



SECOND SESSION - TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

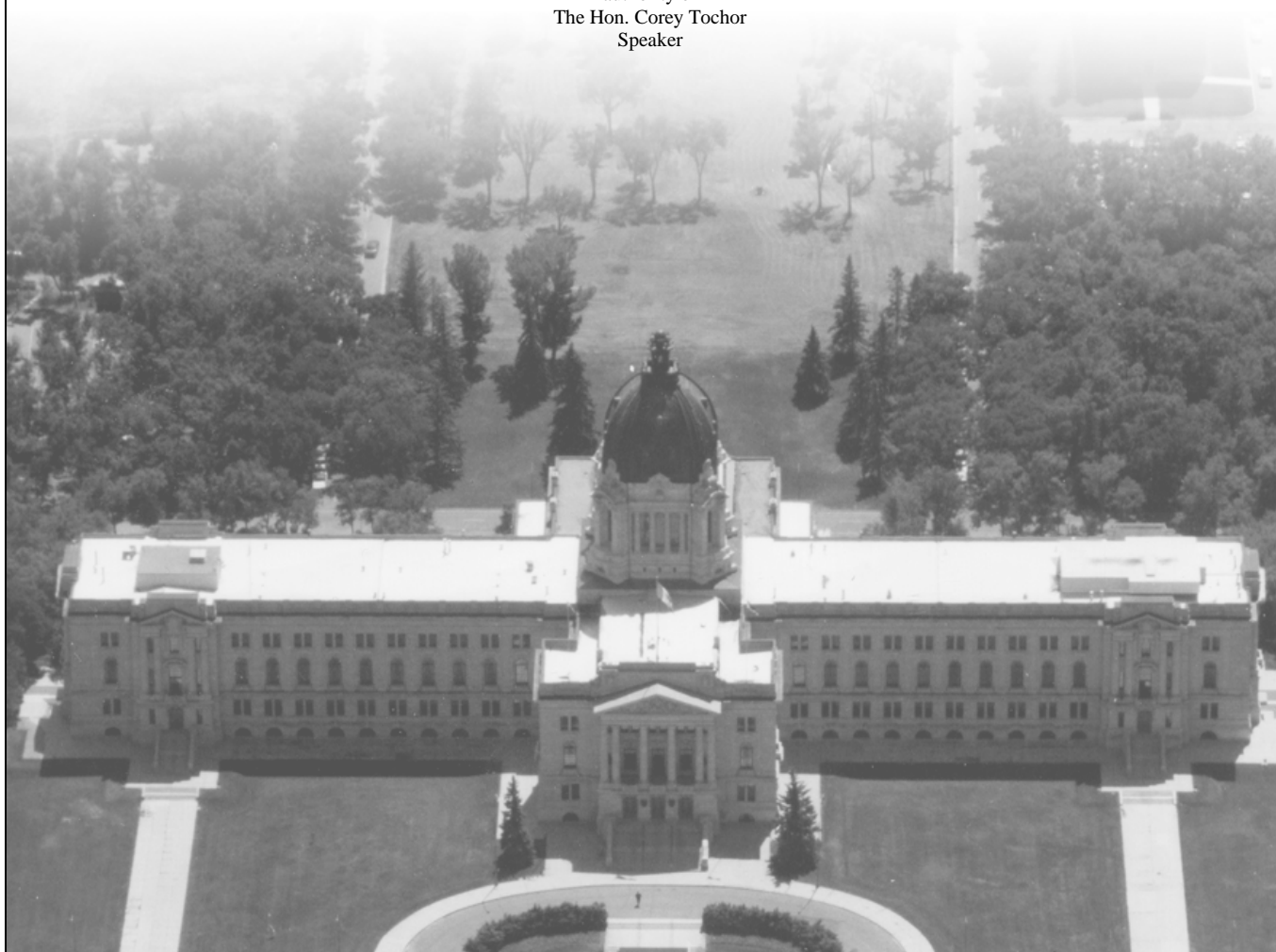
of the

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
2nd Session — 28th Legislature

Speaker — Hon. Corey Tochor
Premier — Hon. Brad Wall
Leader of the Opposition — Nicole Sarauer

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Marit , Hon. David — Wood River (SP)	Vacant — Kindersley

Party Standings: Saskatchewan Party (SP) — 48; New Democratic Party (NDP) — 12; Vacant — 1

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[The Assembly met at 10:00.]

[Prayers]

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Indian Head-Milestone.

Mr. McMorris: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, to you and through you to the rest of the members of the Assembly, it gives me a great privilege to introduce 24 grade 12 students from the Vibank Regional School in Vibank, Saskatchewan. Of course it's called a regional school because it's brought together a number of communities. I'm sure there are some students from Francis and Odessa and Sedley, of course from Vibank, and the rural areas surrounding that.

They are accompanied by their teacher, Kelsey Gottfried. I will be meeting with them for a picture on the famous stairs in a little while as well as then probably answering some of their questions. I've had the opportunity to go to the school many times, not only through grad but a couple of other times. It's a very progressive school. I always enjoy visiting it. So I look forward to answering their questions. I'd ask all members to welcome them to the Legislative Assembly.

PRESENTING PETITIONS

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Athabasca.

Mr. Belanger: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I am very proud to stand in my place today to present yet many pages of petition on the permanent closure of Main Street access of Balgonie to Highway No. 1. And the prayer reads as follows, Mr. Speaker:

Respectfully request that the Government of Saskatchewan take the necessary steps and actions and leave the west-in, west-out driving access for vehicles into and out of Balgonie at the intersection of Highway No. 1 and Main Street.

We also respectfully request that the Government of Saskatchewan put up a locked gate on the apron between the eastbound lanes and westbound lanes of Highway No. 1 and Balgonie's Main Street intersection. This gate would allow emergency services access to the eastbound lanes of Highway No. 1 at the Main Street, Balgonie intersection, but would not allow the public access to cross the east- and westbound lanes.

Now, Mr. Speaker, the people that have signed this petition in support of Balgonie's very solid argument, Mr. Speaker, they come from all throughout Saskatchewan. And as I look through some of the names of the places, Mr. Speaker, we have Regina. We have White City, Mr. Speaker. We have a number of people from the rural parts of Balgonie, the area of Balgonie. Mr. Speaker, we have people from all throughout the province of Saskatchewan. As I look through the pages and pages of people

that have signed the petition, it is obviously people from White City, people from Balgonie, as I mentioned, and other communities that are very, very angry on the recent decision by the Sask Party to ignore the concerns and wishes of the people of Balgonie. And, Mr. Speaker, I so present.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Lloydminster.

Ms. Young: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to rise today to present a petition from citizens who are opposed to the federal government's decision to impose a carbon tax on the province of Saskatchewan. I'd like to read the prayer.

We, in the prayer that reads as follows, respectfully request that the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan take the following action: to cause the Government of Saskatchewan to take the necessary steps to stop the federal government from imposing a carbon tax on the province.

Mr. Speaker, this petition is signed by citizens of Lloydminster, Shell Lake, and Saskatoon. I do so present.

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

Ms. Sproule: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to present a petition to end the unfair Sask Party tax hikes for Saskatchewan families and businesses. The people who have signed this petition want to bring to your attention the following: the Sask Party has hiked taxes on Saskatchewan families and businesses by \$1 billion per year. And at the same time, the Sask Party handed over a hundred million dollars in tax breaks to corporations and the wealthy and the well connected.

The Sask Party's new tax on crop insurance is a devastating hit on producers, and many small and medium-sized businesses, including those in restaurant, tourism, and construction industries, will be hit hard by the Sask Party tax hikes. These businesses will be forced to pass these rising costs on to their customers. And hurting job-creating businesses and producers will only cause more damage to the economy and do nothing to help the 40,000 Saskatchewan people looking for work.

Here's the prayer, Mr. Speaker:

We, in the prayer that reads as follows, respectfully request that the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan call on the Sask Party to immediately stop their unfair tax hikes on Saskatchewan families and businesses.

And, Mr. Speaker, this petition is signed today from citizens of Regina. I so submit.

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

Ms. Rancourt: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm proud to stand in my place today to present a petition for a second bridge for Prince Albert. The individuals that signed this petition want to draw these points to your attention, Mr. Speaker: that the Diefenbaker Bridge in Prince Albert is the primary link that

connects the southern part of the province to the North; and that the need for a second bridge for Prince Albert has never been clearer than it is today.

Prince Albert and communities north of Prince Albert and businesses that send people and products through Prince Albert require a solution; that local municipal governments have limited resources and require a second bridge to be funded through federal and provincial governments and not a P3 [public-private partnership] model; and that the Saskatchewan Party government refuses to stand up for the people of Prince Albert and this critical infrastructure issue.

I'll read the prayer:

We, in the prayer that reads as follows, respectfully request that the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan ask that the Saskatchewan Party government stop stalling, hiding behind rhetoric and refusing to listen to the people calling for action, and begin immediately to plan and then quickly commence the construction of a second bridge for Prince Albert using federal and provincial dollars.

Mr. Speaker, this petition here was signed by individuals from the communities of Christopher Lake and Prince Albert. I do so present.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Opposition House Leader.

Mr. McCall: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I rise presenting a petition calling on the government to restore funding to post-secondary institutions. Mr. Speaker, the undersigned residents of the province of Saskatchewan wish to bring to your attention the following: that the Sask Party is making students and their families pay for Sask Party financial mismanagement. They point out that Saskatchewan students already pay the second-highest tuition fees in Canada. They point out that, you know, certainly at one point this budget cut \$36.8 million from post-secondary education, that this budget cut \$6.4 million from technical institutions, that funding for the Saskatchewan Student Aid Fund and scholarships had been cut by \$8.2 million, Mr. Speaker. And they finally point out that the Sask Party broke a 2016 election promise by cancelling their first home plan. Mr. Speaker:

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

Mr. Speaker, this particular set of petitions is signed by individuals from Regina, Saskatoon, North Battleford, St-Denis, and Big River. I so present.

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

Ms. Beck: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to present a petition calling on the government to stop the cuts to our kids' classrooms. Those who have signed the petition wish to draw our attention to the following: to the fact that the Sask Party has cut at least \$674 in government funding for every student across

this province; that the Sask Party hiked education property tax by \$67 million while at the same time cutting \$54 million from the classroom over this school year; and to the fact that the Sask Party cuts mean that students will lose much needed supports in the classroom, including funding for busing for kindergartners and programs to help children with special needs.

Mr. Speaker, I'll read the prayer:

We, the undersigned, call upon the government to reverse these senseless cuts to our kids' classrooms and stop making families, teachers, and everyone who works to support our education pay the price for the Sask Party's mismanagement, scandal, and waste.

Mr. Speaker, those who've signed this petition that I'm presenting today reside in Regina. I do so present.

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Estevan.

Project Red Ribbon Day

Ms. Carr: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, all across Canada people will be wearing iconic red ribbons as a supportive commitment to sober driving. Today is Mothers Against Drunk Drivers Project Red Ribbon Day, and this year marks the 30th anniversary of the launch of the campaign. For the past three decades, project red ribbon has been raising awareness about the dangers and ramifications of impaired driving.

Although strides have been made to reduce the number of impaired driving cases, they still occur far too often. Mr. Speaker, Saskatchewan has one of the highest impaired driving rates in Canada. Over 600 people have been killed and 4,000 people have been injured as a result of alcohol-impaired driving over the past decade. And while our government has taken strong steps, with more coming this morning, projects like red ribbon remain a vital part of the goal of eliminating impaired driving in our province.

That's why I'm proud to say that our government supports this campaign through Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming. And with the holiday season fast approaching with parties and celebrations all around, it is important to take time to remind everyone about the devastating impact of impaired driving.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Mothers Against Drunk Driving, on behalf of everyone in this Assembly, for their commitment to this noble event and for all that they do to raise awareness and funds to battle impaired driving. Thank you.

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

Access to Mental Health Services

Ms. Chartier: — Mr. Speaker, all members of this House have heard stories in the past few weeks around access to mental health services in our province. Too many people are waiting far too long for the services that they need. For some, they are

unable to access these services at all. Mr. Speaker, Saskatchewan has some of the lowest funding for mental health services of all the provinces and nationally far below funding levels of countries leading the way.

To all those who recently shared their personal stories and worked to advocate for better emergency mental health services I say, thank you. It was because they brought the issue to the front line in order to secure even a temporary mental health assessment unit at the Royal University Hospital in Saskatoon. But our lack of mental health care in this country and province isn't going away and isn't going to be fixed overnight.

But we need to talk about it and people need to be aware of the serious issues facing our communities, to be aware that we have the lowest number of psychiatrists per capita in Western Canada, to be aware and understand that rural and remote areas of this province continue to have an epidemic of suicides, and to be aware that mental health care is health care and deserves meaningful investment, Mr. Speaker. We must recognize that as a province we fall behind when we leave people waiting for services that they desperately need.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in recognizing Mental Illness Awareness Week which took place in October, but to also recognize that the discussion around mental health can't be limited to a single week. Let's bring these issues to the forefront and work to create change for those suffering from mental health issues here in our province. Thank you.

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

Saskatchewan Connection to World Series Win

Mr. Kaeding: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Houston Astros won their first ever World Series last night, defeating the LA [Los Angeles] Dodgers in game seven by a score of 5 to 1. Now I'm not just making this statement because I'm a Houston fan myself, but really I'm proud to say that there is a Saskatchewan connection to this success story.

Mr. Speaker, Terry Puhl from Melville, Saskatchewan played for the Astros for 14 seasons from 1977 to 1990. A member of both the Saskatchewan and Canadian Sports Hall of Fame, Terry can attest to the difficulty of achieving baseball immortality. Twice he reached the National League Championship Series but never advanced to the World Series. I have no doubt that he is very proud of the team today and ecstatic for the city of Houston.

And, Mr. Speaker, Houston's vice-president of marketing and communications, Anita Sehgal, was born in Big River and raised in Regina. She received her Bachelor of Business Admin with a focus in marketing and human resources from the University of Regina. She joined the Astros in 2015. And, Mr. Speaker, you know that she is a Saskatchewan kid at heart because her bio on the team website references all of the volunteer work that she does for her new home city of Houston.

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to congratulate the Houston Astros organizations and both Terry and Anita for everything that they've accomplished this year, and thank them for representing

Saskatchewan so extraordinarily. Thank you.

[10:15]

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

Foster Parent Appreciation Week

Ms. Rancourt: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. October 15th to the 21st was Foster Parent Appreciation Week. On Friday, October 20th the annual foster parent appreciation banquet for the northeast region was held in Prince Albert.

Throughout my career as a social worker, I saw the hard work and dedication of foster parents as they welcomed vulnerable and at-risk children into their homes. I know the difficulties as well as the joy and sense of fulfilment experienced by both foster parents and children as they build new relationships together. The work done by foster parents and the support they give the children in their care is admirable. The love, guidance, and mentorship given to the children by their foster parents last a lifetime, and every foster parent needs to be acknowledged for this gift.

Mr. Speaker, this banquet was held to acknowledge foster parents in the northeast region. They are all deserving of this recognition and our thank you. Congratulations also to the social workers at the Ministry of Social Services in Prince Albert, Melfort, and Nipawin for organizing this banquet.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that all members join with me in acknowledging the great contributions made by foster parents and families in the northeast region and indeed throughout all of Saskatchewan and in thanking them for their dedication to our most vulnerable children.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Moose Jaw North.

Moose Jaw and District Sports Hall of Fame Inductees

Mr. Michelson: — Thank you. Mr. Speaker, on October 20th I had the pleasure of attending the third annual induction ceremonies at the Moose Jaw and District Sports Hall of Fame. The Hall of Fame is dedicated to recognizing the commitment, the contributions, and accomplishments of people from Moose Jaw and surrounding area, allowing their legacy to live on as well as preserve the sports history in our city.

This year there were six inductees, including three individual athletes, two builders of sports, and one team. Congratulations to Rod Heisler, a talented baseball and hockey player; Steve Michaluk, a lacrosse player and sports program developer; and Ryan Anholt, a baseball player, on their personal inductions to the hall of fame. Dr. Graeme McMaster was recognized for his involvement in track and sports medicine, and Brian Towriss was recognized for his efforts with coaching, recruitment, and mentorship.

The 1995 masters senior Relics women's fastball team was inducted this year for both their accomplishments on the field and their 25 years together, which had very minor changes to

their rosters in that time.

Thanks to the organizers, the board of directors, and volunteers for putting on an outstanding celebration of sport in Moose Jaw. Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to please join me in congratulating this year's inductees on their successes and accomplishments in sport here in Saskatchewan. Thank you.

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

Report Indicates Optimistic Outlook for the Future

Mr. Steinley: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the third quarter 2017 results of the Regina Executive Leadership Outlook report were recently released, showing Regina and area have one of the best executive confidence index results ever.

Executives in Regina and area have renewed optimism and are confident that we have successfully navigated the recent economic challenges faced in our province. The report cited rebounding oil prices, potash prices, strong manufacturing employment numbers and sales, and a respectable earning for this year's crop production as major factors in improving growth in our value-added businesses and service industries.

Most notably, over three-quarters of respondents indicated that they expect sales revenues to increase in the next 12 months. Over 70 per cent of respondents expect their business profitability to increase over the next year, and 80 per cent of respondents expect their fixed investments to remain the same or improve over the next year.

Our government will continue to make Saskatchewan an attractive place to do business by keeping taxes low and reducing red tape. Just recently our government announced the extension of the small-business rate of 2 per cent from the first 500,000 of income to the first 600,000, the highest threshold in Canada. And unlike the members opposite, our government will never support a carbon tax that will impede growth in our province. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

New Schools Open

Ms. Ross: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I rise in the House today to announce that Plainsview School and St. Nicholas School are now open in my constituency of Regina Rochdale. The two schools are part of this government's joint-school projects, and both are just extraordinary. Mr. Speaker, for the first time in 30 years, here in northwest Regina, we have opened a Catholic elementary school. The community, staff, and students are in complete awe of the spaces that have been created. St. Nicholas School principal James Wahl said:

Having been part of the building process since last May, I have tried to explain the schools to others, but I have never been able to do them justice. Only seeing, can people understand how advanced they are.

It is so encouraging as I drive through Regina, as I pass school

after school such as École Connaught Community School, māmawêyatitān centre, Sacred Heart Community School, École Wascana Plains School, École St. Elizabeth School, École Harbour Landing School, and St. Kateri Tekakwitha Catholic School. Our record speaks for itself. We have opened a total of 40 new schools, 21 of which are open this year, along with 25 major renovations of existing schools.

The efforts by this government can be seen in the advanced, state-of-the-art classrooms and resources that are now being utilized by the students, staff, and by the communities. This government is meeting the demands of its growing population, and unlike the NDP in their time in government, Mr. Speaker, we will continue to open the doors. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

QUESTION PERIOD

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

Role of the Global Transportation Hub in Land Acquisition

Ms. Sarauer: — Mr. Speaker, it's only been a week since we came back to the legislature, and in that week the Premier's gone to great lengths to avoid providing any answers to the people who have elected him. Mr. Speaker, the Sask Party's GTH [Global Transportation Hub] scandal is an issue that more and more Saskatchewan people are turning more and more of their attention to, and they don't like what they are seeing.

When the RCMP [Royal Canadian Mounted Police] starts knocking on a sitting Premier's door to discuss a criminal investigation, most people understand that's a big deal. And Saskatchewan people deserve to know what role their Premier and each member of the cabinet and Sask Party caucus played in the GTH scandal.

We have two stories coming from him and we want to know which version he told the RCMP. Did he stick with his story that he knew what was going on at the GTH all along, or did he go with the official statement that said he had nothing to do with any negotiations? Which of those did he tell the RCMP?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I respectfully disagree with much of what is in the preamble to the hon. member's question. Mr. Speaker, we have ensured, we have moved to ensure that every single question that was asked by an independent officer of this Assembly, by the way, the Provincial Auditor, who members opposite wanted to inquire into the GTH issue, we assured that every single question was answered.

We assured that those who were involved in the decision making were available to be interviewed . . . [inaudible interjection] . . . Well does the member from Cumberland want to hear the answer to the question his leader's asked? Because the answer is, the answer is every single official involved, every single official involved in the decision making has been canvassed who needed to be canvassed by the auditor on this particular issue has been made available. And I would also

point out, Mr. Speaker, that every cabinet document, every cabinet item related to the matter was turned over to the Provincial Auditor.

She has made her report. We have adopted her recommendations. She also said publicly, publicly, that she did not see any red flags, and I'm paraphrasing, but not any red flags in terms of conflict of interest or fraud. That's what the auditor said.

Subsequent to that, there has been an RCMP review. Absolutely if the RCMP are asking questions about it, I am going to meet with them; other members of the government will meet with them. Their review will be complete soon, Mr. Speaker. I look forward to those results, and when the results are in, we will rule out nothing in terms of further review. We want people to understand that there were mistakes made, but there is no scandal here, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Sarauer: — Mr. Speaker, these are questions raised by the people of Saskatchewan, and they deserve answers. I think he doesn't want to give a clear answer, so let's briefly recap a small part of what we do know.

A Sask Party supporter paid way too much for some land. When he was told that it could be expropriated and was offered a chance to cancel the deal, he took a pass. Around that time, some in the Sask Party cabinet tried to get the GTH to buy that land, but the deal was blocked by the member for Saskatoon Northwest. Then lo and behold, a second Sask Party supporter bought the same land from the first supporter for \$6 million more than the too much that he had paid. Then the Sask Party government bought the land for GTH for \$5 million more than the second guy had paid.

Now the Premier says he was involved with the GTH from the start. And we know, throughout this process, Laurie Pushor was advising the then minister, Bill Boyd, and was also in contact with the Premier's chief of staff and at least the second buyer.

The member from Meadow Lake says, had he been Premier, he would have fired the minister and Mr. Pushor. Why didn't this Premier?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Environment, GTH and SaskPower.

Hon. Mr. Duncan: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, this is that information that has been canvassed fully by the Provincial Auditor. Mr. Speaker, the Provincial Auditor has conducted a review, issued a report, and the government is implementing all of the recommendations of that report. This is a government that has fully co-operated with the Provincial Auditor, with the office of the Provincial Auditor, provided all documentation to the Provincial Auditor, Mr. Speaker.

And I would just note that this is in stark contrast to the way that members opposite dealt with an issue that raised the attention of the public, Mr. Speaker. We have the case . . . in the case of the NDP [New Democratic Party] that were the government — and there were members who were a part of that

government sitting on the opposite benches — where \$35 million was lost. And what was the process in terms of accountability for that?

The premier of the day had his deputy minister to the premier conduct a review, Mr. Speaker, after the fact, after court documents revealed what had actually happened. Four years after a memo was written by then-Deputy Premier Dwain Lingenfelter to the premier saying that what we're saying in public is not the truth in private, Mr. Speaker. That's the way that the NDP dealt with matters. We have worked fully, co-operated fully with the Provincial Auditor's office, Mr. Speaker. We'll do things a different way than the NDP.

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

Regina Bypass Project

Ms. Sarauer: — Mr. Speaker, again no answers. But the GTH is not the only growing scandal here in the Regina area alone. From ripping up and rebuilding Pinkie Road, to an overpass that doesn't work, and an entire community that is being blocked off and shut out, there's the Regina bypass. This is a project that was originally supposed to cost \$400 million, but Sask Party handed the contract to a foreign conglomerate from France and beyond and the cost ballooned to \$2 billion. And that doesn't even include the land acquisitions, Mr. Speaker.

This is a project that they've insisted time and time again they've "studied to death" but it doesn't work for transport trucks, it doesn't work for first responders trying to save lives, and it doesn't work for producers moving farm equipment. Mr. Speaker, why did the Premier think the only company capable of building this bypass was the foreign conglomerate? Does he agree that cutting off an entire community and building a traffic circle in Saskatchewan that doesn't work for transport trucks, farm equipment, or first responders proves that Vinci were the wrong conglomerate for the job?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Highways.

Hon. Mr. Marit: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And thank you for the question. We are very honoured to have the bypass being built in the province of Saskatchewan and the work that's being done.

The Ministry of Highways has worked with the community of Balgonie when there was a letter written back in the early '90s that said when an overpass was built for Balgonie that the Main Street access would be taken out. Our ministry officials have worked with the town council of Balgonie. We addressed their concerns. First and foremost, Mr. Speaker, this is all about safety. It is safety first for us in the Ministry of Highways, Mr. Speaker, and that's . . . When we had to take the Main Street access, we worked with the town council and the first responders. We are putting an emergency exit on the east side of the town that will be gated and controlled by the first responders of the community of Balgonie, Mr. Speaker.

We've also put on . . . We're going to put lights on the west side of the town of Balgonie to address their concerns there, Mr. Speaker. But first and foremost this is about safety and we have addressed those concerns.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Athabasca.

Mr. Belanger: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. All we hear from that minister is excuses. It's not just truck drivers and producers that have issues with the bypass. Balgonie businesses are laying off staff and facing closure. And first responders, volunteer firefighters, Mr. Speaker, are now raising concerns that the permanent closure of Main Street is restricting access of emergency vehicles. When asked to reconsider this dangerous approach, the Sask Party said no.

[10:30]

The community offered simple and sensible solutions but the Sask Party stubbornly refused to admit their mistake and consider any alternatives. Right-in, right-out? No way. Special eastbound access for emergency vehicles only? No way. Mr. Speaker, when it comes to saving lives, we trust the words of firefighters and first responders, Mr. Speaker. Why doesn't the minister?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Highways.

Hon. Mr. Marit: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I said in my first response, this is all about safety and safety first, Mr. Speaker. There's been two lives lost in the last seven years at that intersection. The community knew that when a bypass was going to be built for the community of Balgonie that the Main Street access would be coming out.

We worked with the community on addressing their concerns for emergency access. We are building an access for them on the east side of town for emergency response that they will be in control of, Mr. Speaker. I want to make it very clear, Mr. Speaker. I believe there's a safe way to build highways — not a Sask Party way, not an NDP way — a safe way, and we're going to build it that way, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Athabasca.

Mr. Belanger: — Mr. Speaker, more excuses from a tired, old government, Mr. Speaker. The people of Balgonie are offering simple and reasonable options, but the Sask Party isn't listening. The bypass was supposed to serve Saskatchewan people and make the roads safer. Turnpike double transport trucks and the kind of equipment that Saskatchewan farmers and producers use may not be a concern in France where Vinci is from, but they sure matter here, Mr. Speaker. And Vinci may not care what the people of Balgonie think, but this government should.

At the very least, the member from Indian Head-Milestone should. And that's why people watching today want to know why he doesn't care. He was bragging about the bypass the other night in this House but he hasn't taken the time to listen to his own constituents. He has never even acknowledged or answered the first responders who are concerned about the safety of their community. Mr. Speaker, why has the member failed his constituency so bad?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Highways.

Hon. Mr. Marit: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have

addressed the concerns of the community quite well by building them an overpass so they have safe access in and out of that community of Balgonie, Mr. Speaker. And the overpass was built to meet all the technical standards that are in place for everything that's going to be used in the equipment in Saskatchewan, Mr. Speaker.

The ministry also brought in an independent engineer from Alberta to communicate with the community of Balgonie on why the Main Street access had to be taken out, Mr. Speaker, and he explained it to the town council. They got it, that there was a safety issue, that we had to have at least 1000 metres between the two overpasses, the one coming from No. 10 in Yorkton and the Balgonie overpass, Mr. Speaker.

As I've said, and I will continue to say, this is all about safety and it's safety first for the Ministry of Highways, Mr. Speaker.

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

Second Bridge for Prince Albert

Ms. Rancourt: — Mr. Speaker, they love to justify their \$2 billion bypass for Regina. It's over 70 per cent of their current highways budget. But they have nothing but excuses for the refusal to build a second bridge for Prince Albert. Mr. Speaker, let me remind the members opposite that all movement of goods and people across the northern Saskatchewan River is restricted to a single, poorly maintained bridge.

Mr. Speaker, we're talking about a key artery in and out of northern Saskatchewan that should be completely cut off if there is ever a need to close, even temporarily, the Diefenbaker Bridge. A second bridge is good for the economy and it's good for northern Saskatchewan. In fact, it would benefit the entire province. So while the government is bragging about their bypass, can they set aside even a fraction of the ballooning costs and finally build a second bridge for Prince Albert?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Highways.

Hon. Mr. Marit: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Last year, in October of 2016, I met with the city council of P.A. [Prince Albert] and we had a discussion about the bridge in Prince Albert. And we actually hired an independent engineering firm to come in and do a full assessment of the bridge. That review has been done, Mr. Speaker. We have communicated it with the city of Prince Albert.

There is some medium . . . early work that we're going to do. We're actually going to put sensors on the bridge so that we can monitor every load that's coming over the bridge. There's some short-term issues that we're going to deal with and some long-term that we're going to work with the city on. When the city is in control of the asphalt, when they're going to put a repave on it, we're going to do some minor work to the bridge, Mr. Speaker. We are working with the city on this issue. And we are comfortable and we are very appreciative of the work that has been done by the independent that has addressed the concerns, not only for the Ministry of Highways, Mr. Speaker, but also for the city of Prince Albert.

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

Support for Municipalities

Ms. Rancourt: — Mr. Speaker, their mismanagement, scandal, and waste has consequences. They've led to the Sask Party's deep cuts and unfair tax hikes. Saskatchewan people in our municipalities are struggling too. In my own community of Prince Albert, the city was able to balance the budget. But in the face of the province chopping their funding, the mayor and council were forced to make difficult decisions — increasing property taxes and making cuts to services.

Mr. Speaker, these tax increases and service cuts are Sask Party tax increases and service cuts. Mr. Speaker, there is only one taxpayer. So why is the government forcing the people of Prince Albert to pay the price for the Sask Party's mismanagement, scandal, and waste?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Government Relations.

Hon. Mr. Doke: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you for the question. I think the member opposite probably forgets about revenue sharing that's gone towards the cities and the municipalities and whatever, as compared to when the NDP were in power. So in 2017, there was over \$257 million in revenue sharing to the municipalities. Mr. Speaker, this is a far, far cry from what it was under the NDP, when they never knew what they were going to get for revenue sharing. This government stands committed to our municipalities, and we will move on.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Opposition House Leader.

Deficit Reduction Measures and Public Sector Compensation

Mr. McCall: — Mr. Speaker, the Sask Party has zero respect for the principle of an independent, merit-based public service, and for the public servants themselves. The Sask Party wants to cut their wages, throw them out of work, and force them to take unpaid time off. They want to take \$250 million out of the pockets of the hard-working people who keep our public services going, and it could get even worse, Mr. Speaker. For example if the member from Saskatoon Willowgrove ever becomes premier, he won't just cut salaries; he'll just fire more public servants.

Mr. Speaker, why does the Sask Party think it's fair for our public servants, nurses, teachers, highway workers to pay the price for the Sask Party's mismanagement, scandal, and waste?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Finance.

Hon. Ms. Harpauer: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I know the member opposite agrees that we have to let the collective bargaining take place at the collective bargaining tables, and we won't be doing that on the floor of the Assembly.

He also knows and recognizes that resource revenues are down \$1.2 billion, Mr. Speaker, and somehow in each and every area

within government the members opposite are asking for more spending, not less. And we have increased spending. We have increased nurses. We've increased doctors. We've increased teachers, Mr. Speaker, but that does put pressures on the budget to be sure.

Mr. Speaker, they do not want the taxes to increase. They want to increase spending. They don't want any increase to debt. How on earth, Mr. Speaker, are they going to explain that mathematically on how we're going to balance the books?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Opposition House Leader.

Mr. McCall: — Mr. Speaker, they want to cut public servant pay and throw others out of work. The only people not worried about wage cuts or losing their jobs, Mr. Speaker, are the hand-picked Sask Party insiders placed at the top of the government.

Mr. Speaker, when Laurie Pushor started in this government, he was advising ministers and their staff to use their personal email accounts to avoid accountability. He was involved in a correspondence chain where that Minister of Finance stated, and I quote, "The Public Service Commission is getting all crappy about us hiring people without open competition . . . Blah . . . Blah . . . Blah. Lots of fun. I really don't care what they think!"

No kidding, Mr. Speaker. Well, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Pushor is at the centre of the Sask Party's GTH scandal. He helped organize a deal that wasted millions in taxpayers' dollars and who knows what else. But he still draws a salary paid by the taxpayers of this province.

Mr. Speaker, how is it in any way fair that public servants are threatened with job losses but Mr. Pushor certainly gets to keep his?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Finance.

Hon. Ms. Harpauer: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. All of the MLAs [Member of the Legislative Assembly], the cabinet ministers, as well as the employee that that member referenced took a three and a half per cent cut. So all of the permanent heads of government took a three and a half per cent cut to their wages, Mr. Speaker. But you know what? We're not going to go the NDP answer to when there is resource revenues that are low. And what did they do, Mr. Speaker? They closed schools and laid off teachers, Mr. Speaker. They closed health facilities and laid off nursing staff as well as other medical staff, Mr. Speaker. That was their answer to dealing with it. We're going to do things differently in this province. We're going to balance the books while still providing services to our citizens.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Opposition House Leader.

Leadership Candidate and Role of Public Service

Mr. McCall: — Mr. Speaker, it's plain they have no respect for the public service, and that was abundantly clear when they gave the top non-partisan, independent public service job to a Sask Party partisan. She's so partisan, Mr. Speaker, that she's now running to lead the Sask Party. It's an alarming precedent,

Mr. Speaker. But leave it to the Sask Party to take it even further. Anyone with an ounce of respect for the public service would have at least resigned. If not, any self-respecting government would have asked for a resignation before letting someone run to be the leader of their own party. But she's just taking a leave of absence.

While public servants worry about the future of their jobs, this person knows that if she doesn't get that gig, she's always got the old job to go back to. Mr. Speaker, how can the Sask Party in any way defend this?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — Mr. Speaker, I'm proud of the five individuals that are running for the leadership position in the Saskatchewan Party. Mr. Speaker, I'm also grateful for and proud of the work that Alanna Koch did as a deputy minister in Agriculture for many, many years in this province.

I think, in respect of Ms. Koch, she is well regarded by the agricultural stakeholders in this province and by people in general for her work as the deputy minister of Agriculture. I think you could say the same would be true of the public service. I invite the hon. member to take an informal poll or canvass people that he knows in the public service and ask about the work that she did, that she did professionally and in a non-partisan way. Well the Deputy Leader is yipping from his seat again as he's wont to do, Mr. Speaker. It's nothing new.

And my point to my hon. friend is, he's kind of smearing someone who was a public service professional in this province, who is well regarded by the public service. He might want to take that drive-by attack on her, Mr. Speaker. I don't think she should. And by the way, with respect to the policy of the government, it has not changed. People can take a leave of absence while they're pursuing political activities. That's been the case when people in the public service wanted to do so for either parties in the House. But, Mr. Speaker, I am a bit surprised that that member is smearing and attacking a professional woman who served as a very capable deputy minister here in the province of Saskatchewan.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Opposition House Leader.

Mr. McCall: — Mr. Speaker, perhaps the Premier could tell the House where he thinks it is that the Sask Party ends and the Saskatchewan public service begins. Because there is a long-standing tradition that the head of the public service, the independent, merit-based public service, ought not to be a partisan, Mr. Speaker. They've taken decades of precedent and turned it on its head. And again, Mr. Speaker, it makes sense inasmuch as this is a government that has a hard time figuring out where their own interest ends and the public service begins. So again, could the Premier tell the province how it is that they've got a partisan seeking the leadership of that party and is there on leave and ready to come back to head the independent public service? How does that work, Mr. Speaker?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — This is an amazing line of questioning that betrays a fundamental understanding of the history of the

country and the province, even back to the last election. The NDP candidate in Last Mountain-Touchwood, I believe, was a Highways worker. That person was allowed to get a leave of absence and, when she was not successful, to go back to the public . . . as it should be, as it absolutely should be.

[10:45]

Allan Blakeney, Allan Blakeney was a senior official in the Government of Saskatchewan and ran to be the leader of a party, a partisan person. Lester Pearson is another example. Lester Pearson was in foreign affairs, a senior official of the government, and changed that role that he played in government from a public servant, as Allan Blakeney did, to an elected person, Mr. Speaker. Well and some go the other way. Jack Hillson's another good Saskatchewan name. Jack Messer is another good example who goes sort of back and forth between politics . . . So, Mr. Speaker, I would just say I find the line of questioning a little surprising coming from the hon. member.

Here is a woman who has served the province very well as a deputy minister, both in Agriculture and now with respect to . . . in my office, Mr. Speaker. She has stepped out and chosen to run. We have another very qualified woman in the leadership race that's running. We have three other men that are running in the diverse leadership campaign. I am proud of all of them. I look forward to the rest of the campaign, notwithstanding the drive-bys that might come from hon. members opposite about one or more of the members that are seeking that leadership.

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

Support for Education

Ms. Beck: — Mr. Speaker, day after day the Education minister's comments about school funding have failed to pass the test. Yesterday when pushed about why school divisions, our kids' classrooms are getting less funding this year over last, even though the people across Saskatchewan are paying more in education property tax, the minister said, "That's the new math at work." Mr. Speaker, that was addition and subtraction. Let's be clear. Education property taxes went up by \$67 million but the Sask Party cut \$54 million out of our classrooms. Mr. Speaker, no one is buying that minister's shell game. So can the minister finally come clean, stop spinning, and admit to the facts that everyone but her seems to understand?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Education.

Hon. Ms. Eyre: — Mr. Speaker, there is no spin here, and I will say it again. When you have a \$1.9 billion budget and you collect 750 million in education property tax, every dollar goes back into education, 100 per cent. In fact we're actually spending two and a half times more than we are collecting — two and a half times, Mr. Speaker. The NDP method of funding education led to unfair outcomes, not only for Saskatchewan taxpayers, but for Saskatchewan students. Tax revolts on the steps . . .

[Interjections]

The Speaker: — I recognize the minister.

Hon. Ms. Eyre: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Tax revolts on the steps of this legislature, that is their record. In contrast, we have provided a fair, equitable way to provide record investments in our education system and ensure that all Saskatchewan students have a chance to succeed. Keep in mind that the education property tax amount for both '07 and '17 were almost identical at \$750 million. That says a lot, Mr. Speaker, about our record and our commitment to the taxpayers of this province.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Bill No. 81 — *The Traffic Safety (Miscellaneous) Amendment Act, 2017*

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

Hon. Mr. Hargrave: — Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill No. 81, *The Traffic Safety (Miscellaneous) Amendment Act, 2017* be now introduced and read a first time.

The Speaker: — The Minister of Crown Investments has moved Bill No. 81 be now introduced and read a first 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 reading of this bill.

The Speaker: — When shall this bill be read a second time? I recognize the minister.

Hon. Mr. Hargrave: — Next sitting of the Assembly.

The Speaker: — Next sitting.

Bill No. 82 — *The SaskEnergy Amendment Act, 2017*

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

Hon. Mr. Hargrave: — Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill No. 82, *The SaskEnergy Amendment Act, 2017* be now introduced and read a first time.

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Minister of Crown Investments that Bill No. 82 be now introduced and read a first 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 reading of this bill.

The Speaker: — When shall the bill be read a second time? I recognize the minister.

Hon. Mr. Hargrave: — Next sitting of the Assembly.

The Speaker: — Next sitting.

Bill No. 83 — *The Environmental Management and Protection Amendment Act, 2017*

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

Hon. Mr. Duncan: — Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill No. 83, *The Environmental Management and Protection Act, 2017* be now introduced and read a first time.

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Minister of the Environment that Bill No. 83 be now introduced and read a first 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 reading of this bill.

The Speaker: — When shall the bill be read a second time? I recognize the minister.

Hon. Mr. Duncan: — Next sitting.

The Speaker: — Next sitting.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

SPECIAL ORDER

ADJOURNED DEBATES

ADDRESS IN REPLY

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the address in reply which was moved by Ms. Carr, seconded by Mr. Nerlien, and the proposed amendment to the main motion moved by Ms. Sproule.]

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

Ms. Sarauer: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my honour to rise today to respond to the Speech from the Throne. This is a Throne Speech that ignores the realities faced by people of Saskatchewan and instead it seems to be much more about the Premier's legacy, and I'm sure we'll hear more about that later.

Mr. Speaker, the Sask Party likes to talk a lot of our province's success during the decade of record resource revenue. It's easy to look good when oil is at \$100 a barrel, but now that things are harder, the Sask Party are failing. They're pointing fingers all over but not taking responsibility for their own mismanagement, scandal, and waste.

Consider the fact that there are twice as many people out of work today than were when the Sask Party took office. Across the country we see more people working and fewer people relying on EI [employment insurance], but here in

Saskatchewan the opposite is true. And, Mr. Speaker, in just five years the Sask Party will have doubled the province's debt, having grown the debt to \$16 billion. At the same time they've cut in health care and in our kids' classrooms. There are fewer health care providers and longer wait times. Small businesses are still struggling from the PST [provincial sales tax] hike and expansion. And seniors are still suffering from having their long-term care fees triple and their drug coverage and other supports cut.

At the end of the day, the speech is full of bluster and Sask Party spin. And, Mr. Speaker, this is at times when Saskatchewan people not only deserve but need better. And you don't have to take my word for it, Mr. Speaker. Everywhere I go, I hear how frustrated people are. Every day the Sask Party's mismanagement is becoming clearer. Their scandals are getting deeper, and their waste just keeps piling up.

But there was no mention of any of that in their Throne Speech, Mr. Speaker. People are asking for the Sask Party to stop their unfair billion-dollar tax hike that not only raised the PST but also added it to everything from kids' clothes to insurance and, yes, even a case of beer.

Mr. Speaker, the Sask Party have made Saskatchewan the only province where people are forced to pay PST on health and life insurance. And of course the Sask Party made all of these hikes while they handed tens of millions of dollars in tax breaks to corporations and their wealthy and well-connected friends. And while the Sask Party is talking more about aid for their friends, there was no mention of help for Saskatchewan families.

Mr. Speaker, we also know that they are a government that wants desperately to sell off our Crowns. And while they've promised to undo the damage done by Bill 40, we've heard this song before. And they've already backed down even on that commitment.

Mr. Speaker, they've already scrapped and sold off STC [Saskatchewan Transportation Company]. They've auctioned off the assets. And how is that not a sell-off, Mr. Speaker? We still know that they had over a dozen meetings to sell off SGI [Saskatchewan Government Insurance]. And no matter what tune they pretend to be singing now, let's be very clear: they've put SaskTel in the hands of the same minister who oversaw the scrapping of the STC.

Mr. Speaker, I want to remind this government, whenever they reveal their next plan to sell off our Crowns and sell out our province's future, they better believe we'll be ready because our Crowns belong in the hands of Saskatchewan people.

Mr. Speaker, it would be nice if the Sask Party could at least accept some responsibility for the damage they're doing. But instead they are plowing ahead with attacks to our classrooms, hospitals, and our most vulnerable, and attacks against Saskatchewan workers with threats of layoffs and a cut to salaries across the board. I don't need to tell you how unfair all of this is, Mr. Speaker.

It was not the Saskatchewan people who blew through billions of dollars in surpluses and the rainy day fund left by the previous NDP government. And it's not the Saskatchewan

people who mismanaged years of record resource revenue or caused the scandals and the waste.

Mr. Speaker, let's just look at the Sask Party's GTH scandal, for example. Day by day it continues to grow deeper. But we know that neither we nor the Saskatchewan people will stop digging until we get to the bottom of it.

Mr. Speaker, of course there's also the Regina Bypass. We talked about it a lot at question period. This is a project that was originally supposed to cost \$400 million, but the Sask Party handed the contract to a foreign conglomerate from France and beyond, and the cost ballooned to \$2 billion and growing. This is a project that Sask Party ministers have insisted time and time again had been "studied to death." But this is a highway in Saskatchewan that doesn't work for transport trucks; it doesn't work for first responders saving lives, and it doesn't work for producers moving farm equipment. And it's just another example of how the Sask Party isn't working for Saskatchewan people.

Mr. Speaker, that's why we will keep working, even with Sask Party resignations, a Premier with one foot out the door, and leadership candidates trying to ignore their actions and rebrand the Sask Party. Mr. Speaker, no matter what each Sask Party leadership candidate promises, it will always be the same old Sask Party that is making deep cuts to our kids' classrooms, raising school taxes while cutting education funding, and hiking taxes and power rates.

But there is an alternative. Saskatchewan New Democrats have proven when we work together with people from across the province, we can build a stronger and a fairer Saskatchewan. Mr. Speaker, we were proud to be part of the work that stopped the Sask Party's plan to eliminate library funding, and proud to have reversed some of the cuts to funding for funerals for our most vulnerable, and for shining a light and bringing an end to the Sask Party's practice of giving the Premier partisan bonuses funded by their out-of-province donors.

Mr. Speaker, I'm also very proud of the work done to get the Sask Party to pass legislation supporting those with work-related PTSD [post-traumatic stress disorder]. And I think the member from Saskatoon Riversdale should be thanked for that as well. And I'm proud of the work we've done together to ensure steps were taken and legislation was passed toward providing support for survivors of interpersonal violence.

Mr. Speaker, it was a first step and even though it wasn't . . . It was another thing that was also ignored in the Throne Speech. We still have the highest rates of domestic violence in the country. The Sask Party has missed opportunity after opportunity to do more and we have so much more to do when it comes to interpersonal and intimate relationship violence.

Mr. Speaker, we need a government that is better at standing up for people across this great province. Mr. Speaker, I was disappointed to not see more interest by this government in their Throne Speech to work together toward meaningful reconciliation and turn words into action. There was nothing in this Throne Speech about the North or making life better for First Nations and Métis peoples. Mr. Speaker, as young children in the North take their own lives, we have yet to see

any real action. As one after another northern indigenous people have died in tragic accidents on the side of the road as they try to hitchhike, we have seen no real action. And as one after another indigenous youth have been shot and killed, we have seen no real action.

From the Sask Party it feels like the only action we've seen is cutting, cuts to indigenous education programs like NORTEP [northern teacher education program] and NORPAC [Northern Professional Access College], cuts to job training for indigenous peoples, and cuts to the Aboriginal court worker program and alternative measures programming. Mr. Speaker, a better way is possible.

Mr. Speaker, even though the Sask Party said nothing in their Throne Speech to undo the damage done by scrapping the STC, in British Columbia, after nearly a decade of lobbying by the affected First Nations and as part of a strategy to stop the tragedies that gave the province's Highway of Tears its name, the government invested millions of dollars in a transportation safety plan that includes the creation of bus routes that have begun providing service in June.

Meanwhile the Sask Party scrapped the STC and left people across the province stranded without a safe and reliable service to get around. In BC [British Columbia] it's the NDP government that is pushing this project even further, but it was the previous government that got it started. This is not a partisan issue, not right or left wing. This is simply the right thing to do.

Mr. Speaker, then there's also the tragedy of the Sixties Scoop. Still two years after promising an apology, the Sask Party are making excuses and actually pointing fingers at the FSIN [Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations] for why the Sask Party hasn't apologized yet. Mr. Speaker, let me give the government a little tip: if you want to apologize for past wrongdoings, try some genuine sincerity and some good faith.

[11:00]

Mr. Speaker, we can't afford to wait while the Sask Party plays games. Look to the suicide crisis in the North. The child and youth advocate put it clearly. Children are literally dying as we continue to fail them.

Mr. Speaker, this is not a new issue. Research and experience shows us the connection between youth suicide and autonomy of indigenous communities. Working on reconciliation and empowering communities must be a part of the solution. Mr. Speaker, one place to start providing hope and opportunity is in the classroom. But every time we bring up the education funding gap, the Sask Party point to the federal government and say that it's their fault.

But if the federal government won't keep their promise, if they refuse to make sure that all students on- and off-reserve get the same funding for their education, then we need a government in Saskatchewan that will. We must close the funding gap and send the bill to Ottawa. Mr. Speaker, the North needs meaningful commitments and support, not cuts to education programs, health supports, and job opportunities.

Mr. Speaker, it's only by making meaningful progress on reconciliation between indigenous and non-indigenous communities that we can truly start moving forward and building together. Mr. Speaker, we must never forget we are all treaty people. These issues affect all of us, and it's on all of us to walk this road together. While our shared histories means that the road to reconciliation is not easy, the reality is being faced by indigenous communities across the province — on-reserve and off, in rural communities, and in our cities. Make this a challenge that we must commit to taking on.

Mr. Speaker, this is a Throne Speech that ignores the realities being faced by Saskatchewan families. Mr. Speaker, despite all of the backtracking and bravado, the Sask Party are refusing to back down on their heartless cuts and unfair tax hikes that are hurting Saskatchewan people, and they are still handing tens of millions of dollars to the wealthy and well-connected. Small businesses across the province are still reeling from the Sask Party's increase and expansion of the PST and the elimination of their compensation for collecting it. The changes in the Throne Speech fall well short of what is needed.

The Speech from the Throne also highlights a number of changes that could have been avoided if the Sask Party had listened to Saskatchewan people prior to their last budget. Whether it's Bill 40 or organ donation, the Sask Party has wasted resources and time by refusing to listen to Saskatchewan people and experts.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I want to remind everyone over there that every single Sask Party MLA voted for their budget. Now as they start to admit they were wrong, they need to own up to the full cost of focusing on those failed initiatives instead of helping Saskatchewan people, come clean on why they offered nothing in their Speech from the Throne to help the Saskatchewan people looking for work or to support northern Saskatchewan and indigenous communities.

Mr. Speaker, this Speech from the Throne is the definition of unambitious and gives Saskatchewan people no reason to have more hope or faith in the Sask Party. Saskatchewan people deserve better from their government, and that's why I will be voting in favour of the amendment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — Thank you. Thanks very much, Mr. Speaker. I very much appreciate the chance to enter into the debate and to provide my address in reply to the Speech from the Throne, Mr. Speaker. It's the last time I'll be able to have this honour, to engage in a debate on a major effort of this House. There are two, as we know, with each session — the Speech from the Throne and the budget. And each time for the most part, for most of my 17 or so years as an MLA, I've had the chance to participate in the debate, and I'm grateful to do so again today.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to begin, as I have in the past, with a thank you, and I'll go through these quickly. On the weekend we will meet in convention and I'll have a chance, I hope, to perhaps ensure that my thank yous are longer and more complete because I have many people to whom I am very, very grateful, and for whom I'm very, very grateful. And so I

recognize them again here.

Nola Smith in the constituency office in Swift Current continues to serve the constituents and the province very, very well. In our office we field calls, not only related to Swift Current issues, but from around the province, owing to the nature of my own duties. And Nola does a great job.

Everett Hindley has been stuck with me since I began as an MLA, first as a constituency assistant and now as an executive assistant. And well, he's like a younger brother. He's a great friend and a great support, not just to myself, but a friend and a support to our family. And, Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Everett publicly here as well.

I have a great constituency organization that has to do a lot more than other constituency organizations typically because their candidate is MIA [missing in action] on so many elections and in other activities. And I thank the president, Joel Friesen, and his group there. Mr. Speaker, I am so fortunate to have friends and family, some friends that I've known since grade school who are still good friends and help me to carry out my duties, with supporting me with friendship. Ed and Tom are a couple I'll throw out right now, Mr. Speaker.

And I also want to obviously acknowledge my family. My brother and his wife have recently returned from Alberta, and they're living south of Swift Current. Barry's been here at the legislature with my nephew, Darren, on occasion. And they were all here for the Speech from the Throne, except for my nephew, Brett, who is an autobody technician in Saskatoon. He couldn't make it. He's a brand new dad, and so I want to acknowledge Barry and Glenda and their family. And my own parents, who are amazing and have always been supportive of me in this effort and have always encouraged me to pursue these dreams even at the earliest age when I harboured these thoughts of politics from that early age. I want to thank them for that.

And then my own family, I want to . . . Just before I get to my own family, in this building the Executive Council staff are also family, and many have served since I began. We have a new Chief of Staff who is sort of no stranger to our organization, Ken Krawetz. But I want to thank Ken and Reg and Kathy and the entire group in government business, Jarret — all of them for what they do every single day. And Ruth and Rhonda, who have been running this province for the last several years — and doing an outstanding job, I would say, Mr. Speaker — to the extent things have gone well in government, they should take the credit. In terms of the mistakes, those rest with me, Mr. Speaker.

I want to also thank and acknowledge my wife. Tami has been a support for me in this endeavour since the very beginning, even though I began politics when our family was very young. When I was first elected September 16th, 1999, a week later we celebrated Faith's first birthday. That's how . . . The kids were all very young. Now Megan would have been turning five that November, and Colter would have been three. And so you can imagine in addition to her starting and operating a business, my wife Tami, and then later on as an assessor, did some assessment work, and now back engineering. She is a civil engineer, as people will know. And balancing all of that with

being a mom and trying to, not just trying, being so supportive of me in my efforts. And I just can't say enough about her, and I'm grateful for her.

Our kids have been wonderful throughout this. I think they were pretty interested and excited about my job as Premier when they were younger, and well maybe somewhat less excited as they grew older into young adults. But still just a huge source of encouragement and support to me. Our youngest is Faith. She's now in second year university. And Megan has completed her master's degree recently at de Louvain in Belgium and is back in Saskatoon.

And of course Colter is doing his thing. He's pursuing his music career. I think last night he played in Montreal. They had a good crowd there for Colter Wall and the Speedy Creek Band in Montreal. And tonight, I think, they've got a long trip. They're going to be in Toronto tonight I think — tonight or tomorrow. They're going to play the Horseshoe Tavern.

The Horseshoe is one of the most famous venues in the country; in fact it's reputed to have been the place that the Rolling Stones would go and kind of rehearse for their North American tour. And everyone has played at the Horseshoe. Waylon Jennings, who I'm perhaps a little too enthused about, he played there. Willie Nelson, I mean it's a long list. And so I'm sure he'll have a great . . . I think they're sold out at the Horseshoe tonight, so that'll be wonderful for them. I want to acknowledge my kids in all of this — our kids.

You know, Mr. Speaker, I'm mindful of the time, and I want to first of all thank all the members who participated in the debate on both sides of the House. It's an important feature of our democracy that we begin a session with a debate like this, and competing ideas can be presented. And I think all members who were participating in the debate served that purpose and that endeavour well. And so I want to acknowledge all of them. I do especially want to thank members on this side in the House for their efforts. Not everyone had the chance to speak but many did, and I want to thank them.

Many of them had very nice things to say about me, and again I'll have a chance to more properly thank them in the weeks ahead and maybe at convention this weekend. But I thank those members who were offering best wishes and saying some very kind, overly generous things about me and our family. I appreciate them. This is like family as well and has been since I've had the pleasure to join it. The family members have changed over time. Some family members have changed over time but that principle, that team approach, the family atmosphere that we have has not changed. And I'm so grateful to have had the opportunity to work with women and men such as these.

Mr. Speaker, there was one effort in particular in the Throne Speech debate that did quote a song called, working the high wire, and it was the member for Estevan. It's a song by Waylon Jennings, and so therefore it probably was the best address in reply to the Throne Speech in the history of addresses in reply to the Throne Speech. But I should acknowledge that.

Mr. Speaker, I just want to offer a few thoughts. I think a Throne Speech is a good opportunity to evaluate a government,

any particular government, in terms of how they would measure up to what people would expect, to what the constituents of this province, the people of Saskatchewan expect from their government. I think this is true regardless of who the government is. People have certain expectations of that government. I think they want their government to have a vision, a long-term vision and plan for their province regardless of who the government is. They want them to have that long-term vision that is in fact worthy of this province.

What I mean by that, Mr. Speaker, is that this province is providentially blessed with amazing resources and wonderful people. World-scale potash amounts and oil and gas and 44 per cent of the country's agricultural land, arable land that we know is increasingly important in the world economy and in ours. And that's just a short list. Fifteen per cent of the uranium. I mean, this province is so blessed that I think the people of Saskatchewan want their government to have a vision for it that is worthy of all of these things, worthy of our resources, worthy of our people. So that vision by definition, therefore, should be hopeful. It should be a bold vision for a place like that.

That's what people expect of their government. That's what they should see in the Speech from the Throne. They should see that a government that is going to be continued to be informed by that kind of a bold vision that is worthy of the province, that the government should be improving that vision and growth plan with each effort, with each Throne Speech, or perhaps as every couple of years go by. I think that people expect our government in Saskatchewan to be aspirants to national leadership as well, to want to lead in terms of economic growth, for example, knowing that the economic growth pays for quality of life that we like.

And so, Mr. Speaker, if you look in this Throne Speech as to that test, does it reflect people's own desire for a vision from their government? Well the reference to the economic growth of the last 10 years, informed by our growth plan, is all over this Throne Speech, Mr. Speaker. And we've actually sought to improve the growth plan. We're going to add a value-added incentive in terms of agricultural jobs, agricultural-related jobs, so a new-growth tax incentive to lower taxes for those that are creating jobs in the agricultural value-added space. That's in the Speech from the Throne.

We know as well that the fiscal plan is endorsed in the Speech from the Throne. That's a long-term proposition, Mr. Speaker. The fiscal plan for the province calls on us to realize that resource revenues in the province have been now \$1 billion short of what they had been, well historically, contemporarily speaking anyway for about three years when no immediate prospect of those revenues increasing. Even as industry goes back to work, in the oil patch in particular, they are doing so on a lower cost framework because the price of oil hasn't gone up. People are going back to work though because companies have lower costs. So that's great for Saskatchewan. That means people are going back to work in the sector. That's what we want. That's what we cheer for. But the reality also is that our budget is going to be impacted in the long term.

And so well, you know, notwithstanding the debate or even the speech from my hon. friend just gave about all the shortcomings in spending of the government, we need to come to terms with

the fact that resource revenue is off a billion three. And I guess we can have a debate about who's to blame for that. Fair enough. But eventually, Mr. Speaker, eventually even members on that side of the House have to step forward with what they would do to reconcile the fact that resource revenues, down a billion three, are not . . . Look we don't see them coming back any time soon, at least to the billion three level.

[11:15]

So they're opposed to any tax increases. They're opposed to any spending restraint. They would start up the bus company. She said that an NDP government would fill the gap, would fund on-reserve education. I'm not sure how . . . I hope she's costed that out. There is a long list of spending that they would do. In the last election, we calculated that the NDP plan would add another \$500 million to the deficit. And I get that, you know . . .

And now we have a leadership campaign under way, and my hon. friend from Saskatoon Meewasin to his credit is proposing policies, but the policies that I've seen will have a significant cost. People expect in a Throne Speech and in a budget, they expect a plan, a fiscal plan for the province that's responsible.

Mr. Speaker, I would suggest this to this House: that party over there has changed since I sat there and watched it over on this side of the House, and it has most assuredly changed from the days of Roy Romanow. Because Roy Romanow faced fiscal challenges that he inherited, I readily admit. He faced them down. He made some very, very difficult decisions but he realized, democratic socialist or not, that you've got to balance the budget eventually.

And I think Mr. Calvert thought the same way about budgets. There was a fiscal rectitude that ran through both of those governments. I think that was frankly part of the NDP brand. Part of the reason why the NDP were successful in a number of elections is that people would look in on them and look at their policies and realize, well we may not agree with the government nationalizing the potash thing or wanting to own everything or some of their economic policies, but we'll kind of give them marks for fiscal management.

Mr. Speaker, it's interesting. I've watched the evolution of that party opposite. They have completely abandoned the heritage of Romanow and Calvert or Tommy Douglas when it comes to these matters. They have abandoned it in successive elections where they promised to spend more, to spend the people's money, to reverse all these, and they're doing it again even in their speech, even in their efforts in address in reply to the Throne Speech.

And I do think it's helpful because people are going to have to make a decision. Long after I'm out of this job, there will still be decisions to make — one coming up in 2020 — and people are going to have to ask the question, which party is going to deliver for this province a long-term fiscal plan, a responsible plan that will not burden the next generations in this province with debt unnecessarily? And that party over there is going to have to explain why they've become the more hipster, urbane version of the NDP we see in other parts of the country. The much more ideological left wing, dogmatic party is what

they've become, moving away from the pragmatic approach that we saw from people like Romanow and people like Premier Calvert even, with whom I had a lot of disagreement, and even Tommy Douglas.

And, Mr. Speaker, I guess in the interests of the Saskatchewan Party continuing to form the government, I hope they don't change because people are going to see through that. People will not support that.

Mr. Speaker, there's other signs in the Throne Speech of long-term thinking. And we're going to hear more from the Minister of the Environment, who's left for an FPT [federal-provincial-territorial] meeting, I understand, but we're going to hear more from him this session about our emissions plan in the province. We will not have a carbon tax in this province. We will fight the carbon tax from Ottawa. But Mr. Speaker, on the strength of the white paper that we have presented, we'll also flesh out a real emissions reduction plan. Our concern with the carbon tax, as you'll know, Mr. Speaker, is that where it's been implemented — and we have an example from 2008 now in British Columbia — it hasn't reduced emissions. Emissions have gone up. There's been a similar experience in other places.

Carbon pricing sounds good maybe, especially if a government is wanting tax revenue for something, but it is not efficacious in terms of reducing emissions. We will present a long-term plan for this province that has real targets, that will help this country meet its Paris commitment, and that is actually about emissions reduction and not another tax.

And, Mr. Speaker, here again I think there's an interesting contrast because the leadership candidates over there, especially I think the member from Meewasin, wants to capitulate to the federal government on this carbon tax. He has said over and over again that well we're going to have to do this. Notwithstanding the empirical evidence that it doesn't work. And I think the member for Regina Rosemont, not to be out-flanked on the left by his only competitor in the race, is joining that carbon tax parade, Mr. Speaker.

Well you know, and I'll get into this more in a moment, but people are also looking for a government in their Throne Speech and in their actions one that will stand up for Saskatchewan's interests. And for as long as we have the pleasure of serving, whoever sits in this chair, people will know that the Saskatchewan Party is aptly named because Saskatchewan will be first and foremost for us. We will always defend the interests of our economy and the people of this province, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I think people want to look at the Throne Speech and the government's actions and see a government that also deals with current issues. Long-term plans, but there are current issues before us. And if you look in the Speech from the Throne, you will see the government's commitment with a \$300 million investment in better Internet coverage, better cellular coverage for the province.

I remember, in the 2016 election, we travelled around in our pickup, and we heard from people on highways certainly. And we always do, but more . . . It was the first election I remember

this happening. More than highways, we heard about Internet coverage, especially in rural Saskatchewan. We have amazing agri-businesses out there that need connectivity. We have urban . . . Well we have residences obviously and we have urban businesses that need that connectivity. It's the new infrastructure. It's about growth for the province. It's in our growth plan, and it's a current issue we must face.

Ride sharing, another example of the government facing current issues that's right here in the Throne Speech. We have too many people drinking and driving. It's the view of the government we should have as many options as possible for people not to do that. And one of them, just one arrow in the quiver, is the new ride-sharing apps you can get. Lyft and Uber are the most popular.

We've got tech folks in Saskatoon and I think some in Manitoba that are looking at, and we want this to happen, an application, an Uber-like application for rural Saskatchewan. The Minister of Crown Investments Corporation, he's asking those tech folks to design Ruber. I'm not sure that's the name that anybody would go with. But, Mr. Speaker, it speaks to the fact that we want to deal with current issues.

And here again by the way, interesting by contrast. You know, the world is using these apps, these modern apps, whether it's Airbnb or Uber or Lyft. And what party, what modern party opposes the availability of Uber in Saskatchewan? The NDP, Mr. Speaker. It's incredible. You wonder. I'm sure they have meetings. They must wonder why are we so out of touch with Saskatchewan. I think they should look at their resolutions and look at the policy decisions they make when they say things like, well we don't really know if Uber's right for the . . .

Mr. Speaker, organ donations also is referenced in the Throne Speech. It's a current issue. It's a pressing issue. We need to improve those numbers. We're going to have physician teams to assist with that, and I think one day perhaps move towards presumed consent although that might be long past my time in this venerable Assembly.

The bill on unauthorized electronic distribution of images also represents a government dealing with a current issue, an issue that wasn't an issue when I first was elected, or dare I say, when our government was first elected. But it is today. And we want to protect those who are vulnerable, who are made vulnerable by others that would use revenge porn. And, Mr. Speaker, we're going to move on that because again I think it's important for governments to reflect current issues as well. And the Speech from the Throne does that.

Government should also keep its promises. I think that's another position that the people of the province would expect, would want to see in their government. You said you'd do things. Are you actually going to do them? Well, Mr. Speaker, this Throne Speech sought to keep two campaign promises: individualized funding for kids with autism, as well as the seniors' tax deferral program.

Government should reflect and protect the values of its citizens. Right? I think people would look at a Throne Speech or evaluate a government with that question. Does it reflect my values? Does it protect the values, sometimes unique values, of

the people of this province? Well, Mr. Speaker, in this Throne Speech there is an historic reference to the fact that our government will move forward with the notwithstanding clause to protect school choice in this province.

I want to give credit to the member for Regina Rosemont, who was then leader of the party, and I think basically supported the government's position. The new leader doesn't support it, I don't think, or is certainly equivocating on it because she said, well I don't think the notwithstanding clause is needed because it's going to take a long time in the courts. That kind of dithering also, I think, speaks to the disconnect between the NDP and the people of this province.

Parents whose kids are starting out in school would like some assurances. They'd like to know the surety that school choice will be protected, that separate schools will be offered, public schools will be offered, that the government would continue to partner with private chartered schools in this province as we have since we were elected. They would like that assurance. They have it in this Throne Speech, Mr. Speaker, because this government works hard to reflect and protect the values of the people of this province. We don't need to wait for the court case. We'll do that protecting right now, Mr. Speaker.

I think the people of this province would look at the Throne Speech and wonder, well does it represent a government that listens. Is the government listening to the people of Saskatchewan? Well, Mr. Speaker, here again I think, I hope, people would look at the Speech from the Throne and say, you know I don't . . . maybe I don't agree with everything the government's done or maybe I don't even agree with very much of what the government's done, but I respect the fact that they have listened on Bill 40.

Mr. Speaker, we sought to provide a privatization definition that wasn't there when the NDP proposed the Crown protection Act that we voted for. People clearly didn't agree with the definition. And so we reflected that fact in the Speech from the Throne, Mr. Speaker. We've done that on a number of issues.

And the NDP call it backpedalling, and they take shots at our government for making these adjustments. Here again I would say that when a government does that, whatever its stripe . . . although it sure didn't happen much when those folks sat over here, where they were clearly offside with Saskatchewan people but just went ahead in a bullheaded way and went ahead with policies, which is, I think in part, why they sit where they are now.

They can criticize us all they want, I guess. Take all the shots you want about how we have listened to Saskatchewan people and made adjustments. I hope and I believe this to be true with the five excellent candidates we have running for the leadership and the women and men that make up this caucus: I hope and I know that this party will always be a party that is humble enough to listen and learn from Saskatchewan people and reflect their views. And, Mr. Speaker, the Speech from the Throne, I think, does that as well.

Mr. Speaker, I think also that people want to look at a Throne Speech or the activities of a government and know that their government, whatever its stripe, will fight for their interests —

and I touched on this a little bit earlier — and not in an equivocal way, but clearly and resolutely defend the interests of this province. That's what they want to see. They would have seen that reflection in the Speech from the Throne. They would have seen a reference to what we're prepared to do with respect to Alberta continuing to ignore a New West Trade panel ruling on beer. They would have seen references not just in the Speech from the Throne but our work as a government on things like pipelines that we know are good for the province or the carbon tax I've already talked about.

It was very telling for me when the NDP had their convention recently and they invited their federal leader to speak to their convention. I hope, I hope that the new leader of the party, and certainly those who aspire to be premier . . . And I saw the member from Saskatoon Meewasin take a shining, smiling picture with Mr. Singh. I hope that before or after the picture was . . . Well I would say to my friend, the hon. . . . There's nothing wrong with the picture. What I would say is it would be important that we would know in this House that before the picture was taken or after the picture was taken or at some time that weekend, sometime that weekend, that that would-be premier of the province and the member for Rosemont, who wants that same job, and the current Leader of the Opposition would have taken him aside and said, you oppose Energy East. That's the most important pipeline as far as Saskatchewan's concerned. It has Saskatchewan oil in that pipeline.

An Hon. Member: — I did do that.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — Well she says she did do that. You know, Mr. Speaker, I would like to hear, I would like to have seen it or read it in the news. I guess we just trust her, Mr. Speaker. We would just trust all the candidates. Oh don't worry, we talked to Jagmeet. How about say something publicly? Because this . . . What I'm trying to offer here today, what I'm trying to offer here today is that you have to defend Saskatchewan's interests. You have to publicly defend Saskatchewan's interests.

And the member for Rosemont's heckling now and that's always interesting . . . [inaudible interjection] . . . Right. I would like to know what he said. He tweets a lot. I follow his Twitter account. He's on social media. He has access to the media. I think they've been trying to call him. What did he say publicly about it? What has he said in this House?

Energy East would have Saskatchewan oil in it. It would mean millions of dollars in infrastructure investment in that pipeline. It would mean less oil on the rails. It would mean less oil that we would import from places like Nigeria and Saudi Arabia. And rather than sort of mealy-mouthed equivocations from the NDP, they should be standing up for Saskatchewan's interests, for our energy sector, and standing up against their own federal leader.

I've heard the Leader of the Opposition say — I read it in a Moose Jaw *Times-Herald* article — how welcoming she was of his leadership. This will be great for the NDP. That would have been a good opportunity for her to maybe put an asterisk and say except, Mr. Speaker, here's what we will not stand for. We won't stand for the federal NDP blocking the growth, blocking the interests of the province, and I won't support the federal leader on that or the federal party. But apparently she talked to

him quietly, maybe somewhere at a table at the convention. I would say — Saskatchewan people would say — that's not good enough.

[11:30]

The same is true on the carbon tax. I remember — I think it was the last session — the Environment critic basically stood on her feet, said we should price carbon. Notwithstanding the fact that it doesn't actually reduce . . . Well that we should have a carbon tax. It doesn't reduce emissions and, Mr. Speaker, I think it's very telling because I think they come to it from an ideological perspective informed from some other new NDP sort of Central Canadian approach to what used to be a prairie populist, democratic, socialist approach that they used to have.

So, Mr. Speaker, I think by all of these measures, the Speech from the Throne is not . . . You know, it represents a document; it represents the work of humans. It doesn't represent perfection. But it meets some very key tests that I think people apply to the government.

I want to close, if I can, just quoting a few things from an overly generous and overly kind email I received from a young person on the 29th of October. He says:

Good morning, Brad. I'd like to start with a thank you. [He says,] I'm Regina, McLean, Sask born and raised. I'm a 22-year-old and I feel too young to be concerned with politics, but for my own sake, I have become very observant about what happens around the province of Saskatchewan. I don't know a friend of mine that votes, however I vote. That is because I know . . .

And he says something very kind about me here. He says he's currently employed on the Regina bypass. Pretty proud of that, I think. He would have been interesting to watch the NDP in question period today for the umpteenth time castigate that project, misrepresent its costs, and oppose the largest infrastructure project in the history of the province. But he says:

I'm currently employed on the Regina bypass, happily I may add. I'm extremely successful thus far at my age, and it's partially [he says thanks to myself].

I would tell him here it's not due to me or anyone on this side of the House. It's due to his work and his efforts, and he should be proud of what he is doing and what he's achieving. He goes on to say some very nice things about me personally, and then he ends with a request that I would stay in this job. He very generously asks that I would stay on. Well, Mr. Speaker, I'm not going to do that, obviously, however I want to give him some assurance through my address in reply to the Speech from the Throne today. All the things that he wants for this province aren't directly related or dependent on any one person, certainly not on me.

Mr. Speaker, as a government over these last 10 years, and in the Throne Speech I hope, you have seen represented a government that is working hard, if imperfectly, to ensure that it has a long-term vision for the province that is worthy of Saskatchewan. That we will continue to be a government that deals with current and pressing issues as they arise. That this

government is one that will keep its promises. That this government will continue to reflect and protect the values of the people of the province of Saskatchewan. That this government, regardless who the leader is, this government will listen to Saskatchewan people when they have concerns, when they seek change. And this government, as long as we have the honour to serve, will always put Saskatchewan first. We will always fight for Saskatchewan's interests.

I would tell that young man today that he should be very, very hopeful about the province of Saskatchewan, not just because our growth rates are forecast to be solid next year, not just because we're dealing with the temporal issues of resources, and not punting on balancing the budget, not just because we have a new, underlying strength in Saskatchewan, born of 1.16 million people — just 10 years from being a million — born of 64,000 more jobs in the province than existed before we got elected. He should be hopeful, as well, that there are earnest women and men on this side soon to be led by an earnest woman or man who will continue that work, who will continue to have a long-term vision, to respond to local issues, a government that will keep its promises, a government that will reflect and protect their values, one that will listen, and one that will always put Saskatchewan first.

I am opposing the amendment put forward by members opposite. I reject the Leader of the Opposition's contention this is not an ambitious Speech from the Throne. All of the editorial comment would say otherwise and so does the speech itself, which is why I will vote in favour of the Speech from the Throne.

The Speaker: — The question before the Assembly is the proposed amendment moved by the member from Nutana. We will take the motion as read. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the amendment?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

Some Hon. Members: — No.

The Speaker: — I believe the nos have it. Call in the members.

[The division bells rang from 11:35 until 11:38.]

The Speaker: — The question before the Assembly is the amended motion from the Speech from the Throne moved by the member from Nutana. We'll take the motion as read. All those in favour of the amendment please stand.

[Yeas — 11]

Sarauer	Vermette	Chartier
Sproule	Forbes	Rancourt
Mowat	McCall	Beck
Meili	Wotherspoon	

The Speaker: — All those against the amendment please stand.

[Nays — 43]

Wall	Heppner	Makowsky
Stewart	Reiter	Morgan

Harpauer	Cox	Marit
Hargrave	D'Autremont	Docherty
Merriman	Doke	Bonk
Tell	Eyre	Harrison
Ottenbreit	Ross	Weekes
Hart	Kirsch	Bradshaw
Steinley	Nerlien	Phillips
Lawrence	Wilson	Young
McMorris	Michelson	Buckingham
Lambert	Moe	Carr
Dennis	Kaeding	Steele
Fiaz	Cheveldayoff	Olauson
Wyant		

Clerk: — Mr. Speaker, those in favour of the address in reply, 43; those opposed, 11.

The Speaker: — The motion is carried. I recognize the member from Meadow Lake.

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

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

Clerk: — Mr. Speaker, those in favour of the amendment, 11; those opposed, 43.

The Speaker: — Carried. This Assembly now stands adjourned until Monday at 1:30.

The Speaker: — The amendment fails. Is the Assembly ready for the main motion?

[The Assembly adjourned at 11:45.]

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: — The yeas have it. Call in the members.

[The division bells rang from 11:41 until 11:42.]

The Speaker: — The question before the Assembly is the Speech from the Throne, moved by the member from Estevan. All those in favour please stand.

[Yeas — 43]

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

The Speaker: — All those opposed please rise.

[Nays — 11]

Sarauer	Vermette	Chartier
Sproule	Forbes	Rancourt
Mowat	McCall	Beck
Meili	Wotherspoon	

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GOVERNMENT OF SASKATCHEWAN

CABINET MINISTERS

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

Hon. Steven Bonk
Minister of the Economy
Minister Responsible for Tourism Saskatchewan
Minister Responsible for Innovation
Minister Responsible for Trade

Hon. Herb Cox
Minister of Advanced Education

Hon. Larry Doke
Minister of Government Relations
Minister Responsible for First Nations,
Métis and Northern Affairs

Hon. Dustin Duncan
Minister of Environment
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan
Water Corporation
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water
Security Agency
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan
Power Corporation
Minister Responsible for The Global
Transportation Hub Authority

Hon. Bronwyn Eyre
Minister of Education
Minister Responsible for the Status of Women

Hon. Joe Hargrave
Minister of Crown Investments
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Government Insurance
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Telecommunications
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and Gaming Authority

Hon. David Marit
Minister of Highways and Infrastructure
Minister Responsible for SaskBuilds

Hon. Paul Merriman
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Hon. Don Morgan
Deputy Premier
Minister of Justice and Attorney General
Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety
Minister Responsible for the Saskatchewan
Workers' Compensation Board

Hon. Greg Ottenbreit
Minister Responsible for Rural and Remote Health

Hon. Jim Reiter
Minister of Health

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

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