister in welcoming these individuals from the Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region and the Eagle Moon health centre to their Legislative Assembly. Certainly Stephanie Cavers and Harry Desnomie and the rest of the folks, welcome to your Legislative Assembly, and thank you very much for the work that you do all the year through.

And of course, Mr. Speaker, I want to say a special word of welcome to Mr. Ken Manitopyes. Keep on healing. Keep on showing that better way forward is our urging for you, and again our thanks to you for setting that good example.

But, Mr. Speaker, I'd ask all members to join me on behalf of the official opposition in welcoming these very important people to their Legislative Assembly.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Canora-Pelly.

Mr. Dennis: — Mr. Speaker, to you and through you and to all the members of the Assembly, I'd like to introduce my first school class here, as a member, from the Northstar School, Hyas, Saskatchewan. There's 13 kids from grades 7, 8, and 9. They're seated in the west gallery. Give them a wave. And they are accompanied by the teacher, Mr. Hanley Fehr, and parent chaperones, Krysten Fehr, Shawn Penner, Leslie Penner, Hilton Toews, Mavis Toews, Sylven Penner, Andrea Penner, and Laurel Bartel.

I met with them at 1 o'clock and had a nice little meeting with them. And just to let my colleagues know, I will be giving them ice cream on their way out; maybe a little lesson that all the colleagues could take. With that, I'd like you to all join in welcoming them to their Legislative Assembly.

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

Mr. Weekes: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you, I'd like to introduce a constituent and friend of mine who is seated in your gallery. I'd like to introduce Larry Trischuk, who travelled from Borden today to have meetings in Regina. So please welcome Larry Trischuk to his Legislative Assembly.

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

Ms. Beck: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I request leave for

extended introduction.

The Speaker: — Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member.

Ms. Beck: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is my pleasure today to introduce two very special guests seated in your gallery, Mr. Gary Robins and Ms. Lisa Brownstone. Mr. Speaker, these two individuals, I'm very happy to count them amongst my constituents, but more importantly as friends. The longer that they sat and talked today, the longer my introduction became, so I thought I should ask for an extension.

There's so much that I could say about these individuals. But first of all, I had the privilege of sharing a street with them for a number of years as neighbours, but more importantly to share a community with them and some passions. These two folks have had a front-row seat to many of the pivotal moments in this province.

Lisa's dad was a former civil servant who was involved in implementing medicare, bringing medicare to this province and later to the country. Gary told me that the last time that he sat in this Assembly he was able to take a picture of Allan Blakeney and Tommy Douglas. And the stories could go on and on. I think Lisa pointed to a picture in our office and noted that the former premier Allan Blakeney used to live with them and her family. And I can go on and on.

But they not only have been witness to history in this province, they've been part of history in this province. And I'll just hit a couple of notes. Lisa was one of the founders of Regina Transition House over 40 years ago, one of the two people who brought that service, that very important service, to this province, the first in our city, Mr. Speaker.

Gary has been an instructor at SIAST [Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology], at SIFC [Saskatchewan Indian Federated College]. He is one of the folks responsible for Playing For Change in this province. And they are fearless and passionate and compassionate advocates for people in this province. Lisa's been very involved with FASD [fetal alcohol spectrum disorder] in the province. And their latest passion — not the only passion — is being caregiver to their grandson Atreyu.

And it's just been a delight to know them and to hear their stories and to have them here in their Assembly. So I'd invite all members to join me in welcoming, thanking them first of all for their work and their contribution to this province, but welcoming them to their Assembly.

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

Ms. Lambert: — I request leave for an extended invitation.

The Speaker: — Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member.

Ms. Lambert: — Mr. Speaker, to you and through you and to all members of the Assembly, I'd like to introduce Dan Coggins, seated in your gallery. Dan holds a visual arts degree from the University of Saskatchewan and a master's degree in advertising design from Syracuse University in New York State. He's married to Dr. Carol Schick. She has recently retired from teaching at the University of Regina and was awarded a Canada Research Chair during her tenure there.

Dan and I worked together at CTV [Canadian Television Network] in Saskatoon. Dan left broadcasting, moved to Regina and started pitchgreen.com, a communications company. I'm pleased to say that his company has won national awards in communications. Another impressive fact is that pitchgreen.com is committed to Trickle Up, an organization that helps people living in extreme poverty by providing start-up capital and mentorship to create and run their own small businesses.

When I decided to self-publish my cookbook *Recipes I Stole From My Mom*, I chose Dan to do the design, layout, and proofing. He has recently converted my cookbook to digital format. I am pleased to say that our friendship has survived this project. I ask all members to join me in welcoming Dan to his Legislative Assembly. Thank you.

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

Hon. Mr. Marit: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you, it is my pleasure and honour to introduce someone that has been obviously no stranger to this Assembly, and that is my former mentor in my constituency, the MLA [Member of the Legislative Assembly] for Wood River. But Yogi Huyghebaert is sitting in the back of the Assembly, Mr. Speaker, and I just wanted to introduce him. And he gave me a lot of advice in my role as now the MLA there, but one of the greatest things he left for me was his CA [constituency assistant], and Sandy Kuffner is now my CA and she's doing a great job for me. And I appreciate everything he's done for me in me getting into this position, Mr. Speaker. So I ask all members to welcome Yogi back to his Legislative Assembly.

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

Ms. Sproule: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On behalf of the official opposition, I too would like to extend a welcome back to Yogi Huyghebaert here in the Assembly, and to thank him for his many years of service, not only as an MLA, but obviously in his service as a pilot with the air forces and serving our country in a very, very important way as well, Mr. Speaker.

From down from that area, the Huyghebaert family is a well-known family in the area and certainly were good neighbours to our family as well in Lafleche. They lived just down the street from my mom and dad. But I know Yogi and his family are well respected in the Glentworth area and certainly his years of service are very much appreciated. So welcome back to Yogi. And on behalf of the official opposition, we want to welcome you back here.

[13:45]

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

Mr. Fiaz: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you, through you to all the members of the House, I would like to introduce my wife seated in your gallery — a great lady. We have three kids in different age groups — 7, 12, and 15. She's very busy before kids go to school, then job, and after school, kids back and forth at the soccer field, Mr. Speaker. And she's also president of Ahmadiyya women's association Regina and a great volunteer.

I ask all the members to join me in welcoming my wife, Attia, in her Legislative Assembly.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I was remiss earlier in not introducing a very good friend of mine from Swift Current as well, Ryan Plewis. He and his brother own and operate Standard Motors in Swift Current, a business that has been I think in the family for, I don't know, maybe 80 or 90 years . . . [inaudible interjection] . . . Well there you go, 87 . . . [inaudible interjection] . . . 107, Mr. Speaker. That is remarkable.

And throughout those years they've not only employed a lot of people and invested a lot in Swift Current and contributed to our economy, Mr. Speaker, they've also given back. They support the arts. They support social causes. And Ryan and his brother have really led these initiatives to a greater degree, frankly, than has been even done in the past, and it was significant in the past. And so, Mr. Speaker, I just want to ask all members to join me in welcoming Ryan to his Legislative Assembly today.

PRESENTING PETITIONS

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

Ms. Sproule: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm rising today to present a petition opposed to the Sask Party plan to scrap and sell off the Saskatchewan Transportation Company. The people who have signed this petition want to bring to our attention the following. This Sask Party budget unilaterally eliminates the Saskatchewan Transportation Company, an important Crown corporation that provides a crucial service to people across the province who depend on it for travelling, accessing medical services, and shipping important packages.

The Sask Party did not inform the Saskatchewan people prior to the 2016 election about their plan to scrap the STC [Saskatchewan Transportation Company], and this closure leaves 224 people out of work and communities across the province isolated from each other. Less than a year ago, Mr. Speaker, the then minister of STC said it was a needed service and that it was safe from sale.

And also the STC provides a vital service to seniors, workers, and families throughout the province. By scrapping STC out of the blue, 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. STC helps drive the economy with its parcel service that serves farms and other businesses, and the Sask Party is breaking their promise to Saskatchewan people by getting rid of a Crown corporation.

I'll read the prayer, Mr. Speaker:

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

Mr. Speaker, this petition is signed by individuals from Estevan, Regina, Tisdale, and Moose Jaw. I so present.

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

Mr. Cox: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to rise today to present a petition from the citizens who are opposed to the federal government's decision to impose a carbon tax on the province of Saskatchewan. And 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 good citizens of Blaine Lake, Big River, Shell Lake, Saskatoon, Shellbrook, Meacham, Leask, North Battleford, La Loche, Medstead, Spiritwood, Muskeg Lake, Marcelin, Nipawin, Prince Albert, and Debden. I do 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 this province believe in an economy that's 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 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 the Saskatchewan government call upon workplaces within Saskatchewan within the private sector to eliminate the wage gap between women and men.

And the people signing this petition today come from Midale, North Battleford, Prince Albert, Aberdeen, Vanscoy, Edam, and Regina and Saskatoon. I do so present. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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 child care in our 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 that many of our licensed non-profit child care centres pay commercial property tax, and this is not something that is done in Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario, BC [British Columbia], or New Brunswick; to the fact that child care is essential to our economy, yet most centres struggle to balance their budget and this issue threatens both the number of child care spaces as well as the quality of care; to the fact that child care has an enormous positive impact on a child's future outcomes and yields high rates of economic return; and to the fact that child care centres are institutions of early learning and childhood development and it's appropriate that they receive the same tax treatment as schools.

Mr. Speaker, 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 further exempt all licensed non-profit child care centres in Saskatchewan from property tax through changes to the appropriate legislation.

Mr. Speaker, these petitions have been signed by citizens across this province. The page that I submit today is signed by residents of Weyburn and Vibank. 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 calling for critical supports for victims of domestic violence. Saskatchewan has the very dubious distinction, Mr. Speaker, of having the highest rate of domestic violence amongst all of the provinces. Employers should be obligated to reasonably accommodate victims of domestic violence in the workplace. Employees who are victims of domestic violence should be able to take a leave of absence from their employment without penalty.

Mr. Speaker, the signatories to this petition believe that Saskatchewan must do more to protect women and children who are victims of domestic violence. I'd like to read the prayer.

We, in the prayer that reads as follows, respectfully request that the Government of Saskatchewan call on the Legislative Assembly to pass legislation providing critical supports, including employment supports, for victims of domestic violence.

Mr. Speaker, the individuals signing this petition today come from Regina. I do so present.

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

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

Celebration of Buddha's Birthday

Mr. Docherty: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On May 14th I had the honour of celebrating Buddha's 2,560th birthday at the Orr Centre in Regina. The evening was a wonderful way to come together in peace and harmony in celebration of the Buddha and, in doing so, reflect upon his teachings and share them with the wider world.

Mr. Speaker, Buddhism promotes peace, strength, and hope by guiding us to strive for a society that is welcoming to all. Here in Saskatchewan, our motto reflects the Buddha's teachings. "From many peoples, strength" exemplifies how we work together to create an inclusive, strong, and welcoming society.

Mr. Speaker, here in our province as our multicultural society expands, we continue to celebrate and acknowledge the growing diversity that makes our province unique and strong. We can set an example here in Saskatchewan of how we can better live together; how diversity is not divisive, not the weak link, but the very source of our creativity, morality, and strength.

I would like to congratulate and thank all those involved and in attendance at this celebratory event including the Chinese and Nepalese Buddhist communities and some of Canada's venerable monks. Mr. Speaker, I would especially like to thank Dr. Govender and Reverend Uttam Barua who influenced and prepared the beautiful celebration.

I would ask all members to join me in celebrating Buddha's birthday as the teachings he established still apply to each and every one of us, each and every day. Namaste. Thank you.

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

Birth of a Family Documentary Receives Acclaim

Mr. Meili: — Mr. Speaker, I stand in the House today to recognize Tasha Hubbard and the success of her most recent documentary, *Birth of a Family*.

Tasha Hubbard is an award-winning filmmaker from the Peepeekisis First Nation. She's renowned for her social-issue-based documentaries that centre around the lives of indigenous people in our country. Her previous documentary, *Two Worlds Colliding*, won a Gemini and a Golden Sheaf Award in 2005.

Tasha's most recent documentary, *Birth of a Family*, explores the devastating effects of the Sixties Scoop on four Dene siblings who are involuntarily separated as children. This film not only documents their joyful reunion, a feat that was made possible by the hard work of Saskatoon journalist Betty Ann Adam, one of the four siblings, it tells the story of their great loss as they reflect on being taken away from their culture and community. The film also holds a special meaning for Hubbard herself as she too was taken away from her family during the Sixties Scoop.

Mr. Speaker, the *Birth of a Family* has been screened at multiple festivals including the Aabiziingwashi Indigenous Cinema on Tour, and Hot Docs Canadian international film festival, receiving much acclaim.

I'd like to ask all members to join me today in celebrating Tasha Hubbard's contribution to Canadian film with the *Birth of a Family*, and recognizing the ongoing impact of the Sixties Scoop on indigenous people in Canada. And lastly, I'd like to ask this government to take responsibility, to do their part and finally apologize as promised to the indigenous people of Saskatchewan and the families that were separated during the Sixties Scoop.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Lloydminster.

4-H Saskatchewan Hall of Fame Inductee

Ms. Young: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I would like to highlight a constituent of mine who has been inducted into the 4-H Saskatchewan Hall of Fame. Mr. Peter Bygrove is the newest member to be inducted into the hall of fame. In recommendation letters written on his behalf to the hall of fame, Mr. Bygrove was described as, and I quote, "a man that is extremely sincere and dedicated, a man with a calm demeanor that you feel honoured to work beside."

Mr. Speaker, early on in his life, Peter Bygrove had a very clear interest in the cattle business and agriculture, which led him to join the 4-H Club. After years of dedication, he is now serving at the committee level. His fondest memories of the 4-H Club and his career revolve around the connections he has made with the youth of Saskatchewan, applauding the endless opportunities they are given through the 4-H and the agricultural community.

He feels hopeful for the future as he and the rest of the province are seeing more and more young people become involved with agriculture, taking over oil patches, farming, and as accountants. This new interest in agriculture can be accredited to individuals like Peter Bygrove who have passed on their love and expertise of agriculture, making him very deserving of this recognition. He was born to be a farmer here in Saskatchewan, and we thank him for his mentorship for the future of this province.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in congratulating Peter Bygrove on being inducted into the 4-H Saskatchewan Hall of Fame. Thank you.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Cumberland.

Winner of King Trapper Event Shares His Skills

Mr. Vermette: — Gerald McKenzie was born and raised along the mighty Churchill River in Grandmother's Bay. His father, John S. McKenzie, taught him the skills to live off the land. Those skills are still being passed down today by Gerald in classrooms across the North.

Gerald started trapping when he was 15 years old. Growing up in a traditional lifestyle with his two sisters and six brothers, Gerald spent his time trapping, fishing, and gathering. In his younger days he didn't have much success with trapping, but after learning from King Trapper veterans like Franklin Carriere and Tony Charles, he picked up techniques and strategies.

Today Gerald competes in five trapping festivals per year. His favourite place to go to compete is in The Pas, Manitoba, which has 22 events including a flour packing, and a nine-mile snowshoe race. Gerald's favourite event is the log sawing. This year Gerald won the Prince Albert Winter Festival King Trapper event and is now dedicating his time to pass down his skills to the younger girls and boys. Currently Gerald is working in schools across the North, where he teaches humane trapping courses and promotes King Trapper events.

[14:00]

Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask all members to join me in congratulating Gerald McKenzie on his title of King Trapper, and in thanking him for teaching our youth to preserve and protect the lands and waters that are so precious in the North. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Redvers Man Receives Legion of Honour Award

Ms. Lambert: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand here today to acknowledge a very special and deserving constituent of mine. Marcel Frecon is a decorated veteran who fought in World War II and has an extensive history as a dedicated community service volunteer.

Mr. Frecon was born in Redvers, Saskatchewan on August 14th, 1921 to Belgian immigrant farmers. For most of his life, Mr. Frecon worked on the family farm until he joined the army in 1942. Mr. Speaker, following his basic military training, Mr. Frecon began his journey in Europe and fought with the Canadian army in France, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Germany.

After the war, he returned to the family farm and married his sweetheart, Denise Rogg. They bought a small farm southwest of Redvers and raised a family of three girls: Cecile, Diane, and Geanette.

Mr. Frecon has recently received the Legion of Honour award in addition to his numerous other military service awards. The Legion of Honour is the highest order of merit from the Government of France, given to a deserving individual for their military service and community and professional activities. This award was founded in 1802 by French military leader and

political figure, Napoleon Bonaparte.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Frecon for his community and military service, his bravery, and his tremendous volunteer efforts. Thank you.

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

Cosmopolitan Industries Annual Open House

Mr. Olason: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I had the pleasure of bringing greetings on behalf of the government to the Cosmopolitan Industries grand reopening and annual open house on May 5th in Saskatoon.

Mr. Speaker, community-based organizations in this province play valuable roles in supporting those with disabilities. For 45 years, Cosmo has been providing skills training and opportunities that can build self-confidence, self-reliance, and generate income through social enterprise models.

After a devastating flood last year, I was proud to help them cut the ribbon on their new recycling education centre with Dale, an original participant, and Vic Prediger, the very first operations manager.

Everyone in this province deserves the opportunity for employment and education, and community-based organizations such as Cosmo are the key to having a more inclusive Saskatchewan. Their vocational day programs give opportunity to 400 people, giving them proper resources and services to lead meaningful and productive lives.

This government is implementing the Saskatchewan disability strategy, and CBOs [community-based organization] like this are a key part of that. This government applauds Cosmo in their accomplishments in providing quality and inclusive, sustainable care for the people of Saskatchewan experiencing disabilities.

I ask all members to join me in thanking Cosmopolitan Industries for their 45 years of commitment to the people of Saskatchewan and congratulate them on the grand reopening of their new recycling education centre. Thank you.

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

Milburn Place Grand Opening

Mr. Steele: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On May the 12th, the Premier attended the grand opening of Milburn Place, a new group home in Swift Current operated by Southwest Homes. He was joined by other dignitaries and community members who welcomed the three former Valley View Centre residents into the Swift Current community and into their new home.

Mr. Speaker, our government has made sure that the supports were in place to meet the unique needs of each and every person in this new facility. We wanted to make sure we provided them with the services that they need and that we could help them achieve their goals and dreams for a life in a community of their choice.

We are pleased to note that to date, 50 Valley View residents have made successful transitions into communities and with the majority of these folks finding homes in Saskatchewan. This person-centred approach will always be about dignity and inclusion, much like the concept of community living itself.

Organizations like Southwest Homes have a key role in supporting people's experiences with intellectual disabilities and in helping other government implement the Saskatchewan disability strategy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all the members of the House to join me in congratulating Southwest Homes and the three new residents of Milburn Place on the opening of their new home.

QUESTION PERIOD

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

Usage of Private Email Accounts

Mr. Wotherspoon: — Mr. Speaker, yesterday I asked the Premier if he was using his private email or his email on his private political server to make deals for the GTH [Global Transportation Hub], and he acted as if nothing was wrong when he said, basically, yes of course he was.

Mr. Speaker, setting that arrogance aside just for a moment, were all those emails turned over to the auditor? Was the auditor given full access to his private political server? And do other senior staff and cabinet ministers also use this private political server to negotiate international, national, or even provincial deals, like the Premier has been?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — Well, Mr. Speaker, I answered these questions yesterday and in estimates the week before and then did meet with the media yesterday as well to answer questions. There would've been . . . Mr. Speaker, first of all I don't negotiate deals via email, Mr. Speaker, and moreover it would be rare for a Premier or even a minister to be directly negotiating deals, whether it's over an email or in some other way of communication. So I think it's pretty clear that that would not have happened.

Moreover, Mr. Speaker, all of the information required by the auditor for her look into the matter was provided. Mr. Speaker, we went well beyond what governments in the past, including when members opposite were government and they had their own officials investigate their own issues. We had an independent officer of the legislature do that investigation and, Mr. Speaker, all cabinet documents, all related documents were made available to the auditor. And she's made her report and made recommendations which we take very seriously.

She's also indicated quite clearly, and did so in an interview on July 4th of last year, that there were no particular red flags, that an audit like this looks for conflict of interest. There were no red flags to indicate that kind of conflict of interest, Mr. Speaker, and I'm not reading directly from her quote, but that's very much an accurate paraphrase of what she had said to the media, Mr. Speaker, and I would . . . [inaudible interjection] . . .

Well the member for Nutana is saying, why don't we answer it? That's exactly what I'm doing is answering the question directly.

All of those emails are subject to FOI [freedom of information]. And, Mr. Speaker, I would point out that members on that side of the House use their own private accounts for emails. And the House Leader . . . [inaudible interjection] . . . Well the Deputy Leader says it's about the people on this side. If the question is about using your email, using your party's server to send emails about government business, he ought to turn around and ask the NDP [New Democratic Party] House Leader about his conduct, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Wotherspoon: — No answer from the Premier. No answers on the GTH deal, day after day. No answers about this political server, taking something that's been gained through public resources — taxpayers' dollars, something that's in the provincial interest — and consolidating it into a private political server, Mr. Speaker.

But to the question, did the Minister of the GTH and SaskPower at the time use this political, this private political server? Were those emails and files turned over to the auditor and was the auditor given full access?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of the Economy and the GTH.

Hon. Mr. Harrison: — Well the short answer to the question as to whether the minister at the time used the server in question, the answer is no. Unequivocally, no.

With regard to the other parts of the member's question, the fact is that this is a secure account. This is a secure server. There have been no breaches. And as importantly, Mr. Speaker, we are complying with all of the applicable FOI legislation, with *The Archives Act*. That had been the intention all the way along and had been how we conducted business with regard to that matter.

And members well know that we have a number of accounts as MLAs — whether they be our MLA account, whether they be our caucus account, whether they be our government account, a party account, or a personal account. And members on the opposite side well know, many of them personally well know that they used their own personal account, Mr. Speaker, to conduct government business or party accounts to conduct government business with this side of the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Wotherspoon: — Mr. Speaker, we're not talking about booking some sort of legislative meetings, or some sort of discussions back and forth. We're talking about international information and commercially sensitive information to the people and businesses of Saskatchewan. And the fact that the Premier doesn't seem to get this is strange.

And you know, the people of Saskatchewan deserve answers

from that Premier, not from his appointee, the minister he appoints to get up and roll his eyes and sort of shrug these matters off day after day and provide non-answers and nonsense to the people of Saskatchewan. My question is, how arrogant has this Premier become? How has he forgotten who he works for? How does he see no difference between his political party and our province, between his office and himself?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Economy and the GTH.

Hon. Mr. Harrison: — The hypocrisy of the Leader of the Opposition is stunning, Mr. Speaker. What he is saying is that what they do is okay, Mr. Speaker, that they use their personal email accounts for government business is okay. And he said, well it's nothing important though, Mr. Speaker, booking legislative meetings. That's not what we're talking about.

When I say government business that they used their personal email accounts about, this is for things like hiring independent officers of the Assembly, Mr. Speaker, about how interviews, about how interviews have gone for hiring, hiring people like the Conflict of Interest Commissioner, hiring positions like the Ombudsman, hiring positions like the Children's Advocate. What he's saying is that that's not important. They used their personal accounts to hire these positions, Mr. Speaker, and deal with us on . . .

[Interjections]

The Speaker: — I recognize the minister.

Hon. Mr. Harrison: — Well the volume level always rises over there, Mr. Speaker, when things are getting close to home. And the fact is, the fact is that they use their personal accounts for important government business.

Mr. Speaker, the server was secure. All of the applicable FOI rules have been complied with. *The Archives Act* had been complied with, and members opposite know they have done the exact same thing time after time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Forbes: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Look at the arrogance. Look at the arrogance, Mr. Speaker. Do they honestly not understand the problem of doing the work of the government using partisan resources on a private political and partisan server located at their party office?

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

Hon. Mr. Harrison: — Just like they have done on repeated occasions, Mr. Speaker, the exact same thing. Members opposite seem to have no compunction about using their personal address on matters that are of significance to the government, of significance to the Legislative Assembly, from their party accounts, from their personal accounts.

That member personally has done the exact same thing from his personal account, Mr. Speaker, in discussing these matters. So, Mr. Speaker, a great piece of advice I got is, when you're living

in a glass house, you shouldn't be throwing stones.

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

Mr. Forbes: — If they've been doing government work through their party this whole time, how are we supposed to believe that they haven't been doing party work through this government the whole time too?

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

Hon. Mr. Harrison: — I'm not entirely sure if there was a question in there, Mr. Speaker, but we could ask the exact same thing of members opposite, whether they're doing party work off of their NDP caucus account. My suspicion is that they may have been. I don't know, Mr. Speaker, but they can answer that question themselves, I guess.

The point is, Mr. Speaker, we all have many accounts. We do our very best — I know all members do their very best — to ensure that the appropriate account is utilized. On occasion, whatever pops up, that might be the one we're sending something to if we're in haste, if we're doing it quickly, just like members opposite have sent government stuff to my personal account even though it was government business. They seem to have no problem when doing that. They didn't raise an issue at that point in sending stuff to my personal account.

As a matter of fact, I've got government business from the LAS [Legislative Assembly Service] account to my personal account and vice versa. So I would say, Mr. Speaker, we can all do a better job. We all need to be cognizant of using the appropriate account for the appropriate piece of business, but I think individuals out there know with multiple accounts there are challenges in keeping that straight. And we will endeavour to do so in the future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

[14:15]

Political Donations

Mr. Forbes: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Saskatchewan government and the Sask Party are not one and the same, and the office of the Premier and that current Premier are not the same. Since the Sask Party are so confused by these basic concepts, how do they expect the people of Saskatchewan to believe they're not putting their party before the people of this province? Is this why they won't get big money out of politics?

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

Hon. Mr. Wyant: — Well, Mr. Speaker, the member well knows that registered parties must . . . They need to publicly disclose, Mr. Speaker, their expenses. And that process is transparent, Mr. Speaker.

In addition to that, we have lobbyist legislation in this province, Mr. Speaker; legislation, that the genesis of which was an

all-party committee, Mr. Speaker. There is transparency. There's openness with respect to campaign donations in this province, Mr. Speaker, and the process works very, very well for the people of this province.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Opposition House Leader.

Status of Crown Corporations

Mr. McCall: — I guess, Mr. Speaker, if they could be so kind to the House to table the documents that they're referring to so they could show if it was when we were negotiating NAFTA [North American Free Trade Agreement] that we sent these emails, or perhaps it was the Caramilk secret, Mr. Speaker.

I'm not sure what they're referring to, but one thing is absolutely certain, Mr. Speaker, that the Premier's been anything but transparent when it comes to his private email server. And the Sask Party's been anything but transparent about their plan to carve up and sell off 49 per cent of SaskTel.

They refused to give us straight answers in committee and they refuse to give us straight answers here in this Chamber. But, Mr. Speaker, what's absolutely clear is that the Sask Party's friends and insiders have been lining up with tens of thousands of dollars in donations to lobby for the big phone companies who all want a piece of the action.

Given the Premier's lack of transparency, how are we supposed to believe anything from the Sask Party when it comes to the sale of SaskTel?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of SaskTel.

Hon. Mr. Duncan: — Well, Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the member for the question. Mr. Speaker, as we've said in the past, the government will listen to opportunities for building partnerships, but only on the grounds of Saskatchewan residents maintaining majority ownership of any of the Crown corporations, including SaskTel. And it would only be considered if it created new jobs in Saskatchewan, improved services, kept SaskTel services affordable, and protected the head office here in Saskatchewan.

Mr. Speaker, this is almost, frankly, word for word, verbatim of a memo with respect to SaskEnergy TransGas, September of 2001 under the NDP, when they said, key issues to be considered in assessing the potential benefits of a partnership include, can the partnership assist in filling transmission capacity; can new reach and growth opportunities become available to SaskEnergy TransGas? And does the partnership retain or grow jobs in Saskatchewan? These issues need to be explored more fully with both potential partners, but SaskEnergy is convinced that the right partner could produce the desired results.

Mr. Speaker, another case with the NDP of hello, kettle; it's pot calling.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Opposition House Leader.

Mr. McCall: — Mr. Speaker, can the member opposite clarify for me the following: was that memo from before the 2003

election where privatization was a central issue? And was it before the 2004 vote of that Premier and so many people over on that other side where they said they would support the Crown protection Act? Was it before then, Mr. Speaker?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of SaskTel.

Hon. Mr. Duncan: — Well, Mr. Speaker, I'll give the member another example. In the lead-up to the 2003 election, February 28th, 2003:

We're always ready and willing to listen to anyone who is interested in partnering with us in growing Saskatchewan's energy industry. If and when such a business arrangement is finalized, we will announce it. Any business arrangement we undertake will have two conditions. First, it will grow this company and keep jobs in Saskatchewan. Secondly, it will keep control of TransGas in the hands of its owners, the people of Saskatchewan.

You know, Mr. Speaker, the only time anybody ever heard of that in the lead-up to the 2003 election which the member's referring to was the day after the leaders' debate when . . . the first time it was ever revealed to the people of Saskatchewan through that leaders' debate, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the members opposite, including that member who ran in that election, have zero credibility on this.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Opposition House Leader.

Mr. McCall: — Mr. Speaker, I don't know if it's 51 per cent credibility over there or 49 per cent or what it is, because frankly the position changes from day to day, year to year, on the part of those members opposite, Mr. Speaker, and it doesn't matter what the Premier voted for in 2004 or promised in the 2007, '11, or '16 elections, Mr. Speaker.

But here we are at a place where they've come to asking the people of Saskatchewan to sell off 49 per cent of the Crowns that had been protected by the Crown protection Act, except they haven't asked the permission of the people, Mr. Speaker. Now I've heard it said that when you're going to sell somebody's house, maybe you should ask the owner, Mr. Speaker. And the same holds true if you want to sell off 49 per cent of that house.

So, Mr. Speaker, the question is this. The Premier said that whatever they do is going to be better than what the NDP was going to do. So the Crown protection Act promised an election. The Premier's mused about a referendum, and he's stood down from that. So what's better than a referendum and an election to ask the permission of the people of Saskatchewan when it comes to selling off 49 per cent of our Crowns?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of SaskTel.

Hon. Mr. Duncan: — Well, Mr. Speaker, that would be required in the event that we were privatizing one of the Crown corporations, which we're not, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I'll refresh the member's memory. September 13th, 2001, Enbridge is potentially interested in a minority interest in both SaskEnergy and TransGas, Mr. Speaker. Now

you'd think, Mr. Speaker, when the members opposite — and there's three that are sitting over there that would have been around at the time — they would have felt, well we can't have these conversations. We can't have a MOU [memorandum of understanding] drafted up between the companies. People may question our decency because we haven't spoken one word to the people of Saskatchewan about this, Mr. Speaker.

Now, Mr. Speaker, they went so far as to, and I'll remind the member opposite, they went so far as to hire CIBC World Markets and KPMG Corporate Finance to conduct a review of not just SaskEnergy, but SaskPower as well. Did any member on that side, did the three members that are sitting there, did they ever say, whoa, whoa, whoa, we can't do this? The people might question our decency, Mr. Speaker. No, they didn't, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, we're going to do what the members opposite were going to do, is look for partnerships to strengthen the Crown corporations for the benefit of the owners and all the people of Saskatchewan.

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

Sexual Violence Strategy and Support for Women

Ms. Sarauer: — Mr. Speaker, these ministers need to stand up for their ministries for once, or stand behind their failures. Last week we asked the Minister Responsible for the Status of Women why there's currently no one working in her office. The best answer that minister could come up with was that they have not found a single woman in all of Saskatchewan for the position.

Mr. Speaker, more believable is that they just didn't make the Status of Women office a priority. Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, they did make women a priority when it came to the cuts in their budget. More women work in public sector jobs and more women are single parents, so the Sask Party cuts, tax hikes, and fee increases hit women the hardest.

Mr. Speaker, what does the Minister Responsible for the Status of Women have to say for her actions and those of her cabinet that are clearly hurting Saskatchewan women?

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

Hon. Ms. Beaudry-Mellor: — Mr. Speaker, I have spent my entire life advocating for women, and I will continue to do so. I do so with other members of our side of the government, Mr. Speaker, who do so on a regular basis, particularly the member from Regina Rochdale, Mr. Speaker. So to say that we are doing nothing with respect to women, Mr. Speaker, is frankly wrong.

In addition to all of the child-care spaces that this government has introduced, Mr. Speaker, in addition to the emergency shelter spaces that this government has invested in, Mr. Speaker, with addition to the work that the Justice and Attorney General has done, Mr. Speaker, with respect to domestic violence, we have done a ton with respect to women, Mr.

Speaker.

As I said last week, this is not one person's responsibility, Mr. Speaker. This is all of our responsibility. And 50 per cent of women on Crown boards is one way where we're making a difference. Thank you very much.

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

Ms. Sarauer: — Mr. Speaker, it really seems as if the minister doesn't even understand the importance of her own office. Mr. Speaker, it's Sexual Assault Awareness Week. Saskatchewan has the second-highest rates of sexual assaults, and we are the only province that doesn't have a sexual violence strategy. We also have no domestic violence strategy, but we have tragically high rates.

How is the Sask Party, how is that minister not concerned about dismantling the Status of Women office? Even though she seems entirely unwilling to stand up for her ministry, will she at the very least stand up for the women of Saskatchewan who do not deserve to be the only women in Canada who live in a province without a strategy to decrease sexual assaults?

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

Hon. Mr. Wyant: — Well, Mr. Speaker, I find that question to be quite remarkable, Mr. Speaker. Our government has done a lot over the last number of years with respect to this very important issue. The member will know that recently we've passed some legislation in this House with respect to domestic violence, Mr. Speaker. We're also moving forward with the development of a domestic violence strategy, Mr. Speaker, and we expect, as part of that, there will be elements of a sexual assault strategy, Mr. Speaker, to help curb these devastating effects on the people of Saskatchewan, particularly women, Mr. Speaker.

So, Mr. Speaker, to say that we haven't done anything, Mr. Speaker, is quite objectionable. Over the past number of years, Mr. Speaker, \$1.2 million that we've spent, Mr. Speaker, on programs that provide direct support to victims of sexual violence.

Now, Mr. Speaker, there's certainly more to be done, but I can tell you this, Mr. Speaker: you can count on this side of the House to get that work done, Mr. Speaker. We'll work diligently on it.

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

Provision of Housing Units

Mr. Meili: — Mr. Speaker, yesterday I asked the Minister for Social Services if the Sask party would be selling off any assets of the Saskatchewan Housing Corporation. The minister appeared to get angry but failed to answer the question, which I thought was strange because shortly after she answered to the media that the answer was yes. Yes, they plan to sell the assets of the Saskatchewan Housing Corporation. Yes, this

cash-strapped government is looking for money wherever they can find it, and yes, that even means affordable-housing units.

She was asked yesterday how many units they were looking to sell, but failed to provide an answer. So, Mr. Speaker, can the minister tell us today how many housing units are they looking to sell, and are they already talking to buyers?

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

Hon. Ms. Beaudry-Mellor: — Mr. Speaker, there's so much wrong with the fearmongering that just went in the premise of that question. First of all, we're going to continue to ensure that our housing units are being used consistently and efficiently across the board and focused on people who are the most in need.

As is good practice, Mr. Speaker, we're looking at the whole portfolio to see where we can maybe repurpose, yes; right size, yes; and refocus, Mr. Speaker. This is not new. The better-use policy that we have had in place started in 2003 under the members opposite. Since that time we have divested 600 units, Mr. Speaker. Since that time we've divested 600 units, Mr. Speaker. There is no line item in this budget.

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

Mr. Meili: — Mr. Speaker, yesterday in answering these questions, the minister referenced efficiency, and that tends to be code for cuts, Mr. Speaker. This is a minister that was supposed to come in and fix this file, but instead she's working with her cabinet colleagues and bringing more cuts and sell-offs on the backs of the province's most vulnerable. When it comes down to it, that's failing to stand up for her file and for the people she's supposed to support.

Yesterday she also refused to come clean about just how much money they're looking for in the sell-off of affordable housing units. Is this how the government plans to deal with its ballooning deficit? Are we looking at a summer of sell-offs, Mr. Speaker, or can the minister provide us an answer of just exactly how much she's looking for in this sell-off? Just how much are you hoping to recover from selling off affordable housing units?

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

Hon. Ms. Beaudry-Mellor: — Mr. Speaker, yesterday in question period the member of Regina Lakeview said, and I quote, "... one thing is clear: that the Sask Party's lack of leadership on social housing is hurting ... families ..."

Mr. Speaker, in 2015 the Saskatchewan Housing Corporation converted 2,700 units in the affordable housing program to the social housing program, as the affordable housing program was not serving the needs of tenants with the lowest incomes, Mr. Speaker.

To be clear, affordable housing sets rents below market rates, Mr. Speaker. Social housing, by contrast, sets rates dependent on income, Mr. Speaker. That conversion led to the largest influx of social housing units to the province in recent history,

Mr. Speaker, and ensured tenants would not pay more than 30 per cent of their household income for housing. About half of the tenants' rents were reduced as a result of that, Mr. Speaker.

[14:30]

And I would add further, Mr. Speaker, with respect to our impact on families, Mr. Speaker, more recently ... [inaudible interjection] ... And you might want to hear the answer. The member from Nutana might actually want to hear this answer.

Mr. Speaker, with respect to repurposing units ... And we look at our, we look at our social housing file, Mr. Speaker, as a totality. With respect to repurposing, we have repurposed 40 units, Mr. Speaker, to serve as emergency receiving spaces for children. Since I've been minister, in the short period of time since I've been minister, 28 of those have been repurposed for emergency receiving that keeps children out of hotels, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Meili: — Mr. Speaker, that's all very nice, but direct answers to direct questions please. How many units are you planning to sell, and how much money are you planning to recover through those sales?

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

Hon. Ms. Beaudry-Mellor: — Mr. Speaker, I thank the member opposite for the question because we have a fulsome ... We are taking a fulsome look at our social housing.

Yesterday in scrums, the member opposite who posed the question said that we should have a reasonable approach to our housing portfolio, Mr. Speaker. He also referenced that perhaps we could use some of our existing housing for Housing First, Mr. Speaker.

Well let me just give the member opposite a couple of examples of what we're looking at in our current housing file, Mr. Speaker. For example, we've been approached by a number of communities in rural communities, particularly at SARM [Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities], Mr. Speaker, for communities that would like to have professionals, nurses, and teachers in their community. Could we maybe relax some of our social housing policy so they could live there? I think that's reasonable, Mr. Speaker.

I think it's also reasonable to think about repurposing some of our existing houses for the hard-to-house which, by the way, we've invested a ton in. But there's still more need. That's another place for us, Mr. Speaker. We have many vacant units for seniors. We have a high demand for families. That's another place we're going to look at, Mr. Speaker. All of this is part of the mix.

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The Speaker: — I recognize 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. 30, *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act, 2016* with 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: — Mr. Speaker, I request leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on Bills on this bill, and that the bill and its amendments be now read the third time.

The Speaker: — Order, order. The Minister of Justice and Attorney General has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 30, *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act, 2016* and that the bill and its attachments be now read a third time. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried. Agreed. When shall this amendment be read the first time? I recognize the minister.

FIRST AND SECOND READINGS OF AMENDMENTS

Bill No. 30 — *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act, 2016*

Hon. Mr. Wyant: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that the amendments be now read a first and second time.

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Minister of Justice and Attorney General 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.

Principal Clerk: — First and second reading of the amendments.

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

THIRD READINGS

Bill No. 30 — *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act, 2016*

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

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the minister that Bill No. 30, *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act, 2016* be now read the third time and passed under its title. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

An Hon. Member: — Question.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

Principal Clerk: — Third reading of this bill.

**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. 31, *The Local Authority Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act, 2016* 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: — Mr. Speaker, I request leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on this bill and that the bill now be read the third time.

The Speaker: — The Minister of Justice and Attorney General has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 31 and that the bill now be read a third time. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

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

THIRD READINGS

Bill No. 31 — *The Local Authority Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act, 2016*

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

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Minister of Justice and Attorney General that Bill No. 31 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.

The Speaker: — Carried.

Principal Clerk: — Third reading of this bill.

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 am instructed by the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice to report Bill No. 59, *The Summary Offences Procedure 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 Justice and Attorney General.

Hon. Mr. Wyant: — 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 has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on Bills on Bill No. 59 and the bill be now read a third time. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

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

THIRD READINGS

Bill No. 59 — *The Summary Offences Procedure Amendment Act, 2017*

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

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Minister of Justice and Attorney General that Bill No. 59 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: — On division.

The Speaker: — Carried. On division.

Principal Clerk: — Third reading of this bill.

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 am instructed by the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice to report Bill No. 60, *The Legal Profession 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 Justice and Attorney General.

Hon. Mr. Wyant: — 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 consideration in Committee of the Whole on Bills on Bill No. 60, *The Legal Profession Amendment Act, 2017* and that the bill now be 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. 60 — *The Legal Profession Amendment Act, 2017*

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

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Minister of Justice and Attorney General that Bill No. 60, *The Legal Profession 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.

The Speaker: — Carried.

Principal Clerk: — Third reading of this bill.

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The Speaker: — I recognize the Chair of the Standing Committee on the Economy.

Standing Committee on the Economy

Mr. Makowsky: — Mr. Speaker, I'm instructed by the Standing Committee on the Economy to report Bill No. 44, *The Water Security Agency Amendment Act, 2016* without amendment.

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

Hon. Mr. Moe: — 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 the third time.

The Speaker: — The Minister of the Environment has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 44, *The Water Security Agency Amendment Act, 2016* and the bill now be 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. 44 — *The Water Security Agency Amendment Act, 2016*

Hon. Mr. Moe: — 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 the Environment that Bill No. 44, *The Water Security Agency Amendment Act, 2016* be now read a third time and passed under its title. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

Principal Clerk: — Third reading of this bill.

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The Speaker: — I recognize the Chair of the Standing Committee on the Economy.

Standing Committee on the Economy

Mr. Makowsky: — I'm instructed by the Standing Committee on the Economy to report Bill No. 62, *The Labour-sponsored Venture Capital Corporations Amendment Act, 2017* with amendment.

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

Hon. Mr. Harrison: — 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 the Economy has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 62, *The Labour-sponsored Venture Capital Corporations Amendment Act, 2017* and that the bill and its amendments now be read a third time. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried. The minister may now proceed to first and second reading of the amendment. I recognize the Minister of the Economy.

FIRST AND SECOND READINGS OF AMENDMENTS

Bill No. 62 — *The Labour-sponsored Venture Capital Corporations Amendment Act, 2017*

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

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Minister of the Economy 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.

Principal Clerk: — First and second reading of the amendments.

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

THIRD READINGS

Bill No. 62 — *The Labour-sponsored Venture Capital Corporations Amendment Act, 2017*

Hon. Mr. Harrison: — 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 the Economy that Bill No. 62 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: — On division.

The Speaker: — Carried. On division.

Principal Clerk: — Third reading of this bill.

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The Speaker: — I recognize the Chair of the Standing Committee on the Economy.

Standing Committee on the Economy

Mr. Makowsky: — Mr. Speaker, I'm instructed by the Standing Committee on the Economy to report Bill No. 61, the Saskatchewan commercial innovation incentive Act without amendment.

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

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

The Speaker: — The Minister of Economy has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 61, the Saskatchewan commercial innovation incentive Act and that the bill be now read a third time. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

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

THIRD READINGS

Bill No. 61 — *The Saskatchewan Commercial Innovation Incentive (Patent Box) Act*

Hon. Mr. Harrison: — 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 the Economy that Bill No. 61, the Saskatchewan commercial innovation incentive Act 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.

The Speaker: — Carried.

Principal Clerk: — Third reading of this bill.

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The Speaker: — I recognize the Deputy Chair of the Standing

Committee on Public Accounts.

Standing Committee on Public Accounts

Mr. Doke: — Mr. Speaker, I'm instructed by the Standing Committee on Public Accounts to present its first report which reflects the work of the committee for the period February 10th, 2016 to May 15th, 2017. I move:

That the first report of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts be now concurred in.

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Deputy Chair:

That the first report of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts be now concurred in.

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.

The Speaker: — Carried.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The Speaker: — I recognize the Government Whip.

Mr. Lawrence: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table the answers to questions 385 through 411.

The Speaker: — The Government Whip has tabled the responses to questions 385 to 411.

[14:45]

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

Principal Clerk: — Committee of Finance.

The Speaker: — I do now leave the Chair.

COMMITTEE OF FINANCE

Motions for Supply

The Chair: — The business before the Committee of Finance are appropriation resolutions. I recognize the Minister of Finance.

Hon. Mr. Doherty: — Thank you, Mr. Chair. I move the following resolution:

Resolved that towards making good the supply granted to Her Majesty on account of certain charges and expenses of the public service for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2017, the sum of \$132,169,000 be granted out of the

General Revenue Fund.

The Chair: — The Minister of Finance has moved resolution no. 1:

Resolved that towards making good the supply granted to Her Majesty on account of certain charges and expenses of the public service for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2017, the sum of \$132,169,000 be granted out of the General Revenue Fund.

Is the committee ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

The Chair: — Is it the pleasure of the committee to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. I recognize the Minister of Finance.

Hon. Mr. Doherty: — Thank you again, Mr. Chair. I move the following resolution:

Resolved that towards making good the supply granted to Her Majesty on account of certain charges and expenses of the public service for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2018, the sum of \$12,591,463,000 be granted out of the General Revenue Fund.

The Chair: — The Minister of Finance has moved resolution no. 2:

Resolved that towards making good the supply granted to Her Majesty on account of certain charges and expenses of the public service for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2018, the sum of \$12,591,463,000 be granted out of the General Revenue Fund.

Is the committee ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

The Chair: — Is it the pleasure of the committee to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. I recognize the Minister of Finance.

Hon. Mr. Doherty: — Thank you, Mr. Chair. I move that the committee rise and that the Chair report that the committee has agreed to the resolutions and asks for leave to sit again.

The Chair: — It has been moved by the Minister of Finance that the committee rise and that the Chair report that the committee has agreed to resolutions and asks for leave to sit again. Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried.

[The Speaker resumed the Chair.]

The Speaker: — I call this Assembly back to order. I recognize the Chair of committees.

Mr. Hart: — Mr. Speaker, the Committee of Finance has agreed to certain resolutions and has instructed me to report the same, and ask for leave to sit again.

The Speaker: — When shall the resolutions be read the first time? I recognize the Minister of Finance.

FIRST AND SECOND READINGS OF RESOLUTIONS

Hon. Mr. Doherty: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that the resolutions be now read the first and second time.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

Clerk Assistant: — First and second reading of the resolutions.

The Speaker: — When shall the committee sit again? I recognize the Minister of Finance.

Hon. Mr. Doherty: — Next sitting, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — Next sitting. I recognize the Minister of Finance.

APPROPRIATION BILL

Bill No. 71 — *The Appropriation Act, 2017 (No. 1)*

Hon. Mr. Doherty: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that Bill No. 71, *The Appropriation Act, 2017 (No. 1)* be now introduced and read the first time.

The Speaker: — The Minister of Finance has moved that Bill No. 71, *The Appropriation Act, 2017 (No. 1)* be now introduced and read the first time. 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.

The Speaker: — Carried.

Clerk Assistant: — First reading of this bill.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Finance.

Hon. Mr. Doherty: — Mr. Speaker, by leave of the Assembly, I move that Bill No. 71, *The Appropriation Act, 2017 (No. 1)* be now read a second and third time.

The Speaker: — The Minister of Finance has asked for leave to move second and third reading on Bill No. 71, *The Appropriation Act, 2017*. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried. Leave has been granted. I recognize the Minister of Finance.

Hon. Mr. Doherty: — Mr. Speaker, I move second and third reading of Bill No. 71, *The Appropriation Act, 2017 (No. 1)*.

The Speaker: — The Minister of Finance has moved second and third reading of Bill No. 71, *The Appropriation Act, 2017*. 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.

The Speaker: — Carried.

Clerk Assistant: — Second and third reading of this bill.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Government House Leader.

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

The Speaker: — It has been moved that the 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 1:30.

[The Assembly adjourned at 14:52.]

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Wall	2535, 2537
Belanger	2535
Reiter	2535
McCall	2536
Dennis	2536
Weekes	2536
Beck	2536
Lambert	2537
Marit	2537
Sproule	2537
Fiaz	2537

PRESENTING PETITIONS

Sproule	2537
Cox	2538
Forbes	2538
Beck	2538
Sarauer	2538

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

Celebration of Buddha's Birthday

Docherty	2539
----------------	------

Birth of a Family Documentary Receives Acclaim

Meili	2539
-------------	------

4-H Saskatchewan Hall of Fame Inductee

Young	2539
-------------	------

Winner of King Trapper Event Shares His Skills

Vermette	2540
----------------	------

Redvers Man Receives Legion of Honour Award

Lambert	2540
---------------	------

Cosmopolitan Industries Annual Open House

Olauson	2540
---------------	------

Milburn Place Grand Opening

Steele	2540
--------------	------

QUESTION PERIOD

Usage of Private Email Accounts

Wotherspoon	2541
-------------------	------

Wall	2541
------------	------

Harrison	2541
----------------	------

Forbes	2542
--------------	------

Political Donations

Forbes	2542
--------------	------

Wyant	2542
-------------	------

Status of Crown Corporations

McCall	2543
--------------	------

Duncan	2543
--------------	------

Sexual Violence Strategy and Support for Women

Sarauer	2544
---------------	------

Beaudry-Mellor	2544
----------------------	------

Wyant	2544
-------------	------

Provision of Housing Units

Meili	2544
-------------	------

Beaudry-Mellor	2545
----------------------	------

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice

Brkich	2546
--------------	------

Standing Committee on the Economy

Makowsky	2548
----------------	------

Standing Committee on Public Accounts

Doke	2549
------------	------

FIRST AND SECOND READINGS OF AMENDMENTS

Bill No. 30 — *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act, 2016*

Wyant	2546
-------------	------

Bill No. 62 — <i>The Labour-sponsored Venture Capital Corporations Amendment Act, 2017</i>	
Harrison.....	2548
THIRD READINGS	
Bill No. 30 — <i>The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act, 2016</i>	
Wyant.....	2546
Bill No. 31 — <i>The Local Authority Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act, 2016</i>	
Wyant.....	2546
Bill No. 59 — <i>The Summary Offences Procedure Amendment Act, 2017</i>	
Wyant.....	2547
Bill No. 60 — <i>The Legal Profession Amendment Act, 2017</i>	
Wyant.....	2547
Bill No. 44 — <i>The Water Security Agency Amendment Act, 2016</i>	
Moe.....	2548
Bill No. 62 — <i>The Labour-sponsored Venture Capital Corporations Amendment Act, 2017</i>	
Harrison.....	2548
Bill No. 61 — <i>The Saskatchewan Commercial Innovation Incentive (Patent Box) Act</i>	
Harrison.....	2549
ORDERS OF THE DAY	
WRITTEN QUESTIONS	
Lawrence.....	2549
GOVERNMENT ORDERS	
COMMITTEE OF FINANCE	
Motions for Supply	
Doherty.....	2549
FIRST AND SECOND READINGS OF RESOLUTIONS	
Doherty.....	2550
APPROPRIATION BILL	
Bill No. 71 — <i>The Appropriation Act, 2017 (No. 1)</i>	
Doherty.....	2550

GOVERNMENT OF SASKATCHEWAN

CABINET MINISTERS

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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
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Hon. Joe Hargrave
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Government Insurance
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan
Transportation Company

Hon. Donna Harpauer
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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
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Hon. Gordon Wyant
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Minister Responsible for SaskBuilds
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan
Power Corporation