



THIRD SESSION - TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

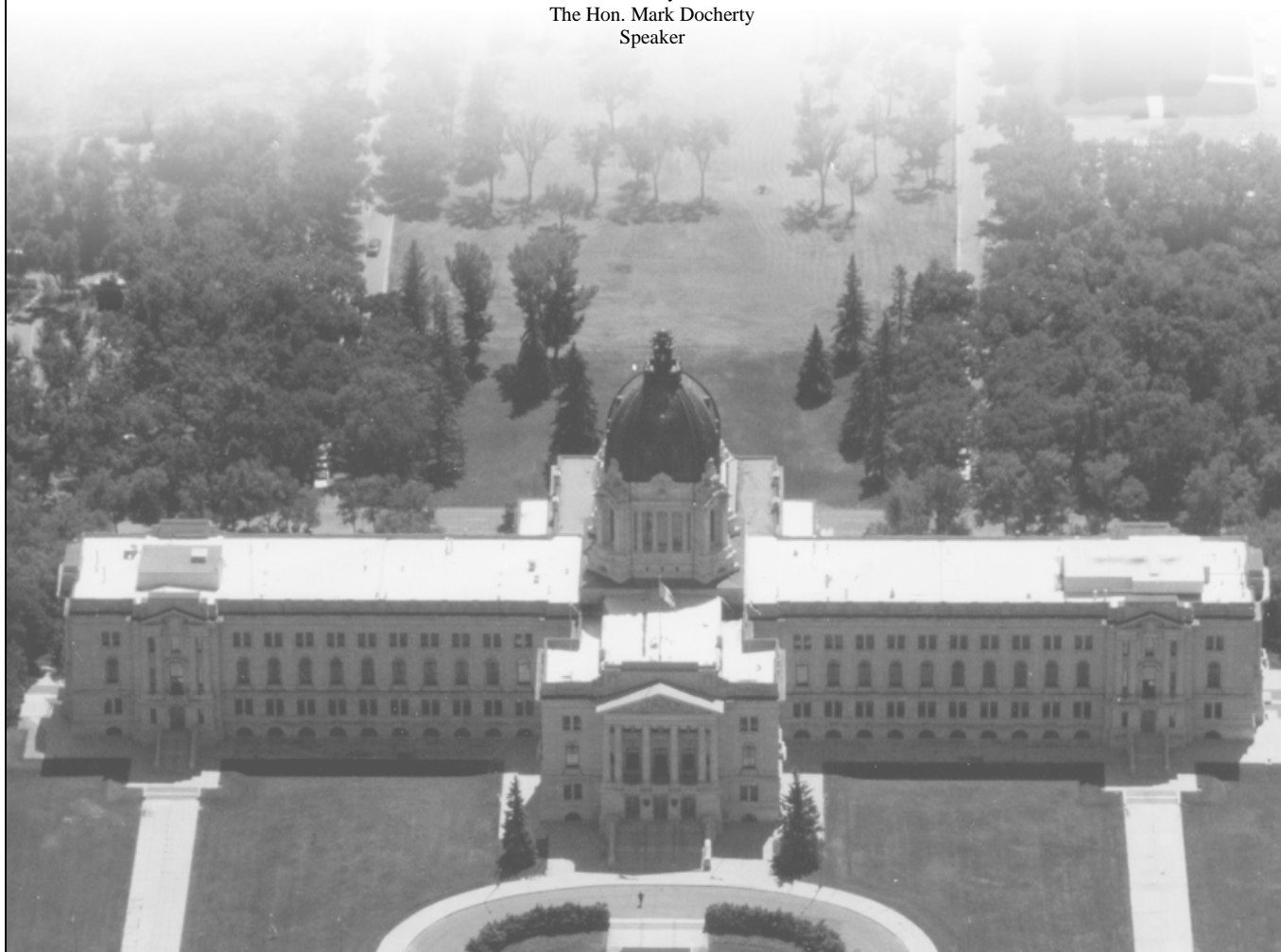
of the

Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

**DEBATES
and
PROCEEDINGS**

(HANSARD)

Published under the
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The Hon. Mark Docherty
Speaker



MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF SASKATCHEWAN
3rd Session — 28th Legislature

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Leader of the Opposition — Ryan Meili

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Wotherspoon, Trent — Regina Rosemont (NDP)
Wyant, Hon. Gordon — Saskatoon Northwest (SP)
Young, Colleen — Lloydminster (SP)

Party Standings: Saskatchewan Party (SP) — 48; New Democratic Party (NDP) — 13

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[The Assembly met at 13:30.]

[Prayers]

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Justice.

Hon. Mr. Morgan: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it's my pleasure to introduce to you and through you to all members of the Assembly a number of people representing the Insurance Brokers' Association of Saskatchewan, the Saskatchewan Young Brokers Network, and the Insurance Bureau of Canada. Seated in your gallery, Mr. Speaker — and I'd ask if they could give a wave as I mention their names — are Jaycee Turtle, Alyssa Taksas, Celyeste Power, Chris Block, Jordan Jensen, and Krista Clark.

Established in 1952, the Insurance Brokers' Association of Saskatchewan, IBAS, is a voluntary, member-based organization comprised of more than 95 per cent of all independent insurance brokers across the province. IBAS directly represents 207 brokerages and 379 branch locations, operating in 249 different Saskatchewan communities. As a registered not-for-profit entity, IBAS represents the interests of both its members and consumers to government, the industry at large, and the general public.

Please join me in welcoming these representatives to their Assembly and wish them a productive day in their meetings.

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

Ms. Rancourt: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to join the minister across and also welcome these insurance brokers to our Assembly on behalf of the official opposition.

We had an opportunity to have a meeting this morning — myself and some of my colleagues — with regards to insurance within our province. We had good discussions about some of the challenges within the insurance industry and how Saskatchewan measures up with some of the advancements of other provinces and some areas of consideration and improvement being suggested by insurance brokers across the province.

So as always, we welcome you to come and have these discussions with us. We appreciate you taking time of your busy day to come and meet with us as well, and we want to welcome you to your Assembly. Thank you.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Saskatoon Fairview.

Ms. Mowat: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to join in with the minister and my colleague from Prince Albert in welcoming the IBAS members today. Specifically I want to welcome Alyssa Taksas who is the Chair of the Young Brokers Network back to her Legislative Assembly. She was here last year as well. Alyssa and I know each other from the cadet program, so we go way back to maybe like 10 years ago, not that long.

But I have fond memories of working with her toward a very good cause, and specifically I can remember the two of us trying to work to start a generator on a field training exercise that no one else was able to start. There is video evidence of this somewhere out there. And we were successful eventually, and I think it's because we read the instructions at the end. So if she keeps coming back here every year, I'll endeavour to tell a story about her every year. But I would ask for all the members of this Assembly to join me in welcoming Alyssa back to her legislature.

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

Hon. Mr. Hargrave: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to join with the minister and the members opposite in welcoming the members from IBAS. I had great meetings with them this morning. In particular there's one individual up there that I would like to recognize. For many years her family was my next-door neighbour, and we visited back and forth. We had no fence. We visited back and forth. That's Jordan Jensen. And so I've known her since she's been about this tall. And she's a little bigger than that now, not much. And actually my wife is out visiting her parents here right now.

So anyway, I want to welcome Jordan. I want to welcome the whole IBAS team, their great relationship with SGI [Saskatchewan Government Insurance], and thank them for coming here and joining in the proceedings today. Thank you very much.

PRESENTING PETITIONS

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Saskatoon Westview.

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

I'd like to read the prayer:

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

Mr. Speaker, this petition is signed by the citizens of Saskatoon and Warman. Thank you.

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

Ms. Sproule: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm rising today to present a petition calling for a public inquiry into the GTH [Global Transportation Hub] land deal. The people who have signed this petition would like to bring to your attention the following: the Sask Party government has refused to come clean on the GTH land deal, a deal where Sask Party government insiders made millions flipping land and taxpayers lost millions; that instead of shining a light on the issue unequivocally and calling a public inquiry, the Sask Party government is instead hiding behind excuses around public prosecutions.

The Sask Party government continues to block key witnesses from providing testimony about the land deal, and new details on the GTH land deal continue to emerge, showing Saskatchewan people still do not have the full story behind the GTH land deal. It's Saskatchewan people who footed the bill for the GTH land deal, and they deserve nothing less than the truth.

I'll read the prayer:

We, in the prayer that reads as follows, respectfully request that the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan call on the Sask Party government to stop hiding behind partisan excuses and immediately call for a judicial inquiry and a forensic audit into the GTH land deal.

Mr. Speaker, the individuals who have signed this petition are from the city of Regina. I so submit.

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

Mr. Forbes: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to present a petition to get big money out of Saskatchewan politics. And the undersigned residents of Saskatchewan want to bring to our attention the following: that Saskatchewan's outdated election Act allows corporations, unions, and individuals, even those living outside the province, to make unlimited donations to our province's political parties. And we know that the people of Saskatchewan deserve to live in a fair province where all voices are equal and money can't influence politics. But, Mr. Speaker, over the past 10 years the Saskatchewan Party has received \$12.61 million in corporate donations and, of that, we know that 2.87 million came from companies outside Saskatchewan.

Mr. Speaker, Saskatchewan politics should belong to Saskatchewan people. And we know that the federal government and the provinces of Alberta, Manitoba, Quebec, Nova Scotia, and now British Columbia have moved to limit this influence and level the playing field by banning corporate and union donations to political parties.

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to read the prayer:

We, in the prayer that reads as follows, respectfully request that the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan call on the Sask Party government to overhaul Saskatchewan's campaign finance laws, to end out-of-province donations, to put a ban on donations from corporations and unions, and to put a donation limit on individual donations.

Mr. Speaker, the people signing this petition come from Estevan and from Saskatoon. I do so present. Thank you.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Saskatoon Fairview.

Ms. Mowat: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my pleasure to rise today to present a petition calling for pharmacare for Saskatchewan. These citizens wish to bring to our attention that Canada is the only country with a universal health care system that doesn't include prescription drug coverage, and that this oversight results in unnecessary illness and suffering and costs us billions; that over 90 per cent of Canadians agree that we need a national pharmacare program; and when we cover the essential

medications we improve people's quality of life and save millions in downstream costs.

I'd like to read the prayer:

We, in the prayer that reads as follows, respectfully request that the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan call on the Saskatchewan Party government to immediately support the establishment of universal pharmacare for Saskatchewan patients and advocate for a national pharmacare for all Canadians.

This is signed by individuals from Saskatoon, Mr. Speaker. I do so present.

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Lloydminster.

New Agreement Expands Access to Dental Care

Ms. Young: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Ministry of Health and the College of Dental Surgeons of Saskatchewan have reached a new agreement recently. This agreement expands access to insured surgical and specialty dental care. It includes important new services for patients, offers fair compensation to dental specialists and surgeons, and provides value for our health care system.

Newly added services include timely cleft lip and palate treatment for infants and children, and dental extractions for cancer patients. Specialized dental consultations, such as for people who have been in a car accident, are also covered by this agreement.

Mr. Speaker, about 3,000 Saskatchewan patients receive insured surgical interventions and treatments each year. An additional 1,300 patients will benefit from the new and expanded services under the new agreement supported by approximately \$200,000 annually.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the College of Dental Surgeons and the Ministry of Health for their collegial, professional negotiations that led to this agreement. More patients will get the help they need thanks to their great work. I now ask all in this Assembly to please join me in recognizing this important agreement as it will bring the important service and care to the people of Saskatchewan. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Saskatoon Fairview.

Universal Pharmacare

Ms. Mowat: — Mr. Speaker, over the past few months I've heard from so many in our province who are sick and in need of health care supports, but when they turn to government the supports are not there. In Saskatchewan we take pride in being the birthplace of medicare, and generally feel protected by our publicly funded health care system. But there are serious gaps in our coverage, and prescription drugs are among the most glaring.

Canada is the only country in the world with a public medicare

system that does not include prescription drugs, and we've known for decades this gap is costing us dearly. A single-payer, universal program for prescription medications would save lives by providing access to early treatments that keep people out of the hospital, off the surgery table, and at home with their families.

Not only would a universal pharmacare program save lives, it would save dollars — \$4.2 billion a year, according to the parliamentary budget officer. And it's incredibly popular among Canadians. According to an Angus Reid study, 91 per cent of Canadians support this idea.

This is a key moment in Saskatchewan's history and a chance for us to be clear about the type of province we want to fight for. When I think about the type of province I want for my family and all families, universal pharmacare and a strong public health care system are central to that vision. Thank you.

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

Moose Jaw & District Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year

Mr. Michelson: — Thank you. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge the wonderful volunteers of my community of Moose Jaw. Many local events and community initiatives are driven by these hard-working volunteers.

In recognition of this, the Moose Jaw & District Chamber of Commerce annually awards a deserving resident with the title of Citizen of the Year. This year's deserving recipient was Cory Olafson. Mr. Speaker, Cory Olafson has an impressive list of committee credentials and involvement. He's a strong fixture in the Moose Jaw community with connections with local organizations like the Moose Jaw Businessmen's Club, the Moose Jaw KidSport, and the Kinsmen Club of whom he's been a member for 25 years. He's also very well known in the local baseball community where he has played and coached for over 30 years. And if his resume was not full enough, he's even a board member of the Moose Jaw Miller Express baseball club.

Mr. Olafson was quite humbled with the reward, thanking his parents: "They taught me as a young child not to sit around and watch other people do the work. Get in there and make it happen." So please join me in congratulating all the deserving volunteer nominees and Mr. Cory Olafson for his well-deserved Citizen of the Year award in 2019. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

[13:45]

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

Prince Albert Citizens of the Year

Ms. Rancourt: — Mr. Speaker, two very deserving individuals were chosen as this year's Prince Albert Citizens of the Year — Derek Smith and Felix Casavant. I was pleased to attend the banquet in their honour on February 9th, hosted by the Prince Albert Kinsmen Club and the *Prince Albert Daily Herald*.

Derek and Felix were instrumental in bringing the 2018 World Junior Softball Championship to Prince Albert last July, and their

organizational skills, dedication, and hard work resulted in this hugely successful event. Prior to the games, Derek and Felix were instrumental in the success of Project Triple Play, which raised money to upgrade the ball diamonds to bring them up to the standards needed for this level of championship.

As one who was at the games almost every day, I can vouch first hand as to the professionalism, the great planning, and the dedication shown by Derek and Felix.

Mr. Speaker, Derek Smith and Felix Casavant are no strangers to volunteering and have both spent a great deal of time coaching ball. They have had a tremendous impact on the youth in Prince Albert and have truly helped shape the next generation. Through their work with youth in our city, they have inspired a love of sports and shown true leadership.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that all members join with me in congratulating this year's Prince Albert Citizens of the Year, Derek Smith and Felix Casavant.

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

Edam Alpaca Breeder Contributes to Industry and Community

Mr. Doke: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise in the House today to recognize a very hard-working constituent of mine, Carol Poole. Carol purchased her first alpaca back in 1996. Known as the alpaca lady, Carol has currently 25 alpacas and operates the Tiger Lily breeding program.

Mr. Speaker, Carol has served on numerous boards, including the Canadian Alpaca Breeders Association, the Saskatchewan Alpaca Breeders Network, and has been Chair for the show committee for the Alpaca Canada. Currently she is one of the Chair organizers in the Lloydminster Alpaca Showcase, which was held in mid-October in Lloydminster.

This past year, Carol and her partner were treated like absolute royalty at the 2018 Agribition as they are well known in the breeding community for their professionalism and top-quality animals. She also won reserve fawn champion with her animal named Mercedes.

Mr. Speaker, not only is Carol making an impact in the alpaca community but her breeding program is providing both great jobs and great education to her community of Edam. Her husband and her children are very involved in this family adventure and very enthusiastic about their animals.

Mr. Speaker, I now ask all members please join me in congratulating Carol Poole on her success at Agribition, and thank her for her impressive contributions to the alpaca industry in Saskatchewan and across our country. Thank you.

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

Team Saskatchewan Medals at Scotties Tournament of Hearts

Mr. Cox: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Scotties Tournament

of Hearts is always a week of tremendous curling that is watched closely by curling enthusiasts here in Saskatchewan. But this year, it was especially exciting with our provincial champions bringing home a bronze medal.

Mr. Speaker, the Robyn Silvernagle team, composed of third Stefanie Lawton, second Jessie Hunkin, and lead Kara Thevenot, and of course Silvernagle as skip, curling out of the Twin Rivers Curling Club in North Battleford, had most everyone in this province glued to their TVs. On the final weekend, after finishing in second place in round robin play, I know everyone in The Battlefords was perched on the edge of their armchairs, watching as our team took on first place Chelsea Carey from Alberta.

It was a great game that featured some precise shotmaking, but unfortunately we came up short in that game. But we still had an opportunity for another shot at the final game. On Sunday morning, our team faced Rachel Homan from Ontario whom we had just defeated in the championship round. But again the result was not what they'd hoped for, but they certainly should be proud of the way they played. I ask that all of my colleagues join with me in congratulating Robyn, Stefanie, Jessie, and Kara on bringing home a bronze medal for Saskatchewan. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Swift Current.

Swift Current Hosts Hockey Day in Canada

Mr. Hindley: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On the weekend of February 9th, my constituency of Swift Current had the honour of hosting this year's Scotiabank Hockey Day in Canada. This annual hockey celebration is meant to celebrate small-town hockey communities across the nation. Festivities began on February 6th with the Stanley Cup visiting classrooms across the city. Throughout the entire week there were activities, hockey clinics, and of course the weekend would not have been complete without some good, old-fashioned outdoor hockey. In fact, Mr. Speaker, there was also a celebrity ball hockey tournament held at SaskAbilities which I had the opportunity to play in as well.

The week was a fantastic opportunity to showcase Swift Current's rich hockey history while also highlighting the strong sense of community the city has. Special thanks are in order for Gerald Johnson and Richard Cashin from Swift Current Minor Hockey who helped to organize the entire week, which included a Sheldon Kennedy tournament for local novice teams featuring Sheldon Kennedy himself.

NHL [National Hockey League] legends Lanny McDonald, Wendel Clark, Marty McSorley, and even Stewart Valley's very own Travis Moen were all at the festival to join in at the festivities and share their favourite hockey stories and memories, plus some additional WHL [Western Hockey League] alumni as well.

The weekend came to a close Saturday evening with a game between the Swift Current Broncos and the Saskatoon Blades, with the legendary Don Cherry and Ron MacLean in attendance to broadcast a live rink-side edition of "Coach's Corner."

I want to thank all the young players, coaches, and their families, Ben Nesbitt and his team from Scotiabank, the mayor, and the

entire community of Swift Current for all that they did. The volunteers put in countless hours making sure that this year's Hockey Day in Canada was a huge success, showcasing our community on the national stage. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

QUESTION PERIOD

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

Access to Chinese Markets

Mr. Meili: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we learned today that the Government of China has cancelled the import registration of Richardson International, the largest grain-handling company in the country. Now this is in particular in regards to canola. Anyone who's involved in Saskatchewan agriculture knows, or anyone who drives around the province and sees the yellow fields throughout Saskatchewan knows how important canola is to our economy — the number one export crop, worth billions of dollars each year.

Now we know the Premier has prioritized the relationship with China. My question is, what concrete steps will he be taking to make sure that Saskatchewan producers are able to get their canola into that market?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Moe: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I thank the member opposite for his question that is of utter importance, really, to the export-based economy that we have here in the province of Saskatchewan. One of the pillars and backbone — the spinal cord, I often say — of that economy is Saskatchewan agriculture and our agri-food exports around the world. And our number two market for agri-food exports is China, Mr. Speaker, and I believe they're our number one market for canola. So this is of the utmost importance for our province and our agricultural community, Mr. Speaker.

This morning we've reached out to our federal ag ministers, our federal trade ministers, Mr. Speaker. We've reached out to the Canadian ambassador's office in China, Mr. Speaker. We've reached out to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency. We've talked with, reaching out to our Manitoba ag minister as well as our trade minister, Mr. Speaker, understanding that Richardson is based out of the province of Manitoba.

And we have communicated with Richardson themselves, Mr. Speaker, to work with our nation and to work with our agricultural industry and to work with our trading partners, as we always have, to ensure that we are able to get through this challenge, Mr. Speaker, and that we're able to continue to access markets around the world, including those of so much importance in China.

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

Development in Wascana Park

Mr. Meili: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday we had some discussion about the flawed process regarding the project in the park. And I'll be cautious with my choice of appropriate words, but it's very clear that an inappropriate process took place that

resulted in that outcome. And now you've got a company that's leasing land worth millions of dollars, leasing for a dollar a year. And worse than that is they're now able, because of the change in regulations, they're now able to rent out that property at commercial rates. This is going to give them an ability to make up to 2, 2.5 — that's probably a conservative estimate — millions of dollars, two-plus millions of dollars every year renting out that property. They'll pay off the build in no time, and then for year after year after year they'll be making money hand over fist in a public park.

Does the Premier recognize how bad this looks to have manipulated this process to benefit a Sask Party donor and now have this stain on our democracy in Saskatchewan? Will he do the right thing, take us back to the drawing board and pick a good approach to Wascana Park?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Moe: — Mr. Speaker, there is a lease agreement that was originally signed in 1955, Mr. Speaker, by the Tommy Douglas government with the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, Mr. Speaker. That agreement between the provincial government and the Canadian National Institute for the Blind was renewed recently, Mr. Speaker. There is no lease, as the member opposite indicates, Mr. Speaker, with any private corporation. There's a lease with the Canadian National Institute for the Blind that was renewed recently, Mr. Speaker. And with respect to the structure that will be there to replace that infrastructure for the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, Mr. Speaker, that infrastructure will pay full municipal taxes like every other corporation, every other facility in the community of Regina, Mr. Speaker.

With respect to the process, the process is exactly, Mr. Speaker, the process is the same as it has been for a number of projects within the park, most recently the Conexus project and the Darke Hall project. That's a process that has been put forward by the Wascana Centre Authority, Mr. Speaker, is continued by the Provincial Capital Commission, Mr. Speaker, has been continued for this project, will be for future projects such as the replacement of a water park in the park, potentially into the future.

The process is there for good reason. The process is there and it is guided by the pillars of the park, Mr. Speaker, the jewel of our province in Wascana Park. And the process is there and guided by not just the pillars of the park but the master plan for the Wascana Centre, Mr. Speaker, as well as the legislation.

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

Mr. Meili: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't think anyone would take that answer seriously, this idea that somehow this is the standard process: that standard process is to fire the architects on the committee; that standard process is to change the rules and allow more commercial rental out of that space. That is not the process that has been followed on any other project. It's a different rule. And that's why we now have the Provincial Auditor saying she's going to look into this. That's why we have two motions in front of Regina City Council saying there are red flags that need to be examined on this project.

Now, Mr. Speaker, yesterday the Premier actually made a pretty

reasonable statement to the press. He said that we should ask the federal government to not implement the backstop carbon tax until after the court case has been decided. That's a reasonable decision. Now we don't think the Trudeau tax should ever be applied here. That backstop should never be applied in Saskatchewan. But because this Premier refused to negotiate and refused to come up with a made-in-Saskatchewan solution, instead preferring to play political games, that's exactly what will happen.

So now, Mr. Speaker, I ask the Premier, in that same sphere of a reasonable decision of waiting until we've got all the information, will he press pause on this Wascana Park project until the auditor has had a chance to do her full report?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Moe: — Mr. Speaker, the auditor has indicated that she is going to look at the processes involved with the Wascana Park builds — I presume all of the builds in Wascana, all the replacement projects in Wascana Park, Mr. Speaker — as it is her purview to do so. And we support the work, obviously, the Provincial Auditor's office here, Mr. Speaker.

And we must remember the investment, Mr. Speaker: of the three partners within the Wascana Park over the last decade, some \$75 million investment showing a commitment to that jewel of this province, Mr. Speaker, 45 million of that \$75 million coming from the provincial government of Saskatchewan, Mr. Speaker, most assuredly showing the investment in that park by this government.

With respect to this government's stance on the federally imposed backstop, the federally imposed carbon tax, Mr. Speaker, this is a clear choice that is developing between members on this side of the House that have constantly said that that is an ineffective tax that will be applied on families in Saskatchewan, unlike the members opposite, Mr. Speaker.

And the Leader of the Opposition — up until today it sounds like, possibly — is changing, flip-flopping and changing his tune, Mr. Speaker, but as always chose not to stand with the people of the province but has chose to stand with Prime Minister Trudeau in supporting a federal carbon tax on Saskatchewan families, Saskatchewan industries, and Saskatchewan jobs, Mr. Speaker.

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

Equalization Agreement With Federal Government

Mr. Meili: — Thank you, Mr. Minister. The responsible thing to do in this case would be to press pause on that project until the Provincial Auditor has released her report.

Now, Mr. Speaker, if you've been watching television at all lately, you may have seen that the Sask Party is spending a fortune on ugly, American-style attack ads, attack ads that are full of lies, straight-up lies, Mr. Speaker.

[14:00]

The Speaker: — You know full well that that's unparliamentary to use the word "lies," so . . .

[Interjections]

The Speaker: — That's out of order. That's out of order. I recognize the Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Meili: — Mr. Speaker, one of the most outrageous claims in those ads, and it is embarrassing to see the Sask Party move us down that direction of such a polluted political discourse, but one of the most embarrassing exaggerations is the idea that somehow I and the NDP [New Democratic Party] have had nothing to say about equalization.

Our equalization, our equalization formula in this country is flawed, Mr. Speaker. I have said so, and New Democrats went so far as to take this to court. Brad Wall supported that move. Andrew Scheer supported that move. Even the member for Meadow Lake supported that move. But as soon as there was a Conservative in Ottawa who didn't want to ruffle feathers in Ontario and Quebec, suddenly they got cold feet.

Well, Mr. Speaker, my question is, with this new-found concern for fair equalization, with this new-found concern for court cases in defence of Saskatchewan, will they restart that legal battle and get us a fair deal for equalization in this province?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Moe: — Mr. Speaker, we are not about to start taking advice from the Leader of the Opposition and members opposite on how to stand with the people and industry and jobs in the province of Saskatchewan. Mr. Speaker, we are a proud contributor to the equalization formula because we have a growing and burgeoning economy here in the province of Saskatchewan, an economy that has grown over the last decade, Mr. Speaker, and we hope will continue to grow into the future.

Mr. Speaker, that strong economy is allowing us to invest, allowing us to invest in our communities across this province with 42 new schools, Mr. Speaker, over the last decade; 15 long-term care facilities across the province; a new children's hospital, Mr. Speaker, fully staffed it will be when it opens, providing services that we have not had in this province up till today, Mr. Speaker.

And we will this Friday be in the city of North Battleford, Mr. Speaker, to introduce the replacement of over a 100-year-old facility in the Saskatchewan Hospital North Battleford, Mr. Speaker. That's what a strong economy can do. That's what members on this side of the House will always stand for, Mr. Speaker. And we'll stand beside the people of this province. We will never stand beside — as the Leader of the Opposition does, Mr. Speaker — the Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Mr. Singh, or Rachel Notley. That's not where we are, Mr. Speaker, on this side of the House.

The Speaker: — Can I just ask that we take it down a notch, one or two notches. I recognize the Leader of the Opposition.

Donations to Political Parties and Equalization Agreement With Federal Government

Mr. Meili: — Mr. Speaker, that was exactly what I was afraid of, that this talk on equalization and getting a fair formula is

exactly that — talk. That we will see zero action whatsoever, Mr. Speaker. And it's been also so disappointing to see this Sask Party doubling down on those ugly, American-style attack ads, Mr. Speaker, doubling down on soiling our political discourse in Saskatchewan. Mr. Speaker, we can do so much better. We can do so much better.

You can see with double the debt, double the PST [provincial sales tax], a stream of scandals, of sweetheart deals for their donors, for the highest number of kids in this country having to feed themselves from the food bank, for the worst health outcomes in Canada, you can see why they want to change the channel, Mr. Speaker. Saskatchewan has a lot of work to do, Mr. Speaker. We have a lot of work to do, and that work won't get done through cheap attack ads.

And that's why I'm asking the Premier today . . . We need to clean up Saskatchewan politics. We need to get rid of this barrier to good politics that is corporate and union donations for once and for all. Will you help me? Will you join with us and get rid of big money in Saskatchewan politics?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Moe: — Mr. Speaker, I'll get to this answer. I'm still on the previous answer actually, Mr. Speaker. With respect to putting forward real solutions to the equalization formula in this province, Mr. Speaker, it was this government that put forward the 50/50 plan, Mr. Speaker. It was this government that put forward an actual, the only government in the nation of Canada to put forward an actual proposal, Mr. Speaker, to start the discussion to ensure that our equalization plan, our wealth that is in many ways created in provinces like Saskatchewan and Western Canada, can be shared and shared equally amongst all Canadians, amongst all Canadians, Mr. Speaker, ensuring, ensuring that services are similar across the nation.

What we are seeing in this province, as I mentioned, is a stream of investment, Mr. Speaker, an investment in communities due to a strong economy here in the province, an economy that is supported by members on this side of the House, Mr. Speaker, an economy that is supporting communities to ensure that our communities in Saskatchewan are the very best place to raise a family, Mr. Speaker.

We're investing in our next generation, Mr. Speaker. We're investing in our low-income residents here, Mr. Speaker, taking 112,000 low-income families and residents off the tax rolls so that they can have a better chance at succeeding and being all that they can be in life. Mr. Speaker, we have expanded child care subsidies, investment in education, and we'll continue to do so, Mr. Speaker. And we'll continue to stand with the people of this province.

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

Mr. Meili: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Now I'm aware that the Premier put forth this 50/50 plan, and it basically amounted to a 50/50 ticket. They hoped that they would get some response but they missed the deadline. They weren't actually part of the conversation. They didn't know what was going on.

And now when they realize that they missed the deadline and had

no influence, no impact on equalization, and we put forth an idea for how we could actually step forward and do that — an idea that this party across the way had supported — now they've got nothing to say because they're not actually willing to take any action. I think if that was coming on this side, we'd hear them, we'd see them start to wave some white flags. I see some white flags waving over on that side, Mr. Speaker. They back down on any fight to fix the flawed formula, and as a result Saskatchewan will continue to get a raw deal.

When will the Premier get some of the spinal column he described? When will he take this to the feds as he should?

The Speaker: — What did he say? I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Moe: — Mr. Speaker, I'm thankful for this renewed interest in our 50/50 equalization formula, Mr. Speaker. I'm thankful that the opposition has renewed interest in sharing the wealth that has been created over the past decade in this province, Mr. Speaker, with all Canadians, so we can ensure that we have services across this nation, Mr. Speaker. And I look forward to . . . This is maybe one of the points of collaboration where we can work together, Mr. Speaker, advocating with the federal government on sharing Saskatchewan's wealth with others across Canada, Mr. Speaker.

But as far as standing up for the residents and getting our message across to the federal government — which the Leader of the Opposition agrees with on this topic, Mr. Speaker — we will not be, we will not be, Mr. Speaker . . . doing everything in our ability to ensure that we do not have a carbon tax enacted on the people of this province, Mr. Speaker, unlike the Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Speaker, which supports our Prime Minister and supports the federal government in enacting what is an ineffective tax, a tax that will just cost families and jobs in this province, Mr. Speaker.

This side of the House, this government of this province, Mr. Speaker, has chosen to challenge the federal government in the provincial Court of Appeal, Mr. Speaker. We look forward to a positive outcome from that, Mr. Speaker. We have the support of Saskatchewan residents and we look forward to the support of the members opposite, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Forbes: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. You know, \$229,000 buys a lot of smear and, Mr. Speaker, that's just from one company over the last 12 years. The Sask Party has taken over \$3 million from out-of-province companies over the same time period.

Well this Premier has had the chance to get big money out of politics once and for all last spring but he and his caucus voted it down, leaving Saskatchewan as the only place in the country that still allows unlimited corporate and out-of-province donations. The Sask Party is pouring a fortune into manipulative ads that misrepresent the opposition and seek to distract, distract from their own dismal record. Will the Premier explain today why he refuses a ban on the corrosive influence of big money in our democracy?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Justice.

Hon. Mr. Morgan: — Mr. Speaker, this is a party that doesn't support pipelines. This is a party that doesn't support energy. This is a party that's on record as being against those things. And, Mr. Speaker, it is only fair that we point those things out to the people of this province. The people in this province have a right to know where the NDP opposition stands on those issues. And, Mr. Speaker, we didn't stand up and take words out of their mouth. We let their own mouths be those words when they spoke. It was their own text that's in those ads. It's what they said about those issues, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, we will always stand up for the people of this province. We will always do what's right for the people in this province. We will stick up for our farmers. We will stick up for our oil producers. We will stick up for our pipelines. We will do the things that are necessary to get the things that we produce in this province to tidewater, to get things to market, to work through market issues with other provinces, to work with market issues with the federal government and other countries, Mr. Speaker. That's where this province is going, and that's where it's being led on this side of the House.

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

Mr. Forbes: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. You know, listening to these dodges day after day I'm reminded of the words of Upton Sinclair, and I quote, "It is difficult to get a man to understand something, when his salary depends upon his not understanding it."

Mr. Speaker, the same applies to governments and their addiction to big money from their corporate donors. This government has the authority and the obligation to do the right thing and yet they refuse again and again. They're presiding over the wild west of campaign finance lawlessness because it works just fine for them and their attack ad smears. Well it isn't working for the people of Saskatchewan. Six simple words to the minister: get big money out of politics. Yes or no?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Justice.

Hon. Mr. Morgan: — Mr. Speaker, for the past 10 years the Saskatchewan Party has received 90 per cent of its donations from Saskatchewan. Mr. Speaker, the members opposite should know where Saskatchewan is. It's easy to draw, a little hard for them to spell sometimes. But, Mr. Speaker, 90 per cent of them come from this province.

And, Mr. Speaker, all registered parties publicly report their donations. The information is available online to anyone that wants to see it, to anyone that wants to look at it. We don't have pacts. We don't hide behind saying, this director is giving money. It's right there on the internet. Right there is the name of the donor and how much money they've given at any particular time. The information is in annual reports; it's filed with Elections Saskatchewan. All donations over \$250 are publicly reported as required by *The Election Act*. Mr. Speaker, you can ask for no higher degree of transparency and openness than having that that's there.

Mr. Speaker, taxpayer-subsidized per-vote subsidies take choice

away from the public.

The Speaker: — Next question. I recognize the member for Saskatoon Nutana.

Global Transportation Hub and Land Transactions

Ms. Sproule: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. On January 4th the government announced big changes at the GTH. Facing the reality that GTH land sales had been abysmal, they fired their CEO [chief executive officer], Bryan Richards, and hired a Toronto real estate company, thinking somehow they could pull a rabbit out of the hat better than their own local team. I wonder how that's going, Mr. Speaker.

On top of that, they announced that they were going to divest themselves of the GTH. But what exactly does that mean? How do you divest yourself of a municipality that you've created yourself through special legislation? Since the GTH land lies within the boundaries of the city of Regina, one can only assume that Regina is happy to take over the GTH. I'm wondering, has the city agreed to that, Mr. Speaker? And when will the government be repealing its own Bill Boyd special, so they can actually do what they say they're going to do?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Justice.

Hon. Mr. Morgan: — Mr. Speaker, I'll put it into some simple terms for the members opposite. Divest means sell, not to have anymore. We want to sell the land that's there. Mr. Speaker, when the project started, that was the goal, was to try and create an opportunity for people to buy land, for people to have businesses in the land. And, Mr. Speaker, there's still over 700 acres there that we would like to sell.

Mr. Speaker, if the members opposite would like to help in that divestiture, maybe they'd like to be a buyer. Maybe they know somebody that would like to be a buyer. Mr. Speaker, there are some great opportunities out there.

Mr. Speaker, at the time of construction there was 1,800 jobs there. \$485 million in private investment, nearly a half a billion dollars, has gone into that project from private members, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we're going to continue to work to try and make sure it does it. We feel it can be best managed and best operated by private sector people that have more contacts with national and international entities that may want to come in and be participants there. And that's the direction we're going to go, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Sproule: — Well I don't know what he's selling, Mr. Speaker, but I don't think anybody's buying it. In addition to growing debt, one of the more serious concerns about the GTH has been the lack of accountability on the part of this government. When we see what's happening in Ottawa with high-profile witnesses coming forward in the SNC-Lavalin scandal, we are reminded that this government repeatedly denied access to witnesses in the GTH land scandal, not just once, Mr. Speaker, but dozens and dozens of times.

[14:15]

And that seemed to be a serious concern for the Deputy Premier when he was running for the premier's job. He talked about bright lights and accountability, but has unequivocally backed down on that strong stance after he lost the leadership race. Well, Mr. Speaker, apparently there was a dimmer switch on that light. Can the Deputy Premier tell us why he was so keen to expose scandal then, when running for the premier's job, but now he's backed down? Or will he do the right thing like the brave women in Ottawa and get that bright light shining, or will his boss continue to throw shade on him?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Justice.

Hon. Mr. Morgan: — Mr. Speaker, since the leadership has changed, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to tell the members something that they might have missed earlier in this year. The RCMP [Royal Canadian Mounted Police] completed their investigation. They completed having the matter forwarded to the prosecutions unit in the province of Manitoba. And, Mr. Speaker, this is what happened. The RCMP did the unprecedented thing of having a press conference, a press conference to announce the steps that they took. They talked about the hundreds and hundreds of hours that the RCMP spent. They talked about the process that they took with the prosecutions unit in Winnipeg to make sure that everything was examined.

They did not find even enough evidence that they could have gotten a search warrant. But they didn't need a search warrant because the government and the Provincial Auditor was totally forthcoming and gave them everything they could have wanted. Mr. Speaker, this is the most analyzed transaction and the most analyzed thing that you could ever want to have had happen when you look at the number of people — the Provincial Auditor, the RCMP, the police that have looked at it, the lawyers that have looked at it. Mr. Speaker, the members opposite should have a careful look at what's taken place.

The Speaker: — During question period, I did pick up one comment that I find unparliamentary. Leader of the Opposition, I'd ask that you withdraw and apologize when you stated, grow a spinal cord.

Mr. Meili: — I withdraw and apologize.

The Speaker: — Thank you.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

ADJOURNED DEBATES

SECOND READINGS

Bill No. 151

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Mr. Morgan that **Bill No. 151 — *The Personal Property Security Amendment Act, 2018*** be now read a second time.]

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

Ms. Sarauer: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my honour to rise this afternoon and enter into the debate around Bill No. 151, *The Personal Property Security Amendment Act*. This bill makes some very technical changes to the PPSA [*The Personal Property Security Act*]. As such I'm going to have to ask a lot of detailed questions about this at committee. I have to admit that I'm not an expert in this area and hadn't had the opportunity until this bill to look at the PPSA legislation since law school. So it's been a while, Mr. Speaker.

This bill introduces new definitions and updates the language that's used in the legislation. It establishes the procedures to be observed for the control of the electronic record of the transaction. It outlines the purpose of a purchase money security interest in inventory and sets out the general rules determining the validity of interests by the law of the jurisdiction in which the collateral is situated.

It also provides for a process to continue out-of-province perfection of goods that are relocated to Saskatchewan by allowing for some timely re-registration and perfection in this jurisdiction. It clarifies some protection rules where goods are removed from one jurisdiction to another, sets out the rules to determine where a debtor is located for the purpose of conflict issues. It determines the rules governing a prior security interest and the location of a debtor, sets out some further perfection rules by possession with respect to purchase money security interests and possession rules for shipped goods, creates an equitable interest in goods where substantially paid for.

Mr. Speaker, I could go on, needless to say, long story short. It's an important piece of legislation but it's very, very technical. As such I'm looking forward to having my questions answered by officials at committee. So at this time I'm prepared to allow this bill to move forward to the next step.

The Speaker: — The question before the Assembly is a motion by the member that Bill No. 151 be now read a second time. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

Principal Clerk: — Second reading of this bill.

The Speaker: — To which committee shall this bill be committed? I recognize the Government House Leader.

Hon. Mr. Brkich: — Designate that Bill No. 151, *The Personal Property Security Amendment Act, 2018* be committed to the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice committee.

The Speaker: — This bill stands committed to the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice.

Bill No. 154

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Mr. Morgan that **Bill No. 154 — *The Intestate Succession Act, 2018/Loi de 2018 sur les successions non testamentaires*** be now read a second time.]

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

Hon. Mr. Harrison: — Point of order, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — What's your point of order?

Hon. Mr. Harrison: — Mr. Speaker, during question period the member for Saskatoon Nutana said to this side of the House that, and I quote: "I thought your religion didn't allow lies." I believe if you review the tape you will hear that clearly. And I would ask you to look at that and take the appropriate ruling.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Opposition House Leader.

Ms. Sarauer: — Mr. Speaker, I was paying close attention to question period. I heard no such thing said by that member. I'd ask that you review the record and find that this point of order is not well taken.

The Speaker: — Yes, I'll take it under advisement. I'll review the record and will report back. Order, please. Order, please. I'll review the tape.

[Interjections]

Order, please. I'm not sure, are we in debate now? All right, let's come to order and let's continue on with our business. I recognize the member for Regina Douglas Park.

Ms. Sarauer: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm glad that I finally now have the opportunity to speak to this piece of legislation that I was looking forward to speaking to minutes earlier. I'm happy to enter into the debate around Bill No. 154, *The Intestate Succession Act*. Mr. Speaker, this piece of legislation is created due to a consultation, a lengthy consultation, Mr. Speaker, that had been made on this bill through the Law Reform Commission. I knew they did some really good work with both the legal community as well as many stakeholders in consulting on this legislation and determining some changes that needed to be made, Mr. Speaker, largely some updates and clearing up some language.

But there are some interesting things that have spurred out of the recommendations of the commission and the good work that they had done with respect to this legislation. So I'm looking forward to having the opportunity to ask those questions at committee. So at this time I'm ready to allow this bill to move forward to its next steps.

The Speaker: — [Inaudible interjection] . . . Hang on. I'll do the question first. Yes. The question before the Assembly is a motion that the minister . . . that Bill No. 154 be now read a second time. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

Principal Clerk: — Second reading of this bill.

The Speaker: — To which committee shall this bill be committed? I recognize the Government House Leader.

Hon. Mr. Brkich: — Designate that Bill No. 154, *The Intestate Succession Act, 2018* be committed to the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice committee.

The Speaker: — This bill stands committed to the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice.

Why is the member on her feet?

Ms. Sproule: — Request leave to make an apology, Mr. Speaker.

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

STATEMENT BY A MEMBER

Apology

Ms. Sproule: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to apologize for the comment I made earlier to the Assembly and, in particular, to the member opposite.

The Speaker: — Thank you. Thank you for that apology. All right, let's continue on.

ADJOURNED DEBATES

SECOND READINGS

Bill No. 163

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Mr. Morgan that **Bill No. 163 — *The Legal Profession Amendment Act, 2018*** be now read a second time.]

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Cumberland.

Mr. Vermette: — Thank, you, Mr. Speaker, to join in on Bill 163, *The Legal Profession Amendment Act 2018*. Initially just looking at this, from what I got from the minister's comments on this bill, there was I guess the Law Society judges. There was different groups. There was a group that was asked to do a task to see if, other than lawyers, could it be possible that we would have, I guess, individuals, and I'm not sure like who they would be that they would appoint, but it gives certain powers that they can actually give a licence.

When you look at it, what it would do is . . . There was a working committee from . . . [inaudible] . . . Different people were on it. They made some recommendations and now the government's, you know, moving forward on it. And I think what it's referring to is unfortunately some people, maybe for their . . . They cannot afford legal counsel. There might be reasons why they need legal counsel, but do they need a lawyer to handle it? Can it be handled by somebody else in a certain way that they would have a licence? And that's what they've done here. They're going to be, from my understanding, there'll be . . . And I'm not sure who will do it, but there will be the Minister of Justice, somebody, at the end of the day.

And I know we'll have more questions in committee, but what it actually comes down to is they will give a limited licence, I believe is what it would be, to do certain things to assist clients

or individuals who are needing some advice and maybe not the need of a lawyer, but helping in the system. But I think the system, if it's overloaded, if the cost . . . But anyway, they're looking at some reasons. But it looks like the Law Society, they went to consult with judges, different organizations to ask how they feel about doing this and moving . . . if there would be a need for this legislation and move it forward. And it sounds like they've come up with a recommendation, something that's I guess workable.

We'll have to see how it is once it comes into law. It's still going to have to be regulated, monitored, and I imagine they'll do what they do. But I guess they're doing, you know, a start to this bill and seeing what they can do and how they're going to . . . And obviously it's a new process. And I guess, I know the critic on our side will have more questions and it just, like I said, it's giving an opportunity for someone to provide some services.

Maybe you know, the individual cannot afford to seek a lawyer or that type of things. Now I don't know if that's paperwork, stuff like that, a commissioner of oath, you know. And I'm not sure if they're referring to the . . . But I know in committee, we'll get an opportunity to ask some questions and get clarification exactly what it is, and I guess if there's going to be regulations on this. And the minister and the Justice, you know, will come forward with regulations on how these people that are given the limited licence will be able to practise and then do the work on behalf of the clients that are requiring their assistance.

So at this point there's not a lot I have to say on it, other than I think in committee there is some clarification. We've got some . . . We're still wondering what some of these duties will be because it's not outlined in here. And we'll wait to see what exactly that will be as, once it gets approved and we'll move forward. So at this time, Mr. Speaker, I don't have any more comments on this bill and I'm prepared to move Bill 163 be adjourned.

The Speaker: — The member has moved to adjourn debate on Bill No. 163. Pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried. Just before we move on I wanted to further the apology from the member from Saskatoon Nutana. Thank you for that, and I consider the matter closed.

Bill No. 164

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Mr. Morgan that **Bill No. 164 — *The Statute Law Amendment Act, 2018 (No. 3)*** be now read a second time.]

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Saskatoon Fairview.

[14:30]

Ms. Mowat: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my pleasure to rise today to enter into adjourned debates on Bill No. 164, *The Statute Law Amendment Act*. I'll speak briefly about what some of the changes are that are being proposed in this legislation.

I find that something that's useful when you are looking for changes is to have a look at, as a starting point, what the minister's seconding reading speech was in this area. And the minister had a few things to say about this bill. He spoke about the fact that the bill would largely be making housekeeping changes to a number of different pieces of legislation in order to update and modernize the provisions to ensure that the General Revenue Fund was uniformly referred to as such. In various pieces of legislation it's still referred to as the Consolidated Fund.

There are also a number of outdated references to the titles of ministers and ministries. They've replaced a number of references to "department" with "ministry," and the minister says that the purpose of these amendments is to standardize terms and phrases in legislation and to make electronic searches a little bit more easy. And we know increasingly that is the way folks are accessing our legislation is by hopping on their computer and doing searches, and if we don't have that streamlined process it can be particularly cumbersome if folks are trying to do research here. The minister concludes by saying these changes are all housekeeping in nature and will not have a substantive impact on the provisions of the legislation that are being amended.

The following Acts are the ones that are being amended: so *The Agricultural Implements Act*; *The Agricultural Leaseholds Act*; *The Ambulance Act* — I think there could be a few other changes that are taking place as we're amending *The Ambulance Act*, but that's perhaps a discussion for another time — *The Child and Family Services Act*; *The Coroners Act*; *The Correctional Services Act*; *The Crop Payments Act*; *The Dental Disciplines Act*; *The Expropriation Procedures Act*; *The Financial Administration Act*; *The Funeral and Cremation Services Act*; *The Income Tax Act, 2000*; *The Interprovincial Subpoena Act*; *The League of Educational Administrators, Directors and Superintendents Act, 1991*; *The Pest Control Products (Saskatchewan) Act*; *The Planning and Development Act, 2007*; *The Police Act, 1990*; *The Power Corporation Act*; *The Provincial Sales Tax Act*; *The Public Health Act, 1994*; *The Public Officials Security Act*; *The Registered Teachers Act*; *The Rehabilitation Act*; *The Research Council Act*; *The Saskatchewan Assistance Act*; *The Saskatchewan 4-H Foundation Act*; *The Saskatchewan Housing Corporation Act*; *The Saskatchewan Medical Care Insurance Act*; *The Saskatchewan Telecommunications Act*; *The SaskTel Pension Implementation Act*; *The Statistics Act*; *The Tax Enforcement Act*; *The Teachers' Dental Plan Act*; the teachers' life insurance Act; *The Teachers Superannuation and Disability Benefits Act*; *The Time Act* — I've only got a few more — *The University of Regina Act*; *The Veterinary Services Act*; *The Water Security Agency Act*; *The White Cane Act*; *The Crown Corporation Act, 1993*; *The Municipal Board Act*; *The Natural Resources Act*; *The Northern Saskatchewan Economic Development Act*; *The Power Corporation Act* which I might have said already; and *The Power Corporation Superannuation Act*.

So all of these pieces of legislation are being opened up to ensure that their language is standardized. It appears that the changes are housekeeping and minor and won't have huge consequences to the substance of the Act. However because of the nature of what is happening here with the amount of Acts that are being amended, we will be watching closely to ensure that the changes are housekeeping in nature.

So I know that the critic will have a lot more to say, and my colleagues will continue to weigh in on Bill No. 164, Mr. Speaker. But with that I would move that we adjourn debate on this bill today.

The Speaker: — The member has moved to adjourn debate on Bill No. 164. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

Bill No. 165

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Mr. Morgan that **Bill No. 165 — *The Workers' Compensation Amendment Act, 2018*** be now read a second time.]

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

Ms. Rancourt: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's a pleasure today to join in these adjourned debates, and today I'm going to talk a little bit about Bill No. 165, *The Workers' Compensation Amendment Act*.

Mr. Speaker, I had the opportunity to be the critic for Workers' Compensation for a period of time and it was a real learning experience, I have to say. I know in previous employments I've been on committees where we ensured that our workplace is safe and is abiding by rules so that injury was low within our workplace. So this has always been an area of interest for me. And it was very interesting to meet with the individuals who work with Workers' Compensation and learn about some of the programs that they are implementing to make sure that our province is safe and the workers in our province here are safe.

But, Mr. Speaker, I have to say the most humbling experience being the critic for Workers' Compensation was the day that we sat in this House where we talked about the fatalities of workers in our province, and reading out the names of people who have died due to workplace injury and illness.

And so, Mr. Speaker, we need to get to a point where that is zero and we no longer need to do that, and workplaces are safe and people go back home and can be with their family and be healthy. And so I think for both the minister and the critics on this side who have that opportunity, it really does show to us that behind a lot of this legislation that we implement in this House, that there's people who depend on ensuring that we are making legislation that in the end will benefit them and their families. And again they can go to work, they can be safe, and they don't have to worry about not coming home or coming home with an illness.

So we have a long ways to go, Mr. Speaker, but I think there's been a lot of progress and we're working towards that goal. And I believe that's a priority on both sides of this House, for sure. But, Mr. Speaker, when I look at the statistics just last year, from the beginning of January to the end of August, there was 37 workplace fatalities within Saskatchewan. And so when we look

at the numbers of 2017 there was 27 in the whole year. So within nine months we had 37 workplace fatalities just last year. I think it's really important that we look into those and see where are we failing with ensuring that people are safe in their workplace.

And so when we look at making some amendments to this legislation, I think that's something that we have to be mindful of and ensure that some of the changes that we're implementing here is going to make some substantial changes for individuals. And again, we don't have to be talking about fatalities in the workplace. But just watching the news, you see that there's people being injured from work all the time. And the reasons behind that, we need to look into it.

I know the president of the Saskatchewan Federation of Labour has been calling for a comprehensive worker fatalities crisis strategy. And so it'd be interesting to know if the minister is willing to commit to consult with the federation and other stakeholders to assess the actions urgently needed to reduce and eliminate these workplace fatalities in our province.

Some of the questions I had the opportunity to ask Workers' Compensation, and they admit that these are areas that they're trying to work on, is violence in the workplace. Mr. Speaker, we know that in the health care field, that is substantial. And we hear in education that's an issue as well. And how can we minimize the violence in the workplace?

And I know when we reduce staffing, that doesn't help with regards to this. When we have less staff to manage clients who need the supports, violence will increase. And so when we're making decisions . . . And we're coming forward to a budget here within this legislature and for our province, and I hope this government is mindful of how some of the decisions they make within that budget and when it comes to staffing allotment, how that can have a trickle-down effect on these workplaces and increase workplace injuries or fatalities.

So the other area that we have a long way to go, I still believe, is with regards to occupational stress injury, Mr. Speaker. This is in the area of particular interest for myself, as previous to being elected in this House I worked with a lot of individuals who suffered from occupational stress injury, and how they feel that the system that our Workers' Compensation has don't necessarily meet the requirements for them. Oftentimes it's a real medical model, and when you're dealing with occupational stress injury you can't necessarily follow the direct medical model when assessing the needs.

And so I know when I was in committee with them, having a discussion of having a special department that focuses on those claims, with individuals who have a background in mental health and can be more mindful of how to ask questions and reduce the amount of trauma the individuals are facing . . . When individuals go forward for support and they're struggling with occupational stress injury, it's hard for them to admit that and to come forward and request that support, but it's really important that we have those supports available for them when they need them because we have individuals who work in . . . A lot of systems within our government provide us a service that in the end really does have an impact on their mental health, and we have an obligation to ensure that these individuals have the services that they need so that they can go back to their families and be as healthy as

possible.

I can't even imagine what individuals who work in our correctional field, what they see on a daily basis, or individuals who work in the emergency departments or in the emergency field as officers or medical professionals, what they see on a daily basis, and how that has a major impact on how your brain functions and the impact that working these different scheduled shifts also has an impact on your body system and how you sleep. And we all know that having a proper amount of sleep and a healthy nutrition is the best thing for your physical health. And when that's all impacted, that also has an impact on yourself.

So there's a lot of questions to be asked with regards to how the changes within this legislation are going to have an impact on these serious issues and what the government is going to do with regards to addressing this. I hear people still to date that contact Workers' Compensation because they have occupational stress injury and their claims aren't being taken as seriously as they should. And that has a major impact on individuals. When they come up with enough courage to ask for help, we need to be there. So I'd like to know more about how this government is planning on addressing that and how they're going to be working with the Saskatchewan Federation of Labour in addressing workplace fatalities.

And another issue that we have to do much better with also, Mr. Speaker, is the impact that asbestos has on workplace injuries and fatalities. We have a large percentage of our fatalities are due to asbestos exposure, and we have many buildings within our province that still have asbestos and many workers who are exposed to asbestos. So we need to develop potentially different ways to ensure that workers are safe.

[14:45]

So the Saskatchewan Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization has indicated that they feel that there's a lack of certification standards for asbestos and the abatement removal contractors in Saskatchewan. And so that's another area that we have to do a lot more work with if we want to really, truly adjust workplace fatalities. So I would wonder, what's the government's plans to address those concerns?

And I think once this goes to committee, the critic will have a good opportunity to discuss this with the minister and the officials that will be present there and talk about, now that we're putting forward this legislation, how can we make sure that it's the strongest piece of legislation that really identifies these issues that we're having? And so I'm sure they'll come up with . . . They'll talk to the stakeholders and ensure that their voices are heard and the information that they have is correct and accurate. And I'm sure they'll have many questions to ask within committee. And I also believe that I have other colleagues that will want to add their remarks with regards to this debate. And so with that, Mr. Speaker, I'm going to adjourn debate on Bill No. 165, *The Workers' Compensation Amendment Act*.

The Speaker: — The member's moved to adjourn debate. Pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

Bill No. 145

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Mr. Merriman that **Bill No. 145 — *The Residential Services Act, 2018*** be now read a second time.]

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

Ms. Sproule: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I'm pleased to rise today to address this bill and provide some comments for the record. Based on the comments from the minister during the second reading, he indicated that this bill, the previous version, is quite old actually and I think it comes from 30 years ago. So it's time for renewal and I think that's absolutely appropriate at this point in time.

When we're doing these types of bills, obviously residential services for the most vulnerable people in our community is incredibly important, and a huge amount of trust is put into the government to make sure that these people are protected. And I think this bill adds some additional protections that will provide that extra level. In particular, I'm interested in the new warrant clauses, and that's clauses 11 and 12 which allow a warrant to be issued whenever there is reasonable grounds to believe that an offense against the Act has occurred or is likely to occur. So I think this is incredibly important, because when you're dealing with the most vulnerable, you have to make absolutely every effort to ensure that they're safe.

And I think of my own mother. She's not in a residential services home under this Act, but she is in a long-term care home, Mr. Speaker, and she is one of the vulnerable people that are under the care of public servants, Mr. Speaker. In her case with dementia, she really doesn't even know who she is or where she is or what day it is and those kinds of things. I always describe her as living in the moment. She still enjoys food a whole lot, Mr. Speaker, and she still likes to win at cards. Even if she doesn't know what a king is, she certainly likes to win. And she likes to say "yahoo" a lot. So she's a joyful, lovely, kind woman, and it's so important to us as members of the family to ensure that she's getting the care that she needs. And it's all levels of care that's required for my dear old mom.

So those kinds of things, in my personal experience, tell me that I'm so glad that care home is there and that she is getting the care she is receiving. It's a small town and I think there's 16 spots in that care home. It used to be the hospital, but when the needs of the community changed, it was converted under the NDP. I can't remember who built the new hospital or the new care home, but anyways it was an important shift for my home community to have that kind of long-term care. And even when mom was starting to lose her memory, she said, "Cathy, I want to go to that care home. That's where I want to be." And she's there. So you know, even if she doesn't know, she knows. And I think that provides a lot of assurance for us as well.

So the ministry deals with all of these vulnerable people, and truly I think that is the mark of a decent government is how you treat your most vulnerable. And these kinds of protections, including the warrant provisions, are really important for the families, particularly whose loved ones are in these care homes

or in these residential homes.

A new part as well is the part 4, protection of residents, Mr. Speaker. And in this part there's some new sections. One is a definition of abuse, and one is when you need to report abuse, and there's a requirement here. Individuals, anyone — operators, employees — if they have reasonable grounds to believe there is or has been abuse involving a resident, they shall report that abuse. And this is a very strong imposition on the people in the residence who are working there, because you don't want to be a whistle-blower sometimes, Mr. Speaker. But again, we are dealing with the most vulnerable people, and that is an obligation of the people that are working there, or the operators of these homes.

And the second part of section 16, section 16(2), goes on to say that the information on which the belief is founded, you have to do it even if it is confidential and that disclosure is prohibited by any other Act. So it's a very strong obligation on the part of the operator or the employees or anyone who has reasonable grounds to think abuse is happening.

Also section 17 is the whistle-blower protection section where there's nothing . . . you can't commence an action or proceeding against somebody reporting abuse "in good faith." So I think these kinds of things are really important for those vulnerable people.

And I know there will be other questions in committee in terms of some of the details. Obviously there's all the regulations section, which I talk about often, but the regulations section is actually two pages long, Mr. Speaker. So you can imagine there are a lot of regulations that will be defined under this new Act. And just going to double check on the old Act, but I don't think there was that many regulation-making authority sections. And that was found in section 23 of the old Act. Looks like there's about 10 subsections, and I think we've probably at least doubled it in this bill. So the amount of regulations that can be made without any review by this House has been doubled.

As you know, Mr. Speaker, a lot of these are technical and properly confined to the regulatory sphere, but I just always want to put a caution out there that these are things we don't get to see as legislators.

So at this point I don't have any further comments, and I'll move that we adjourn the debate on Bill No. 145, *An Act respecting Facilities that Provide Certain Residential Services and to make Consequential Amendments to Other Acts*.

The Speaker: — The member has moved to adjourn debate on Bill No. 145. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

Bill No. 147

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Ms. Eyre that **Bill No. 147 — *The Oil and Gas Conservation Amendment Act, 2018*** be now read a second

time.]

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Regina Elphinstone-Centre.

Mr. McCall: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Glad to take my place and join the debate this afternoon on Bill No. 147, adjourned debate, here. And in terms of *The Oil and Gas Conservation Amendment Act, 2018*, again regulation and legislation in this province that deals with something that's as critical to our province as the oil and gas sector, the energy sector in this province, Mr. Speaker, it's something you want to take a very close look at.

I was, in preparing myself for this . . . in this intervention, I had occasion to read through the remarks from the member from Northeast who spoke on it I believe just yesterday, hot off the press, and I might say gave a very thoughtful speech on this piece of legislation.

Again, Mr. Speaker, in terms of the changing regulatory framework that is, you know, ever evolving federally, and in terms of the regulatory regime that is in place in the province — where again the oil and gas sector has been a vital part of the economy for many, many years and should be for many years to come, Mr. Speaker — it's appropriate that you try and get that balance right between environmental concerns and economic development concerns, Mr. Speaker. To make sure that you've got an industry that is competitive but responsive to concerns about the impact on the environment, so that indeed while the extraction of the resource is done in a responsible, environmentally sustainable way and that you're not doing this in such a manner as to, you know, have this generation enjoy the benefit of the extraction of the resource and then hand on the bill and the things that aren't so beneficial to the next generation, Mr. Speaker, or even to communities where, in terms of the cleanup that is involved in various of these efforts, to make sure that they've got the tools in place to respond and to make sure that again that balance is appropriately struck.

Because, you know, if you do this wrong, if you foul your nest, Mr. Speaker, that doesn't do you good. That doesn't do the community any good, and certainly hands on something to the next generation that we ought all to be very mindful of.

So in terms of the way that this plays out and interacts with other pieces of legislation that have been recently before the House, as the Prairie Resilience initiative continues to unfold and various of the "to be announced," "to be determined" are filled in there, Mr. Speaker, we'll be mindful of how this legislation interacts with those different components. And of course, Mr. Speaker, we'll be watching with great interest as the federal regulatory regime and international commitments that are undertaken on behalf of the Canadian people and their impact on the people in Saskatchewan, how that continues to unfold as well.

But I know that other of my colleagues will have much more to say on this piece of legislation than I. And again I would commend different of their remarks already on the record to you, Mr. Speaker, should you need anything to, you know, keep you up late at night with a great deal of interest.

But again, Mr. Speaker, as with various of the efforts on the part

of this government, we'll look to see that that balance is struck. We'll look to see that the deeds and the effects actually bear out the good words put on record here. And again how this unfolds in a broader context of federal and international dynamics, we'll be interested to see how that goes too. But again, Mr. Speaker, we look forward to the other interventions. And with that, I would move to adjourn debate on Bill No. 147, *The Oil and Gas Conservation Amendment Act, 2018*.

The Speaker: — The member has moved to adjourn debate on Bill No. 147. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

Bill No. 148

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Ms. Eyre that **Bill No. 148 — *The Pipelines Amendment Act, 2018*** be now read a second time.]

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Regina Northeast.

Mr. Pedersen: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's an honour to participate in this debate. Mr. Speaker, this bill of course is all about pipelines, and pipelines has been occupying a very significant part of our political discourse over the last few years.

Of course we on this side of the House recognize the importance of pipelines to this province. We recognize the importance of pipelines to the oil and gas industry, which is a very important part of our provincial economy. We recognize that pipelines are an important part of making sure that a fair price is received for our natural resource.

Mr. Speaker, we know that pipelines are very important to Evraz, an important manufacturer right here in the city of Regina just outside of my constituency, Mr. Speaker, and one that provides thousands of jobs directly and indirectly to this city. And, Mr. Speaker, we know that pipelines are important to the protection of our natural environment. They're both a safe and an efficient way to move our natural resources from one place to another, which of course is important.

[15:00]

But, Mr. Speaker, we also know that pipelines rust. We know that welds break. We know that there may be weak spots in manufacturing. And we need to look no further than of course the highly publicized incident where the Husky oil pipeline broke in 2016 and spilled into the North Saskatchewan River. Of course that's not the only leak of a pipeline that has happened in our province or elsewhere, and they do happen from time to time. And that's why, Mr. Speaker, it's important that we make sure that pipelines are regulated to make sure that they're safe. And that's one of the reasons why we proposed that this government work with the industry to develop a best-before date for pipelines, to make sure that the appropriate balance was struck between a viable industry on one hand and the safety of our water, soil, and air on the other.

Now, Mr. Speaker, some people think that if you support pipelines that you are not doing enough to address climate change. And some people, particularly those on the other side of this Chamber, think that if you, that if you want to reduce the use of fossil fuels and transition to a clean, renewable economy, that you're somehow against the economy. But, Mr. Speaker, there is a balance to be struck between those two extremes.

So, Mr. Speaker, we know that climate change is one of the most fundamental issues facing our generation, facing this generation, facing the planet. And we here in Saskatchewan have to do our part to address climate change as well.

Mr. Speaker, climate change isn't a technical or a scientific problem. We have known for quite some time how we can fix it. Mr. Speaker, it's a political problem. It's a matter of convincing people and educating people about climate change and what can be done, and that we need to do something. And, Mr. Speaker, it's difficult to convince people to address a problem if you're preaching to them. And it's difficult to convince people to do something if it means that they're going to lose their job, if their family's economic security and well-being is going to be threatened.

And that's a situation that we have in this province. We have a number of people in this province whose jobs depend on pipelines, whose jobs depend on Evraz, whose jobs depend on oil and gas. And they're concerned, Mr. Speaker, and rightly so, because all of us want to make sure that our family's economic well-being and security is assured.

Now, Mr. Speaker, we also have to be mindful of what happens outside of our borders, outside of the borders of Saskatchewan. And so that's one of the reasons why I'm proud to have Evraz in this city, because Evraz happens to be a very clean manufacturer of steel. It manufactures steel pipe with an electric arc — now I'm not sure of the technical term, smelter I believe — rather than a coke furnace. And so Evraz's carbon footprint is among the lowest of steel producers in the world. Evraz's facility here in the city produces, or releases, almost next to no water in terms of polluted water. And we know that the steelworkers working at Evraz are hard working. Those are good mortgage-paying jobs here in our city.

And so that's why, Mr. Speaker, that on this side of the House our party is very supportive of pipelines but, Mr. Speaker, why we're also supportive of a plan to transition our economy to a cleaner and renewable future because that is a future in which Evraz will perform very well in. Evraz will be able to compete very well in a cleaner, renewable future because it's a cleaner way of making steel.

So when it comes to this bill, Mr. Speaker, one of the things proposed in this bill is the IRIS [integrated resource information system] system. And that's, as I gather, it's a way of keeping track of where pipelines and flowlines are. And Mr. Speaker that's an important part of the safety of our water and soil, and frankly the importance of the safety of our people who might be working. It's just like power lines. You know it's Dial Before You Dig, and that's important whether you're talking about any pipelines out there. It's important to know where they are.

It wasn't that long ago we found out that pipelines underneath

the GTH land that this government didn't seem to know about were impacting the value of that land. It's important to know where pipelines are. And so it appears that the ministry is proposing to develop this IRIS system so that they can keep track of where pipelines and flowlines are.

Now my question, Mr. Speaker, you know, coming from the legal profession and having extensive experience with our land titles system and ISC [Information Services Corporation of Saskatchewan] is, I'm curious why we're not using ISC and the land titles system when that system is already there. I wonder if it's because ISC got privatized. I wonder if it's because perhaps there's going to be some political donors who are going to be building the IRIS system. In any case, I'm curious about why it is that there's a new system being developed instead of working with the system that's already there.

So in summary, Mr. Speaker, this bill touches on an important topic, on pipelines. And it's important to make sure that landowners, that First Nations, that affected communities are consulted when pipelines and flowlines might affect them, either the installation or replacement of those lines or their potential rupture or a spill from them.

Mr. Speaker, it's important to support our oil and gas industry. It's an important industry to our economy. It's important to keep our soil and our water and our air and our people safe and clean. And, Mr. Speaker, it's important to take aggressive steps to reduce our greenhouse gases footprint in this province in a way that protects Saskatchewan workers and their families. And so with that, Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity to participate in this debate. I'll move that we adjourn debate.

The Speaker: — The member has moved to adjourn debate. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

Bill No. 149

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Ms. Tell that **Bill No. 149 — *The Police (Regional Policing) Amendment Act, 2018*** be now read a second time.]

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Saskatoon Fairview.

Ms. Mowat: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. It's my pleasure to enter into adjourned debate today on Bill No. 149, *The Police (Regional Policing) Amendment Act, 2018*.

So a few things about what this bill proposes. It allows rural municipalities and other municipalities with populations that are under 500 to join regional police services. And it sets out basically all of the terms to make that happen. It also sets out that the RCMP are not responsible for policing a region that receives regional policing services unless a provincial-municipal agreement, a global policing agreement, a federal-municipal agreement, or a regional police agreement authorizes it.

There is some information that I found on the press release that came out on November 14th, 2018 that basically explains why the Act is being justified. It says:

Although the Act currently allows for the establishment of regional police services, rural municipalities are not permitted to take part in regional policing arrangements, except in limited circumstances. Adding rural municipalities to the regional policing provisions will provide an opportunity to explore new policing models in the province that focus specifically on the safety of rural citizens.

And then it goes on to say, "Pursuing regional policing in Saskatchewan was a recommendation made by the Caucus Committee on Rural Crime." It raises a few questions, Mr. Speaker, about what other recommendations that committee had and what type of consultation they engaged in.

So although this bill proposes to bring rural municipalities into the fold so that it can create regional police forces, there are still a lot of questions that are being raised in the community about how it proposes to address the root causes of crime, and arguing that it doesn't address the root causes. And you can see this if you think simply about the fact that when we're talking about policing, we're often talking about a reactive approach rather than a preventative approach. So there's a few things to consider here when we talk about root causes of crime.

I know that there has been a lot of study of the social determinants of crime and how there are many different factors in one's life that will lead to crime. That's not enough to say that we simply need to police it more. I know that the minister has acknowledged that this isn't going to solve all the problems, but I would really like to see what this government's approach is going to be to prevention and tackling root causes because up to this point that's not the approach that we've seen.

One area that is definitely a root cause of crime is addiction. We have heard across this province, as we meet with different mayors and councils, as we meet with different concerned community groups and folks who have experienced addiction in their families, that there is a crystal meth crisis in this province. Certainly access to opioids is something we need to be concerned about, and we know that fentanyl can be deadly. But one of the challenges that we have in our province is that crystal meth is inexpensive for young people to obtain and for everyone to obtain. But it's become a drug of choice for young people because of how inexpensive it is and because of how highly addictive it is.

And it's not enough to simply say that we can form regional police forces to solve this problem. We need real action. We need real interventions for folks who are suffering from addictions. We need to look at the rest of the issues in that person's life as well and see where we can make positive changes to ensure that there is a good home life, that there is education, that there are opportunities, and that there is a life to go to beyond the life of crime.

Now we know that there has been a particular call to rural crime and to address rural crime in this province, and we need rural folks to feel supported and to feel safe. But this is one measure,

and we need to continue to consult with people, consult with groups who know, and make sure that we are also paying close attention to what the root causes are in tackling crime.

So I would hope that the minister will take those remarks and maybe look at what some of the other recommendations were. I hope there were other recommendations that were coming out of the caucus committee, and that some of those are based on preventative measures and really look at how we can build a healthier province so that we aren't in this situation in the first place.

I know that our critic will be putting some hard thought toward this bill as well and is doing some consultations on it. And I will let my other colleagues and the critic weigh in further. But definitely an important and timely piece of legislation that deserves some serious thought about what we want the future of this province to look like, and how we are going to address root causes of crime. With that, Mr. Speaker, I will move to adjourn debate on this bill.

The Speaker: — The member has moved to adjourn debate on Bill No. 149. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

Bill No. 150

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Ms. Tell that **Bill No. 150 — *The Seizure of Criminal Property Amendment Act, 2018*** be now read a second time.]

[15:15]

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

Ms. Sarauer: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my honour to rise this afternoon and enter into the debate around the seizure of criminal property. Mr. Speaker, this is a very interesting piece of legislation around seizing criminal property. I know when I had the chance to review the bill, I was interested to know why this legislative change was happening to begin with, Mr. Speaker, because I was somewhat aware of the process around seizing criminal property, prior to being elected.

One thing I haven't heard from criminal defence lawyers, Mr. Speaker, is that they were hearing that it was too difficult to seize criminal property. In fact I was hearing the opposite to be true, Mr. Speaker, that they were running into many clients who were having property seized and the threshold for being able to seize that property was quite low. And this is doing . . . In fact these changes will make it even easier in some instances to seize criminal property.

I think it's important to remember when we're talking about this, Mr. Speaker, is that individuals who have their property seized don't necessarily have to be convicted of a crime. Typically they're charged of a crime, but just because they perhaps have a

charge stayed does not mean that they then therefore get their property back, Mr. Speaker. They have to go through a separate civil process to get their property back.

And for many people who are charged with criminal offences, they are often vulnerable people. To have to then utilize a civil process for which you don't receive a legal aid lawyer for, Mr. Speaker, is actually quite difficult for many people, which results in a lot of property being seized and being kept by the Crown that arguably should not be, or the individual who's the owner of that property had an argument that should have been or that could have been made to have that property relinquished back to them, Mr. Speaker.

So needless to say, the fact that this bill expands some rebuttable presumptions, and frankly makes it easier and not more difficult to be able to seize criminal property, leaves a lot of questions that I know they'll be having at committee. But I do know that I have other colleagues who would wish to enter into the debate with respect this bill. So as such, I would like to adjourn debate on Bill No. 150, *The Seizure of Criminal Property Amendment Act*.

The Speaker: — The member has moved to adjourn debate on Bill No. 150. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

Bill No. 152

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Mr. Morgan that **Bill No. 152 — *The Builders' Lien (Prompt Payment) Amendment Act, 2018*** be now read a second time.]

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

Ms. Beck: — It's my pleasure this afternoon to rise and enter into debate on Bill No. 152, *The Builders' Lien (Prompt Payment) Amendment Act, 2018*. Mr. Speaker, the minister rose in November of this past year and gave notice and reading of this bill but I think that the roots of this bill go back much further than that. In fact, in September of 2016, when most of us or many of us were getting adjusted to our new roles in the new . . . after the 2016 election, there was a Saskatchewan group prompt payment education day for stakeholders that was held in Saskatchewan. So certainly at least that far back, Mr. Speaker, we have been seeing calls for legislation similar to this. And that certainly has been the case that there have been groups in the province who have indicated favourable response to this proposed legislation, but there have also been some concerns or some questions that linger.

When the minister rose on November the 21st of 2018 and proposed these amendments, he did give some comments as to why he was proposing these amendments and did answer some questions, but also left some questions on the table. The minister noted that the aim of this bill is “. . . to create a careful balance between the rights and obligations of landowners and the building trades and professionals that assist in construction projects,” and that the Act was designed to create “. . . a

mechanism by which persons involved in the construction industry can claim and register a lien to secure payment for materials and services provided, but does not include provisions respecting payment delays.”

Mr. Deputy Speaker, all that to say that there have been concerns raised by many in the construction industry about the length of time that it takes for payment on completed work. I believe the industry average is about 70 days. What is proposed in this legislation is a limit of 28 days. And it certainly is reasonable that those who complete work would want and need to have prompt payment. I think that is certainly the case even in the best of times, Mr. Speaker, and we know that we're not in the best of times in the province right now for the construction industry. We've seen a decrease, a marked decrease in housing starts.

The other piece in terms of timing that bears mentioning with regard to this legislation is the fact that it comes on the heels of this government placing for the first time the PST on construction labour, something that we heard actually even as recently as today in meeting with industry groups, a move that has had a very negative impact on construction in the province, Mr. Speaker. So I don't know about the timing, if this, you know . . . I think the government probably heard very strongly that that was not something that was appreciated by the construction industry, perhaps went looking for a counterbalance or something, that they were not prepared to give up to this point the PST on construction labour but they did concede to putting these amendments forward.

We know that this is relatively untried, new language with regard to prompt payment in the country. I think Ontario was the first jurisdiction that came out with similar legislation just prior to these amendments being introduced in this Assembly, Mr. Deputy Speaker. There have been some positive, as I said. Many of the news reports that I have been looking at go back to that day in November when the news release went out and the minister stood in the Assembly and announced these changes. At that point, many in the industry hadn't had a chance to look at what actually was being proposed. And I know that the critic will have done their due diligence and met with those industry spokespeople to ensure that any follow-up questions, now that they've had a chance to look at these proposed amendments, that their comments, their concerns, their questions will be asked of the minister.

Just to go through some of what is proposed with these amendments to *The Builders' Lien Act*, the bill allows prompt payment under construction contracts. Prompt payment again is defined as 28 days for owners and contractors. I believe that once they're paid, it also provides that they must pay their subs, their subcontractors within seven days, Mr. Deputy Speaker. There are some . . . The minister did note that there would be some exemptions from the application. There are some questions there. There are also some questions around what exactly the definition of a proper invoice is, and I think that those are questions that will be asked, certainly to be fleshed out in committee.

The bill changes some definitions, adds some new ones, so housekeeping items. As I noted, it establishes for the payment of a proper invoice by an owner within 28 days, establishes the timeline, as I noted, for payment of subcontractor by a contractor, and again that time period is reduced to seven days. It also

establishes an adjudication process for the resolution of disputes, including disputes around the amounts that are indicated on invoices. I know that there were concerns about these disputes ending up in the courts and taking an even longer time.

There's this parallel adjudication process that I think that many, even those who are in favour of this legislation, might have concerns or at least questions about exactly how that will roll out. So I think that that also will be something that the critic wants to look at. It sets out that the parties will split the adjudicator fees equally and authorizes the minister to designate an entity as the adjudication authority, so more questions as the details roll out.

One of the things that I'll just . . . I'm going to give a shout-out to the minister for Lumsden-Morse, the former Agriculture minister. When I looked at . . . When he stood up to introduce legislation, I always knew why it was here, who he had talked to, what they had said, and that was all put on the record and it was very helpful. There are some details provided by the minister here, but I think that, as I noted in my earlier comments, just vague enough that there are some questions that have yet to be answered as well.

I did note some cautions from those in the industry that they wanted to make sure that this legislation wasn't rushed, that there weren't a number of unintended consequences that were realized as a result of these changes. So I think that that's something again, Mr. Deputy Speaker, that the critic will want to make sure that they have a chance to look through.

Again I think that there is a lot of opportunity here for more input from industry to look at this from a few different angles, and that certainly lends itself to further comments by my colleagues and also further scrutiny by the critic. But with that I am going to move to adjourn debate on Bill No. 152.

The Deputy Speaker: — The member from Regina Lakeview has moved to adjourn debate on Bill No. 152, *The Builders' Lien (Prompt Payment) Amendment Act, 2018*. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Speaker: — Carried.

Bill No. 157

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Mr. Harrison that **Bill No. 157 — *The Education Amendment Act, 2018/Loi modificative de 2018 sur l'éducation*** be now read a second time.]

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

Mr. Vermette: — Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, to join in and make some comments on Bill No. 157, *The Education Amendment Act, 2018*. Initially I know there's a couple of areas where this legislation amendment is coming in and making some changes. And I guess one area we'll look at, it affects . . . and I guess the French boards. And some of the . . . This bill corrects and changes terminology in both English and French languages so it goes through that process. I know there is some

housekeeping stuff that they're doing and just a quick looking at it, it's some housekeeping.

But another area that it looks at, it looks at the SPTRB [Saskatchewan Professional Teachers Regulatory Board], the body that handles teacher discipline. They're going in and looking at that parts of it and they're making some changes, and hopefully they're improvements.

But again at the end of the day we always ask, do we make sure that we consulted and, you know, with the professionals, those people that will be impacted, the boards? Any time you're making changes, you know, to our education we want to make sure that you've consulted with the education, Saskatchewan school boards. There's many groups that represent, you know. There's parent councils. There's many of them.

But the government of the day makes these changes and sometimes these are changes that are come and recommendations that come from different organizations who are trying to provide a good quality education for our kids. I think about our teachers and sometimes these changes, these amendments come and they come for a good reason, and it's to deal with something that may be for some unforeseen reason.

[15:30]

When government scrapped, I think it was Bill 63, if I remember correctly, but anyway, when they changed *The Education Act* and they did the big changes to it . . . Sometimes they make such a change. Maybe they missed some things that used to work in there or didn't. But I guess they come back and they'll bring changes.

So having said that, again we have the government bring in a . . . You know, I talked about a couple areas that this amendment is going to change, and the government will do the work.

Now we used to, as boards of education in this province, the boards of education would provide, you know, set the mill rate, bring in taxes from the residents, from business tax corporations, and they would use those dollars to educate our children. And being back in the day I was on a board of education as well, and it was an opportunity where, when we had certain projects that we wanted to be able to help, if you identify your students have a need when it comes to literacy, when it comes to students with maybe disabilities, when it comes to certain challenges that a school division or an isolated community is being impacted, Mr. Speaker, you would have an opportunity to generate some extra dollars if you needed by raising the mill rate, to take those dollars for a year or two and you could target where you wanted to try to improve the quality of life for those students, to make sure that they have the best education. All kids should have the best education. And I think about this.

We see in our province right now, under education, and so many school divisions and different organizations are fundraising to feed children because under this government that we have right now, it's causing a lot of cost, hardship on many Saskatchewan families, the most vulnerable. And we see the food banks, the food banks being utilized by so many. Children are relying on the food banks. And the Government of Saskatchewan should be ashamed of themselves for allowing this to happen.

And that goes to do with . . . And why I say education and setting the mill rate, they took that ability from boards of education to generate, you know, revenue to help them deal with some of these situations. So instead of improving for boards of education, helping out, they put more hardship. So now our dollars don't go to the boards of education. They don't set the mill rate. The government sets the mill rate. They collect the dollars. Though I don't know how you track exactly how those dollars are being utilized and spent from one school division to the other, and maybe government says they don't have to do that, but at the end of the day, I think it's about our children, our grandchildren.

And you know, you see one thing after another with this government. Oh, they like to cheerlead and say they're doing so great for the people, but the people are struggling to make ends meet. They're having a hard time. We see it time and time again, more people phoning in.

So again I go back to this bill, you know, when I say 157 is a bill that gives certain provisions. But what I want to talk to about and I just want to show how it used to be done. They used to collect the tax and used to provide the mill rate for school tax. Now we have a situation where you have a community and they're getting an exemption from not . . . So now one community that sits on the border and for whatever reason . . . I know we'll ask more of that and I know the critic on our side has asked, you know, to make sure that everything's okay with some of this stuff. And I know she does her work as a critic and is in contact with boards of education, with different groups out there to see is this impacting. And she does her work and I know she'll have an opportunity to ask more questions on the floor in the House here on this bill but also in committee when it goes to committee.

But I just wanted to show an example, Mr. Speaker, where we used to do it, and how we used to collect our school taxes to provide a good-quality education, provide some services that our students needed. And the boards of education have done great work. Our staff do great work, front-line workers, but they're getting tired. They're sure not feeling appreciated by this government. You know, they're doing their part to take care but so much is being put on them, our teachers, support staff. And I just again, it's a good opportunity sometimes not to forget the good work they do so, you know, I want to thank them for the great work they do on education.

But having said this and this bill again, I said Bill 157, it's going to allow, you know, I believe it's the city of Lloydminster and the boards of education, there will be a process where they will be able to generate the mill rate and the tax will be collected — if I have it right — and they will be allowed to pay those . . . When the municipality collects those school taxes from residents and corporations, they will send those taxes right directly to the boards of education and not going directly to, you know, the GRF [General Revenue Fund] account where they used to send it to the government. It won't go to GRF. It will go to the boards of education. There's an exemption.

And I believe that this will be the only boards of education or municipality that will be allowed to do that. And I don't know if it's a reason because they're on the board or whatever but obviously they've worked out, there's a reason why it has to be done that way and it has to flow right to the board of education and not to the government's General Revenue Fund.

So having said that again, I maybe want to just go back a little bit on this and then I'm going to prepare to finish my comments. But again it just goes to show when you give the boards of education some flexibility to take care of our kids . . . And they do a great job and they provide meals and lunch programs and snack programs. And it has, it's been proven. And I said earlier they do a lot of fundraising. But more and more, the schools and the boards of education are providing meals at school, and they have to. When you see the number of children that are using the food bank, like I said, the number is just unbelievable. I believe it's over 50 per cent of the children are using the food banks.

So what does that tell you? This government needs to wake up, smell the coffee, and do what they need to do for children when it comes to education.

So having said that, Mr. Speaker, I just wanted to give a few comments on this, and I know my colleague will have more to say. It'll go to committee. But again this government shouldn't give themselves a pat on the back when it comes to our kids and the way the most vulnerable are being treated by this government with the extra taxes that they're asked to pay and pay and pay and not get the services that they needed. So with that, I'm prepared to adjourn on Bill 157, *The Education Amendment Act, 2018*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — The member has moved to adjourn debate on Bill No. 157. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

Bill No. 158

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Mr. Morgan that **Bill No. 158 — *The Youth Justice Administration Act, 2018*** be now read a second time.]

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

Mr. Forbes: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the opportunity today to get up and enter into this debate, and one that's very, very important that we get right: *An Act respecting the Administration of Youth Justice Services and making consequential amendments to other Acts*. It's one that we need to get right. We can't afford to get this wrong.

And as many of my colleagues have said — and we'll say it again and we will question the government — we need a youth strategy on the root causes of crime. This bill tends to go much more to the supervision and the control of youth who found themselves in a place that no one would like them to be, including the youth, that they're at a place where they are apprehended and they've made some wrong choices and maybe several wrong choices along the way.

And so this government has decided to go and create this bill. And you know, as I've said many times, this government is weak on consultation. The minister doesn't talk about who they consulted. I'd be curious to know what the Human Rights Commission has said about this, what the youth advocate has to

say about this. And some of their parts that they have really lead to a lot of questions.

And I think back a few years ago when we saw the closing in Saskatoon of the Red Willow, a very effective program. And a lot of questions were asked about that, and no satisfactory answer about why the closing of the Red Willow and the major changes to Kilburn Hall. We saw a youth ending up over there in a facility that wasn't designed for that, and it seemed to be a haphazard way. And of course maybe this is their way of doing it — shoot first and then aim. And that's just not the way, just not the way to deal with vulnerable, vulnerable people.

And we've talked at length at second readings about this government's focus on crime but really not talking about the root causes of crime. And this is why we're in the situation we are. Whether it's addictions, whether it's poverty, whether it's the lack of educational opportunity and lack of educational support, we really need to dig deeper and make sure that we are helping our kids.

You know, we really want to make this province the best place to be a kid. We want to make sure, you know . . . And we heard the Premier today talk about, we want to make sure this is the best place to raise the family. And some of us in our families have children who are troubled and are making not good choices, and we want to help those kids — not just some of the kids but all our kids, you know. And here we see the stats where we see in custody in 2016-17, 92 per cent of the males were indigenous and 98 per cent of the females that were admitted were indigenous.

So this is troubling that we see here this kind of emphasis without really a master vision, a view of how are we really going to make sure that kids, youth are getting the supports they need. And you know, and we have heard our colleagues from the North but it's right across the province, kids are at risk, and the dire consequences. And we think specifically of the suicides, the addictions, the lost children. This is just too important to get wrong.

And so this is why we need to make sure we consult with the experts. And this is why I'm curious, what does John Howard have to say about this? What does Elizabeth Fry have to say about this? What does the youth advocate, what do human rights have to say? And so we have a lot of questions and I know they will come up in committee, but I want to make sure we get on the record that we will be talking about a youth strategy.

You know, when we saw the report from the folks that went out and looked out at rural crime, what were they saying about youth? What were they saying about how can we make sure our youth are safe and how can we make sure they're making good decisions that don't lead them into a situation where they have to be part of youth justice services?

And I have to just . . . There's a couple of things that I want to say when I read this over. I just want to focus on the principles on page 6 and in section 1-4(g). And it talks about:

youth justice services will respect gender, ethnic, cultural and linguistic differences and respond to the needs of indigenous young persons and of persons with special requirements.

So I feel like that's a good start, but we need so much more, so much more. It's good, excellent that they talk about indigenous youth and youth with special needs, and particularly when we're talking about fetal alcohol syndrome. That is something that we really need to focus, or on kids who have not been able to succeed at school who have significant literacy issues or mental health issues. I'm not sure this refers to kids who are having problems with access to appropriate mental health services or indigenous . . .

And of course, Mr. Speaker, one of the issues we're wrestling with making sure is that we're recognizing the role or the special needs and impacts of queer kids. I don't see any talk about queer kids in this or transgender kids. And that's really important that we take a look at how they are being affected by society and the issues or the pressures they may be having to deal with that lead them to making choices that they would prefer not to. So those are just some examples. I would say, so what are you doing about those kids? What are you doing about those kids? Very, very important.

You know, we see in Saskatoon a very successful housing program to help queer kids and transgender kids out because many of them are the ones that are being kicked out of home because the parents can't deal with disclosures and saying . . . and it's a horrible situation. We would hope that they would get that support but they're not. So kids are finding that they're on the street and that's a tough place to be when you're trying to make right decisions, when you're on the street and you're homeless and you don't know what to do. So this is a gap I see right away in here.

[15:45]

The other one I just want to make sure, and we've heard so much in the media about this, and making sure we do this right. And this is also a human rights issue, and this is all about secluded room time. And it's been a big news story in Alberta in the schools. They're no longer using . . . In fact it was just in the last week or two where the Minister of Education has banned secluded rooms. Now in schools it's a little different because kids go home from schools, but essentially where you're talking about isolation and what is happening there.

Now this sets out a situation where kids cannot be in their rooms in a seclusion manner for more than 20 hours in a 24-hour period. So there seems to be some parameters, but how are we enforcing that they are actually being followed out? And so we want to make sure that those kind of rules . . . And this is where, you know, I think this is where the experts need to be involved with a psychologist. The people say, is that appropriate? Is that appropriate discipline? You know, for myself, I have a lot of questions. But I'm not an expert in the field and I haven't got that much experience with kids at this intense experience at this level, other than my time in terms of working and having people advocate with me.

So we have a lot of questions about this. This is a very serious piece of legislation before us that I know our critic will take the appropriate time in committee and make sure there's a lot of questions asked.

But you know, I have noticed that the minister has not talked

about who they consulted with this, and are the people that will be picking up the pieces afterwards, are they on board, you know? And when I talk about the people who are picking up the pieces, I'm talking about John Howard. I'm talking about Elizabeth Fry, talking about the youth advocate, talking about the Human Rights Commission. Are they and others — there probably are lots of others, but I'm just thinking about the four that come to mind right away — are they onside? Are they ready to say, we're ready to be their support networks after the fact? Or are they saying, hey, you're going to cause a lot of unintended consequences. This has gone too far. It's too much, and this is not the way.

And I know that, you know, this is in response to the *Youth Criminal Justice Act* that happened at the federal level in the early 2000s. I know that. I get that, but I feel that, you know, Saskatchewan has not a great reputation when it comes to how we handle our corrections centre, how we handle the justice services for people. And so is this going to be one that's going to say, hey, Saskatchewan, we've got it right this time? We've got it right? Let's hope we've got it right, but I've got to tell you there's a couple of flags that I see right off, right off the bat.

And so with that, Mr. Speaker, I'm going to move adjournment of debate on Bill No. 158. I know there will be lots of questions, but at this point I would move adjournment on no. 158, *An Act respecting the Administration of Youth Justice Services and making consequential amendments to other Acts*. I do so move. Thank you.

The Speaker: — The member has moved to adjourn debate on Bill No. 158. Pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

Bill No. 159

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Mr. Morgan that **Bill No. 159 — *The Securities Amendment Act, 2018*** be now read a second time.]

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Regina Northeast.

Mr. Pedersen: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my honour to participate in this debate on an important issue. I mean, this bill and the legislation it amends is all about protecting people's . . . protecting their savings, protecting their investments from fraudsters and con artists and that sort of thing, and making sure that when people are buying investments, when they're buying financial products, that they're able to compare apples to apples.

Now, Mr. Speaker, in my previous career as a lawyer, I worked a lot with people in the industry — brokers, financial advisers, bankers, insurance salespeople — and I heard over and over and over again a predominant view that our securities regulations really increase costs a lot. They increase the administration costs for all people involved, and that got passed down to the consumer, but that there really wasn't a great deal of protection there for the investor.

And having witnessed a number of discussions in the past, I can

certainly testify that the majority of people out there, really after about the first 30 seconds of having an investment explained to them, their eyes kind of glaze over and, you know, you could pretty much tell them anything. You could wave your magic wand, you know, as the salesperson or the financial adviser and throw out some terms and some numbers that they didn't understand and sounded good. And as long as they trusted you as a person, those people would go for it.

But, Mr. Speaker, that's not the type of system that we want. One of the fundamental principles, I think, that a lot of lawyers operate by, while we know that trust is important, it's important to have processes and regulations in place so that you're relying on more than trust. You're relying on processes. There's a process there for verification, for audit, for inspection, and that's very important to make sure that people are not taken advantage of.

Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, I don't think our current legislation quite hits the target on that mark and, you know, Saskatchewan isn't unique in that field. We of course, because we're not a financial centre in this province, we tend to follow the lead of other jurisdictions, including international. And of course the minister made note of this in his second reading speech on this bill which was that, you know, this is an initiative being led elsewhere in the country and in the world and we're simply doing this to be in harmony. So while I agree that it makes sense for us to have harmonious rules with other jurisdictions when it comes to securities regulation, particularly because we don't have stock markets and exchanges here in Saskatchewan, at the end of the day it's difficult for me to get excited about this particular bill because I don't see it really substantially increasing the amount of protection that a consumer will have when it comes to investing.

I will say this. Of course over the past few years, the use of exchange-traded funds, or ETFs, has substantially increased, and a lot of those ETFs rely or refer to benchmarks. And this bill is about making sure that benchmarks are used consistently so that people can compare apples to apples, so to speak.

But as I mentioned, Mr. Speaker, I don't have a great deal of confidence that, even with the government passing this bill and should it become law, I don't have a great deal of confidence that the average consumer of investment products or purchaser of investment products will be any safer, that they will have any greater understanding. What I would get excited about is if we had greater interjurisdictional co-operation and enforcement of investment fraud and con artists. That would be something to get quite excited about so that those scammers that take people's life savings couldn't simply escape justice by leaving the jurisdiction.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I think I'll wrap up my comments. There may be some opportunities to dig into the meat of this bill in committee. And of course, if stakeholders have any questions or comments, of course they can reach out to the opposition, as normal. But with that I will move that debate on this bill be adjourned.

The Speaker: — The member has moved to adjourn debate on Bill No. 159. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

Bill No. 160

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Mr. Morgan that **Bill No. 160 — *The Trespass to Property Amendment Act, 2018*** be now read a second time.]

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Saskatoon Fairview.

Ms. Mowat: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my pleasure to rise today to enter into adjourned debate, this time on Bill No. 160, *The Trespass to Property Amendment Act, 2018*. And if I'm honest, Mr. Speaker, this is a tough piece of legislation. And it's a tough one for me to talk about because it calls to mind the death of Colten Boushie and the Gerald Stanley trial, and I think what are some very serious, unresolved racial tensions in our province. It calls to mind the justice camp that was outside this legislature over a hundred and . . . I think the last number I saw was 120 days, but it could have been much more than that, out in the cold last year. And all of these tensions arise for me when I think about this type of legislation.

So at the same time I do know that we need folks in rural Saskatchewan to feel safe and we have to have measures to make sure that folks feel safe, we have to look at what the root causes of crime are. So those are some of the perspectives that I enter with as I enter into this debate.

Some of the pieces of this bill and what it proposes to do, there's a number of different pieces but some of the key pieces, as far as I'm concerned, are that it creates a presumption that a person found on the listed premises does not have consent. So it changes the onus from the landowner to the individual who's accessing the land, and changes the issue of consent there.

It also increases the penalty fee for violation of this Act from \$2,000 to \$5,000. And there are some subsequent changes as well to *The Snowmobile Act* to require prior consent of the owner/occupier to operate a snowmobile over privately owned property and leased provincial land. So that's what we're talking about today with Bill No. 160.

I understand that there was some government consultation, that they conducted a survey. And I've seen the report that came out as a result of that survey, attempting to hear from Saskatchewan people, presumably because of the contentious nature of this legislation on what their thoughts are around accessing private land. The results were that there were 1,601 respondents between August 9th and October 2nd for this survey, and that it found that a majority of responses support prior consent before entering private land. This is what the government has claimed and it's also what I've seen in the report, that that majority of responses was there.

One of the concerns that I'd like to raise is that in light of the controversy surrounding this legislation — and I've got a stack of news articles to draw attention to that — but in light of this controversy, you would think that there would be a concerted

effort on behalf of the government to consult with indigenous people in this province on what their thoughts were on the trespassing legislation as well. In a move toward real reconciliation and how we move forward as a province together, you would think that First Nations people would be consulted, and in fact we know that they certainly did not feel consulted.

[16:00]

We know that the FSIN [Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations] has raised concerns, significant concerns about the consequences that this bill will have for First Nations hunters, trappers, and gatherers. You know, they have referred to it as unconstitutional. They've had concerns about it violating and infringing on their treaty rights. And I think that it right now serves as another stark example of how much work we have to do in this province to be able to move forward on reconciliation. And if this bill is just going to go ahead despite these concerns . . .

So the other thing I want to highlight, Mr. Speaker, is what we've already talked about today, in reference to other bills, the fact that if the focus of this government is going to be on rural crime, there needs to be a plan. There needs to be a way of addressing the root causes of crime — the addictions that are all over this province, the addictions to crystal meth that are running rampant. And I've seen people that are high on crystal meth and they have no concept of what is going on around them. We need to address the addiction as a cause of crime.

And I await the government's response on this front in figuring out how to address this addiction. We've heard some responses back from the Minister of Health in question period about putting some money toward crystal meth, lumping it together with an opioid strategy. I think there needs to be a separate strategy that specifically focuses on crystal meth, given its unique characteristics as a narcotic, and that we need to put some real preventative work into figuring out how we're going to bounce back from this as a province and how we're going to be able to move forward.

So those are some of the concerns that I want to put forward. I know that, you know, I would like every person in this province to feel safe and to feel that they are well protected, and that has to be a priority for us. But we absolutely must find a balance and we need to find a better way of working together in moving toward reconciliation. With that, I will move to adjourn debate on Bill No. 160 today.

The Speaker: — The member has moved to adjourn debate on Bill No. 160. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

Bill No. 161

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Mr. Morgan that **Bill No. 161 — *The Trespass to Property Consequential Amendments Act, 2018/Loi de 2018 corrélative de la loi intitulée The Trespass to Property***

Amendment Act, 2018 be now read a second time.]

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Saskatoon Fairview.

Ms. Mowat: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm pleased today to rise and enter into adjourned debate on Bill No. 161, *An Act to make consequential amendments to The Wildlife Act, 1998 resulting from the enactment of The Trespass to Property Amendment Act, 2018*.

So this bill goes hand in hand with Bill No. 160. We often see that when one bill comes into existence we need to change many other bills to make sure that they are aligned, and that is what's happening in this case. And a clue, if you're following along and trying to figure out how this works, whenever a bill says "consequential amendments" that's what it's referring to.

So in particular, this bill is making amendments to *The Wildlife Act* as a result of the Act that we just spoke about, and there's a couple of subsections that have to change as a result to get it in line with the other piece of legislation. I would encourage folks who are . . . anyone who's interested in following some of the debate around Bill 161 to pay close attention to Bill 160 and also review the remarks that are present there. I will save the Assembly from hearing my argument all over again about Bill 160, although I seem to be getting a reference from the Speaker that he would like to hear all of it again.

But there are, just to say . . . I'll summarize it by just saying there are legitimate concerns from the FSIN that I think need to be heard throughout this process. And we need to try and ensure balance between folks feeling safe and like they're well protected, but also that there is meaningful conversation and consultation going on with indigenous peoples across this province, and that these factors are considered as well as addressing the root causes of crime, specifically addictions and specifically crystal meth. With that I will allow the critic and my other colleagues to weigh in further and I will move to adjourn debate on Bill 161 for today.

The Speaker: — The member's moved to adjourn debate on Bill No. 161. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

Bill No. 162

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Mr. Marit that **Bill No. 162 — *The Irrigation Act, 2018*** be now read a second time.]

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

Ms. Beck: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is my pleasure to rise again this afternoon and enter into debate on Bill No. 162, short title, *The Irrigation Act*, long title, *An Act to Promote, Develop and Sustain Irrigation and to make consequential amendments to certain Acts*.

Certainly there's a lot going on around this proposed legislation.

I think for context it's always important to pull some of that in. One of them is that we have a new federal-provincial partnership agreement, the CAP or the Canadian Agricultural Partnership, that came into force in April of last year, of course that being the third reiteration of the latest in these agreements and a follow-up to the Growing Forward 1 and Growing Forward 2 agreements. These are five-year agreements between the provinces and the federal government. They're multi-billion-dollar agreements and they set out responsibilities and resources for agriculture for these partnerships across the country. So very important partnership agreements that I know a lot of work goes into, ensuring that producers' voice and interests are brought to bear there.

One of the pieces that was part of CAP, the most recent agreement, changed . . . brought in some cost-shared funding for new irrigation development under CAP, supporting sustainable agriculture and water management irrigation projects and — I'm quoting from the news release — "can mitigate the effects of climate change by expanding irrigation acres."

And certainly when we're talking about irrigation in the province, Mr. Speaker, one of the things that comes to mind, beyond the need for diversification and expansion of industry of agriculture in the province, is also some of the challenging conditions that some farmers, producers find themselves in in the province with regard to growing conditions and frankly with regard to changing climate.

So if we look at Saskatchewan and the irrigation districts that are current and proposed in the province, there are 31 irrigation districts, 30 currently in force and one in a large irrigation district around Qu'Appelle that is proposed. Irrigation is one means to not only expand agriculture, as I said, but also to mitigate against some of the impacts of climate change that producers in these areas are increasingly experiencing.

If you note, if you look at the large map of Saskatchewan and the larger or the more detailed version of the irrigation districts, Mr. Speaker, you'll find that they are concentrated in the southwest corner of the province, which makes sense with regard to what we know about weather patterns in the province. Most recently we have this situation where you have a paucity of rain in the Southwest and flooding conditions on the east side of the province. So this is certainly all part of the context under which we see this piece of legislation come forward.

I had the opportunity a few years, maybe a couple of years back, to attend a policy conference of the agricultural producers of Saskatchewan. And one of the things that I think of frequently that was presented there was around just how impactful climate change is, not in the future to Saskatchewan but today. The increase in three-day rain events in the province has gone up dramatically. The increased rain would seem to be, you know, in many cases, unless you're flooding, a good thing for producers. But what we also see with that is a hollowing out, increased rain in the shoulder seasons but a decrease of temperature and precipitation during the growing season, so a graph that looks hollowed out in the middle, which certainly presents challenges to producers that can be mitigated by having irrigation districts.

So we have seen proposed changes here to those irrigation districts as proposed by the minister back last year. So some of

the changes that we see as introduced by the minister, it removes some definitions from legislation, for example “corporation.” It changes the definition of an “intensive irrigator,” “irrigation certificate,” “irrigation district,” “irrigation works,” and “water service agreement.” It adds some new definitions around the SaskWater Corporation’s “water rights licence,” “Water Security Agency,” and waterworks agreement.

So some of it, Mr. Speaker, being very technical, but there are other comments that the minister had when introducing this legislation. He stated one of the goals is to “. . . strengthen government’s ability to transfer government-owned irrigation assets to those that . . . [to] the irrigation districts.” So this transfer of what were previously publicly owned assets into the irrigation districts. And I remember having a chance to speak with the former minister of Agriculture about some of those changes back in time in committee.

There’s an intent stated by the minister to clarify that land associated with these assets will also be transferred, Mr. Speaker. And certainly that is something that has not been without controversy in the province, the privatization of previously public lands into private hands. So I think that there will be some scrutiny of that and some questions asked about that.

The minister also noted that one of the intents was “. . . strengthening the language around the responsibility of irrigation districts to maintain, replace, and decommission their irrigation works.” He did note that some of the irrigation districts did not see that owning these assets was part of their responsibility.

So, Mr. Speaker, we would have some questions there around, you know, if there was a uniform response from the irrigation districts or if some irrigation districts were in favour of some of the changes proposed here. And perhaps there were other irrigation districts that had differences of opinion, which in a province as wide and vast as our own, one might expect that there would be different questions coming from different districts.

[16:15]

The minister also noted that — and this is a theme that we’ve seen from this government, Mr. Speaker — that they are reducing unnecessary government red tape that is administratively burdensome to both irrigation districts and industry groups.

Mr. Speaker, that’s certainly in no one’s interest to have unnecessary red tape in legislation. But sometimes legislation is put in place to strike a balance, to promote industry, and to ensure success of this industry, but also to protect the rights of others — in this case to ensure proper checks and balances, to use an American term, are in place to ensure that we aren’t doing undue damage to the environment, that other groups impacted by changes in this legislation might have voice as well.

And I think that that will be something that our critic will have opportunity to speak with the minister about and have some questions, just to ensure that there aren’t unknowns with regard to consequences with this bill. But I think that he will be more than well prepared and capable of asking those questions and meeting with industry groups. And I have come to the end of my own remarks with regard to this bill, and with that will move to adjourn debate.

The Speaker: — The member has moved to adjourn debate on Bill No. 162. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

Bill No. 141

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Mr. Morgan that **Bill No. 141 — *The Interpersonal Violence Disclosure Protocol (Clare’s Law) Act*** be now read a second time.]

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Regina Elphinstone-Centre.

Mr. McCall: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. It’s . . . [inaudible interjection] . . . No, it’s . . . No, again I’d urge my colleagues across the way to bear in mind the topic of the bill that we have for consideration here today, in seriousness.

And in terms of *The Interpersonal Violence Disclosure Protocol (Clare’s Law) Act*, and again I’d also point out that when this was referenced in the Throne Speech, this was something that, in my remarks at that time, I held out some hope for this particular measure. Because as is widely known, we’ve got a big problem in this province, Mr. Speaker, in terms of interpersonal violence and as well with violence against women. And that plays itself out in some pretty horrendous ways all across this province. And I know in my home neighbourhood all too often it’s women that pay the price for things going wrong in our society.

And in terms of the . . . Again, you know, I thought that the Minister of Justice in his introductory remarks, or in his second reading speech, referencing the passing of Sask Party worker Lisa Strang and the horrendous ordeal that that entailed and trying to do some good in light of that, and as well as referencing Drew Dwernychuk, who’s someone I know to do good work, I thought that was well placed.

And again, Mr. Speaker, what we’re looking for on this side of the House is both a recognition of the problem that we have in Saskatchewan, and we’re looking for action in terms of marshalling the resources of society to take on something that is again a problem in which Saskatchewan leads the nation in. So we take this very seriously, and we take this on face value. We also recognize it is not a panacea or something that’s going to turn around the situation in Saskatchewan overnight.

But in terms of that broad front of efforts that need to be marshalled, I think about the good work that’s been done by my colleague from Regina Douglas Park in terms of leave being on offer. I think in terms of the resources that need to be there for the good work of organizations like the Provincial Association of Transition Houses. I think about the work that’s been done over the years by my colleague from Regina Lakeview.

And again, Mr. Speaker, this is not something where you should be sitting there saying, well the first move is to like pat yourselves on the back. Because for all that good work that has gone on and for the good step forward that this bill represents . . .

And again, Mr. Speaker, there are also a number of wrinkles to be worked out with the legislation. There's also some question about the commentary around the experience with this legislation in England, Mr. Speaker, in terms of its effectiveness overall. That needs to be reckoned. That needs to be accounted for. And again, we'll have I'm sure a very intense conversation about these things in committee and that more detailed conversation that committee allows for.

But in terms of the . . . If this can do one bit of good in the struggle against interpersonal violence and violence against women in a place like Saskatchewan, where again we have a pretty bracing record and status in Canada, Mr. Speaker, if it can do one bit of good, then we're for it. Because again, there's much that needs to be done. So we're hopeful that this is able to work out in a good way. And again I'd quote the Minister of Justice from his second reading speech where he states that:

This legislation will establish a statutory framework for Saskatchewan police services to disclose such relevant information about someone's violent or abusive past to intimate partners who may be at risk. If we are able to identify such risk and inform those at risk how best to manage and to respond to that risk then maybe tragedies, like those with Ms. [Clare] Wood in England, can be prevented.

Mr. Speaker, the minister goes on to state in the second reading speech that:

This bill will provide a legislative framework for police services to disclose relevant information to applicants through the right-to-ask process and to persons at risk through the right-to-know process. It will authorize the establishment of the interpersonal violence disclosure protocol that will set out procedures for the disclosure of information by a police service to applicants and persons at risk. It will set out who can make an application for disclosure, including interpersonal violence support workers. It will provide for good-faith liability protection for police services that disclose information. It will require the disclosed information to be kept confidential by all parties and require the disclosed information to be limited to prescribed information.

Again this relies on a significant amount of work to be done with those involved in the sector, both again those in the transition houses, those on the front lines, those in the police services, the medical services, Mr. Speaker, emergency medical services. It involves balancing out those complex and highly difficult issues around personal information and how that is rightly protected, but if someone is in danger, to make sure that they know. And again, Mr. Speaker, it also bears further attention to the ongoing experience of this legislation in the United Kingdom in particular, but other jurisdictions that are looking at this legislation for help in combatting violence against . . . interpersonal violence and violence against women.

But again, Mr. Speaker, I know that my colleague, the member for Regina Douglas Park, is the Justice critic and someone who's had a significant amount of experience doing what she can as a good citizen and bringing forward legislative measures to try and get more progress in this struggle brought to bear. I know that I'll

be looking with great interest on what her discussion with the Minister of Justice who, again, we take at his word, we take in earnest in terms of the efficacy of this legislation in a struggle against, again, something that is horrendous and should be recognized as such and taken on as such by all Saskatchewan people but certainly by Saskatchewan legislators. So, Mr. Speaker, there's a lot to be paid attention to, to see how it bears out. And I know that other of my colleagues will have more to say on this bill as well.

But for the time being I would move to adjourn debate on Bill No. 141, *The Interpersonal Violence Disclosure Protocol (Clare's Law) Act*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — The member has moved to adjourn debate on Bill No. 141. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

Bill No. 133

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Mr. Morgan that **Bill No. 133 — *The Legislative Assembly (Election Dates) Amendment Act, 2018/Loi modificative de 2018 sur l'Assemblée législative (dates d'élection)*** be now read a second time.]

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Regina Northeast.

Mr. Pedersen: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my honour again to participate in this, in the debate on this bill. Mr. Speaker, the best description that I've seen of this particular bill was from our esteemed political reporter in the gallery here who joins us every day. And he said that this is nonsense. That was his word, Mr. Speaker. This bill is about moving the provincial election date, giving . . . This bill is about playing games and giving this government an extra six months in their mandate.

Now I note that the member from Saskatoon Sutherland, when he introduced fixed election dates legislation, he noted the convention of having an election every four years. Well where would four years take us from the last election? It would take us to April of 2020. It would take us to the spring of 2020, not the fall of 2020, take us to the spring.

And when we take a look at tradition in this province, most of the elections have taken place in the spring. And some of our friends who make a business of commenting on political affairs note that of course in June we have better weather. We don't have to worry about school holidays or summer vacations. It's after seeding, which of course is an important consideration in a province where agriculture plays a role as much as ours. We even noticed that the Chief Electoral Officer, Mr. Boda, got into the fray and suggested that . . . He proposed the spring of 2020.

So despite all of that evidence and those considerations, what this government is doing is instead moving back to a fall election. October 26th, 2020 is what they propose, a mere — now I haven't done the math here; let me just think here — a mere two weeks before the municipal elections, which will undoubtedly cause

havoc for some of the people who participate most in our political process, the candidates themselves, the people who are working on those campaigns. It will cause confusion for voters when they have different materials coming in their mailboxes, different ads on their television, different signs on their lawn. It's hard enough for voters to keep these things straight right now. So this is really . . . This bill is purely about suiting the partisan needs of this government.

Now, Mr. Speaker, in my former career I believed in being concise and so I'm going to wrap this up very quickly and leave you with this parting thought, again courtesy of our friend Mr. Mandryk: "Why would picking an election date ever be about the politicians rather than the voters?" My question exactly, Mr. Speaker. So with that, I'll adjourn debate on this bill.

The Speaker: — The member's moved to adjourn debate on Bill No. 133. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

[16:30]

Bill No. 134

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Mr. Kaeding that **Bill No. 134 — *The Local Government Election Amendment Act, 2018*** be now read a second time.]

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

Mr. Forbes: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to enter into the debate of Bill 134, *The Local Government Election Amendment Act*, which follows very much what my colleague was talking about in the previous bill. And I appreciated the quote that he used of our media friend in the gallery. Although short, it really sums it up really well. I don't know if there's a better word for it but "nonsense." It really is truly nonsense.

And of course, these are the guys that are like a bull in a china shop. They're reckless. They're not thinking about the unintended consequences. That's a foreign concept to them, to think of what they do might impact on other people. And here are those impacts. And we know, we know and we've read it in the media that the cities, particularly Saskatoon, my hometown and the hometown of a few of those folks over there . . . And they seem to be not listening to the local government folks when it says this makes no sense that we'll have our election two weeks after the provincial election. It made no sense.

And I mean as well, much as the members over there want to make a purse out of a pig's ear, you know . . . This is what the minister from Social Services is trying to do: make a purse out of a pig's ear. We know what it is. If it looks like a pig's ear and feels like pig's ear, it really is a pig's ear. And this is what this is. This is incredible nonsense.

But you got to hand it to them. They have a lot of nerve. They have a lot of nerve. You know, they could sell anything to

anybody. And I don't know why in the world . . . But we see, we see they've, you know, how they've come so high and mighty, high and mighty about how they're going to have fixed election dates. And here out of the three or four, they've changed half of them — half of them. What a record these guys have on fixed election dates. But of course we had one of the ministers over there, what his opinion or definition of what a fixed election was, or election date. You forgot about the other part.

But, Mr. Speaker, we have a lot of questions and this is one that makes . . . I mean, you know, we'll have questions in committee. Obviously we will. And they will be questions like, what in the world were you thinking? You know, that kind of question. I mean, because there's no way that we're going to get an algorithm out of this one. This is something that is artificial intelligence gone wild.

But, Mr. Speaker, we understand completely that this will tax the work of Elections Saskatchewan and folks that they work with, the cities' elections people and the local governments, and whether it's school boards. You know, Mr. Speaker, what we want to have, what we want to have, what we strive for — and I think we all should share this vision when it comes to our democratic processes — that we have full participation.

I mean, am I wrong on that? Am I wrong that we want to have full participation in our democratic processes? From young people to seniors and everyone involved, from our cities to our villages to our First Nations, we want people to participate. We want to make it as easy and straightforward as possible. Do you think this is helping? Do those people over there really think they're helping the cause here with this? Or are they helping their cause? I think they're helping their cause. We shouldn't confuse this at all.

You know, I saw that Sask Elections just got an award, an international award around . . . There is a project zero, I think, in terms of how they can get access, or increasing access for people with disabilities. Well deserved; that's a very good thing. But then you come up to this kind of governmental barrier, systematic barrier in place when we know that cities already and the communities wrestle with low participation rates. Do you think this is actually going to help out? You really think this is going to help what the impact is going to be for us as the provincial level? All of this in a time when people are getting more and more cynical about politics.

And we see today, and I raised this, and I'm amazed the Minister of Justice, who's . . . I don't know if he reads the media because he's using same old lines that he's had for before. But if he's not aware of what's happening in Ottawa . . . I don't know if we have to spell it out, but I'll give you the first three letters: SNC. If he's not aware of what's happening in Ottawa around that whole issue and how we should be making sure people have the highest respect for democracy and our democratic institutions, this becomes a sham. This becomes a sham when we see this kind of monkeying around with the laws.

And they do have a majority, and they will do what they will do, and we will ask our questions about what in the world are you thinking. What in the world are you thinking over there? And we'll have the same old answers by the Minister of Justice, really saying just watch us; just watch us.

So, Mr. Speaker, we have real problems with Bill 134. And you know, we have some peeping or squeaking out of . . . [inaudible interjection] . . . Who's that squeaking over there? I think I hear that member from Moose Jaw North. Now he may cover up his mouth but his voice is recognizable. Now I know he's not running next time. He's figured out that he's done, and that's fair enough. He'll join many of us who have chosen not to run but you know . . . [inaudible interjection] . . . That's fair enough, too.

But, Mr. Speaker, I tell you, I tell you that, you know, when we have this kind of work I think that it would be maybe wiser for some to be silent, at least silent. But how can they possibly defend this? How can they possibly defend this?

So, Mr. Speaker, I'm going to move Bill No. 134, I'll adjourn the debate on that. Thank you.

The Speaker: — The member has moved to adjourn debate on Bill No. 134. Pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

Bill No. 135

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Mr. Kaeding that **Bill No. 135 — *The Local Government Election Consequential Amendments Act, 2018/Loi de 2018 corrélative de la loi intitulée The Local Government Election Amendment Act, 2018*** be now read a second time.]

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

Mr. Forbes: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I do appreciate the opportunity as I was saying, as I was saying in defence of our democratic institutions here in this province. Here in the province we have the opportunity to make them the very, very best. And when we talk about consequential Acts and the consequences of our acts, this is a good time to reflect, to really reflect on doing the right thing. You know, it's not a simple thing, and as I said today, you know, I even talked about the six words: get big money out of politics. And that kind of thing, that kind of straightforward thinking, that straightforward thinking that we should be considering is time to do the right thing.

And you know, I know we're on Bill 135, the consequential amendments Act, but I have to think, I have to say, I'm going to say it out loud: we have to think about the unintended consequences of this kind of legislation and all of it, all of it. Yes, all of it, you know. And you know, we see how it rolls downhill. We see how this snowball rolls down the hill and we may have different pieces of legislation as it goes over different rocks and that kind of thing.

But this is the problem when you create . . . You start out a problem, you know. It just sort of . . . The river starts to go all over the place. You know they were trying to figure out how can we have fixed election dates. And how many have they actually met of the fixed election dates? Two of the four, two of the four that they're calling are actually on the dates that they're supposed

to be. I don't know what kind of record that is. I don't know what record that is.

And here we have them extending two election periods by a matter of months. And here, here, while I'm thinking of it, Mr. Speaker, is a good time to make a pitch for my own private member's bill, but about by-elections, how we should be fixing the by-elections. We're going to have a couple of ridings without members representing them for the last 65 days.

So, Mr. Speaker, let's do the right thing. Let's all get this right. Let's all straighten it up. This is the time. We start at Bill 135 and we work backwards and make sure we get it right. Get the election date right. Make sure we have by-elections at the right time. Let's do the right thing. So with that, Mr. Speaker, I move adjournment of this bill. Thank you.

The Speaker: — The member for Saskatoon Centre has moved to adjourn debate on Bill No. 135. Pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

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

Hon. Mr. Brkich: — I move that this House do now adjourn.

The Speaker: — It's been moved by the Government House Leader that this Assembly do now adjourn. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried. This Assembly stands adjourned until 1:30 tomorrow.

[The Assembly adjourned at 16:41.]

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Premier

President of the Executive Council

Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs

Hon. Tina Beaudry-Mellor

Minister of Advanced Education

Minister Responsible for the Status of Women

Minister Responsible for Innovation

Hon. Lori Carr

Minister of Highways and Infrastructure

Hon. Ken Cheveldayoff

Minister of Central Services

Minister Responsible for the Provincial

Capital Commission

Minister Responsible for Public Service Commission

Hon. Dustin Duncan

Minister of Environment

Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water

Security Agency

Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan

Power Corporation

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Minister Responsible for SaskEnergy Incorporated

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Hon. Joe Hargrave

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Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety

Minister Responsible for the Saskatchewan

Workers' Compensation Board

Minister Responsible for The Global

Transportation Hub Authority

Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan

Telecommunications

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Hon. Jim Reiter

Minister of Health

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Minister of Education

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Priority Saskatchewan